

CHABOT COLLEGE
Fire Technology Program



FIRE & EMS NEWS

February 22, 2015

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

CHABOT COLLEGE 2015 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE:

Looking for Fire Technology related courses to become a firefighter or continue your education if you are currently a firefighter so you can prepare for promotion or become the best you can be at your current rank? Why not start at Chabot College in Hayward, California where we offer a variety of courses year-round to allow students to obtain their EMT certification or recertify as an EMT, obtain their Firefighter 1 Academy Certification, or a Certificate of Achievement in Fire Technology, or a two-year degree in Fire Technology, or just take various California State Certified classes.

Registration and classes for the Spring 2015 semester at Chabot College has begun!!! For complete registration information, go to www.chabotcollege.edu

CLASSES AVAILABLE - SPRING SEMESTER 2015

COURSE	DAY
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - March 4, 6 and 8 (Wed/Fri/Sun) - April 14, 16 and 18 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) or Wed & Fri (pm) Sunday (all day)
FT 91A (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - April 28 through May 17	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - April 21, 23, 25 and 26	Tue & Thu (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - April 14, 16, 18 and 19	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91D (Firefighter Survival) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - March 29, April 7, 9 and 11	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
EMS 4 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - April 27 – May 9	Mon & Wed (pm) Saturday (all day)

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

NOTE: The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding 2015 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at www.chabotcollege.edu

My suggestion is to register as soon as you are eligible to. Classes fill up quickly, and with more people wanting to become firefighters, I don't see our numbers of students decreasing, only increasing.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

Want to become a Firefighter? Check out the National Testing Network (NTN) website at:
<https://nationaltestingnetwork.com/publicsafetyjobs/search.cfm?position=2&state>All+States>

Over 270 different fire departments across the United States are using to recruit Firefighters. Candidates have the opportunity to have their written test score be used to apply for all of the agencies currently recruiting Firefighters.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The **San Francisco Fire Department** is now accepting applications for Firefighter! The Entry Level H-2 Firefighter position is now open for application filing. The web link to access the job announcement and to file an online application is at:

<http://www.jobaps.com/SF/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=CCT&R2=H002&R3=900310>

Please Note: This is a continuous application filing and testing process with no deadline at this time. As part of the registration process to take the exam, you will be required to pay a \$40 testing fee to the National Testing Network. Financial assistance is available to eligible candidates

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Looking for California State Certified fire training courses? Check out the California State Fire Training CLASS SCHEDULE – it is updated every Friday and contains a statewide listing of state certified classes for personnel of all ranks – even future firefighters.

- Go to: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/trainingclassselection.php>

FIRE SERVICE BOOKS:

Looking for fire service books to help you get hired, stay hired, get promoted, stay promoted, or just be better at your current position? While the Internet is a great way to locate books, two of the best resources I have seen include:

- Firefighter's Bookstore – www.firebooks.com
- FSP Books & Video – www.fire-police-ems.com



FIREALUMNI
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
LAS POSITAS COLLEGE
**2015 FIREFIGHTER
CANDIDATE
WORKSHOP**
MARCH 22, 2015



WORKSHOP TOPICS

The Values Challenge
Peeling Back the Layers
Being the Ideal Candidate

The Background-Psychological Exam
Discipline & Accountability
Networking & Building Relationships

Chief's Interview
Education
The Written Exam

Technology in the Hiring Process
Application & Resume Development
Physical Fitness

LOGISTICS

Location: Mertes Center for the Arts
3000 Campus Hill Dr. Event: 8:00am-5:00pm
Livermore, Ca.
Cost: \$20.00

Time:
Registration: 7:00am
Reservations
firealumnievents.com

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tim Sendelbach, Asst Chief (ret)
Editor in Chief Firehouse Magazine

SPONSORED BY 



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Dale Carnes - Assistant Chief
San Francisco Fire Department



The Santa Clara County Fire Department is proud to present:

Training For Failure:

Understanding Why The Way First Responders Are Trained Must Change

Instructed by Rich Gasaway

Tuesday April 7, 2015

**Location TBA within Santa Clara County
(Hopefully in Campbell, CA)**

1330 to 1630 hours

When first responders do seemingly insane things at emergency scenes there is never a shortage of peers waiting to pass judgment and to criticize. It is very easy to be the judge and jury of flawed performance after the fact. However, no amount of judgment will result in learning from the mistakes.

This program will offer an eye-opening view into how responders are being trained to fail, why those who are training them don't know they're doing it and how to fix the problem. We'll discuss 16 things we know about how the brain works and provide specific examples of how police, fire and EMS responders are being trained to fail.

- ***This session is intended for anyone (Firefighters, Captains, Chiefs, Training Officers, etc.) who has a responsibility for training fire service personnel.***

Presenter Biography



Richard B. Gasaway worked as a first responder in three public safety organizations including serving 22 years as a fire chief. After completing his distinguished 30-year career, Dr. Gasaway founded Situational Awareness Matters!, a consulting and teaching organization dedicated to improving how individuals, teams and organizations develop situational awareness as a foundation for improving workplace and personal safety. His company website (SAMatters.com) has been visited by more than four million people from 156 countries.

As a professional speaker and author, Dr. Gasaway has contributed to more than 400 books, book chapters and journal articles on topics related to leadership, safety, situational awareness and high consequence decision making. His best selling books, *Situational Awareness Matters Volumes 1 & 2*, *Situational Awareness for Emergency Response*, and *Fireground Command Decision Making*, serve as essential guides for helping individuals and teams develop and maintain situational awareness while making high-stress, high-consequence decisions.

Dr. Gasaway has earned the Certified Speaking Professional designation – the highest honor awarded by the National Speakers Association. His high-energy, humor filled presentations are chock full of valuable, actionable takeaways – as proven by his 2,500+ program and keynote address invitations throughout the United States, Canada, The United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Australia.



