



# ***FIRE & EMS NEWS***

**August 31, 2008**

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**W**elcome to the latest issue of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News! This latest issue is jam packed with fire service news stories, training opportunities, training and safety information, volunteer opportunities and employment opportunities.

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## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Santa Clara County (CA):**

**T**he [Santa Clara County Fire Department](http://www.sccfd.org) will be accepting applications for the positions of **Firefighter/Engineer**, on: September 12 or 13, 2008 and **Firefighter/Engineer (assigned to paramedic duty)** until September 23, 2008. Note the difference in application acceptance: Firefighter/Engineer applications will only be accepted in person those two days (September 12 and 13, 2008) and Firefighter/Engineer assigned to paramedic duty will be accepted by mail or in person at a different location than the Firefighter/Engineer until September 23, 2008.

- Below are each of the job announcements; you are encouraged to go the website at [www.sccfd.org](http://www.sccfd.org) for more information and to verify for yourself what is expected of you.

### **FIREFIGHTER / ENGINEER:**

- Firefighter/Engineer Base Salary: \$7,065.36 to \$8,587.99

### **THE POSITION**

The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) is recruiting for the position of Firefighter/Engineer (FF/E). Please read the following announcement carefully. All instructions must be exactly followed. Failure to follow these directions may jeopardize potential candidates from continuing in the recruitment/selection process. All successful applicants hired through this process will initially participate as FF/E Trainees while completing the Fire Academy. The FF/E Trainees will receive a flat rate of \$4,500.00 per month without any benefits. At the conclusion of the Fire Academy, successful Trainees will become probationary Firefighter/Engineers. Please review the Firefighter/Engineer Trainee information file and SCCFD information found on our web site at [www.sccfd.org](http://www.sccfd.org). This information is also available at Santa Clara County Fire Department Headquarters, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

Firefighter/Engineer: At time of appointment, applicant must be at least 21 years of age; have completed education equivalent to the 12th grade; visual acuity of not less than 20/40 uncorrected vision in each eye, with only mild red/green color defects being acceptable; be in good physical condition; in possession of a valid, appropriate California driver's license; and, the ability to obtain an EMT-1 certificate and be certified within the County of Santa Clara at time of appointment.

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application packet will consist of the following: a completed and legible County Fire Department application and one (1) photocopy of a valid and appropriate California driver's license. All candidates must bring photo identification with their completed application packet. A Department application can be obtained in one of three ways:

- (1) Through SCCFD's website at [www.sccfd.org](http://www.sccfd.org)
- (2) At SCCFD Headquarters, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032; or
- (3) By calling (408) 378-4010.

Incomplete application packets will not be accepted. Completed **application packets must be delivered in person by the applicant for review and acceptance on Friday, September 12, 2008, or Saturday, September 13, 2008**, at the Campbell Community Center, located at 1 West Campbell Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008. On Friday, September 12th, applications will be accepted at Room Q-80, the "Roosevelt Room," between the hours of 0830 and 1600 hours. On Saturday, September 13th, applications will be accepted at Room E-46, the "Activity Room," between the hours of 0830 and 1600 hours.

Application packets will only be accepted during this time. There are no exceptions. For additional information regarding the application packet, please contact Personnel Services by email at [personnel.services@cnt.sccgov.org](mailto:personnel.services@cnt.sccgov.org) or call the phone number listed herein.

**THE APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS**

The written examination has been scheduled for Saturday, October 11, 2008. SCCFD will notify candidates who pass the application review as to the time and location. Candidates should schedule at least three (3) hours to complete the written examination. Candidates must obtain a passing score of 70% in order to continue in the selection process. Candidates who pass the written examination will be randomly selected to continue in the selection process - the Oral Board interview. The Oral Board interviews have been tentatively scheduled to begin the week of October 27, 2008. The Oral Board interviews will be held at Santa Clara County Fire Department Headquarters, located at 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032. SCCFD will notify candidates as to the specific dates and scheduling of their Oral Board interview.

Candidates who are invited to participate in the Oral Board interview process **MUST BRING THE ORIGINAL AND A PHOTOCOPY OF THEIR CURRENT 2008 CPAT CARD TO SCCFD HEADQUARTERS AT THE TIME OF THEIR SCHEDULED ORAL BOARD INTERVIEW**. Failure to submit a copy of a current 2008 CPAT card at the time of the Oral Board interview will disqualify the candidate from continuing in the selection process. There are no exceptions. (Additional information regarding the CPAT physical ability test, practice

dates, and test dates can be viewed at [www.cffjac.org](http://www.cffjac.org) or by calling 1-877-648-2728.) Extensive pre-employment background, psychological and medical examinations will be required for those candidates who are offered a conditional offer of employment. A twelve (12) week Fire Academy is tentatively scheduled to begin on April 6, 2009. For additional information regarding the position of Firefighter/Engineer, or the application and selection process outlined herein, please contact Personnel Services at (408) 378-4010. The information contained within this announcement may be modified or revoked without notice and does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract. The Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## **FIREFIGHTER / ENGINEER – PARAMEDIC:**

- Firefighter/Engineer Base Salary: \$7,065.36 to \$8,587.99
- Paramedic differential is 7.5% for the first year of assignment; 10% after the first year of assignment

### **THE POSITION**

The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) is recruiting for the position of Firefighter/Engineer (FF/E) assigned to paramedic duty. Please read the following announcement carefully. All instructions must be exactly followed. Failure to follow these directions may jeopardize potential candidates from continuing in the recruitment/selection process. The Department reserves the right to give preference to applicants who meet the qualifications for Paramedic. All successful applicants hired through this process will initially participate as FF/E Trainees while completing the Fire Academy. The FF/E Trainees will receive a flat rate of \$4,500.00 per month without any benefits. At the conclusion of the Fire Academy, successful Trainees will become probationary Firefighter/Engineers assigned to paramedic duty.

Please review the Firefighter/Engineer Trainee information file and SCCFD information found on our web site at [www.sccfd.org](http://www.sccfd.org). This information is also available at Santa Clara County Fire Department Headquarters, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

Firefighter/Engineer assigned to paramedic duty: At time of appointment, applicant must be at least 21 years of age; have completed education equivalent to the 12th grade; visual acuity of not less than 20/40 uncorrected vision in each eye, with only mild red/green color defects being acceptable; be in good physical condition; in possession of a valid, appropriate California driver's license; and, hold a current EMT-1 certificate with the ability to certify within the County of Santa Clara at time of appointment.

In addition, the Firefighter/Engineer candidate must be in possession of a valid State of California EMT Paramedic license with one (1) year of documented clinical experience by application submittal deadline, and the ability to accredit within the County of Santa Clara at time of appointment.

**\*Please note:** Any FF/E who is hired by SCCFD to perform paramedic duties, as a condition of employment, will be required to make a commitment to be regularly assigned to paramedic duty for a period of not less than five (5) years from the time that he/she is first assigned to regularly perform paramedic duties.

## **THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application packet will consist of the following: a completed Department application, a paramedic supplemental questionnaire, one (1) photocopy of a valid, appropriate California driver's license and a valid California EMT paramedic license. A Department application and paramedic supplemental questionnaire can be obtained in one of three ways:

- (1) Through SCCFD's website at [www.sccfd.org](http://www.sccfd.org);
- (2) At SCCFD Headquarters, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032; or
- (3) By calling (408) 378-4010.

**Incomplete application packets will not be accepted.**

**The completed application packets may be mailed or delivered in person.** If the packet is mailed, please mail to the address mentioned herein to the attention of Personnel Services. For additional information regarding the application packet, please contact Personnel Services at [personnel.services@cnt.sccgov.org](mailto:personnel.services@cnt.sccgov.org) or call the phone number listed herein. The complete application packet must be received by Personnel Services at Headquarters no later than Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at 5:00 PM. **Faxed, late-postmarked or late application packets will not be accepted.**

## **THE APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS**

The written examination has been scheduled for Saturday, October 11, 2008. SCCFD will notify candidates who pass the application review of the time and location. Candidates should schedule at least three (3) hours to complete the written examination. Candidates must obtain a passing score of 70% in order to continue in the selection process.

Candidates who pass the written examination will be randomly selected to continue in the selection process - the Oral Board interview. The Oral Board interviews have been tentatively scheduled to begin the week of October 27, 2008. The Oral Board interviews will be held at Santa Clara County Fire Department Headquarters, located at 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032. SCCFD will notify candidates as to the specific dates and scheduling of their Oral Board interview. Candidates who are invited to participate in the Oral Board interview process **MUST BRING THE ORIGINAL AND A PHOTOCOPY OF THEIR CURRENT 2008 CPAT CARD TO SCCFD HEADQUARTERS AT THE TIME OF THEIR SCHEDULED ORAL BOARD INTERVIEW.**

Failure to submit a copy of a current 2008 CPAT card at the time of the Oral Board interview will disqualify the candidate from continuing in the selection process. There are no exceptions. (Additional information regarding the CPAT physical ability test, practice dates, and test dates can be viewed at [www.cffjac.org](http://www.cffjac.org) or by calling 1-877-648-2728.) Extensive pre-employment background, psychological and medical examinations will be required for those candidates who are offered a conditional offer of employment. A twelve (12) week Fire Academy is tentatively scheduled to begin on April 6, 2009. For additional information regarding the position of Firefighter/Engineer – assigned to paramedic duty, or the application and selection process outlined herein, please contact Personnel Services at (408) 378-4010.

**The information contained within this announcement may be modified or revoked without notice and does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract. The Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

**F**or more information about the **Santa Clara County Fire Department**, visit their website at [www.sccfd.org](http://www.sccfd.org)

**F**or more information about the **Santa Clara County Fire Department**, **I.A.F.F. Local 1165**, visit their website at [www.iaff1165.org](http://www.iaff1165.org)

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Registration for the 2008 Fresno Training Officers Symposium is now open!!!**

**F**or more information, go to the registration website at <http://register.calchiefs.org> - where you can download the class descriptions and complete online registration.

**Classes being offered this year include, but are not limited to:**

- Fire Command 1A
- S-330 (Strike Team/Task Force Leader)
- Fire Management 2A
- Rescue Systems 1
- Low Angle Rope Rescue
- Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1A
- Regional Instructor Orientation
- Trench Rescue
- Ethical Leadership in the Classroom
- Auto Extrication
- Commercial Ventilation Practices
- Thermal Imaging Camera Awareness
- Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center
- Values & Ethical Fire Service Leadership
- Training Mandates
- PowerPoint Basics and Advanced
- Building Construction for Today's Fire Service.
- The Company Officer - the Missing Link.
- Company Officer Development Academy
- Lessons Learned: Charleston Fire Department Line of Duty Deaths.
- Lessons Learned: Kyle Wilson Line of Duty Death
- ICS for Structural Collapse Incidents.
- Command and Control Cohesion.
- Fireground Tactics: The Application of the Rules of Engagement for Fighting Fires.
- Search Operations for Today's Fireground.
- Forcible Entry Techniques
- RIC Operations.

- Conflict Resolution & the Discipline Process.
- Real Leadership is not for Wimps!
- First-due: Mission Focused Tactics for First-Due Officers
- The Chief Officer of the Future - Organizational and Leadership Principles for the Fire Service.
- Creating Behavioral Performance "SPECS"
- Executive Leadership Institute - The Fire Chief
- Retirement Homes, Assisted Living Facilities & Group Homes and Nursing Homes
- Surviving the Structure Fire: Today's Deadly Fires / Avoiding Fatal Errors on The Fireground
- You are what you have done - you become what you do
- And many more - see the website for more details.

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**S**ome great firefighting training opportunities, courtesy of our good friends at Fire Nuggets. Firenuggets.com (or [www.firenuggets.com](http://www.firenuggets.com)) is a great resource all firefighters should be subscribing to. For only \$9.95 a year, you have access to fire related articles and information from the leading fire service professionals, on a wide-variety of topics. Great information to share with your personnel and provide for your personal career development. Go to their website to check out what they have to offer, including a free, sample issue, as well as numerous training opportunities.

**H**ere are some seminars they are offering in the near future:

**"Strategy, Tactics and Safety": Presented by Deputy Chief Vincent Dunn (ret.), FDNY – Denver, CO: October 17, 2008**

Chief Vincent Dunn, FDNY (retired), will share his forty years of firefighting experience in a seminar about firefighting and safety. Chief Dunn will examine dangers of structural firefighting and identify methods to manage and control these fireground dangers. He will illustrate strategies and tactics to reduce death and injury to firefighters.

**F**or more information, including the registration flyer and to register, go to their website – [www.firenuggets.com](http://www.firenuggets.com)

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## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Alameda County (CA):**

**T**he **Alameda County Fire Department** will be accepting applications for the positions of **Firefighter Recruit**, until: September 26, 2008.

- Below is the job announcement; you are encouraged to go the website at [www.acgov.org](http://www.acgov.org) for more information and to verify for yourself what is expected of you.

ALAMEDA COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES  
and  
THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
ARE RECRUITING FOR THE POSITION OF  
**FIREFIGHTER RECRUIT**

MONTHLY SALARY: \$4,721.00  
(Upon Promotion to Firefighter – Monthly Salary Range: \$6,293.00 - \$7,653.00)

LAST DAY FOR FILING

Friday, September 26, 2008

DATE OF EXAMINATION

Examination will be held by appointment with applicant

**A completed Supplemental Questionnaire and a copy of the CPAT certificate must be submitted with each application. Application, Supplemental Questionnaire and copy of CPAT certificate must be in the possession of the Human Resource Services Department by 5:00 p.m. on the Last Day for Filing. Postmarks and faxes are not accepted. Failure to submit the Supplemental Questionnaire or CPAT certificate will result in disqualification.**

**THE REQUIREMENTS:** The following are entrance requirements for admission to the examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. A candidate's performance in the examination will be judged in comparison with the performance of other candidates.

**EDUCATION:** Graduation from high school or possession of an acceptable equivalency certificate, such as the General Educational Development Certificate (State of California), **AND**

**Applicants must meet at least one of the following requirements:**

- Must be a paid Firefighter/EMT or Firefighter/Paramedic in a Fire Department (Seasonal employment is eligible); **OR**
- Current member of the Alameda County Fire Department Reserve program; **OR**
- Current member of a Reserve Program that is supported by a professional City or County Fire Department or Fire District; **OR**
- Must be a nationally registered paramedic.

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**LICENSE:** Possession of a valid California Motor Vehicle Operator's license, possession of a

Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certificate issued within the last twelve months from the last day of filing, and possession of a current and valid California Emergency Medical Technician-1 (EMT-1) certificate or Certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, Emergency Medical Technician – Basic.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** Applicants must have visual acuity correctable to 20/30 in either eye. Job offer will be contingent upon passing a medical examination, a thorough background investigation and a psychological evaluation.

**THE POSITION:** The Alameda County Fire Department is actively recruiting for the position of Firefighter/EMT and Firefighter/ Paramedic. The Department serves the unincorporated areas of Alameda County, the City of San Leandro, the City of Dublin, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The area comprises approximately 500 square miles and serves a population of 352,339. The Fire Department has a budget in excess of \$79 million with a staff of 296 firefighting personnel and 21 fire stations.

**AGE:** Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age.

**THE EXAMINATION:** THIS IS A NEW OPEN ASSEMBLED EXAMINATION. The eligible list resulting from this selection process will last approximately one year but may be extended as needed. **This eligible list may also be used by other fire departments within Alameda County.** This examination may be reopened as necessary and the names of additional candidates merged onto the existing list according to examination score.

**THE EXAMINATION WILL CONSIST OF** the following components: A review of candidates' applications to verify possession of minimum requirements. Those candidates who possess the minimum requirements for the class will move on to the next step in the examination process, a screening of applications and/or supplemental questionnaires to select for the best qualified candidates. Those selected will move onto the final step in the examination process, an oral interview, which will be weighted as 100% of the candidate's final exam score. The oral interview may contain situational exercises. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO ANNOUNCED EXAMINATION STEPS.

**TO APPLY:** Applications may be obtained at Alameda County Human Resource Services, 1405 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, CA 94612. The application is also available on our web site: [www.acgov.org](http://www.acgov.org).