Dr. Gasaway is a big proponent of “Paying it forward” and gives back by serving as the Chancellor for the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) credentialing program and a peer evaluator for the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) Credentialing program. When he is not spreading the situational awareness message, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Carol, and his four children: Cameron (a United States Marine), Jordan and Hanna (college students) and Micah, (a high school freshmen).

You can learn more about Dr. Gasaway and his mission by visiting his websites: www.RichGasaway.com and www.SAMatters.com.

Cost: \$45.00

To Register: Please see next page for registration form.

More Info: Contact Steve Prziborowski at 408-896-6890 or
steve.prziborowski@sccfd.org

REGISTRATION FORM

Dr. Rich Gasaway presenting...
Training For Failure:
The Stealth Killer Of First Responders

Location in Santa Clara County TBA

(Those who have registered will be notified via email once location is confirmed)

Date:	Cost:	Quantity:
Tuesday April 7, 2015 (1330 to 1630 hours)	\$45.00	_____
Department: _____		
Street Address: _____		
City, State, Zip Code: _____		
Phone Number: _____		
E-mail: _____		

For this class, the only form of payment will be checks, money orders or cash.

- **Please make your check or money order payable to:**

Santa Clara County Fire Department.

- **Please send your payment to:**

Santa Clara County Fire Department
14700 Winchester Blvd.
Los Gatos, CA 95032-1818

- **Cancellation Policy:**

Full refunds will be provided if requested more than 14 calendar days before the first day of class at 1500 hours (Tuesday March 24, 2015). If a refund is requested within 14 calendar days before the first day of the class, the student may be given credit for a future course, but not a full refund. No refunds will be provided if the student does not attend the class, or if they begin the class but do not complete the class.



The Santa Clara County Fire Department is proud to present:

Flawed Situational Awareness:

The Stealth Killer Of First Responders

Instructed by Rich Gasaway

Wednesday April 8, 2015

**Location TBA within Santa Clara County
(Hopefully in Campbell, CA)**

0900 to 1600 hours

This program is based on the findings of Chief Gasaway's doctoral research on fireground command decision making and situational awareness. In his review of hundreds of near-miss reports, case studies, line-of-duty death reports and videos he continually found himself being frustrated because there were so many clues, indicators and signs that the incident was going to end in disaster. But for some reason, the personnel operating at the incident scene could not see it coming. This led him to investigate the "barriers" to situational awareness.

Dr. Gasaway's research identified 116 barriers that prevent, impact or erode situational awareness at emergency scenes. This program focuses on the most pervasive barriers to situational awareness by exploring and discussing:

- 12 categories of situational awareness barriers.
- How situational awareness is impacted by:
 - Staffing levels
 - Communications issues
 - Attention management
 - Workload management
 - Human factors
 - The location of command
 - Command support and command aids
 - Incident and organizational goals and mission
 - The organizational culture
 - ... and more
- 5 common situational awareness mistakes that can have catastrophic outcomes.
- 10 best practices for developing and maintaining situational awareness in high-stress, high consequence situations

Presenter Biography



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You can learn more about Dr. Gasaway and his mission by visiting his websites: www.RichGasaway.com and www.SAMatters.com.

Cost: \$80.00

To Register: Please see next page for registration form.

More Info: Contact Steve Prziborowski at 408-896-6890 or
steve.prziborowski@sccfd.org

REGISTRATION FORM

Dr. Rich Gasaway presenting...

Flawed Situational Awareness

The Stealth Killer Of First Responders

Location in Santa Clara County TBA

(Those who have registered will be notified via email once location is confirmed)

Date:	Cost:	Quantity:
Wednesday April 8, 2015	\$80.00	_____
		TOTAL: _____

Name(s): _____

Department: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

For this class, the only form of payment will be checks, money orders or cash.

- **Please make your check or money order payable to:**

Santa Clara County Fire Department.

- **Please send your payment to:**

Santa Clara County Fire Department
14700 Winchester Blvd.
Los Gatos, CA 95032-1818

- **Cancellation Policy:**

Full refunds will be provided if requested more than 14 calendar days before the first day of class at 1500 hours (Wednesday March 25, 2015). If a refund is requested within 14 calendar days before the first day of the class, the student may be given credit for a future course, but not a full refund. No refunds will be provided if the student does not attend the class, or if they begin the class but do not complete the class.

Fire & Safety Engineering Technology

Undergraduate Program

we
Deliver

About the Program

Our online bachelor of science degree program in Fire and Safety Engineering Technology allows fire service personnel who have earned an associate degree in fire science or a related discipline to earn credit toward a bachelor's degree while upgrading professional skills.

Our core courses follow the National Fire Academy's Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education "model" curriculum. We offer course work that is designed to be convenient by allowing students to complete homework assignments online.

The open-learning method allows you to schedule academic and professional development efforts around duty assignments. This program adds a high degree of flexibility and convenience to your professional development, while maintaining the level of quality and effectiveness consistent with a traditional approach.



we
Lead

Enhanced Opportunities

TWO TRACKS. Opportunities to focus your degree are provided by offering two tracks — **Fire Administration** or **EMS Administration**, including a capstone course in Leadership in Fire & EMS.

ADVANCED STANDING. Students can receive advanced standing credits for state certificates earned, including: Paramedic, EMT, FF II, State Fire Instructor, Fire Officer I, II, III & IV, Hazmat Technician, Fire Inspector, and BERT Technician. We also grant advanced standing credits to graduates of the Ohio Fire Executive Program (OFE) and for National Fire Academy residency courses.

ACCELERATED COURSES. We expedite completion of your degree by offering one-week residency courses each July, giving students an opportunity to complete an entire course with only five days in the classroom. This is a great way to network with other fire and EMS professionals throughout the country.

SCHOLARSHIPS. Limited scholarships are available to qualified applicants. Scholarship applications are available online at <http://aerospace.ceas.uc.edu/FireScience>.

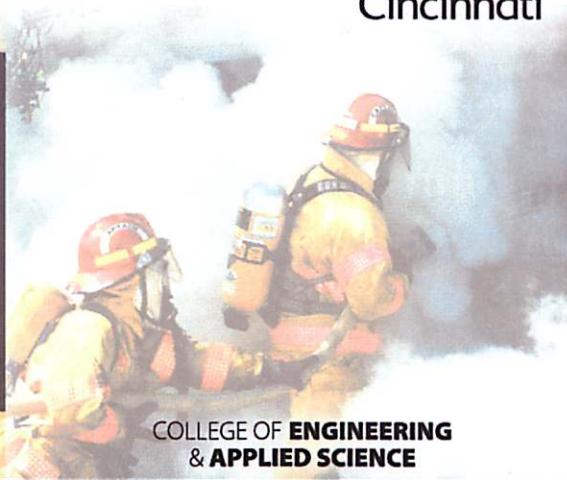


**we
Succeed**

Fire & Safety Engineering Technology as a Career

Our graduates have excellent skills in managing emergency service personnel and handling emergency operations in the field. Typically, they are interested in leadership positions and pursue college-level learning to advance. Managerial capabilities and decision-making skills are important proficiencies required of fire & EMS administration personnel.

Opportunities are opening for graduates in the emerging fields of emergency management, domestic preparedness and homeland security. Graduates may also begin new careers in the fields of fire insurance, fire protection engineering or industrial safety.



COLLEGE OF **ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE**

WE ENGINEER BETTER

Take a Closer Look

Our Web page includes a welcome video as well as course descriptions and information about our faculty.

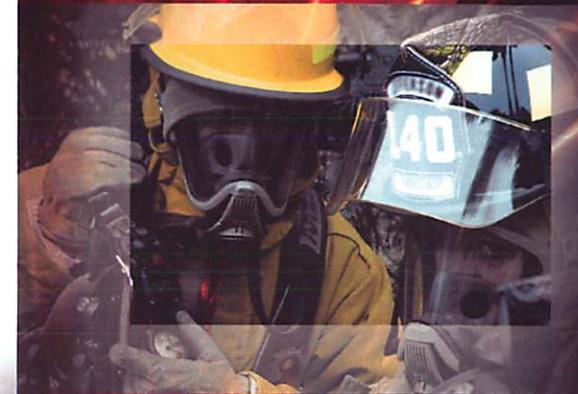
<http://aerospace.ceas.uc.edu/FireScience>

For More Information

College of Engineering and Applied Science
University of Cincinnati
Open Learning Fire Science
2220 Victory Parkway
Cincinnati, OH 45206
513-556-6583



Fire & Safety Engineering Technology



COLLEGE OF **ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE**



FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

The Santa Clara County Fire Department is proud to offer the following California State Fire Marshal certified courses:



COURSE:

- Fire Management 2C March 9 – 13, 2015
- Fire Investigation 1A March 23 – 27, 2015
- S-336 (Tactical Decision Making in Wildland Fire) March 30 – April 2, 2015
- Fire Investigation 1B April 13 – 17, 2015
- Command 1C April 27 – May 1, 2015
- Fire Investigation 2A May 4 – 8, 2015
- Fire Management 2D May 11 – 15, 2015
- Fire Investigation 2B June 1 – 5, 2015
- S-234 (Ignition Operations) June 23 – 26, 2015
- Fire Management 2E July 13 – 17, 2015

DATES:

Course Location:

McCormack Training Center

485 West Sunnyside Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008

Behind the Sunnyside Fire Station, please park along the fence towards the training tower.

Start Time:

0830 the first day unless noted otherwise.

To Register:

Please see below for registration form.

More Info:

Contact Steve Prziborowski at steve.prziborowski@sccfd.org or 408-896-6890.

CLASS PREREQUISITES

COURSE	PREREQUISITES
Fire Command 1C	Fire Fighter 1 Training; Fire Command 1A (Command Principles for Company Officers OR Command 1A (Structure Fire Command Operations for the Company Officer); I-200: Basic ICS; S-290 (intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior)
Fire Investigation 1A	None
Fire Investigation 1B	Fire Investigation 1A
Fire Investigation 2A	Fire Investigation 1A and 1B
Fire Investigation 2B	Fire Investigation 1A, 1B and 2A
S-234	S-290 and at the minimum an Engine Boss, Single Resource (ENGB) initiated task book.
S-336	Qualified as a Single Resource Boss or Initial Attack Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Fire Management 2C	Fire Management 1
Fire Management 2D	Fire Management 1
Fire Management 2E	None

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
CLASS REGISTRATION FORM**

COURSE:	DATES:	COST:	QUANTITY:
Fire Management 2C	March 9 - 13, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Fire Investigation 1A	March 23 - 27, 2015	\$295.00	_____
S-336	March 30 – April 2, 2015	\$480.00	_____
Fire Investigation 1B	April 13 - 17, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Command 1C	April 27 – May 1, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Fire Investigation 2A	May 4 - 8, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Fire Management 2D	May 11 - 15, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Fire Investigation 2B	June 1 - 5, 2015	\$295.00	_____
S-234	June 23 – 27, 2015	\$495.00	_____
Fire Management 2E	July 13 - 17, 2015	\$295.00	_____
		TOTAL:	_____

NOTE: If you are submitting a check for more than one class, please use separate checks for each class. We apologize in advance for the extra work, but it makes it easier for our Business Services Office. Thank you!

Name: _____

Rank: _____

Department: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

For these classes, the only form of payment will be checks, money orders or cash.