**F**or more information about the **Alameda County Fire Department**, visit their website at [www.acgov.org](http://www.acgov.org)

**F**or more information about the **Alameda County Fire Department**, visit their website at [www.acgov.org/fire/index.htm](http://www.acgov.org/fire/index.htm)

**F**or more information about the **Alameda County Fire Department, I.A.F.F. Local 55**, visit their website at [www.iafflocal55.com](http://www.iafflocal55.com)

## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Los Angeles (CA):**

The [Los Angeles Fire Department](http://www.joinlafd.org) will be accepting applications for the positions of **Firefighter & Firefighter/Paramedic**, until: September 5, 2008. To view their recruitment website, including the job announcement and to complete an online application, go to: [www.joinlafd.org](http://www.joinlafd.org)

For more information about the **City of Los Angeles**, visit their website at [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org)

For more information about the **Los Angeles Fire Department**, visit their website at [www.lafd.org](http://www.lafd.org)

For more information about the **Los Angeles Fire Department, I.A.F.F. Local 112**, visit their website at [www.uflac.org](http://www.uflac.org)



## **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – SAN FRANCISCO (CA):**

**T**he **San Francisco Fire Department** will more than likely be accepting applications for the position of Firefighter (H-2) next spring. Here are some details I received from one of their firefighters who wanted to help prepare interested candidates:

*Just letting the Fire Tech program know that SF Fire might start the Firefighter (H-2) app process in March of 2009. EMT might be required. Candidates should keep checking SF city gov website for updates [http://www.sfgov.org/site/sffd\\_index.asp](http://www.sfgov.org/site/sffd_index.asp)  
Other info not known at this time. I was once in a Fire tech program so I thought this might be helpful to prospective candidates.*

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## **FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA :**

**G**o to [www.chabotfire.com](http://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.

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

### **Incident Command System Simulation Courses Now Available Online**

EMMITSBURG, MD. – The U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Academy (NFA) announced today four Incident Command System (ICS) Simulation Series courses are now available through NFA Online. The ICS Simulation Series courses are designed to provide challenges to the newly appointed, inexperienced fire officer as well as the experienced senior fire officer. Each course addresses a different type of incident and allows the student to assume the role of the Incident Commander on the scene.

"It is our desire that the lessons and challenges presented in these new online courses will serve to prepare the student to be successful in similar real-life situations", said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "The USFA continues to provide educational opportunities for firefighters faced with the challenges of today's buildings."

The four new courses are:

- Q324 – Incident Command System Simulation Series: Ranch House

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- Q325 – Incident Command System Simulation Series: Town House
- Q326 – Incident Command System Simulation Series: Mansion
- Q424 – Incident Command System Simulation Series: Nursing Home

To access these four courses, as well as others, visit NFA Online at [www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov) and select the **Browse Catalog** or **New Student** options.

There are currently 12 online courses available through NFA Online with topics including Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Response to Terrorism, Fire Prevention, Incident Management, Management Science, and Public Education. The U.S. Fire Administration has a mission to provide national leadership to foster a solid foundation for local fire and emergency services for prevention, preparedness, and response. It is the federal leader in public fire education and awareness, fire service training, fire-related technology and data collection.

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## **FIREFIGHTER HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION, COURTESY OF THE I.A.F.F.:**

### **Study Will Standardize Data Collection for Fire Fighter Injuries**

The IAFF has released the results of its **Contributing Factors to Fire Fighter Line-of-Duty Injury Study** ([www.iaff.org/08News/PDF/InjuryReport.pdf](http://www.iaff.org/08News/PDF/InjuryReport.pdf)) conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration. The study compiled and analyzed two years of data from nine geographically diverse metropolitan fire departments to identify and quantify the major factors that contribute to fire fighter line-of-duty injuries.

The results of this study will help efforts to standardize data collection for fire fighter injuries so that all fire departments collect the same data in the same way. The results of standardized data collection, analysis and reporting will establish a knowledge base for fire fighter injuries to further risk management and prevention of injuries in the future.

**To read the study or download the attached PDF, go to:**

[www.iaff.org/08News/PDF/InjuryReport.pdf](http://www.iaff.org/08News/PDF/InjuryReport.pdf)

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## **FIRE & EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

**G**o to [www.chabotfire.com](http://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.

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

The “Nobody Gets Left Behind” Training Group and the Santa Rosa Fire Department presents:

***“Building the perfect playbook”***  
**- Professional development Program -**  
**Building construction for today’s fire service!!**

**September 12 OR 13, 2008**

Today’s fireground is dynamic and evolving at a rate never seen before in the U.S. fire service! Even the most knowledgeable and experienced fire service experts realize the need to constantly educate and prepare themselves for the next call! The following dynamic and interactive-based one-day seminar will include:

- Type & date of a structure for a successful “size-up”
- Ordinary & lightweight construction components
- The “why & where” fire will travel
- Scenario & interactive-based training opportunities

**Instructor - Barry Franchi**, a professional Firefighter since 1974, he joined the San Jose Fire Department in 1980. He was promoted to fire engineer in 1984 and worked on downtown engine and truck companies until being promoted to captain in 1996. He is a lead instructor for the SJFD firefighter recruit academy and is a past recipient of the SJFD valor award. He is currently assigned to truck company 3 in San Jose's downtown battalion. Barry has also spent more than twenty years in the construction industry, working in a variety of areas including: new construction of commercial and residential. Remodeling of residential and commercial structures.

### **REGISTRATION**

To Register for this class: [www.leerescue.com/NGLB](http://www.leerescue.com/NGLB)

Program Fee \$95.00

Class Dates September 12 or 13, 2008 - each class limited to 30 participants

For more information please call Jeff Seaton @ (408)-710-2045

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**P**ublic Safety Consultants is offering some great fire service professional development opportunities, as seen below. Go to their website for more information: [www.fireclasses.com](http://www.fireclasses.com)

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**Contemporary Leadership Challenges for Chief Officers –  
Reno, NV – October 2, 2008**

Sponsored by Regional Public Safety Training Center

**PLACE:** Regional Public Safety Training Center 5190 Spectrum Blvd Reno, NV. 89512

- 1 Day Seminar

**INSTRUCTORS:** Gordon Graham & Paul Stein

This extremely informative and motivating 1-day seminar will be taught by two of the most nationally renowned instructors on current leadership and management issues, Gordon Graham and Chief Paul Stein. This unique 1-day interactive workshop will include an in-depth look at current management trends in the fire service, and how to become a more effective and efficient chief officer. This program also combines the separate disciplines of Risk Management, Customer Service, Accountability, Mentoring, and Integrity, and how these concepts work together to assure things go right, thus preventing undesirable consequences. This class is designed for Chief Officers and those that aspire to become chief officers.

**TOPICS:** - Identifying successful Leadership characteristics - Ethical Leadership - Getting the front line supervisor on your side - Project Management - Delegate, motivate, and lead - Coaching/Counseling - Risk Management - Customer Service – Accountability - Integrity - Becoming a better communicator

Lunch is included

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**Contemporary Leadership Challenges for Chief Officers –  
Temecula, CA – October 28, 2008**

Sponsored by Pechanga Fire Department

**PLACE:** Pechanga Tribal Government 12705 Pechanga Rd. Temecula, Ca. 92592

- 1 Day Seminar

**INSTRUCTORS:** Gordon Graham & Paul Stein

This extremely informative and motivating 1-day seminar will be taught by two of the most nationally renowned instructors on current leadership and management issues, Gordon Graham and Chief Paul Stein. This unique 1-day interactive workshop will include an in-depth look at current management trends in the fire service, and how to become a more effective and efficient chief officer. This program also combines the separate disciplines of Risk Management, Customer Service, Accountability, Mentoring, and Integrity, and how these concepts work together to assure things go right, thus preventing undesirable consequences. This class is designed for Chief Officers and those that aspire to become chief officers.

**TOPICS:** - Identifying successful Leadership characteristics - Ethical Leadership - Getting the front line supervisor on your side - Project Management - Delegate, motivate, and lead - Coaching/Counseling - Risk Management - Customer Service – Accountability - Integrity - Becoming a better communicator

Lunch is included!

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**Contemporary Leadership Challenges for Chief Officers – Chico, CA – November 24, 2008**

Sponsored by The Chico Fire Department

**PLACE:** City of Chico Fire Dept. Training Center 1466 Humboldt Rd. Chico, Ca. 95928

- 1 Day Seminar

**INSTRUCTORS:** Gordon Graham & Paul Stein

This extremely informative and motivating 1-day seminar will be taught by two of the most nationally renowned instructors on current leadership and management issues, Gordon Graham and Chief Paul Stein. This unique 1-day interactive workshop will include an in-depth look at current management trends in the fire service, and how to become a more effective and efficient chief officer. This program also combines the separate disciplines of Risk Management, Customer Service, Accountability, Mentoring, and Integrity, and how these concepts work together to assure things go right, thus preventing undesirable consequences. This class is designed for Chief Officers and those that aspire to become chief officers.

**TOPICS:** - Identifying successful Leadership characteristics - Ethical Leadership - Getting the front line supervisor on your side - Project Management - Delegate, motivate, and lead - Coaching/Counseling - Risk Management - Customer Service – Accountability - Integrity - Becoming a better communicator

Lunch is included

**F**or more information, and to register, go to [www.fireclasses.com](http://www.fireclasses.com)

## **FIRE SERVICE INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY:**

### **National Fire Academy Starts College Internship Program**

The United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy announces a new college internship program for men and women interested in a career in the fire and emergency services.

Students accepted into the intern program receive the opportunity to work at the U. S. Fire Administration in Emmitsburg, Maryland to assist in the development and maintenance of course and curriculum materials, conduct basic research and summarize information from office files and other sources, and perform basic editing and review of the training materials to assure they reflect current practices.

Students conduct supervised research and receive experience in disciplines such as, but not limited to, Arson and Fire Investigation, Executive Development, Management Science, Training Program Management, Hazardous Materials, Planning and Information Management, Emergency Medical Services and Safety, Public Fire Education, Fire Prevention Management, Fire Protection Systems and Equipment, and Incident Management.

Students accepted into the program receive:

- Campus housing in a private room. The housing arrangement promotes social interactions with fire and emergency services professionals from around the United States and provides a wonderful opportunity to forge long-lasting friendships and potential career contacts.
- Opportunity to attend up to two National Fire Academy courses.

Students are expected to work full-time with Training Specialists, Instructional Systems Specialists, and other USFA Staff; participate in weekly meetings with staff; and participate in emergent projects as needed. The National Fire Academy is part of the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States Fire Administration. The campus is located in rural Maryland, about 10 miles south of historic Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and about 60 miles from Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

### ***Eligibility***

Applicants must:

- be enrolled as a student at a regionally accredited institution in the U.S.
- be sophomores or juniors who have successfully completed introductory courses in a field related to fire and emergency services
- maintain a 3.0 GPA in the discipline
- demonstrate an interest in training and education and a career in the fire and emergency services or allied disciplines

Submit a complete application consisting of:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- Three (3) letters of reference from college or university faculty
- College transcripts
- Personal statement of interest

### **Status**

Volunteer service is limited to services performed by a student, with the permission of the institution at which the student is enrolled, as part of an agency program established for the purpose of providing educational experience for the student.

A student participating under an agency volunteer program is not considered to be a Federal employee for any purposes other than injury compensation or laws related to the Tort Claims Act. Service is not creditable for leave accrual or any other employee benefits.

### **Instructions**

Interested students should contact their college or university internship coordinator, who in turn should contact:

Kelly Snyder, Program Analyst  
United States Fire Administration  
16825 S. Seton Avenue  
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727  
Telephone: 301.447.1395  
Fax: 301.447.1052  
E-mail: [Kelly.Snyder@dhs.gov](mailto:Kelly.Snyder@dhs.gov)

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## **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:**

August 31, 2008

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

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:**

- September 2, 13, 29
- October 11, 27
- November 11, 17
- December 8

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:**

- September 2, 3, 13, 16, 29, 30
- October 11, 14, 27, 28
- November 11, 12, 17, 18
- December 8, 9

**TEST DATES:**

- September 4, 20
- October 2, 18, 30
- November 15, 20
- December 11

**Southern California 2008 Schedule:**

**ORIENTATION DATES:**

- September 6, 22
- October 4, 20
- November 1, 17
- December 6

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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:**

- September 9, 10, 16,23
- October 7, 14, 21
- November 4, 12, 18
- December 2, 9, 16

**TEST DATES:**

- September 11, 20, 25
- October 9, 18, 23
- November 6, 15, 20
- December 4, 13, 18

Additional test dates will be scheduled as needed. Allow up to 1 hour to complete the process. Note, the above dates are subject to change, please check [www.cpatonline.org](http://www.cpatonline.org) for the most up-to-date information.

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](http://www.cpatonline.org)

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

### **USFA To Issue CEU's For Coffee Break Training Volumes**

Students who need continuing education units (CEUs) to maintain professional certification in fire prevention and code enforcement now can obtain them from the United States Fire Administration's NFAOnline, the National Fire Academy's website for distance and online learning.

NFAOnline, at [www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov), has begun posting the popular Coffee Break Training series and exams that will enable students to earn up to 0.2 CEUs for each test. *Q840 – Coffee Break Training: Volume 1* is available now and more Volumes will be released in the coming weeks.

Coffee Break Training was begun in 2005, and comprises free weekly training vignettes on topics related to building and fire codes, fire protection systems and equipment, hazardous materials, inspections, building construction and fire behavior. There are more than 150 individual topics posted on the National Fire Academy site, and more than 17,000 worldwide subscribers to the weekly automated delivery. The weekly releases are compiled into Volumes, an exam is established and each Volume will be posted to NFA Online.

Busy building and fire code officials may have continuing education requirements in their jurisdictions to maintain their professional certification. The challenge of finding regular, low-cost skills training can be a problem. Now, by granting CEUs for the Coffee

Break Training Volumes, students can obtain credit for courses they take right on their computers.

In addition to the Coffee Break Training Volumes, NFA Online currently offers 16 courses with more being added in the coming weeks. All of the NFA Online courses carry a CEU recommendation.

To sign up for the free weekly Coffee Break Training deliveries, go to [http://service.govdelivery.com/service/subscribe.html?code=USDHSFA\\_5](http://service.govdelivery.com/service/subscribe.html?code=USDHSFA_5)

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

### **National Fire Academy (NFA) Training Opportunities (as of August 28, 2008)**

Vacancies exist in the following NFA courses at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. You may refer to the internet at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa) for more information, or contact the Admissions Office via email [netc-admissions@dhs.gov](mailto:netc-admissions@dhs.gov) or by phone at (301) 447-1035. Completed FEMA Form 75-5 applications may be faxed to (301) 447-1441.

#### **If interested, apply immediately!**

*Note: The NFA policy of only 1 stipend-supported trip per fiscal year remains. However, a qualified individual may seek to participate without stipend assistance. PLEASE INDICATE with your application that you are aware of this restriction when you apply for the course.*

*All vacancies are filled on a first come, first served basis and qualified by using the Student Selection Criteria listed on our Website: [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa)*

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Semester FY2009:**

R101 Code Management: A Systems Approach  
10/6/08 -10/17/08            5 vacancies  
1/5/09 -1/16/09            8 vacancies

R108 Evaluating Performance Based Designs  
2/1/09 - 2/6/09            3 vacancies

R149 EMS: Mgmt of Community Health Risk  
2/2/09 - 2/13/09            18 vacancies

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

R151    Advanced Leadership Issues in EMS

1/19/09 - 1/30/09            11 vacancies  
2/23/09 - 3/6/09            17 vacancies

R152    Emergency Medical Services: Special Operations

3/9/09 - 3/20/09            7 vacancies

R154    Advanced Safety Operations & Management

10/26/08 - 10/31/08        3 vacancies  
2/8/09 - 2/13/09            9 vacancies

R203    Fire Dynamics-Fire Modeling

12/8/08 -12/19/08        12 vacancies  
2/23/09 - 3/6/09            7 vacancies  
3/23/09 - 4/3/09            14 vacancies

R208    Interviewing / Interr. Techniques

10/6/08 -10/17/08        Waitlist  
11/10/08 -11/21/08        Waitlist  
1/5/09 -1/16/09            6 vacancies  
3/9/09 - 3/20/09            5 vacancies

R213    Analysis of Arson Management

10/19/08 -10/24/08        14 vacancies  
1/18/09 - 1/23/09        17 vacancies  
2/1/09 - 2/6/09            22 vacancies

R220    Fire Inspection Principles

3/9/09 - 3/20/09            5 vacancies  
3/23/09 - 4/3/09            Waitlist

R222    Principles of Fire Protection: Structures & Systems

10/6/08 - 10/17/08        Waitlist  
1/5/09 - 1/16/09            3 vacancies  
2/23/09 - 3/6/09            6 vacancies

R225    Management of Fire Prevention Programs

2/2/09 - 2/13/09            7 vacancies

R229    Hazardous Materials Operating Site Practices

10/6/08 - 10/17/08        11 vacancies  
1/19/09 - 1/30/09        8 vacancies

R243    Hazardous Materials Incident Management

10/26/08 - 10/31/08        9 vacancies  
1/25/09 - 1/30/09        15 vacancies

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R247 Advanced Life Support Response to Hazardous Materials Incidents

10/20/08 - 10/31/08 13vacancies  
3/23/09 - 4/3/09 22 vacancies

R308 CMD. & Cntrl. F.D.Ops. Natl. & Man-Made

10/6/08 - 10/17-08 Waitlist  
12/8/08 - 12/19/08 6 vacancies  
3/9/09 - 3/20/09 13 vacancies

R331 Organizational Theory in Practice

12/8/08 - 12/19/08 3 vacancies  
2/23/09 - 3/6/09 8 vacancies

R333 Fire Service Financial Management

10/6/08 - 10/17/08 Waitlist  
1/5/09 - 1/16/09 Waitlist  
3/9/09 - 3/20/09 3 vacancies

R335 Adm. Pub.Asst. For Community Recovery

1/25/09 - 1/30/09 18 vacancies

R348 Changing American Family at Risk

11/30/08 - 12/5/08 8 vacancies

R353 Community Education Leadership

2/8/09 - 2/13/09 Waitlist

R359 Discovering the Road to High-Risk Audiences

2/1/09 - 2/6/09 16 vacancies

R491 NFIRS: Program Manager

11/30/08 - 12/5/08 10 vacancies  
2/1/09 - 2/6/09 22 vacancies

P492 NFIRS: Standards of Cover

12/7/08 - 12/8/08 12 vacancies  
2/8/09 - 2/13/09 21 vacancies

P493 Advanced NFIRS

3/22/09 - 3/27/09 6 vacancies

R506 Executive Planning

11/10/08 - 11/21/08 6 vacancies  
2/23/09 - 3/6/09 1 vacancies

R508 Partnering for Fire Defense and Emergency Services Planning  
10/26/08 - 10/31/08 17 vacancies

R526 Long Term Recovery Planning  
1/25/09 - 1/30/09 19 vacancies

R628 Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist 1 & II  
11/30/08 - 12/5/08 5 vacancies

R810 VIP: Leadership & Administration  
2/15/09 - 2/20/09 12 vacancies

R816 VIP: Community Education Leadership  
2/15/09 - 2/20/09 15 vacancies

R822 VIP: Advanced Safety Operation and Management  
2/15/09 - 2/20/09 12 vacancies

R824 VIP: Management Strategies for Success  
2/15/09 - 2/20/09 3 vacancies

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## **FIRE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**The following comes courtesy of the United States Fire Administration:**

### **S-130 and S-190 Fire Courses Now Available Online**

The classroom portions of the two basic fire training courses needed for qualification as a wildland firefighter can now be taken online, thanks to a cooperative effort between the National Wildfire Coordinating Group and the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy.

The two courses, which firefighter trainees traditionally have taken together, are S-130 Firefighter Training and S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior. The courses are designed to teach the basic strategies and tactics crews use to fight fires burning in vegetation, how wildland fire behaves, and how weather influences the spread of wildland fire. (S-130 contains a shorter course called L-180, Human Factors on the Fireline, and learners who complete the entire S-130 course earn a certificate for L-180 as well.)

"We are really interested in increasing the firefighting capabilities and capacity of local fire departments," said Brian McManus, who chairs the National Wildfire Coordinating

Group and serves as the Fire Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. “Often, local fire departments are the closest forces to fires on federal land, so we are pleased to help make quality training opportunities available to these valued partners.”

McManus added that prospective firefighters will **still have to complete the field portion** of S-130 before receiving course certificates for S-130, S-190 and L-180 and becoming qualified as a wildland firefighter.

According to Dan Smith, Fire Director for the National Association of State Foresters, making these widely-used courses available online can be important to helping meet the training needs of local fire department personnel—and accomplishing that in a way that works well for departments with scarce funds and availability of time.

The advantages of on-line training are more than economic. “Many structural fire departments in rural and suburbanizing areas are taking an increasing role in wildland firefighting, as homebuilders continue to build in areas dominated by wildland fuels,” Smith explained. “Local fire departments realize they are going to be fighting more and more brush fires and forest fires, and they want to do that work safely and effectively. In this business nobody does anything alone, and we depend upon one another as neighbors and partners.”

The S-130 and S-190 training courses can be accessed through the National Fire Academy’s NFA Online at [www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov).

Each course is broken into short, 1 to 3 hour modules enabling students to complete courses at their own pace. Collectively, the two courses offer approximately 40 hours of training.

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

### **- Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center -**

#### **4 -day promotional preparation workshop**

**Monterey, CA** - October 21 through 24, 2008

- or

**Anaheim, CA** – December 2 through 5, 2008

Countless firefighters have been promoted using this curriculum! This workshop is unlike any other you will find. Students will receive their book, **Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center**, published by **Fire Engineering**, which helps them identify strengths and weaknesses, utilize mock exercises, and build a plan for

success. Their 9-step program includes 1) elimination of barriers, 2) assessment center orientation 3) the mentality, 4) knowledge, skills and abilities to be an excellent officer, 5) exercise-specific tools and key points 6) mock exercises, 7) common pitfalls and additional key points, 8) developing your plan/the self-assessment, 9) interviews.

Due to overwhelming demand from their students, they have expanded to add a day to their three-day workshop. This new four-day workshop deals with assessment centers and interviews for promotion and gives an additional day for hot seat time! Day one is focused on preparing for promotion and developing the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities. In addition, we focus on what assessment centers are, their components, and the best approach (that few people take). Day two, three and four allow students to perform the exercises and grade each other. This class is limited in size, due to the depth of instruction and involvement.

Students will participate in the following assessment center exercises: written essay, in-basket, modified in-basket, oral presentation, supervisory exercise, counseling/role-play, and emergency simulations. Students are evaluated by each other and the instructor. By sitting on both sides of the table, students see effective and poor behavior first hand.

The approach to this class is unlike any other, by truly helping the student prepare for both the test and the position. Personal counseling and coaching takes place during the exercises to give the aspiring officers as much potential for success as possible. This is not a canned class! They cater to the dynamic of the group each time.

- Cost - \$495.00 (Includes Fire Engineering book written by the instructor)
- 8 am - 5 pm each day.

For more information, or to register, go to their website at [www.trainfirefighters.org](http://www.trainfirefighters.org)

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## **FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & SAFETY INFO:**

### **The United States Fire Administration Announces the 2007 Firefighter Fatalities Report**

USFA Press Office: (301) 447-1853 - Emmitsburg, MD.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has released today its report [Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2007](#). The report continues a series of annual studies by the USFA of on-duty firefighter fatalities in the United States. The USFA is the single public agency source of information for all on-duty firefighter fatalities in the United States each year." One of the greatest challenges we face as a fire service is to stop the needless deaths of firefighters while in service to their communities," United States Fire Administrator Greg Cade said. "Every day and across this nation, firefighters are

responding to emergencies that threaten the lives of their residents. These same threats also threaten the lives of firefighters. Unfortunately, we all lost far too many firefighters in 2007."

During calendar year 2007, there were 118 firefighters who lost their lives while on duty across the United States.

The unique and specific objective of ***Firefighter Fatalities in the United States*** is to identify all on-duty firefighter fatalities that occurred in the United States and its protectorates, and to present in summary narrative form the circumstances surrounding each occurrence. In addition to the 2007 overall findings, this study includes information on the hazards to firefighters presented by the lack of seatbelt use. In 2007, 27 firefighter fatalities resulted from vehicle-related incidents. In 19 of the 27 incidents where seatbelt status was known, 11 firefighters were confirmed as not wearing seatbelts at the time of the event.

### **An overview of the 118 firefighters that died while on duty in 2007:**

- 68 volunteer firefighters and 50 career firefighters died while on duty.
- There were 7 firefighter fatality incidents where 2 or more firefighters were killed, claiming a total of 21 firefighters' lives.
- 11 firefighters were killed during activities involving brush, grass, or wildland firefighting, the lowest in over a decade.
- Activities related to emergency incidents resulted in the deaths of 76 firefighters.
- 38 firefighters died while engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.
- 26 firefighters died while responding to or returning from emergency incidents.
- 11 firefighters died while they were engaged in training activities.
- 15 firefighters died after the conclusion of their on-duty activity.
- Heart attacks were the most frequent cause of death for 2007, with 52 firefighter deaths.

For the past 22 years, the USFA has tracked all firefighter fatalities and conducted the necessary analysis for the benefit of the fire service. Through the collection of information on the causes of firefighter deaths, the USFA is able to focus on specific problems and direct future efforts towards finding solutions to reduce the number of firefighter fatalities in the future. This information is also used by many organizations to measure the effectiveness of their current efforts directed toward firefighter health and safety.

The **National Fallen Firefighter Foundation** ([www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org)) maintains the list of firefighters who die in the line-of-duty and are honored during the annual **National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend** (<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/memorial/index.shtm>) held each October in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

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## **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](http://www.firecareers.com)
- [www.firerecruit.com](http://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.

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## **FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & SAFETY INFO:**

### **USFA Releases Report on Fire Department Preparedness for Extreme Weather Emergencies and Natural Disasters**

Emmitsburg, MD - The United States Fire Administration (USFA) released today a new technical report titled *Fire Department Preparedness for Extreme Weather Emergencies and Natural Disasters*. This report examines the impact of extreme weather and natural disasters on the fire service and the types of service calls most likely to arise as a result of these disasters.

**To download the report, go to:**

[www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr\\_162.pdf](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr_162.pdf)

"Firefighters continue to be called upon to respond to many types of incidents, disasters, and situations – in all kinds of weather, day and night," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "Our country's fire service is an amazing cadre of specially trained individuals whom the public relies on during emergencies – including extreme weather and natural disasters. This requires all firefighters to be prepared to respond in the most challenging conditions."

***Fire Department Preparedness for Extreme Weather Emergencies and Natural Disasters*** also addresses equipment and planning needed in order to be prepared. Safety, mutual aid, shift management, resource identification, logistics, and other related issues are discussed, along with examples from case studies of fire departments that have learned from experience what can happen. The report provides information fire departments can use to enhance their level of preparedness and ensure greater safety the next time disaster strikes.

"September is again the nation's ***Preparedness Month***," continued Cade. "The USFA is pleased to provide this critical information in support of not only this important Department of Homeland Security initiative but also to continue our mission of ensuring the fire service is capable of responding to any and all emergencies, regardless of scope."

The USFA develops reports on selected major incidents throughout the country. The incidents usually involve multiple deaths or a large loss of property, but the primary criterion for deciding to write a report is whether it will result in significant lessons learned. Under this project, USFA also develops special reports addressing a variety of issues that affect the fire service such as homeland security and disaster preparedness, new technologies, training, fireground tactics, and firefighter safety and health.

**For additional information regarding this report, or other USFA Technical Reports, visit the Publications section of the USFA Web site at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/publications/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/publications/)**

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

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

#### **Assessment Center Workshop –**

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

#### **COURSE CONTENT:**

- Written Multiple Choice Exercises
- Leaderless Group Exercises

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- In-Basket Exercises
- Oral Presentations
- Written Exercises
- Subordinate Counseling
- Practice Exercises
- NEW Student Workbook

**Simulator Workshop -**

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

**COURSE CONTENT:**

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

**Instructor: CHUCK WILSON**

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

**Class Locations and Dates:**

**Sun City West, AZ**

Oct. 7th (AC) & Oct. 8th (Sim)  
Station 103  
13431 West Deer Valley Road  
Sun City West, AZ

**Bakersfield, CA**

Oct. 13th (AC) & Oct. 14th (SIM)  
Oct. 15th (AC) & Oct. 16th (SIM)  
Olive Drive Fire Training Center  
5642 Victor St., Bakersfield, CA

**Roseville, CA**

Roseville Fire Training Ctr.  
Oct. 11th (AC) & Oct. 12th (SIM)  
2030 Hilltop Circle  
Roseville, CA

**Corona, CA**

Corona Fire Training Center  
Oct. 20th (AC) & Oct. 21st (SIM)  
730 Corporation Yard Way  
Corona, Ca.

**Register at:** [www.promotionalworkshops.com](http://www.promotionalworkshops.com)

Classes are \$110.00 per day, per class, Pre-registered  
\$120.00 per day per class at the door  
3% Credit Card fee  
\* Now Accepting Visa and Master Card \*

**For More Information, contact:**

CHUCK WILSON  
77-263 Maliko Street  
Kailua Kona, Hawaii 96740-4468  
(310) 261-7795 Cell  
[cwilson@promotionalworkshops.com](mailto:cwilson@promotionalworkshops.com)

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

**Peer Fitness Trainer Class**

Dec 8<sup>th</sup> through Dec 12<sup>th</sup> 2008

**Hosted by the Modesto Fire Department @ RFTC**

Contact Bjorn Anderson for more Information:  
(925) 286-6945 or [BJAnderson@modestofire.com](mailto:BJAnderson@modestofire.com)

Also, check out the IAFF Website to Learn More:  
[www.iaff.org/HS/PFT/peer\\_%20index.htm](http://www.iaff.org/HS/PFT/peer_%20index.htm)

\$700 checks to MFD for Books & Registration Fees

Enroll by September 8th to Ensure Adequate Prep Time

(Limited Space - 1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> serve)\*Plus Options: H2O, Gatorade, Snacks &  
Lunch Delivered Daily \$15

Host Hotel Info: Courtyard by Marriot Modesto Sisk Road (209) 577-3825  
**\$94** Dollars per night. Double beds w/ breakfast for 2 daily  
(Buffet w/ Cooked to order Eggs/whites omelets)

Hotel Registration:

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/fact-sheet/download/modcy-courtyard-modesto/>

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## **FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION:**

### **Campus Fire Safety**

Each year college and university students, on- and off-campus, experience hundreds of fire-related emergencies nationwide. There are several specific causes for fires on college campuses: cooking, intentionally set fires, and open flame. Overall, most college-related fires are due to a general lack of knowledge about fire safety and prevention. The great majority of student fire deaths occur in off-campus housing that lacks insufficient exits, missing or inoperative smoke alarms, and automatic fire sprinklers. Also, use of candles, careless smoking habits, and the misuse of alcohol – which impairs judgment and hampers evacuation efforts – contribute to off-campus housing fire deaths.

As the Fall semester approaches, colleges and universities are busy preparing for the arrival of new residents to their campus communities. Some will be first year students moving into the residence halls. Other arriving students will be moving off-campus and living on their own, some for the first time. For most of these students, the last fire safety training they received was in grade school; but with new independence comes new responsibilities. It is important that both off-campus and on-campus students understand fire risks and know the preventative measures that could save their lives.

Learn the facts about campus fire safety and be fire-wise by going to:  
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/>

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

### **The Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety**

**PRESENTS the 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**

**AUTO EXTRICATION  
WORKSHOP 2008**

TWO SOLID DAYS OF EXTRICATION TRAINING

**THIS YEARS CLASS FEATURES:**

- CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL CERTIFICATION
- RECOGNIZED INSTRUCTORS
- NEW CAR TECHNOLOGY/AIR BAGS
- HANDS ON EXTRICATION
- EMS/PATIENT CONSIDERATIONS
- RESCUE EQUIPMENT VENDORS
- LUNCH INCLUDED SATURDAY & SUNDAY
- GREAT LOCAL ACCOMODATIONS AVAILABLE
- \*IN COOPERATION WITH LN CURTIS & SONS\*

**WHEN:** OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>      **COST:** Only \$250.00 + \$25.00 CE Units  
**WHERE:** SUNNYVALE FIRE TRAINING GROUNDS (WOLFE ROAD at ARQUES)  
**HURRY:** REGISTRATION IS LIMITED and FILLS FAST  
**TO REGISTER:**  
<https://secure.lenos.com/lenos/signal/snyextricationworkshop08/home.htm>

**ACCOMODATIONS:** Rooms have been arranged / reserved at the:

Corporate Inn // Sunnyvale  
805 East El Camino Real - Sunnyvale, Ca 94087

**Reservations:**      408-220-1000

***Mention “Sunnyvale Auto-Extrication Workshop” for group rate price***

**Refer Questions To:** Sales Manager Richard Dillon

\*\*This course is sponsored by the Southbay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium which will offer ½ unit of college credit. Course fee includes registration, materials, and State Fire Marshal Certificate and Registration. ***This workshop qualifies for 14 hours of Instructor Based Continuing Education for EMT’s and Paramedics issued by the City of Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety California CE Provider #43-2005.***

## **FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC SAFETY & TRAINING** **INFORMATION:**

### **USFA Releases Twelve Fatality Hotel Arson Fire Technical Report**

Emmitsburg, MD - The United States Fire Administration (USFA) released today, as part of its technical report series, a new report titled ***Twelve Fatality Hotel Arson: Reno, Nevada***. On October 31, 2006, a fire occurred in the four-story Mizpah Hotel located at 214 North Lake Street in downtown Reno, NV. Twelve of the hotel's residents died in the fire, 31 people were injured (2 critically), and 70 people had to be rescued from the building by the fire department. More than 80 people were displaced by the fire.