- **Please make your check/money order payable to:** Santa Clara County Fire Department.

- **Please mail or deliver your check / money order (please don't mail cash) to:**

Santa Clara County Fire Department
14700 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos, CA 95032-1818

- **Cancellation Policy:**

Full refunds will be provided if requested 14 calendar days in advance (of the first day of class) at 1500 hours. If a class begins on Monday, then the refund deadline is 1500 hours two Mondays prior. If a refund is requested within 14 calendar days before the first day of the class, the student may be given credit for a future course, but not a full refund. No refunds will be provided if the student does not attend the class, or if they begin the class but do not complete the class.

FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

Firehouse Magazine, is now accepting abstracts for consideration for the 2016 Firehouse World Expo, scheduled for January 31-February 4, 2016 in San Diego, California. They are looking for timely and educationally sound presentations that are relevant to the fire service. The following tracks are offered at Firehouse World:

- Fire Service Leadership (Basic and advanced leadership covering emergency and non-emergency topics)
- Training & Operations
- Apparatus (Emergency driving, operations, specification & maintenance)
- Rescue Operations
- Safety, Health and Survival (Includes fitness & nutrition)
- Technology & Communications
- Prevention & Investigation
- Professional Development
- Fire Station Design and Development

For more information or to submit your proposal, please go to:

<http://firehouseworld.com/2016-instructions.php>

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. 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. Make sure you take advantage of the orientation and practice sessions and learn where your weak spots are so you can focus on those areas. To see the available dates to take the CPAT at any of the below three locations, visit their website at www.cpatonline.org

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

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California:

626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Northern California

526 Commerce Way
Livermore, CA 94551

Sacramento Area:

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

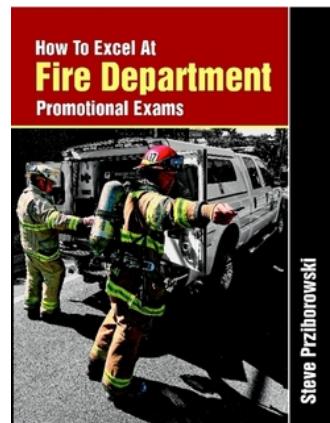
FIREFIGHTER PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION BOOK:

Preparing for promotion? If so, this book is for you and is a must read! It is titled "[How To Excel At Fire Department Promotional Exams](#)." To order, go to www.code3firetraining.com

Getting promoted in the fire service is not an easy process. Many people have that desire to promote, but for whatever reason cannot put the pieces together to make it a reality. Over the 20 plus years I have been in the fire service, I have had the opportunity to be on both sides of the promotional process – as a candidate, and as a rater and proctor. This book will assist fire department personnel specifically prepare for their next promotional exam.

Promotional candidates will be exposed to and offered key points for the most common tasks and events within a fire department promotional process including, but not limited to: promotional preparation, completing the application, resume preparation, the written exam, the oral interview, the personnel problem, the oral presentation, and the emergency simulation.

- Available in soft cover paperback and e-book formats.
- Also available on Amazon and iTunes



FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

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

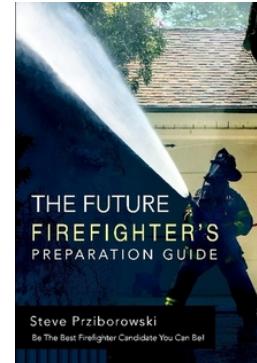
- **Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC)** – *Indianapolis, IN* – April 20 – 25, 2015.
Go to www.fdic.com for more information.
- **Firehouse Expo** – *Baltimore, MD* – July 14 - 18, 2015
Go to www.firehouseexpo.com for more information.
- **Fire Rescue International** – *Atlanta, GA* - August 26 – 29, 2015
Go to www.iafc.org/fri for more information.
- **California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium** – *Fresno, CA* – November, 2015 - Go to <http://www.to.calchiefs.org/> for more information.
- **Firehouse World** – *San Diego, CA* – January 31 through February 4, 2016
Go to www.firehouseworld.com for more information.

FIREFIGHTER ENTRY-LEVEL PREPARATION BOOK:

Are you preparing to become a firefighter or do you know someone who is preparing to become a firefighter? If so, these two books are a must-have for your library!

The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide! Be The Best Firefighter Candidate You Can Be!

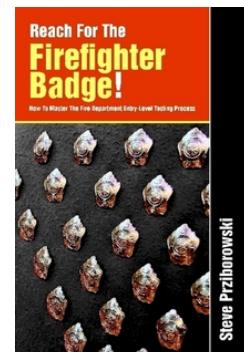
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AND

Reach For The Firefighter Badge! How to Master the Entry-Level Fire Department Testing Process!

This book is intended to take over from where my first firefighter preparation book "The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide," left off. That book was intended on providing the future firefighter with a road map of what to do when starting out the journey to becoming a firefighter. This book is intended to provide more focus on what to expect and more importantly, how to be successful at the firefighter testing process, which can vary from department to department. This book will help future firefighters by providing a road map of how to best navigate the firefighter testing process, so that they are successful in obtaining a position in the best career I am so fortunate to be a part of, a career in the fire service! If you have prepared for the position of firefighter by doing many of the things I suggested in "The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide," and follow the suggestions within this book, your chances for success will greatly increase!



- To order, go to www.chabotfire.com
- Available in soft cover paperback and e-book formats.
- Also available on Amazon and iTunes.
-

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

SPECIAL NOTE: As We Know Many FD's Will Attend, Here Are All The Details Related To The Funeral/Memorial Services For Both Slain NYPD Patrol Officers: www.nycpba.org

All,

As most are either preparing for [Christmas](#), Hanukkah or whatever your preference, this week hold special memories in our business. So in between shopping, not shopping and trying not to go too crazy this time of year, here is some good stuff worthy of the firehouse kitchen table.