**Download the report:** [www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr\\_164.pdf](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr_164.pdf)

"There are many lessons for firefighters to be learned from reviewing this technical report," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "Once again we see the delays associated with occupant complacency created by frequent false fire alarms. More importantly, one cannot read this report and not question the impact sprinklers might have had in protecting the occupants of this hotel."

The USFA develops reports on selected major fires throughout the country. Under this project, the USFA also develops special reports addressing a variety of issues that affect the fire service such as homeland security and disaster preparedness, new technologies, training, fire-ground tactics, and firefighter health and safety. This body of work provides detailed information on the nature of the fire problem and the many types of services provided by fire departments. The information informs policymakers – who must decide on allocations of resources between fire and other pressing problems – and personnel within the fire service, who must decide on how best to improve codes and code enforcement, training, public fire education, building technology, and other related areas.

"These reports provide detailed information for policymakers and individuals within the fire service who can use the information to improve codes and code enforcement, training, public fire education, building technology, and other areas of fire service responsibility," continued Cade.

For additional information regarding this report, or other USFA Technical Reports, visit the Publications section of the USFA Web site: [www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/publications/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/publications/)

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

Upcoming Training Opportunities hosted by the:  
**EAST CONTRA COSTA (CA) FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TRAINING BUREAU**

**FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER/OPERATOR 1A): October 6 - 10, 2008**

Register Online:  
[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

**FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER/OPERATOR 1B): October 13 - 17, 2008**

Register Online:  
[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

**S-212 (WILDLAND FIRE CHAIN SAWS): November 5 - 7, 2008**

Register Online:  
[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

**FIRE COMMAND 1A): November 10 - 14, 2008**

Register Online:  
[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

**CONFINED SPACE RESCUE AWARENESS: November 24, 2008**

Register Online:  
[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

**FIRE COMMAND 1B): December 1 - 5, 2008**

Register Online:  
[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

**S-211 (PORTABLE PUMPS & WATER USE): December 10 - 12, 2008**

Register Online:  
[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

**ICS-300 (INTERMEDIATE ICS): December 15 - 17, 2008**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**FIRE INSTRUCTOR 1A):**

**East Contra Costa County, CA, January 5, 7, 9, 12 and 14, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**S-290 (INTERMEDIATE WILDLAND FIRE BEHAVIOR): January 26 - 29, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**FIRE MANAGEMENT 1): February 2 - 6, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**S-230 (CREW BOSS): February 9 - 12, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**S-231 (ENGINE BOSS): February 16 - 17, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**FIRE INVESTIGATION 1A): February 23 - 27, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**FIRE INSTRUCTOR 1B): March 2, 4, 6, 11, and 13, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**S-200 (INITIAL ATTACK INCIDENT COMMANDER): March 17 - 18, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**S-270 (BASIC AIR OPERATIONS): March 23 - 24, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**S-215 (FIRE OPS IN THE URBAN INTERFACE): April 27 - 30, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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**S-244/S-245 (FIELD OBSERVER / DISPLAY PROCESSOR): May 4 - 7, 2009**

Register Online:

[www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus](http://www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus)

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For more information, visit the **EAST CONTRA COSTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT website at: [www.eccfpd.org/](http://www.eccfpd.org/)**

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## **FIREFIGHTER SAFETY & PUBLIC EDUCATION INFORMATION:**

### **A Message from U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade about Home Smoke Alarms**

USFA is aware that there is a growing controversy about which type of smoke alarm is most appropriate to protect Americans in their homes. In accordance with our mission to reduce life and economic losses due to fire, we offer the following guidance regarding home smoke alarms.

The body of scientific knowledge about fire, smoke, and smoke detection has developed over many years and is extensive. The USFA has either fully or partially funded a number of research efforts, including a recent study by the **National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Center for Fire Research** ([www.smokealarm.nist.gov](http://www.smokealarm.nist.gov)). Other contributors to this knowledge include the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the National Fire Protection Association, Underwriters Laboratories, the Home Fire Safety Council, the Residential Fire Safety Institute, the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition, and distinguished academics with expertise in smoke alarm and sensor technology. The body of research reflects the following:

- There are two types of smoke alarms in general use for residential smoke alarms: photoelectric and ionization. These types of smoke alarms sense the presence of smoke differently.
- The type of smoke produced by a fire depends strongly on the type of fire. Flaming fires produce a different type of smoke than smoldering fires.

- Both types of smoke alarms will detect the smoke from either a smoldering fire or a flaming fire. It has been factually established and well known for many years that:
  - Ionization type smoke alarms tend to respond faster to the smoke produced by flaming fires than photoelectric type smoke alarms, and
  - Photoelectric type smoke alarms tend to respond faster to the smoke produced by smoldering fires than ionization type smoke alarms.
- In some full-scale fire tests, the difference in the time to alarm between ionization and photoelectric type smoke alarms has been found to be trivial. In other full-scale fire tests, the difference in response time has been found to be considerable.

Based upon the above, the USFA provides the following guidance to the public and to state and local legislative bodies that may be grappling with the issue of the proper type of smoke alarm to select for use in a residence:

- It cannot be stated categorically that one type of smoke alarm is better than any other type of smoke alarm in **every** fire situation that could possibly arise in a residence.
- Because both ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms are better at detecting distinctly different yet potentially fatal fires, and because no one can predict what type of fire might start in a home, the USFA recommends that every residence and place where people sleep be equipped with either (a) **both** ionization **and** photoelectric smoke alarms, or (b) dual sensor smoke alarms (which contain both ionization and photoelectric smoke sensors).
- The location of a smoke alarm within a home may be more important than the type of smoke alarm present, depending on the location of a fire. The USFA recommends that users follow the manufacturer's guidance on the recommended location of smoke alarms in a home.

Additional information on smoke alarms can be found on the following websites:

- USFA [www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all\\_citizens/home\\_fire\\_prev/alarms/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/alarms/)
- CPSC [www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/fire\\_sf.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/fire_sf.html)
- NIST [www.smokealarm.nist.gov](http://www.smokealarm.nist.gov)

Greg Cade

U.S. Fire Administrator

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## **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION – DENVER AREA (CO):**

**T**he Denver (CO) Regional Council of Governments will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter**, until September 19, 2008. This is a joint test where you can have the opportunity to work for **fourteen (14)** different fire departments in the Denver area!

- The only requirement to take the exam is that you are at least 18 years of age!

To view the job announcement, complete an online job application, or to just get more information, go to: <http://www.drcog.org/index.cfm?page=FIRE>

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## **FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:**

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

Name:	Gerald R. Leduc
Rank:	Firefighter First Class
Age:	50
Gender:	Male
Status:	Career
Years of Service:	25
Date of Incident:	08/03/2008
Time of Incident:	Approximately 1900hrs
Date of Death:	08/03/2008
Fire Department:	Tiverton Fire Department
Address:	85 Main Road, Tiverton, Rhode Island 02878
Fire Department Chief:	Robert D. Lloyd
Fire Department Website:	<a href="http://www.tiverton.ri.gov/government/firedept.html">http://www.tiverton.ri.gov/government/firedept.html</a>

**Incident Description:** At approximately 1900hrs, Firefighter Leduc responded to a report of a man who went overboard from a boat into Stafford pond. Leduc was part of a dive team who was searching for the lost subject when he suddenly had difficulty and went into cardiac arrest. He was rushed back to shore where despite all resuscitative efforts, he succumbed to his injury.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

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

To date, 70 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](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm))

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

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 listserv 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:**

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has received notice of a multiple firefighter fatality incident in Northern California. The flags over the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial have been placed at half-staff. Identification of the nine victims is pending recovery operations.

Date of Incident: 08/05/2008  
Time of Incident: 1930hrs  
Date of Death: 08/05/2008  
Incident Fire Department: US Forest Service - Shasta-Trinity National Forest  
Address: 3644 Avtech Parkway, Redding, CA 96002 (USNG: 10T EK 5926 8553)

Map:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=12&usng=10TEK59268553&disp=h>

Fire Department Chief: National Forest Supervisor Sharon Heywood

Fire Department Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/index.shtml>

**Incident Description:** A pilot and eight firefighters assigned to the Iron Complex fire in California's Trinity Alps Wilderness, perished in a crash as they were taking off from a helispot in a contract Sikorsky S-61N helicopter (N612AZ). Of the 13 people reported to be on-board, one other pilot and three firefighters survived the crash. The four survivors were subsequently transported to hospitals with serious and some critical injuries. The cause of the incident is under investigation.

**Incident Location:** Trinity Alps Wilderness (USNG: 10T EL 23 41)

**Map view –**

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=12&usng=10TEL2341&disp=h>

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to these firefighters and the pilot at

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 79 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

**AND:**

Name: Sean T. Whiten  
Rank: Captain  
Age: 47  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 22  
Date of Incident: 08/09/2008  
Time of Incident: 1030hrs  
Date of Death: 08/09/2008  
Fire Department: Roscoe Volunteer Fire Company  
Address: PO Box 666, 320 Furlong AVE., Roscoe, PA 15477  
Fire Department Chief: Todd Mauk

**Incident Description:** Captain Whiten had been assisting other instructors at a structural burn session and had led several training burns when he decided to go to rehab. While at rehab, his vitals were determined to be good; he sat in front of a cooling fan, and then proceeded to an area to relax. Following that, he was found down, suffering from a medical emergency. He was transported to Mon Valley Hospital where he passed away from a cause still to be reported.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Ed Melenyzer Funeral Home, 1008 Furlong Ave., Roscoe, PA 15477. Funeral arrangements will be as follows: viewing on Tuesday, August 12, 6pm – 8pm; Wednesday August 13, 2pm – 4pm and 6pm-8pm with the Firefighter memorial Service Wednesday August 13, 7pm.

Full Fire Department honors service will be conducted on Thursday August 14 at 11 am at the Stockdale Volunteer Fire Company, 316 Railroad St., Stockdale, PA

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** A memorial fund has been established; donations can be sent to the Sean T. Whitten Memorial Fund, c/o Roscoe Volunteer Fire Company, PO Box 666, 320 Furlong AVE., Roscoe, PA 15477

Tribute is being paid to Captain Sean T. Whiten at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/)

To date, 80 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

**AND:**

Name: Roark Schwanenberg  
Rank: Pilot  
Age: 54  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract  
Home Fire Department: Carson Helicopters, Inc., Grants Pass, OR

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**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Name: James Ramage  
Rank: Pilot  
Age: 63  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland Full-Time  
Years of Service: 20+  
Home Fire Department: US Forest Service, CA

Name: Shawn Blazer  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 30  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract  
Home Fire Department: Grayback Forestry Inc., Merlin, OR

Name: Scott Charleson  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 25  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract  
Home Fire Department: Grayback Forestry Inc., Merlin, OR

Name: Matthew Hammer  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 23  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract  
Home Fire Department: Grayback Forestry Inc., Merlin, OR

Name: Edrik Gomez  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 19  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract  
Home Fire Department: Grayback Forestry Inc., Merlin, OR

Name: Bryan Rich  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 29  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract  
Home Fire Department: Grayback Forestry Inc., Merlin, OR

Name: David Steele  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 19  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Home Fire Department: Grayback Forestry Inc., Merlin, OR

Name: Steven Renno  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 21  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland - Contract  
Home Fire Department: Grayback Forestry Inc., Merlin, OR

Date of Incident: 08/05/2008  
Time of Incident: 1930hrs  
Date of Death: 08/05/2008  
Incident Fire Department: US Forest Service - Shasta-Trinity National Forest  
Address: 3644 Avtech Parkway, Redding, CA 96002  
Fire Department Chief: National Forest Supervisor Sharon Heywood  
Fire Department Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/index.shtml>

**Incident Description:** Two pilots and seven firefighters assigned to the Iron Complex fire in California's Trinity Alps Wilderness, perished in a crash as they were taking off from a helispot in a contract Sikorsky S-61N helicopter (N612AZ). Of the 13 people reported to be on-board, one other pilot and three firefighters survived the crash. The four survivors were subsequently transported to hospitals with serious and some critical injuries. The cause of the incident is under investigation.

**Tribute** is being paid to these firefighters and pilots at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

As of this incident date, 79 firefighter fatalities had been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

**AND:**

Name: Tony McGough  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 44  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 1+  
Date of Incident: 08/14/2008  
Time of Incident: 0630hrs  
Date of Death: 08/14/2008  
Fire Department: Amity Fire Department  
Address: PO Box 197, Amity, AR 71921 (USNG: 15S VT 5755 9161)  
Map: <http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=14&usng=15SVT57559161&disp=h> |  
Fire Department Chief: B.J. Johns

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

**Incident Description:** Firefighter McGough was responding to a medical call in his privately owned vehicle when he was involved in a motor vehicle accident. Firefighter McGough succumbed to his injuries. Incident details are pending.

**Funeral Arrangements:** 08/18/2008 @ 1400hrs; Graveside Service, Jones Cemetery, Amity, AR

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** In honor of Firefighter Tony McGough, C/o Amity Fire Department, PO Box 197, Amity, AR 71921

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter Tony McGough at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 81 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

**AND:**

Name:	Rufus E. Brinson, Jr.
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	50
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	30
Date of Incident:	06/06/2008
Time of Incident:	1530hrs
Date of Death:	06/06/2008
Fire Department:	Reelsboro Fire Department
Address:	105 Holland Drive, New Bern, NC 28560
Fire Department Chief:	Lance Hamby

**Incident Description:** Firefighter Brinson collapsed while refilling a pumper that was being used during a live fire training exercise. Cause of death is pending autopsy results.

**Funeral Arrangements:** 06/13/2008, interred at the Sand Hill Cemetery.

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** None

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter Rufus E. Brinson, Jr. at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 82 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

**AND:**

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Name: Robert A. Hales  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 40  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 8  
Date of Incident: 08/17/2008  
Time of Incident: Pending  
Date of Death: 08/17/2008  
Fire Department: Scappoose Rural Fire District  
Address: 52751 Columbia River Highway, P.O. Box 625, Scappoose, OR  
Fire Department Chief: Michael Greisen  
Fire Department Website: <http://www.srfd.us/index.htm>

**Incident Description:** Firefighter Hales had returned home from working a twelve hour shift on three outdoor fires caused by lightning when within a couple hours he left his residence again with his 14 year old daughter in their privately owned vehicle. A short distance from the home, the vehicle left the roadway and crashed after (according to the autopsy report) Hales suffered a cardiac arrest. The young lady ran back home a half mile to call 911, however, Firefighter Hales did not recover and passed away.

**Funeral Arrangements:** A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 25, at Grace Baptist Church, 58690 Ross Rd. in Warren. A gathering with the family will follow in the fairgrounds pavilion at the Columbia County Event Complex in St. Helens.

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Grange Museum, c/o Evelyn Hudson, 34101 Quail Lane, Scappoose, OR 97056

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

To date, 83 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

**AND:**

Name: Curtis Jessen  
Rank: Assistant District Forester  
Age: 32  
Gender: Male  
Status: Wildland Full-Time  
Years of Service: 6  
Date of Incident: 08/21/2008  
Time of Incident: 1030hrs  
Date of Death: 08/21/2008  
Fire Department: North Carolina Division of Forest Resources  
Address: NCDNR Region Three, 14 Gaston Mountain Road,  
Asheville, NC 28806 (USNG: 17S LV 5215 3410) Map:

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=16&usng=17SLV5215134103&disp=h> Fire Department Chief: Regional Forester Greg Yates

**Incident Description:** Assistant District Forester Curtis Jessen suffered critical injuries after falling at least 50 feet from the Big Bradley Falls near Saluda, NC, while working an outdoor fire. The fire had been burning since the previous evening; authorities are investigating the circumstances surrounding the fatal accident and fire.

**Incident Location:** Big Bradley Falls near Saluda, NC (USNG: 17S LV 8253 0351)

**Map View:**

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=15&usng=17SLV8253403510&disp=h>

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Assistant District Forester Curtis Jessen at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 84 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

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**FIRE SERVICE SAFETY, TRAINING & NEWS  
STORIES TO LEARN FROM, COURTESY OF  
DEPUTY CHIEF BILLY GOLDFEDER & GORDON  
GRAHAM, HOSTS OF [www.firefighterclosecalls.com](http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com)**

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a **Tiverton (Rhode Island) Firefighter has died in the Line of Duty while attempting a water rescue** in a pond. The Firefighter was one of the divers out searching the waters of the pond looking for a man that went missing, when he lost his own life in the search and rescue attempt. The FF's responded around 1900 hours last night (Sunday) to a report that a man had fallen into the water. Details to follow.

**NEW YORK) STATE TROOPER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY ALONG WITH CIVILIAN KILLED IN ACCIDENT WITH ANTIQUE CANADIAN FIRE APPARATUS:**

State Police have identified a trooper killed in the Line of Duty yesterday as 19 year veteran Shawn Snow but the name of the 51 year old Canadian man also killed has not been released. Both were electrocuted near the Ogdensburg Prescott International Bridge late yesterday (Sunday) afternoon. The accident involved an antique fire truck returning to Canada after participating in a fire show in the Syracuse area. The fire apparatus got two flat tires on the access road to the bridge and the State Trooper stopped to help. The ladder on the fire truck had to be raised to level the antique fire truck out. While a jack was being used to raise the fire truck to fix the flat tire, the ladder lowered striking a 7,620 volt power line. It is

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

unclear whether the ladder slid or the driver hit the button to lower it. The trooper and the man driving the truck were both electrocuted and died instantly. The man driving the fire truck was returning home to the Ottawa area. Markings on the ladder of the fire truck say Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation. A smaller vehicle being towed by the truck has Bytown, Ottawa written on it and the trucks license plates are from Quebec. More details to follow-photo on the home page. Our condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-4-08 / 0045 hours

**AND:**

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of our friend & Firefighting Brother, **Larry Davis**. Larry, a veteran Firefighter, noted fire service author, speaker, instructor and just plain nice guy, passed away yesterday (Sunday) at his home in Corpus Christi, Texas, after a 7-month battle with lung cancer at the age of 63. Larry leaves behind his wife, Mary Ann, a daughter Kayce, a stepson Christopher, and a brother Mark. Larry's 40-plus years of dedication to the fire service left its very positive mark on so many in North America. While his focus was often directed towards small-town USA and rural fire departments – his passion for teaching and writing covered many aspects of fire and emergency services.

Larry's often "direct" style of educating, instructing and simply making a point (always right!) while ruffling feathers from time to time, has made a major and very positive impact on so many firefighters, departments and communities...including the town we reside in. Never one to be PC or beat around the bush, his passion for doing what is right when it came to firefighters or those we serve was always his top priority..."like it or not". And while initially, Larry's observations were sometimes looked upon at a distance by those afraid to accept reality, time always proved that what he said, suggested or taught-was the right thing to do. The classic "Larry Davis reality checks" have resulted in so many positive differences and changes in leadership, staffing, operations, firefighter safety and survival throughout North America,

While I had the chance to first meet Larry in the early 70's through my involvement with ISFSI, Larry got his start well before that, in the 1960's with the Canonsburg VFD in Pennsylvania. Then it was off to the Air Force where he served in several capacities in their fire service. He worked for many years in industrial fire protection and loss prevention with Industrial Risk Insurers while at the same time being active in the leadership of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors. Upon his retirement from IRI, Larry moved to Texas and was a Staff Division Chief with the Refinery Terminal Fire Company and then Industrial Emergency Services. He was also the Vice President of GBW Associates, LLC and one of the founders of the Rural Firefighting Institute.

At the wishes of the family, a memorial service is being planned for a date sometime in August – more details will follow when they are released. The family also recognizes that Larry's passion for making the fire service better touched so many people ...and the family is encouraging folks that knew Larry to send their thoughts and remembrances in an email to: [ldavis@gotbigwater.com](mailto:ldavis@gotbigwater.com)

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Those emails will be collected and posted at [www.gotbigwater.com](http://www.gotbigwater.com) for all to see as a tribute to Larry's work. Without a doubt, Larry had a major impact on the way I personally and professionally see things in the fire service. Larry's style of cutting through the B S along with his ability to show the common sense side of this business left a very clear mark on myself and so many who were lucky enough to have met him, or know him. Rest in Peace Larry. Our condolences to the entire Davis family and friends.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-4-08 / 0010 hours

#### AND:

Hey,....

A grizzly bear escaping a wildland fire in Yellowstone had a slight altercation with a Firefighter...but he wasn't seriously hurt....neither was the Firefighter. Thankfully, **Firefighter Tony Allabastro** was treated and released at a medical clinic in the park on Sunday after this CLOSE CALL and clearly unbearable situation. **Sorry. Firefighter Allabastro is a member of the Lewis and Clark Hotshots from Great Falls, Mont. The crew is among those battling the 4,700-acre fire near Fishing Bridge in Yellowstone. Fortunately FF Allabastro only suffered some scratches on his back after the bear jumped on him...officials believe that the bear wasn't being aggressive and apparently just wanted to get away from the fire.**

#### **UPDATE: ANTIQUE APPARATUS TRAGEDY UPDATE:**

The veteran NY State Trooper and retired Fire Chief were electrocuted while fixing a flat tire on an antique fire truck when the truck's ladder touched a high-voltage power line yesterday. Tragically killed was Chief Pierre Surprenant, the retired chief of the Ottawa (Canada) Airport FD, former director of the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation and currently an instructor at the Ecole Nationale des Pompiers (fire training school) in Mirabel, Quebec. The antique fire truck, from the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation, was being returned to Canada from a fire muster when a tire went flat near the Ogdensburg-Prescott International Bridge.

Also, killed in the Line of Duty was New York State Police Trooper Shawn Snow (47 with 19 years on the job), who was under the truck fixing the tire while Chief Surprenant extended the truck's ladder to distribute the weight away from the flat right rear tire. When the ladder hit the live wire, both men were killed instantly. Facts are still unknown related to how it ended up touching the wires, whether a piece of equipment failed and it slipped and touched the wires, or whether the act of jacking it up higher on one side caused it to touch. Our condolences to all affected, especially the 2 families.

#### **UPDATE: RHODE ISLAND LINE OF DUTY DEATH:**

Veteran Tiverton Firefighter, Gerald R. Leduc, 52, (with 25 years on the job) lost his life last night in the Line of Duty in a search for a missing boater in a tragedy that began at 1900 hours. Sunday when the missing man reportedly went into the water from his boat as it was heading back to shore. One of those searching was FF Leduc, who lived near the pond. FF Leduc's death was believed to be the first line-of-duty death Tiverton has ever had and he had been a certified diver for many, many years. The boater is still missing.

Our sincere condolences to all affected.

**ATTENDING IAFC F.R.I. IN DENVER ?**

The IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section ([www.IAFCSafety.org](http://www.IAFCSafety.org)) will be meeting on Thursday, August 14th from 1315-1530 hours in rooms 102/104/106 of the convention center. You are very welcome and encouraged to attend.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-4-08 / 1714 hours

**AND:**

We regret to advise you that **Indianapolis Fire Captain Gary Henry**, a Sergeant with the 38th Military Police Company, was killed by a roadside bomb. He was a 12-year veteran of the Indianapolis Fire Department and served as the **Special Operations Rescue Coordinator** before being deployed to Iraq. Henry is the son of Marajo Castor of Indianapolis and Gary L. Henry of Franklin. He graduated in 1992 from Whiteland Community High School. The 38th Military Police Company is a National Guard unit based in Danville. They were deployed to Iraq in June. **Our sincere condolences to all affected as we remember with deep appreciation Captain Henry-and all those serving our Country.**

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-5-08 / 0756 Hours

**AND:**

We now have reports that possibly **NINE FIREFIGHTERS** are missing following that firefighting helicopter crash in Trinity County...and are presumed to be LODD as per FAA statements this afternoon. As we sent out earlier on The Secret List, 4 Firefighters were badly burned in the crash, which took place at about 1930 hours last night about 15 miles northwest of Junction City, west of Redding. The firefighting helicopter was operating under contract and was carrying 13 people -- and it looks like it included 11 Firefighters and two crew members at the time it went down. We will provide updates as they become available.

**VA BEACH CANCER LODD:** It is with deep regret that we advise you of the passing of **Master Firefighter William D. (Duke) Lee Jr., an 18 year veteran of The Virginia Beach Fire Department in Virginia BeachVA. His death August 5, 2008 is considered a Line of Duty.** He died after a short and courageous battle with job related cancer which began in December 2007. Funeral arrangements are being planned. Our sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-6-08 / 1605 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

A helicopter assigned to a Trinity County (CA) forest fire crashed and burned last night, around 1945 hours, leaving **4 firefighting personnel in critical condition with burn injuries.** There was no word on the number of people on board the aircraft or what they were doing. The Sikorsky S-61 helicopter, which was assigned to the Iron Complex fires, went

down at the north end of the 15,848-acre Buckhorn Fire. The crash site is about 15 miles northwest of Junction City in Trinity County. Details will follow.

**LARRY DAVIS MEMORIAL SERVICE:**

A memorial service for Larry Davis will be held at 1100 hrs on Saturday, August 30, 2008, at the Island in the Son, United Methodist Church, 15602 Highway 361, Corpus Christi, Texas 78418. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Island in the Son UMC or folks can make donations to their local volunteer fire departments in Larry's name.

In addition to what we shared about Larry yesterday, he was also the author of the "Rural Firefighting Tactics" series of books, also began writing for FireRescue Magazine in June 1997, a column entitled "Just Firefightin'". In November 2002, Larry started writing the regular column, "Rural Fire Command," with the topic "Dollars & Sense: The inadequacies of rural fire protection." The column quickly became a stalwart and has been featured ever since.

As you may know by now, Larry devoted his career to reaching firefighters in small communities and rural areas, firefighters who are often overlooked but no less important to this country's fire protection than big-city firefighters. He did so not only because he knew the rural fire service deserved education and funding, but because he felt that many rural departments were home to innovations and open-mindedness that deserved nurturing and showcasing. **R.I.P. Larry Davis.**

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-6-08 / 0907 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

A lawsuit...but who is to blame? This is a follow-up to an apparatus crash that tragically killed a Firefighter in the Line of Duty. And unless we are missing something, and we probably are not, the simple use of a SEAT BELT would have prevented this. With absolute due respect and as horrific as this LODD was, if the FF was belted in, the outcome would very likely have been different...just a thought...but READ the NIOSH report. However, in this case, the lawsuit is now blaming the apparatus manufacturer?! May Firefighter Chris Kanton rest in peace, his family find peace...and the rest of us learn from this.

Here is a link to the story: [http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci\\_10115463](http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_10115463)

Here is a link to the NIOSH report: <http://www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/fire/reports/face200528.html>

**NEW YORK FIREFIGHTER INJURED DURING DRILL TEAM PRACTICE:**

A New Hyde Park (Long Island, NY) Firefighter was injured when he fell on a ladder spike during a practice drill Thursday night. Around 1900, a FF was helping to stabilize an extension ladder against an arch at a North Hempstead park during practice (see sample videos below) for the department's drill team. The FF fell across one of the spikes that secure the ladder into the ground, and sustained a cut on his stomach-and was taken to the hospital for treatment. Their 20-member team, the "NHP Termites" was practicing for a competition Saturday for Long Island FD's. We wish him a quick recovery. Here are some videos for those of you who are unfamiliar with the FD drill teams in the NY

area:<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjT75FLCAis>  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDEup\\_yzCy4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDEup_yzCy4)  
<http://www.fdnsphoto.com/>  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJ\\_trvV3uJA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJ_trvV3uJA)

**BIG FIRE, BIG COLLAPSE, BIG CLOSE CALL AT THE BIG BUDGET CUT FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

As we sent out yesterday, the South Bend (IN) FD is under the gun for the possible loss of about 60 FIRE positions. And now this morning.....a fire has collapsed a grocery store in South Bend and 2 South Bend Firefighters were sent to the hospital. FF Jared Pearish, was injured when a wall collapsed on top of him....he was taken to the hospital with leg and back pains and cuts on his face...officials believe his helmet saved his life. As budget threats and cuts continue to rip through many of "The Nation's First Responders" (a/k/a Fire Departments)...what people expect us to do simply may not be what we are able to do in the future-and all affected needs to know that. We should have some pretty amazing "on scene" pictures of this mornings fire on our news/updates on the home page later this evening.

**And ANOTHER COLLAPSE INJURES FIREFIGHTERS IN GEORGIA:**

2 Firefighters and a police officer were injured yesterday afternoon when a wall collapsed in downtown Douglas, GA. They were trying to rescue a woman who's jeep slammed through the front of an upholstery store...while rescuers were getting her out, the brick store front crashed down on top of them....all were treated and transported.

**MOVING FORWARD ON AMBULANCE SAFETY DESIGN STANDARDS:**

At the request of several fire service associations and organizations, the NFPA standards process is now taking on a new project related to ambulance design and related safety standards-this is a good thing and is a long time coming. The NFPA Standards Council will be moving forward at its October meeting so our input is needed by October 15. Please check it out and pass this on to whoever else you know who might be interested in AMBULANCE SAFETY AND DESIGN standards. The announcement on this in the August issue of NFPA News available here:

<http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/NFPA%20News/NFPANews0808.pdf>

**IT'S THE SEAT BELTS.**

Proving to those who don't wear seatbelts that they DO matter, Plumsteadville (PA) FF's escaped serious injury when a bridge partially collapsed while they were responding to a fire, causing the fire truck to tip over....the FF's were banged up and sore, but the accident could have been much worse...ALL FIREFIGHTERS on the rig had their seat belts on. How 'bout that!?

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-8-08 / 1645 hours

**AND:**

**PA. FIRE INSTRUCTOR LODD:**

It is with deep regret that we advise you that **PA. Fire Instructor Sean Whiten, 47** of Stockdale (PA) a former Chief and Captain of the Roscoe VFC died in the **Line of**

**Duty** yesterday during a training burn. F.I. Whiten was operating at the Westmoreland County (Western PA) Fire Training Academy (South Huntingdon) and had lead several training burns when he decided to go to rehab. While at rehab, his vitals were determined to be good, he sat in front of cooling fan, felt better and went to an area to relax. Following that, he was found down, suffering from a medical emergency...personnel worked on him, an AED was used and he was transported to the hospital where he passed away. Chief Whiten leaves behind a wife and a 17 year old son. Our sincere condolences to all affected and especially the Whiten family and friends.

**TWO FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY: HONG KONG:**

It is with deep regret that we advise you that 2 Firefighters and a woman were killed in a 5 alarm multi-family dwelling fire this morning, which also sent 55 people to hospital. Senior Firefighter Siu Wing-fong, 46, 25-year-old Firefighter Chan Siu-lung during rescue attempts. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

**REMEMBERING THE NOONDAY FIREFIGHTERS DOUBLE LODD:**

As you know, we always do our best to remember specific LODD's-especially one's we can all learn from. It has been 1 year since the **Line of Duty Deaths of Captain Kevin Williams and FF Austin Cheek of the Noonday VFD in Texas**. A report into the tragic August 3, 2007 deaths at that house fire has been completed by the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office. Click the below link to read the entire report--our **thanks** to our affiliate Dave Statter at Statter911.com.

**BRIEFLY, WHAT WAS FOUND IN THE DOUBLE LODD REPORT?**

As you will read, much of the below (**such as the failure to conduct a full 360 and size up before committing companies interior**) is consistently showing up in numerous LODD reports.

- A command post was not set up and the Incident Commander was mobile.
- RIT was established during operations but was not dedicated for immediate response.
- No tracking or accountability used from the start.
- No 360 size-up.
- Problems with scene command and control between the various responding companies..
- Ventilation was not coordinated and FF's were between the fire and the venting.
- Problems with communications between interior crews and command and command didn't take immediate actions when his request for updates went unanswered.
- As fire conditions progressed changes were not made to the fireground operations.

**CLICK THE LINK for the ENTIRE DOUBLE LODD REPORT ...WHICH IS WELL WORTH READING:**

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2008/08/texas-lodds-report.html>

May Captain Kevin Williams and FF Austin Cheek rest in peace.