==KNOW THIS FIRE & THE ISSUES OF STAFFING: KEOKUK, IOWA: DEC 22, 1999

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

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

There are several excellent reports out on the fire:

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

HERE is the NFPA report:

<http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/Keokuk.PDF>

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

One of the best quotes I have ever heard came from KFD's Chief Mark Wessell. Mark is a good friend who has shown true leadership in taking the KFD forward-I don't know anyone who doesn't agree with that. Since that fire, Mark and I have become pretty close and I am continually in awe over how he has made it clear that his FD will (and has) change. Mark makes it clear that as horrible as this was-he will do whatever he has to, to make sure it never happens again. To all of us, he made a statement that sums it up... "Always remember that we as firefighters are there to help people with a problem, while also doing ALL that we can to never become PART of that problem"

==CHICAGO FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-DECEMBER 22, 2010

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Corey Ankum and Edward Stringer "died when the roof collapsed during suppression operations at a rubbish fire in an abandoned and unsecured commercial structure. The bowstring truss roof collapsed at the rear of the 84-year old structure approximately 16 minutes after the initial companies arrived on-scene and within minutes after the Incident Commander reported that the fire was under control. The structure, the former site of a commercial laundry, had been abandoned for over 5 years and city officials had previously cited the building owners for the deteriorated condition of the structure and ordered the owner to either repair or demolish the structure. The victims were members of the first alarm assignment and were working inside the structure. A total of 19 other fire fighters were hurt during the collapse."

HERE IS THE AUDIO/Video with Graphics:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_kq5EZ8XBs

HERE is the report:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201038.html>

==FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDS-SNIPER SHOOTS AND KILLS TWO FIREFIGHTERS

December 24, 2014

==West Webster, NY..."It Could Have Been Any Firefighter ..at Any FD"

When we first heard about West Webster, we couldn't help but also remember some other Firefighters who were shot-and killed in the Line of Duty.....

Lexington, KY, Fire Lieutenant Brenda Cowan, Maplewood (MO) Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Hummert, Fayetteville (PA) Chief James Cutchall and Jackson, MS Captain Stan Adams, District Chief Dwight Craft, Captain Merideth Moree and District Chief Rick Robbins, 47 ...all of whom were gunned down in the Line of Duty...and there are more related murders and related close calls.

BUT NOW IT WAS WEST WEBSTER, NY

....it was a call, just about two years ago [Christmas eve](#), for a car fire, the sort of routine job that all of us turn out for regularly. But this time-once again in our history-it was a trap....there was a house and a car burning on arrival and they did what any Firefighter would do-go to work. What was initially un-size-up-able was a waiting psycho killer, who had positioned his cowardly self as a sniper on a berm above the unknowing Firefighters. Before they could begin to hit the fire, the Firefighters were met by blasts of gunfire. Four were hit by the bullets, and two were murdered. Radio traffic proves amazing heroism by surviving WW FF's (see below). The 2 Firefighters killed in the Line of Duty were Michael J. Chiapperini, 43, a local Police Lieutenant, and Tomasz Kaczowka, 19, a 911 Dispatcher for Monroe County. The two wounded Firefighters, Theodore Scardino and Joseph Hofstetter fortunately survived (see below). WHEN a Firefighter dies in the Line of Duty-the least any of us can do is to learn from what happened-and while this incident was as unpredictable as any-what Mike Chiapperini, and Tomasz Kaczowka did, along with the WWFD Officers and members, thru their sacrifice, is greatly heighten the awareness and education for Firefighters everywhere on the potential-and preparedness training related to "active shooter" incidents. As we approach the one year anniversary, we remember the friends and families of the late Mike Chiapperini, Tomasz Kaczowka, their family, friends and the officers and members of the West Webster FD. RIP.

HERE is the incredible radio traffic from that incident. LISTEN as the injured Firefighters, Joseph Hofstetter, who is also a career Firefighter with the Rochester FD, and Theodore Scardino, are incredibly in control on the radio, despite their serious wounds, as they provide updates, protecting other FF's, EMT's and Police Officers-saving more lives.

LISTEN: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i84mHI3teB0>

UPDATE FROM NASSAU COUNTY, LONG ISLAND, NY

The following is from the Chairman of the Nassau County Fire Commission:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Yesterday we visited Asst. Chief Joe Sanford, his wife Jackie, family and friends at North Shore Manhasset University Hospital and spoke a while with a one very strong lady, Jackie Sanford. Jackie's strong belief in God is helping her, and the children to cope with Joe's tragic injury. She updated us with the information and small signs of progress that Joe has displayed. Although Joe presently is still in a coma and remains on a respirator **yesterday** he at times was breathing above the respirator. Jackie went on to tell us that because of Joes strength and healthy life before his injury, he will pull through this with the help of all of her, his family's, and our prayers. Jackie then brought us into Joe's room where we all spoke to him urging him to stay strong and overcome his injury. Jackie has asked us all to keep up with prayer for Joe to show any sign of improvement. Joes medical team was going to perform tests over the next few days to evaluate his progress and see if his condition shows improvement. Many members of Inwood Fire Department were in the halls with their family's to lend support to Joe, Jackie and family. As we left we again spoke to Jackie and told her to please contact us if she need anything from the Fire Commission and we assured her that we will keep praying for Joes recovery and getting past this most difficult time. END Our prayers continue for the recovery of Joe Sanford. For those interested, donations are still needed-and appreciated:

PLEASE HELP: Any amount matters. <http://www.gofundme.com/j3zi6k>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [12/22/2014](#)-1800 Hours

AND:

All,

I neglected to include this excellent video (earlier **today**) of the Keokuk (Iowa) Fire, where 3 children and 3 Firefighters lost their lives.