**FIREFIGHTER FACES CHARGES IN CRASH:**

The operator of a Jacksonville (FL) Fire Rescue Department rescue vehicle (ambulance) that crashed during a rainstorm on I-10 while transporting a patient earlier this week is now facing charges of careless driving, according to the Florida Highway Patrol. The crew was transporting to Shands Jacksonville with a patient in critical condition....the unit

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driver, 38 year old FF Paul Brennan lost control, hit the concrete median and overturned....he had a seatbelt on. The other 2 Firefighters on board didn't have seatbelts on as they were providing patient care. The cops say Brennan faces charges of careless driving...all were treated and released.

**WHY DO REGULAR LICENSE CHECKS?**

A Japanese firefighter who has driven fire apparatus and ambulances hundreds of times over 20 years was sacked after it was discovered that he never had a driver's license. The man's family was in on his "secret" and would drive him each day to and from the firehouse, from where he would get behind the wheel of fire apparatus and ambulances. But the firefighter in Takaoka (NW of Tokyo) was busted last week after he hesitated to show his license during a routine (?) FD inspection. "An inspector thought he was looking awkward and yanked the driver's license from his hand and discovered it was his father's," said a FD Official. The Firefighter, who is in his 40's, was a FF for some 20 years...during the five years to this March, for which records were available, he drove ambulances 309 times and fire trucks 97 time. The city ALSO cut the salaries of the Chief of Department, his Deputy Chief and other senior officials by 1/10th for one month as punishment....the FD only began monthly license inspections in November.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-10-08 / 0843 hours

**AND:**

We regret to advise you that a **Toronto (Canada) Firefighter has died in the Line of Duty**, numerous civilians have been injured and thousands of residents are displaced following a series of massive explosions at a propane facility early this morning. The Firefighter had 25 years on the job and the cause of death has not been determined. The Firefighter was found with no vital signs near the site of the blasts and rushed to hospital....his name has not been released as of yet. One civilian is still unaccounted for and 18 people are in hospital with minor injuries. The fire has been burning at the facility since the explosion rocked the surrounding neighborhood just before 0400 this morning. The facility was engulfed in flames and windows were blown out in homes in the surrounding blocks. The sound of the blast could be heard miles away. Details will follow, as always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-10-08 / 2019 hours

**AND:**

Tragically, **Chief Bob Leek**, a well known a highly respected District Chief of Emergency Planning for Toronto Fire Services was who was **killed in the Line of Duty** yesterday. Toronto experienced massive explosions and fires at that propane facility in the City....and during the incident, Chief Leek was on scene in his capacity as Chief of Emergency Planning, surveying damage from the initial explosions. Although details are not available, Bob was found no vitals by another Firefighter on scene, was treated and transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead. His cause of death is not yet known. A department funeral is currently being planned and is expected to be held toward the end of

August 31, 2008

[www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)

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**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

this week. Chief Leek was a loving husband and Father. Our Condolences to Chief Leeks Family, friends and the members of Toronto Fire.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-11-08 / 0943 Hours

**AND:**

Hey...

As they do each year, the USFA has released their 2007 Firefighter Fatality Report (link below) with **118 Line of Duty Deaths**. Keep in mind that these numbers are different than the NFPA report (link below) which shows a total of **102 on-duty Firefighter deaths** occurring in 2007. Both agencies calculate our deaths differently.

In addition to the USFA's overall findings, this 2007 study includes information on the hazards to Firefighters presented by the **lack of seatbelt use**. In 2007, 27 Firefighter fatalities resulted from vehicle related incidents. In 19 of the 27 incidents where seatbelt status was known, 11 Firefighters were confirmed as **not wearing seatbelts** at the time of the event.

**Here is the USFA overview of the 118 Firefighters that died while on duty in 2007:**

=68 volunteer Firefighters and 50 career Firefighters died while on duty.

=There were 7 Firefighter fatality incidents where 2 or more Firefighters were killed, claiming a total of 21 firefighters' lives.

=11 Firefighters were killed during activities involving brush, grass, or wildland firefighting, the lowest in over a decade.

=Activities related to emergency incidents resulted in the deaths of 76 Firefighters.

=38 Firefighters engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.

=26 Firefighters responding to or returning from emergency incidents.

=11 Firefighters were engaged in training activities.

=15 Firefighters after the conclusion of their on-duty activity.

=Heart attacks were the most frequent cause of death for 2007, with 52 Firefighter deaths.

Here is a link to the USFA report:

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/report.shtm>

Here is a link to the NFPA report: <http://www.iaff.org/08News/PDF/NFPAReport.pdf>

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-11-08 / 1645 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

In our EVER striving attempt to help keep us **all** living for as long as possible (forever would be nice but not likely) we provide this little series of **30 second Safety, Health & Survival VIDEOS for Firefighters and their families**. These professionally produced videos will help make you healthy-further easily proving that FEW love you like The Secret List / FireFighterCloseCalls.com loves you. Of course, this should please the few of you who

write us whining "why don't you ever send out happy news? Well "Clueless"...that's not our job. You want happy news? Go here: [www.Disney.com](http://www.Disney.com)

Our job is passing along BAD news so we don't keep repeating BAD stuff.

**But since it is summer and we have many reasons to be happy, here ya go:**

Proper **Exercise**: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w5DwlcnpBCA&feature=related>

Proper **Eating**: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a189xAYBRv8>

Proper **Medical Treatment\***

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5jVNsiM4IU&feature=related>

(\*Warning-adult language-but suitable for Firefighters)

### **AMBULANCE STRETCHER PROBLEMS:**

The Massachusetts Office of EMS has received information documenting several instances in which Ferno PROFlexx model 35-P stretchers (ambulance cots) have suffered metal fatigue and breakage of the telescoping legs. The area of highest concern is the X frame axle (where both telescoping legs connect). Here are the details:

[http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/emergency\\_services/ambulance\\_stretcher\\_urgent\\_notice.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/emergency_services/ambulance_stretcher_urgent_notice.pdf)

### **EMERGENCY RESPONSE: "I SAID PULL OVER .....NOW!!!!"**

It appears in other countries, use of the siren AND "speaking" over the P.A. system prove to be a very effective way to **ORDER** the Right-Of-Way while responding to fire calls...check this out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-J3C64XRfE&feature=email>

We have numerous TSL subscribers in Japan, so hopefully one of you will write us back and do the translation...although we THINK it is something like "YO HOMEY...PULL THE \*\*\*\* OVER...NOW" !! or it COULD be something about more lame city hall FD BUDGET CUTS. But maybe not.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL...HAVE A HAPPY DAY.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-12-08 / 1018 Hours

### **AND:**

Hey....

Here are the memorial and funeral details for **Toronto Fire Division Chief Bob Leek, who tragically died in the Line of Duty on Sunday**: <http://www.toronto.ca/fire/news/2008-08-12/index.htm>

### **UPDATE: Tokyo Fire Service: PULL OVER:**

We heard from several Tokyo TSL subscribers-and some who know the area well. What the Tokyo Fire Officer who is featured on the previous Secret List video link is saying is:

**"Stop and please wait. Let the emergency vehicle pass by."**

**As one reader wrote:** "They are actually polite to each other and when the Tokyo FD responds, people actually pull to the side....and as you see the Engines proceed with due regard while responding....amazing what a little respect does....we also must wear ALL of their protective equipment at all times...hoods, chin straps, gloves, etc...you will never see a firefighter get off apparatus without full PPE..."

"Arigatou gozaimashita" for the update.

**UPDATE: AMBULANCE STRETCHER PROBLEM:**

This is to let you know that Joe Bourgraf, President of Ferno-Washington dropped us an e-mail this afternoon to help clarify that it is the Ferno PROFlexx Model **35-X** stretcher, **not** the Ferno PROFlexx Model **35-P** stretcher, that is experiencing issues of metal fatigue and breakage of the telescoping legs. The MA. EMS folks had some numbers confused.

The area of highest concern is the X frame axle (where both telescoping legs connect). Ferno is working hard to analyze data related to the issues involving the Ferno PROFlexx Model 35-X stretcher, and will be contacting customers (or you contact them below if there is ANY question) which may be affected and require further attention. It is important to note that the entire Ferno PROFlexx series of ambulance stretchers is not affected, and the documented reports that the Massachusetts EMS Office received with regard to the Model 35-P had meant to refer to the Model 35-X. More details and updated instructions here: [http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/emergency\\_services/ambulance\\_stretcher\\_urgent\\_notice.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/emergency_services/ambulance_stretcher_urgent_notice.pdf) - **If you have any questions, contact Ferno here:** <http://www.ferno.com/>

Take Care-BE CAREFULL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-12-08 / 2155 hours

**AND:**

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the Line of Duty Death of Firefighter Tony McGough, 45, of the Amity Fire Department in Clark County, Arkansas. FF McGough was killed yesterday while responding to a medical emergency in his P.O.V. As always, our sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-15-08 / 1526 hours

**AND:**

We have been advised from the **City of Knoxville Fire Department** that **Captain John O. "Slim" Pickens passed away at about 2245 hours Friday night. His lungs had been injured in the line-of-duty at a major fire involving automotive tires on 02 July 1996.** The exposure caused pulmonary fibrosis: scar tissue buildup in the lungs leading to his long term suffering and his subsequent and very tragic Line of Duty Death. Captain Pickens will receive Line-of-Duty Death honors and the funeral arrangements are as follows: Visitation 1700 Monday(tomorrow) at Click Funeral Home (11915 Kingston Pike in Farragut) with Celebration of Life to follow at 1900 hours. Family and friends will gather at Click Funeral Home at 1000 Tuesday for procession to an 11 AM graveside service at Lake View Cemetery in Lenoir City (up the street from Fort Loudon Dam).

**FIREFIGHTER RESCUED IN CANADA:**

A Calgary Firefighter who was knocked unconscious while searching a dwelling is expected to make a full recovery after being carried to safety by other FF's. FF Kevin Boyd, 39, was with a crew doing a search for a possible missing person in a home on Thursday when he

was struck by a partial collapse. FF Boyd remained in hospital Friday with a possible crushed vertebra.

**CHARGES MAY FOLLOW IN THE LINE OF DUTY DEATHS OF TWO FDNY FIREFIGHTERS:**

The Manhattan District Attorney investigators believe, according to people briefed on the case, that negligence by city agencies from the Buildings Department's failure to ensure that a vital standpipe was maintained and tested at the former bank tower, to the lack of safety inspections by the Fire Department during the building's demolition may have directly contributed to the **Line of Duty Deaths** of 2 Firefighters last Aug. 18. It is being stated that the D.A. is considering seeking charges against the city itself. **Details HERE:** <http://firegeezzer.com/2008/08/17/charges-may-be-levied-in-deutsche-bank-fatal-fire/>

**NOSE SNUBBING DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE "AT IT" AGAIN: TARGETING FALLEN FF FAMILIES?**

As you remember, last October, the fire service had what we thought was a victory following the battle over the Public Safety Officers Benefit (PSOB) program-specific to the "Hometown Heroes" issue...but, they (DOJ) are now "reviewing" the document once again... why? **Because their attitude apparently is "who is CONGRESS to tell US what to do?"** As you know, DOJ was at odds with the families of fallen firefighters (and public safety officers) about whether to recognize a heart attack as a line-of-duty cause of death. Although Congress ordered it and FD's and families produced medical documents and gave testimony, DOJ officials apparently arrogantly and intentionally denied or took no action on numerous cases.

CFSI, NFFF and all other fire service organizations are all over this issue. Originally when this first came up (again) recently, it appeared the rules were being simply reviewed for grammatical issues...but that may not be the only "poking" they are doing. For example now, changes including definitions of training are being proposed....by D.O.J., on their own, against what Congress wanted and what President Bush promised last Fall at the NFFF Memorial Weekend.

**NOTE: DETAILS soon on exactly HOW Firefighters and their Departments can respond to this.**

**FIREFIGHTER HEALTH:** The NVFC is focusing hard this week on the issues of Firefighter Health. Check out the details here:

[http://www.nvfc.org/index.php?item\\_id=816&action=show\\_item&type=news](http://www.nvfc.org/index.php?item_id=816&action=show_item&type=news)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-17-08 / 2018 Hours

**AND:**

Hey...

A Yuma (AZ) Fire Captain is in serious condition in a Phoenix hospital with injuries suffered in a swift water training accident ...and 2 other firefighters were treated and released. YFD Fire Captain Gene Tutell sustained lacerations to his face and head, seven broken ribs

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

and possible head injuries after being ejected from a YFD personal rescue watercraft. Captain Tutell was riding on a skid being pulled behind the personal watercraft Sunday when it struck some tules along the bank of the Colorado River. The skid is used to transport injured patients and the personal watercraft is used for swift water rescues. 2 other YFD personnel were riding on the personal watercraft: Firefighter/EMT Jordan Bowers and Dispatcher Heather Monreal...they were thrown from the watercraft following the crash. Reports are that FF Bowers was driving the personal watercraft at the time of the accident and Dispatcher Monreal was riding behind him on it as a passenger. Dispatcher Monreal was participating in the training as a part of orientation to fire department operations. The watercraft was traveling about 30 mph when the accident occurred and everyone was wearing personal floatation devices at the time of the crash. Fortunately YFD FF's were actually conducting swift water rescue training at the time and had their equipment and troops to handle the incident.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-18-08 / 2129 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

A **Florida** Firefighter was flown out after he was struck by a car yesterday afternoon. The Firefighter was raising money at an intersection Friday for the annual fill the boot campaign for the muscular dystrophy. The 18 year veteran of **Okeechobee County** Fire Rescue was collecting spare change from passing drivers when he was hit....he was brought to St. Mary's Medical tonight with serious injuries. Okeechobee County FF's advised that he had bruising to his brain, as well as head fractures...but he's expected to survive...unknown if there will be any charges to the driver who struck the Firefighter.

**Also Friday, in MARYLAND:**

A 17 year old Maryland Junior Firefighter was struck while responding to assist a choking victim this evening. Just prior to 1930 this evening, the Fire Explorer-member of the **Vigilant Hose Company in Emmitsburg** (Maryland) was struck by a vehicle while crossing the street in front of the fire station. The Firefighter was attempting to respond quickly to an emergency call that had just been dispatched for a person choking across the street from the fire station at the Palms Restaurant. An ambulance was also heading to the scene for the choking person which arrived as both patients were being treated by on scene personnel. The FF had head and leg injured and was flown out. According to the Vigilant Chief, "we feel youthful indiscretion contributed to this situation on the part of a very dedicated young member." A late report indicates the Explorer will fully recover but will be very sore for a while and has been admitted to the trauma center for the evening.

**..and in PENNSYLVANIA:**

A man is in the slammer for a hit-and-run involving a **Wissahickon Firefighter** who was operating at that massive 8+ alarm fire in Conshohocken on Wednesday. **Fire Pics Here:** [www.PhillyFireNews.com](http://www.PhillyFireNews.com) - Douglass Christopher Weiss, 30, is charged with leaving the scene of an accident, driving under the influence, illegally driving over a fire hose, reckless driving and related offenses. FF Paul Resnick, 32, was assisting another firefighter

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

in directing traffic about 2140 hours Wednesday when he was struck by a pickup truck that Weiss allegedly was driving. FF Resnick was treated and released from an area hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Based on information from witnesses at the scene, police immediately tracked Weiss down at his home and took him into custody....he was arraigned on the charges and sent to the county slammer in lieu of \$5,000 cash bail...there are also charges in another case against him.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-16-08 / 0027 hours

**AND:**

**NORTH CAROLINA LODD-HORRIFIC FALL:**

We regret to advise you that a **North Carolina Forest Service Firefighter fell off a cliff at Big Bradley Falls and died in the Line of Duty today. He has been identified as Curtis Jessen**, the division's assistant district forester in Asheville. Fire Supervisor Jessen suffered critical injuries after falling from the falls and EMS pronounced him dead a short time later. Jessen, 32, was working on the fire when he fell from a cliff. Authorities are investigating the circumstances surrounding Jessen's fall and the fire. Our sincere condolences to all affected by this tragic loss.

**OREGON FF LODD-HEART ATTACK/CRASH AFTER SHIFT:**

Scappoose Rural Fire District Firefighter Robert Hales, 40, had returned home from working a twelve hour shift on three outdoor fires caused by lightning when within a couple hours he left his residence again with his 14 year old daughter in their privately owned vehicle. A short distance from the home, the vehicle left the roadway and crashed after (according to the autopsy report) FF Hales suffered a cardiac arrest. His daughter heroically ran back home a half mile to call 911, however, Firefighter Hales did not recover and passed away in the Line of Duty. Funeral Arrangements: A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 25, at Grace Baptist Church, 58690 Ross Rd. in Warren.

**DETROIT FIREFIGHTERS EJECTED - AGAIN....CLOSE CALL:**

As you should remember, on 2-7-07, Detroit Fire Engineer Joseph Torkos of Engine Company 17 was tragically killed in the Line of Duty after he was ejected from the apparatus following it being struck by a speeding SUV. **And now this morning**, 1 Detroit Firefighter needed stitches in his head and another has a broken arm after their rig flipped while on their way to a fire this morning. 2 other firefighters were not seriously hurt when the truck skidded and rolled onto its roof at 0715 hours this morning. **Witnesses said they saw all 4 Firefighters thrown from the apparatus, although the rigs are equipped with seatbelts.** One Firefighter was nearly crushed, a witness said. More details and photos on our home page.

**FIRE HELICOPTER POWER FAILURE BLAMED FOR DEATHS OF FIREFIGHTERS AND CREW:**

A loss of power to the main rotor during takeoff caused the Aug. 5 helicopter crash near Shasta that killed nine firefighters and crew, according to a preliminary report by the National Transportation Safety Board. The report, released today, said the helicopter then hit trees and went down in the terrain near Redding. The agency is continuing to investigate the crash, with a final report to be released later. The crash of the helicopter in the Shasta-Trinity  
August 31, 2008

National Forest near Redding, Calif., killed 7 Firefighters, a pilot and a Forest Service airman in the Line of Duty. The crash also injured another 3 Firefighters and a second pilot. Everyone except the Forest Service employee were from Oregon.

**REST IN PEACE DICK ADELMAN:**

Chief Richard M. Adelman, retired Memphis Chief Fire Officer, well known fire apparatus/fire scene photographer and Secret List member passed away today, August 21, 2008 at 0240 hours Memphis time. His wife Rita had passed several months ago. We first met Dick at our first FDIC in 1977-and his enthusiasm and interest in the MFD and the fire service nationally was contagious. Rest in peace Chief Adelman. Our condolences to the entire Adelman family.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-21-08 / 2145 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

The Fire Commander charged as being responsible for the **Line of Duty Deaths of 4 central Washington State Firefighters** at the Thirtymile Fire in 2001 will be sentenced today in federal court. Fire Commander Ellreese Daniels faces a maximum of 6 months in prison after reached a deal with prosecutors. That deal dropped the charges he faced from manslaughter to two counts of making false statements to investigators. Investigations by the U.S. Forest Service found that a series of supervisors did not take steps they should have, including selection of a safe escape route....but Daniels was the only one charged. We'll post the outcome on our home page.

**STRUCTURAL FIRE w/COLLAPSE: TRIPLE FIREFIGHTER LODD:** Three South Korean firefighters were **Killed in the Line of Duty** early this morning when the roof of a Seoul nightclub collapsed during a fire. The Firefighters were buried under the debris while trying to put out the fire at the club which was closed for business at the time. The fire was reported around 0525 hours and brought under control about an hour-and-a-half later while the cause has yet to be determined. Our sincere condolences to the families of the Firefighters who were killed: Ages 45, 41, and 35.

**WTF?!! YOU THINK YOU HAVE PERSONNEL PROBLEMS?**

Being the latest WTF!?...if you haven't heard about it yet, check out the story about the 911 employee in Fulton County, GA who is accused of mishandling a call where a woman died. Despite a **2100 page personnel file** with a massive list of complaints by supervisors and co-workers, Tele "Mis" Communicator Gina Conteh has amazingly been able to keep her job. **Incredible.** You can listen (Statter911 link below) to some of the previous calls where Ms. Conteh's "performance" was demonstrated. The story focuses on that she may have been asleep at the console more than just a few times. News reports indicate there were **57 disciplinary actions** in Gina Conteh's file over five years. Dave Statter has been following this:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2008/08/hear-for-yourself-audio-of-ga-911.html>

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

While we aggressively and fully support 100% fair employee rights with proper treatment...the citizens also have rights to dial 9-1-1 and not receive a semi-conscious dispatcher like this on the other end of the phone...not to mention the Cops and Firefighters who are on the other end of the radio. **We have long felt that DISPATCHERS are the initial 1st Responders who have the FIRST opportunity to provide help both to the caller-as well as to those responding.** But they would have to be well trained, well supervised and dedicated caring dispatchers.

Not only should this "danger at the console" have been disconnected several suspensions ago, but they should have tossed out those pretending to supervise her as well. MAJOR case of N.T.S. here. And now there is a fatality involving the same dispatcher in a fully predictable situation...and as GG says: "If it's predictable-it's preventable" **Shoulda. Coulda. Woulda.**

**And see, I'll bet someone was going to blame 800 mhz digital radios for this one. Notta chance.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-20-08 / 0743 hours

**AND:**

We regret to advise you that **Firefighter Rufus E. Brinson, Jr., 50, a 30 year veteran of the Reelsboro FD in North Carolina, died in the Line of Duty on June 6th, 2008.** Firefighter Brinson collapsed while refilling a pumper that was being used during a live fire training exercise. Naturally, the funeral has already occurred. Our condolences to all affected.

**FATAL EMS CRASH:**

An accident involving a responding ambulance turned fatal in Denver this morning with at least one person dead. The ambulance was responding on a run and drove through an intersection (with its lights and sirens on) when it was hit by a car around 0300. The unusual part of this crash is that a pedestrian is who was killed as a part of the crash. The 2 EMS personnel suffered minor injuries and the driver of the other vehicle is in critical condition. **Quite honestly, while at IAFC F.R.I. last week, several attendees noted emergency vehicles blowing red traffic signals without slowing down...while it was also noted that a majority of DFD units were secured in their seatbelts.**

**CONGRATS!**

While we are a little late, a **HUGE CONGRATS to Mike Wieder**, Assistant Director and Managing Editor at Fire Protection Publications (FPP) at Oklahoma State University, who was the 2008 recipient of the Everett E. Hudiburg Memorial Award last month. The award honors an individual who has contributed above and beyond to firefighter training. While normally given annually, it is not given automatically unless there is due cause. The award is named for Stillwater, OK, Fire Chief Everett Hudiburg, an extremely influential figure in the U.S. fire service decades ago who served as Managing Editor of FPP and first Executive Director of the Fire Service Training Association (FSTA - now known as IFSTA [www.IFSTA.org](http://www.IFSTA.org) when ties reached an international level). **CONGRATS** to long time Secret List-er on this VERY well deserved reward, Mike Wieder!

More details here: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/printer.jsp?id=59760>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,  
BillyG  
The Secret List 8-19-08 / 1858 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

Lately, there have been several significant "legal" issues and outcomes lately related to the issues of Firefighter close calls, injuries and Line of Duty Deaths. **We could have also titled this issue of The Secret List: "...there but for the grace of God go us"....LOTS for all of us to learn from here. Again.**

**=="LONE" FIRE COMMANDER SENTENCED:**

Yesterday, Forestry Fire Commander Elreese Daniels was sentenced following the quadruple LODD Thirtymile wildland fire. He was originally charged in December 2006 with 11 felonies; in May 2008, just a few days before the trial, the US Attorney offered a plea agreement of two (2) misdemeanors of making a false statement in an Administrative hearing. Rather than risk a jury trial on 11 felonies, it was agreed upon.

**What is of significant interest is that Daniels was the only one charged, even though U.S. Forest Services investigators found that multiple supervisors didn't take appropriate action.**

Yakima area Firefighters Karen Fitzpatrick, Devin Weaver, Jessica Johnson and Tom Craven lost their lives in the Line of Duty at the July 2001 fire that went out of control.

It appears that the key "legal" issue here is that Daniels plea of guilty was to making false statements during an investigation as the Judge stated specifically: "the cause of the deaths was NOT yours"

**Here are related links to reports related to the Thirty Mile Fire:**

<http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/safety/investigations/30mile/>

<http://www.nifc.gov/>

<http://www.heartland.org/Article.cfm?artId=10107>

<http://www.wildlandfire.com/>

**==FDNY DOUBLE LODD's:** As one headline reads: **Everyone Failed Them.** The 2 FDNY Firefighters killed in the Line of Duty in last years fire at the Deutsche Bank building were killed as a result of "a perfect storm" of neglect, horrific errors and mistakes...the FDNY's internal review of the fatal fire is reported to show.The report that will be released today (we will post it on our home page) blames the FDNY, blames the NYC Buildings Department and blames the building's contractor. FDNY Firefighters Joseph Graffagnino and Robert Beddia were trapped and killed at that fire.

Among the issues discussed include 14 "Maydays" and 19 "Urgents" being issued at the fire.....some portable radios failed, forcing 1 FF to crawl to the building's edge to call for help-and he did survive.....FF Beddia's SCBA had about 5 minutes of air remaining when he was located on the building's 14th floor...FF Graffagnino's SCBA was empty....the fire burned for

more than an hour before Firefighters were able to get water on it...construction workers waited nearly 13 minutes before reporting the fire...it took FD units 67 minutes to get access to water because of a severed standpipe in the basement...the lack of inspections every 15 days meant Firefighters were unaware of the broken standpipe and related problems like sealed stairwells and busted sprinklers....

The report will now be turned over to the office of the Manhattan District Attorney..that office has undertaken a major criminal inquiry into the fire at the high-rise building...the D.A.'s office is considering criminally charging the city as part of its inquiry into the double LODD fire according to people who have been briefed on the inquiry.

**FIRE REPORT (MEDIA) DETAILS HERE:**

[http://www.nydailynews.com/ny\\_local/2008/08/20/2008-08-20\\_fdn\\_y\\_probe\\_finds\\_series\\_of\\_big\\_failures\\_.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2008/08/20/2008-08-20_fdn_y_probe_finds_series_of_big_failures_.html)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/21/nyregion/21deutsch.html?em>

**==CALIFORNIA FIRE WIDOW SUES IN LINE OF DUTY DEATH**

The widow of a Contra Costa Firefighter sued two security companies Tuesday she says are responsible for Engineer Scott Desmond's death last year in the county's worst firefighting tragedy. Fire Captain Matt Burton, 34, & Fire Engineer Scott Desmond, 37 died in the Line of Duty July 21, 2007...they had responded to a single story SFD fire with reports of two people trapped. Mistakes by an alarm company led to a nearly 10-minute delay from the moment the homeowners' fire alarm alerted her to when the first firefighter was dispatched, according to the lawsuit and a 122-page report by the Contra Costa Fire District. The fire department report includes other errors in responding to and operating at the fire, including issues of command, control and accountability.

**THE REPORT:** <http://www.cccfpd.org/LODD.html>

**ARTICLE AND AUDIO TAPE LINK:**

[http://www.contracostatimes.com/ci\\_10247048?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.contracostatimes.com/ci_10247048?source=most_viewed)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-21-08 / 0759 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

A Richmond (KY) Police Officer was involved in a very serious crash with a piece of fire apparatus on I-75, south of Lexington yesterday. Officer Stephen Parker, 41, responded to a report of a hit-and-run crash on the interstate and when Parker was passing the accident scene in the south bound lanes...and fire apparatus in the area merged into his lane. Officer Parker tried to steer out of the way but there wasn't enough time and his cruiser, by one report was pushed into the median as well as striking the rear of the apparatus. The cop suffered injuries to his back and shoulder along with other cuts and bruises but is expected to survive and none of the Firefighters were injured. We have posted a picture of the police car on our home page. Here is a video link: <http://www.wkyt.com/home/headlines/27320109.html>

Take a look at this piece in the NY Times about **FDNY**, firefighting operational rules and realities of the job: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/23/nyregion/23fire.html?ref=nyregion>

And here is an interesting piece on **IAFF Local 61's relationship within the City of Charleston S.C.**

[http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/aug/24/city\\_fire\\_union\\_build\\_closer\\_ties51882/](http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/aug/24/city_fire_union_build_closer_ties51882/)

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-24-08 / 1455 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

Some of you may have already been following this piece (link below) directly from the Oregonian newspaper. But in case you haven't, I wanted to pass it along. It is about another (see related articles below for other related) tragic booze related death of a Firefighter with her Brother and Sister Firefighters ...this time at a firefighter conference. 20-year-old Shannon Halvorson got beyond seriously wasted at a motel party and she ended up dead ...and her grieving Dad has been fighting for years for some accountability in the loss of his Daughter.

This is multi day series article about 20 year old Firefighter Shannon Halvorson and how some describe that: **her fellow volunteer firefighters killed her.** During a night of what **we all know** to be "typical firefighter conference/convention" partying, at a motel five years ago, they got the underage girl so wasted that she should have been hospitalized This happened at a **fire service conference**-the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association Convention.

Some of you may write back telling us that she should have been more responsible, etc etc. Don't waste your e-mail (see below related articles for a "grasp" on how we feel about this issue). Bottom line: be it in a home, a bar, a party or at a conference or convention, if an individual isn't responsible, then those hosting, sponsoring or watching the event have to take charge and be responsible-or someone's kid ends up dead. **That's the issue.** Death prevention...again. Sort of a Brotherhood/Sisterhood thing.....but often we end up thinking: **B.M.A.** (Brotherhood My A\*\*)

**DEATH OF A FIREFIGHTER:**

**Article:**

[http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2008/08/death\\_of\\_a\\_firefighter\\_part\\_1.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2008/08/death_of_a_firefighter_part_1.html)

**Video:**

[http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/death\\_of\\_a\\_firefighter/](http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/death_of_a_firefighter/)

**RELATED ARTICLES:**

**D.U.I ... F.U.I.?? What Can YOU Do?**

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=11413&sectionId=46>

**ALL IN THE FAMILY:**

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/secretPHPmessage.php?issueID=379>

**DRUGS, BOOZE, US and THEM:**

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=56762&sectionId=16>

...or just "google" firefighters and drinking.

Take Care-THINK.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-26-08 / 1010 hours

**AND:**

Hey...

Here are some details related to 2 Moms and their Daughters who are Firefighters. One Daughter (along with her partner) "Fire Captain" was killed in the Line of Duty-after falling into a burning basement. More details in a sec...just below.

But the 1st one is a daughter "Firefighter" who was **seriously injured in a dwelling fire**-who now feels that the FD she works for is treating her less than fairly. Naturally upset after watching her daughter go through 2.5 years of surgeries and rehab due to burns in that house fire, Marolyn Schuenke **slammed** the Community Fire Protection District board of directors last night...**because they fired her daughter.**

"You guys all had your arms around me in the hospital saying you'd take care of her," Mom Schuenke charged as the directors, eyes cast downward, walked to their cars following a closed board meeting called to address the termination of firefighter-paramedic Cindy Schuenke. Terminate? Seriously burned so in appreciation we will TERMINATE you?! WTF! Don't be shocked-it happens more than we realize.

You can read the entire article below but again, we see how some in our business are treated and it REMINDS ALL OF US to look NOW-and find out-EXACTLY what coverage's, protections and related security YOU would have for you-and your family-if you are seriously injured on the job. For career Firefighters: what is the written plan to insure you and your family are taken care of? For volunteer, call and part-time Firefighters: same questions ...PLUS what about your normal income? What happens there?

About 12 years ago I approached my then boss, a City Manager at the time (now former city manager), to discuss what coverage's and protections we would provide for our on-call, part-time and volunteer Firefighters if they were hurt seriously-with long term medical and related implications. I knew we had the backs of our career members, but was concerned about the balance of all our members. His response (not shocking if you knew this clueless city hall dweller) was that since they are part-time, we can terminate them at anytime. WTF!? And that was his response. Period.

Of course we fought it (we lost the battle but overall won the war over time) but man oh man, not only was I (at the time) amazed at his "I couldn't care less" attitude-but the fact that there was NO coverage except for whatever workers comp provides. And if you have been on this job longer than 15 minutes, you know that root canal is more fun than dealing with workers comp.

So what SHOULD a FD do? Plan ahead and prepare for this kind of situation so there is little subjectivity and it is clear to everyone exactly "what will and what will not" happen if "that"

happens. We also must TAKE TIME to check out what our personal coverage's are RIGHT NOW if you were injured in the line of duty-and couldn't return to work for a few weeks, months or years. Better to ask now than from a hospital bed.

By the way-the IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section ([www.IAFCSafety.org](http://www.IAFCSafety.org)) has a task force working on this specific issue, to help Chiefs understand how to prevent the incident-but also how to plan ahead and prevent poor coverage and care issues "after the fact" when a member is critically injured.