Please take the time to WATCH and LEARN from this unique video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vz67z2Cufo&index=1&list=PL386371DD1CBA390F>

NOTE:

The critical event was the on-set of flashover conditions in the kitchen, where the fire began. Post-flashover, the fire spread rapidly via flow paths from the kitchen to the front door and up the stairs. Looking at this incident with the perspective of the **recent research** from NIST and UL and the implementation by fire departments across the country, it points out the critical need for:

==size-up, the options of taking the first line to the kitchen window (exterior) or to the kitchen (interior) to prevent the flashover,

==the speed of the fire spread post flashover along the flow path from the kitchen through the dining room,

==the living room and then splitting and sending heat and flames out the front door and up the stairs.

How would the event have been impacted if door control was used? Once again we're reminded of how control/reduction of the hot gaseous fuels (smoke) is essential to life safety-civilian and Firefighters.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [12/22/2014](#)-2100 Hours

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

AND:

All,

In Jacksonville (Florida) Firefighters were pumping gas outside Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department Station 28 near Southside Boulevard and Hogan Road this evening, when someone driving by opened fire. About five or six shots were fired, police....and now, in the wake of the shooting, authorities have placed fire stations across the city on high alert. A JFRD firefighter was grazed during the shooting, but he was not taken to the hospital. Four firefighters escaped serious injury. More to follow. Take Care. Be Careful. **Eyes Open!**

Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [12-23-2014-2200](#)

AND:

All,

This morning at around 0900 hours, the Mebane Fire Department of Alamance County (North Carolina) was working a crash on I-85 at the 155 mm, at the Alamance/Orange County line. While working that first crash, a civilian hydroplaned and struck the Chief's vehicle, the engine AND the heavy rescue truck. The Chief was transported to hosp and has since been released. The civilian was killed. **AND THEN, AFTER THAT**, a Greyhound bus and a State Trooper crashed at same location, resulting in a Multi-Patient Incident. Trooper not hurt the police vehicle was totaled. There are pictures on twitter @FireNews, [www.FireNews.net](#) and our FFCC home page as well

Take Care. Be Careful. **WATCH OUT AND EXPECT THEM TO NOT SEE US...**

Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [12/24/2014-1200 Hours](#)

AND:

Hey,

Do you have someone in your FD that - well, er, uh...ummm....when they are out of town - things actually seem to go better? You know, that very special "someone" who you wish you could just send away for a week - so that you can actually get some work done? So you can actually enjoy some peace and quiet? And NOT have to listen to their ranting and raving? Hmm-sounds strangely familiar. Anyway.... **Have we got a deal for you.**

HERE is a chance to send that deserving member to FDIC in Indianapolis for THE WEEK-with their travel, their downtown hotel, full admission to all classes and exhibits all fully paid for! There are many deserving firefighters and fire officers who can't afford to go to FDIC! AND NOW YOU can help them win a FREE travel, hotel and attendance to 2015 FDIC! **It's a WIN WIN! They think you actually love'm, they come back with real "state of the art" knowledgeand you get a well deserved "state of the art" break! DO IT NOW-nominations are only open until [January 15, 2015](#). And by the way, while the nomination people ask for a video, if you can't do that-no worries-just nominate in writing.**

TAKE FIVE MINUTES NOW TO NOMINATE THAT "SPECIAL" SOMEONE:

<http://app.snapapp.com/2015-FDIC-Scholarship>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [12/27/2014-1027 Hours](#)

AND:

NEW JERSEY FF-MEDICAL FOLLOWING SHIFT The Secret List

We regret to pass on to you that Jersey City Firefighter James Woods died suddenly on [Friday](#) following his shift. The 44-year-old husband and Father of 3 was born in Jersey City and served for the fire department for 15 years. He was also a Ground Zero responder and worked there many hours in the aftermath of 9/11. Besides his wife, Maryann, Woods is survived by his three children, Maegan MacKenzie, James III and many family and friends. A wake for FF Woods is being held [today](#), 2 to 6 p.m., and [tomorrow](#), 4 to 8 p.m., at Fallon Funeral Home, 157 Bowers St., Jersey City. The funeral will be held [Tuesday](#), 10:30 a.m., at St. Joseph Parish, corner of Baldwin and Pavonia avenues.

VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER STRUCK

A Lebanon (VA) Firefighter was struck by vehicle at MVA scene last evening. Medflight was requested due to head injury and loss of consciousness. Lebanon is in SW Virginia and in Russell County. [This morning](#), reports are that the FF is doing better. KTIYP's.

DRUNK KILLS FIREFIGHTER, BROTHER OF THE FIRE CHIEF.

ANOTHER drunk driver has struck again, this time killing a Firefighter in Massachusetts and critically injuring his fiancé. 62-year-old Kevin Regan was struck and killed late [last night](#) by the drunk driver in the Cape Cod town of Yarmouth. The longtime Westfield Firefighter died at Cape Cod Hospital soon after the incident. Kevin Regan had been a Westfield Firefighter for 43 years, joining the department at the age of 19. **He is the brother of Westfield Fire Chief Mary Regan.** Kevin Regan's 62-year-old fiancée, Lynda Cavanaugh, was also hit by the alleged drunk driver while she and Regan were crossing Route 28 in Yarmouth. She's being treated in a Boston hospital for serious injuries. 55-year-old Paul G. Dennehy, of South Yarmouth will be arraigned on [Monday](#) on charges of motor vehicle homicide, operating under the influence of liquor, and operating under the influence of liquor with serious injury. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. (***Some of you may recognize the Westfield FD as Captain Rebecca Boutin wrote a chapter in our book, PASS IT ON, related to the CLOSE CALL of another Firefighter***)

AND SPEAKING OF DRUNK DRIVING:

HERE is the radio traffic of that Kansas Firefighter who was drunk driving the apparatus earlier this week. Former Lincoln Ottawa FF Chelsea Matthew was behind the wheel and yapping on the radio....the 24-year-old woman was arrested for driving under the influence. As she traveled down a road, Matthew used the fire radio to reach dispatchers, as you will hear on the dispatch recordings:

LISTEN HERE:

<http://www.kctv5.com/story/27704469/firefighter-accused-of-taking-fire-truck-on-drunk-joy-ride>

REMEMBER YOUR FIRST HELMET?

Be it graduating from the academy or whatever-getting your FIRST HELMET is often a big deal...or it should be. OUR HELMET is the most personal part of our PPE...it's a big deal. CHECK THIS VIDEO OUTwhen a brand new firefighter gets his helmet. Excited? Much? Ya Think? **CONGRATS to soon to be Jr FF Luke Alley.** <http://vimeo.com/115438880> (Here is more "Like Father-Like Son" <http://tinyurl.com/lafc4mz>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG

The Secret List [12/28/2014-1515 Hours](#)

AND:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Hey,

There is a brand new video out by the NFFF and it's very cool. It features the leadership of Prince Georges County (Maryland) Fire/EMS's Kentland Co. 33 ..and their progressively lead and renewed focus on aggressive firefighting operations ...and how that, along with firefighter safety/survival training-starting with each probies first day is a part of their company-everyday-every run. **NOTE- check the below link to download their entire PROBIE BOOK.**

In the video, Kentland's officers and others talk about many of the key points addressed at the National Fire Service Tampa 2 Summit. These include not only personal responsibility, but accurate risk assessment, and the important role the company officer plays in safety, survival, supervision, training and accountability.

Watch the video... and make a New Years Resolution to insure that your PROBIES start, the first day, with direction, focus and structure-so they-from the beginning, can do as much as they can to MINIMIZE the potential for an LODD...including their own.

VIDEO: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=etr0p5E3Z7E&feature=youtu.be>

DOWNLOAD THE KENTLAND ROOKIE BOOK HERE:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/215919>

(The book serves as a great model for other FD's to consider for new probies/rookies etc).

BY THE WAY:

Does YOUR FD **have** a ROOKIE BOOK, PROBIE MANUAL or something similar you'd like to share? Send it electronically to us HERE: info@firefighterclosecalls.com

AND we'll include it on the **PASS IT ON** fire training section at www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com so others can gain as well.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List **12/30/2014**-1537 Hours

AND:

All,

Sad news out of Connecticut. No details yet on this being duty related or not, but New Haven Firefighter was found by a neighbor unresponsive outside her Hamden home early [this morning](#)-she was still in uniform. Around 0300 [today](#) she found her neighbor lying face-down on a sidewalk. FF Linda Cohens was unresponsive and unconscious and appeared to be suffering from a head injury. Companies arrived on the scene and Cohens was taken to Yale New Haven Hospital where she was pronounced dead. The incident is under investigation. We reached out to long time TSL member and contributor to the book "Pass It On"- Frank Ricci, who graduated from the academy with Linda, and he commented: "Linda, represented the very best of our service. She was a friend and consummate professional. Her contributions went beyond the emergency scene she was always will to give back to her community and loved her family. For year she touched so many lives in the city. Linda will always be in our hearts and we will not forget this loss to our department and community."

A few years back, one of the many people that were saved by Linda participated in two video spots. Linda can be seen 15 seconds in driving the emergency unit and rendering aid - <http://youtu.be/aefHrQECYpE>

A second clip highlights all that firefighters do - Linda is in the beginning providing critical care - <http://youtu.be/Lvo3G4w3gn4>

RIP.

There are several nomination opportunities out there. Check these out ASAP:

==FREE RIDE TO FDIC, Downtown Hotel, Travel, All Sessions...

DEADLINE IS GETTING CLOSE to send a deserving member to FDIC in Indianapolis for THE WEEK-with their travel, their downtown hotel, full admission to all classes and exhibitsall fully paid for! There are many deserving firefighters and fire officers who can't afford to go to FDIC! AND NOW YOU can help them win a FREE travel, hotel and attendance to 2015 FDIC! **DO THIS NOW: nominations are only open until January 15, 2015.** And by the way, while the nomination people ask for a video, **if you can't do that-no worries**-just nominate in writing. TAKE FIVE MINUTES NOW TO NOMINATE A DESERVING FIREFIGHTER OR FIRE OFFICER NOW:

<http://app.snapapp.com/2015-FDIC-Scholarship>

==THE CHIEF MASON LANKFORD FIRE SERVICE LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Congressional Fire Services Institute is accepting nominations for the CFSI/Motorola Solutions Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award. Sponsored jointly by CFSI and Motorola Solutions, Inc, the award recognizes individual leadership in advancing fire and life safety initiatives. The award presentation will take place on [April 16, 2015](#) at the 27th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner in Washington, DC. The award is named after the late-Mason Lankford, a former fire service leader from the state of Texas who worked closely with former Congressman Curt Weldon in establishing the Congressional Fire Services Caucus in 1987. The criteria stress the importance of forming positive working relationships with government leaders at all levels to advocate issues and initiatives that improve the safety of the fire and emergency services and the public they serve. For additional information about the Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award and the 2015 National Fire and Emergency Services Symposium and Dinner, visit the CFSI website at www.cfsi.org. The nomination deadline is [February 27, 2015](#).