HERE IS THE LINK to the story about a Firefighting Daughter and her Mom...and the Firefighters Termination:

<http://preview.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stlouiscitycounty/story/18DE57C2C9A6532D862574B2000E93BB?OpenDocument>

### **A FALLEN FIREFIGHTING DAUGHTER AND HER SURVIVING MOM:**

Last Spring, Fallen Colerain Township Capt. Robin Broxterman was **Killed in the Line of Duty** along with her partner, Firefighter Brian Schira. Preliminary LODD Report here: <http://www.coleraintwp.org/fire.cfm>

Captain Broxterman was a college student and a fire service instructor...and overall, a "set the example" fan of fire service education and training. Last month, on July 6, 2008, Arlene (and EMS Instructor and former FF) and Don Zang (a Former Firefighter) came to the University of Cincinnati and received their daughter's diploma posthumously. **Robin's Mom, Arlene spoke some words in a wonderful tribute to her daughter.** Below is the link well worth 3 minutes of your time....please check it out...

Another example of a Firefighting daughter and her Mom:

<http://www.uc.edu/cas/firescience/bennett/2008ArleneZangtributeCaptainBroxterman.pdf>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-CHECK YOUR COVERAGES.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-27-08 / 1010 hours

**To subscribe to the Secret List and get these emails for yourself, go to [www.firefighterclosecalls.com](http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com)**

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

**NOTE:**

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

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**The budget woes continue, in various forms and fashions:**

A Yuma County (AZ) Board of Supervisor refuses a fire districts budget, claiming it is unrealistic given the current budget situation:

[http://www.yumasun.com/news/board\\_43459\\_article.html/unrealistic\\_budget.html](http://www.yumasun.com/news/board_43459_article.html/unrealistic_budget.html)

A fire science academy in Nevada is facing closure:

<http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=8817085>

81 recently hired firefighters with the Chicago (IL) Fire Department may be on the layoff list if economic conditions do not improve. While the majority of fire departments will not hire personnel knowing there is the possibility of having to lay them off, as a candidate accepting a job, you must always keep the possibility of being laid off in the back of your head, even after getting off of probation. Always keep an updated resume, continue your education, keep up your oral interview skills, and don't just assume you're on easy street since you've been offered a job:

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/1116837%2CCST-NWS-fire20.article>

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Nutrition study looks to improve firefighter endurance:

<http://kdrv.com/index.php?q=page/31475>

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***Fire Department Consolidation / Merger Related Stories:***

Paradise Valley (AZ) residents are enjoying their added level of service, thanks to their having the Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department, take over fire protection services, to provide a more seamless level of service. For those that are not familiar with the Phoenix valley fire protection system, I encourage you to find out for yourself how well the system seems to work. 25 or so fire departments all have Phoenix provide dispatching services for them; meaning, there are no boundaries, and each of the 25 or so fire departments has access to EVERY fire apparatus in the system. Whether you are 60 plus stations like Phoenix has, or 1 station like Guadalupe, it doesn't matter. All of the resources are available to you at a moment's notice.

The difference between this automatic aid system and mutual aid, is that mutual aid typically takes a few minutes to initiate, and does not always involve the closest units. All fire apparatus in the Phoenix valley that are in this dispatching system use GPS and AVL (automatic vehicle locating) to determine the most closest rigs to respond, regardless of jurisdiction. Plus, they all share the same standard operating procedures to ensure seamless operations on scene, especially when you may have 10 different fire departments all on the same scene. A system like this benefits not only the firefighters, but most importantly, the citizens we are protecting – who are paying their hard earned dollars for us to be there when they call 9-1-1.

To clarify, Paradise Valley has actually contracted with Phoenix for services, as opposed to the other 20 plus agencies who just contract for dispatch services. Either way, it's a win-win situation for all involved.

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2008/08/02/20080802nepvfire0802.html>

The Orcutt Fire Protection District in California has been absorbed into the Santa Barbara County Fire Department; in today's world, it really doesn't make any sense for a fire department with one station (let alone less than ten) to try and operate on their own. Sorry if that sounds biased, but unless there are excellent automatic aid agreements with neighboring fire departments that provide complete boundary drops (like San Mateo County, CA – where 17 or so fire departments are all dispatched by one communications center – and all departments share resources like they were their own) and all dispatching is based on real-time GPS and AVL (automatic vehicle locating), allowing the closest, most appropriate resource to be dispatched – REGARDLESS of jurisdiction. I know, it just makes too much sense.....

<http://www.lompocrecord.com/articles/2008/08/08/news/centralcoast/news05.txt>

Three Washington State fire departments have joined forces in a new administration building, in a unique way: why have three separate administrative office buildings when you can have one? Plus, this is a great way to start getting to build positive working relationships with your neighboring jurisdictions:

<http://www.tri-cityherald.com/901/story/271201.html>

One Oregon Fire Department is strongly considering annexing into another fire district, to ultimately provide a more efficient level of service to it's community:

<http://www.nrtoday.com/article/20080812/NEWS/604326843/1063/NEWS&ParentProfile=1055>

Three Arizona Fire Districts have agreed to merge into one:

<http://www.kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=8910059>

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North Carolina Fire Departments are cited and fined after the deaths of two firefighters, due to serious violations on the fire ground – some great information to learn from, to hopefully never to you on your watch: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/North-Carolina-Departments-Cited-After-Blaze-Claimed-Two-Firefighters/46\\$60485](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/North-Carolina-Departments-Cited-After-Blaze-Claimed-Two-Firefighters/46$60485)

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Something every fire service member can do a better job at to ensure their own safety and the safety of others – “Situational Awareness:”

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/DrChief-Gasaway-Passionate-about-Situation-Awareness/46\\$60608](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/DrChief-Gasaway-Passionate-about-Situation-Awareness/46$60608)

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A man and woman are arrested for stealing a command vehicle from a fire station in Southern California – yes, these things happen:

[http://www.whittierdailynews.com/crime/ci\\_10134206](http://www.whittierdailynews.com/crime/ci_10134206)

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Fire hydrants are stolen for scrap metal in Southern California:

<http://ktla.trb.com/news/local/ktla-stolen-hydrants%2C0%2C5158039.story>

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**A body builder is no longer a Boston (MA) firefighter:**

<http://www.firerescue1.com/laborissues/articles/422933-Bodybuilder-is-no-longer-Boston-firefighter/>

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**Public Relations Nightmare Stories:**

**A disabled woman is suing the Fire Department New York, claiming the firefighters sent to rescue her laughed openly as one of them roughly yanked at her arm and shattered her fragile shoulder:** [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Woman-in-Wheelchair-Sues-FDNY-Over-Treatment/46\\$60438](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Woman-in-Wheelchair-Sues-FDNY-Over-Treatment/46$60438)

**The District of Columbia Fire Department (DCFD) moves to fire 4 firefighters who avoided calls:** <http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=74649&provider=top>

**A Florida Paramedic is accused of stealing morphine:**

<http://emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?id=8011&siteSection=1>

**A former Arizona Fire Chief and his family are indicted on fraud:**

[http://www.abc15.com/news/local/story.aspx?content\\_id=37557149-788a-458f-b519-4fa11fdd789d](http://www.abc15.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=37557149-788a-458f-b519-4fa11fdd789d)

**The Boston (MA) Fire Department pension Chief departs amid an investigation into pensions:** <http://www.firerescue1.com/news/423104-Boston-retirement-chief-departs-amid-investigation-into-pensions/>

**The State of Washington has “dinged” the Lake Stevens Fire District for breaking numerous financial reporting rules:**

<http://www.enterprisewspapers.com/article/20080823/NEWS01/46000482/0/ETP03>

**A Charlotte (NC) Fire engine going against traffic collides with an SUV:**

<http://www.fireengineering.com/news/newsArticleDisplay.html?id=165830>

**A Washington Fire Department is attempting to take an elderly couple’s home (legally) through eminent domain, so they can build a new fire station. I understand why they have to do things like this, but even if they get what they need, it sure will be a public relations nightmare:**

[http://www.king5.com/localnews/stories/NW\\_081308WAB\\_farmhouse\\_KC.44022aea.html](http://www.king5.com/localnews/stories/NW_081308WAB_farmhouse_KC.44022aea.html)

**The Santa Fe (NM) Fire Station is like “a sex brothel” per the firefighter suing the department for harassment. Another example of the company officer not being the designated adult and doing what they’re paid to do – supervise and manage their crews:** <http://www.firerescue1.com/news/425853-NM-station-like-a-brothel-says-firefighter-suing-for-harassment/>

A Boston (MA) Firefighter who was recently terminated for participating in body building events while he was supposed to be unable to work his firefighter job because of a work related injury, was told by a judge to get a 2<sup>nd</sup> opinion if he wants to get his job back: <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/news/17235235/detail.html>

The hits just keep coming from the Boston (MA) Fire Department. This time, one of their Deputy Chiefs has been arrested for impersonating a police officer, armed kidnapping, and rape: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Accused-Boston-Chief-Faced-Previous-Charges/46\\$60664](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Accused-Boston-Chief-Faced-Previous-Charges/46$60664)

A Connecticut Firefighter is accused of arson:  
<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=60676&sectionId=46>

The Fire Chief for the Marlborough (MA) Fire Department was caught with Marijuana in his department vehicle, that apparently belonged to his grandson:  
<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=60727&sectionId=46>

A State audit dings the Bellingham (WA) Fire Department on grant funding spending and the related contract for services that apparently was incorrectly completed and processed. Very embarrassing to say the least:  
<http://www.bellinghamherald.com/102/story/520059.html>

The Issaquah (WA) Fire Department can no longer participate in the MDA fill the boot campaigns to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association because it violates their city's panhandling ordinance. This is sad, and not the first city such a situation has surfaced: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/northwest/story/523106.html>

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**Great fire department public relations stories – something all can learn from:**

The Mesa (AZ) Fire Department is crediting their aggressive public education campaign at reducing the number of drowning deaths:  
<http://www.620ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=932603>

Kudos to the South Kitsap (WA) Fire and Rescue Department for taking the time to submit a grant request for a new ladder truck. Many departments don't have the desire or see the need for grant funding, but in today's world, we have to look at every possible funding source. Here is a good example of what a little time and effort can do for a department willing to complete the grant. What's the worst that could have happened? It could have been rejected. Oh well, try harder next time and keep trying until you get it right!  
<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2008/aug/26/feds-grant-520k-for-sk-fire-ladder-truck/>

Kudos to the Kennewick (WA) Fire Department, who were able to build a new training center. Thanks to donations of labor and materials, and a creative, non-traditional method of construction, they made it work. A story we can all learn from, especially in these tough economic times:  
[http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick\\_pasco\\_richland/story/294266.html](http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick_pasco_richland/story/294266.html)

The Tucson (AZ) Fire Department came up with a creative way to staff apparatus for non-emergency calls – something virtually every fire department has to deal with, especially the big cities due to the increased number of economically depressed individuals who cannot afford healthcare or other services. Now they are up for an award:

[http://www.fox11az.com/news/topstories/stories/KMSB\\_20080812\\_jh\\_alpha.3ef49c74.html](http://www.fox11az.com/news/topstories/stories/KMSB_20080812_jh_alpha.3ef49c74.html)

The Sun City (AZ) Fire Department is honored for their volunteer program – something all departments might be able to learn from, especially in these tough economic times:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/surprise/articles/2008/08/21/20080821glnwvaward0821-ON.html>

The Maricopa (AZ) Fire Department is attempting to decrease firefighter injuries, which unfortunately are very common, not to mention expensive to the department and the taxpayers. The really sad part is these injuries did not occur “on the fireground” as we would be led to believe; they happened while performing physical activity (working out). Work smarter, not harder.

<http://www.85239.com/NEWS/NewsArticleDetails.aspx?mid1=390&&ArticleID=4011&&name=c&&id=1>

The pink ribbon tour (breast cancer awareness) tour rolled through the Tucson (AZ) area recently with a pink fire truck to help spread the word:

<http://dailydispatch.com/DDR.asp?st=AZ&lk=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ekold%2Ecom%2FGlobal%2Fstory%2Easp%3FS%3D8894898>

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A bed at a Menlo Park (CA) Fire Protection District station catches fire after the crew leaves on a response. This one could have been real ugly:

<http://www.paloaltodailynews.com/article/2008-8-7-station-6>

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An article about the Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department: “Diverse firefighting crew includes non-citizens:”

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2008/08/10/20080810firediversity0810.html>

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The San Antonio (TX) Fire Department has settled a lawsuit against an SCBA manufacturer:

<http://www.softrock1019.com/cc-common/news/sections/newsarticle.html?feed=119078&article=4056652>

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A Washington State Fire Chief is jumping for joy after finding out his emergency medical services tax levy passed – quite an accomplishment in these tough economic times:

[http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/2008/08/08212008\\_Chief-liking-East-County-Fire--Rescue-results.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/2008/08/08212008_Chief-liking-East-County-Fire--Rescue-results.cfm)

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**A Florida Fire Truck crashes while responding to a call, fortunately the two firefighters on board were not injured. SLOW DOWN when driving in wet conditions!!!!:**

<http://www.myfoxorlando.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=7248217&version=1&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

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**A couple of Utah Fire Departments have received grants to hire additional firefighters. I hate to be the devil's advocate, but what happens when the grant funding dries up (as is usually the case)? If the departments and more importantly, the cities they serve have not prepared for such spikes in expenditures, they run the risk of having to lay off those firefighters. Hopefully they have thought this out:**

<http://deseretnews.com/article/1%2C5143%2C700250349%2C00.html>

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**A Detroit (MI) Fire Department Rescue Squad rolls over in route to an emergency response, injuring the firefighters on board – SLOW DOWN!!!!:**

<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080821/NEWS01/80821031>

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**Must read article for everyone in the fire service. This is a great training and safety article relating to being too aggressive when fighting vehicle fires – learn from the mistakes of others. It also includes some very disturbing videos of some firefighters performing in a very complacent manner – and they were lucky they were not line-of-duty-death statistics:**

<http://www.firerescue1.com/Columnists/Jason-Porembo/articles/420776-Over-Aggressive-Attacks-on-Vehicle-Fires/>

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**An Oceanside (CA) Fire Engine in route to an emergency response, crashes into another vehicle – injuring the driver of the private vehicle:**

<http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2008/08/20/news/coastal/oceanside/z52b1cfb512b8b68d882574ac001a327b.txt>

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**The Fire Department New York (FDNY) provides some excellent health and safety information for all fire service personnel:**

<http://www.firerescue1.com/health/articles/425730-FDNY-Fitness-Steps-to-a-Healthy-Heart/>

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**Firefighters in Dallas (TX) found thieves stole a radio from their fire station:**

<http://emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?id=8120&siteSection=1>

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**A summary of lessons to be learned from the tragic Charleston (SC) Fire, where nine firefighters lost their lives on June 18, 2007, as presented recently in Denver (CO) by the investigation team: <http://www.firerescue1.com/news/425296-Routley-urges-firefighters-to-learn-lessons-from-Charleston-tragedy-at-FRI/>**

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Inquiry lays out chain of failures in a New York City High-Rise fire that took the lives of Fire Department New York personnel. Great training and safety information to share with others so we learn from history – and not allow history to repeat itself: [http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/21/nyregion/21deutsch.html?\\_r=1&em&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/21/nyregion/21deutsch.html?_r=1&em&oref=slogin)

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A refreshing article about the Charleston (SC) Fire Department administration working on rebuilding its relationship with the Union Local. For those that have followed the tragedy over the last year, it's easy to see the strained relationships between labor and management:

[http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/aug/24/city\\_fire\\_union\\_build\\_closer\\_ties51882/](http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/aug/24/city_fire_union_build_closer_ties51882/)

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An Alameda County team of firefighters (including a former Chabot student – Brian Guernsey), took home the gold medal in the recent Firefighters Combat Challenge – great job guys! [http://origin.insidebayarea.com/argus/localnews/ci\\_10311648](http://origin.insidebayarea.com/argus/localnews/ci_10311648)

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A wildland fire in Boise (ID) is forcing department leaders to see if they need to extend the firewise requirements from the urban interface areas deeper into the city core to prevent future tragedies; good idea.

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/localnews/story/485880.html>

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A Utah Fire Department has been awarded a grant to hire five (5) additional firefighters, and move into a new full-time facility. I sure hope they have a plan for funding those positions once the grant funding expires (typically 5 years):

<http://thespectrum.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080828/NEWS01/808280322/1002>

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The first female Deputy Chief in the Pittsburgh (PA) Fire Department has been demoted to Battalion Chief:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=60786&sectionId=46>

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***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](http://www.chabotfire.com)  
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