==THE CHIEF RAY DOWNEY COURAGE AND VALOR AWARD:

We wanted to remind you that there are just a few days left for you or your department to submit nominations for this year's Courage and Valor Award-awarded in 2015. The prize is \$35,000 and to this point we want to make sure you get your nominations in immediately. If any of you know of a worthy Firefighter who has performed an act of heroism in the last year - please reach out and ask them or their superiors or peers to submit. Here is a link to the nomination form:

<http://www.fireengineering.com/content/dam/fe/online-articles/documents/2014/2015-cnv-award.pdf>

We take time to remember that on [January 9, 2009](#), a Boston fire crew's ladder truck, Ladder 26, suffered a catastrophic mechanical failure returning from a call on Mission Hill. Boston Fire Lieutenant Kevin Kelley died in the Line of Duty after the truck struck a building. RIP.

HERE IS THE REPORT:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200905.html> Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [1/1/2015-1700 Hours](http://www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com)

www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

AND:

All,

On [January 12th 1992](#), Prince George's County FD (Maryland) Engine Company 27 (Morningside VFD) was dispatched to 3807 Walls Lane in their due area for a fire. Firefighter Kenneth Michael Hedrick was riding the engine that day and responded on the run. Kenny entered the house and

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

rescued a 7 year old boy who was trapped inside. Kenny went back inside to search for other reported trapped occupants. While searching the basement, Kenny tragically became trapped under debris and died in the Line of Duty. Kenny's Mom & Dad (Former Fire Chief Les, and Cathy) were and are still members at Company 27. They are also both active members of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and many of you know the wonderful Cathy Hedrick, Kenny's Mom and active staffer with the NFFF. You also may know of Cathy, who also wrote a very heartfelt chapter in our book, "Pass It On"

HERE is a video about Kenny: <http://youtu.be/UdbYzyPuHvs>

HERE is an interview with Cathy from: Firehouse.com:

<http://tinyurl.com/4f63ndw>

MORE INFO: www.morningsidefd27.com If you would like to make a donation to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in Kenny's name please visit www.firehero.org
...or purchase a copy of "PASS IT ON-What We Know...What We Want You To Know" **HERE:** <http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/bp0190.shtml>
RIP Kenny. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On. BillyG The Secret List **1-12-15** / 1000 hr

AND:

All,

A Houston (Texas) **area** Firefighter has been hospitalized after he was pinned between two trucks inside a northwest Harris County firehouse. It happened **this morning** at the Little York Fire Department. Initial reports are that the firefighter was sitting on the back of fire apparatus when a large pickup truck pulled into the station bay and pinned him between the two trucks. The firefighter was transported via LifeFlight to Memorial Hermann Hospital. His condition is unknown at this time. The 23-year-old is reportedly employed as a part-time firefighter there, and as a full-time firefighter at the Ponderosa Fire Department. More to follow. KTIYP's.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-15-15 1020hrs

AND:

MEDIC KILLED ASSISTING AT CRASH

We regret to advise you that a Rockingham County, North Carolina Paramedic was killed while assisting at a crash scene. EMS Paramedic Captain William Lawrence McKinney, Jr. had just finished working a 12 hour shift **Wednesday** morning. On his way home, Captain McKinney saw two vehicles that slipped off the road. He was still in uniform and was wearing a safety vest, and parked his car and went to check on the drivers. That's when a truck with two trailers struck McKinney, killing him. The Captain spent 19 years with Rockingham County EMS. McKinney leaves behind a wife and two children. The driver of the truck was arrested for misdemeanor death by motor vehicle and exceeding a safe speed for the condition of the road.

Funeral arraignments have been made. Visitation will be on **Saturday, January 17** at Thompsonville Heights Baptist Church. Viewing times will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. The funeral will be held **Sunday** at 2 p.m. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

LA COUNTY FIRE DEPT LIFEGUARD DIES DURING RECERTIFICATION

A 20-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Lifeguard Division died during a recertification swim exercise **Thursday** morning. LA County FD Ocean Lifeguard Specialist Brian Kutil,

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

42, was participating in the exercise at Mira Costa High School in the City of Manhattan Beach. He was noticed to be in distress and having difficulties, was pulled from the pool and given lifesaving measures but his life couldn't be saved.

FIRE CAPTAIN DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

A 58-year-old paid on-call captain with the Jackson, Calif., Fire Department died in his sleep on Jan. 10 several hours after he had responded to a motor vehicle accident the day prior. Captain Tremaine had nearly 40 years in the fire service, most of those as a volunteer, and had been instrumental in starting the careers of many firefighters over the years. Captain Tremaine is survived by his wife of 35 years, Geneva Lillie (Bergen) Tremaine and many family and friends. **A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 16, at The Call in Pine Grove, Calif., according to his obituary.**

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/15/2015-2125 Hours

AND:

Hey, It was on this date in 2011 when **Firefighter Mark Falkenhan** of Baltimore County's Lutherville VFD, Maryland, a highly respected veteran career and volunteer Firefighter, died in the Line of Duty at a fire when he became trapped in a **multi-family dwelling** on Dowling Circle. FF Falkenhan and his partner entered and made their way into the building to assist in the search for victims above the first floor fire. At that point in time, other companies were on the upper floors but there were no hoselines or the protection of one above the initial fire floor. The apartment, like ANY dwelling any FF operates in **today**-is filled with plastics and other petro-chemical based consumer items (carpeting/flooring, furniture, TV's etc.) that create a gas filled and subsequent fire environment of explosive potential. Watch the video to learn and understand how and why the fire spread above the first (terrace level) apartment.

Firefighters searching saw fire in the corner of the top floor apartment shortly before coming across a victim-but those conditions were not communicated via radio. At 1841 hours, crews were ordered to evacuate the building and about a minute later, Mark Falkenhan called a MAYDAY. At 1850 hours, Firefighters found Falkenhan unconscious and eventually removed him from the building. As hopefully you will also know-or will now know that the Fire Protection Engineers from the ATF Fire Research Laboratory worked with the Baltimore County FD to create a computer model of the fire that resulted in the Line of Duty Death of FF Mark Falkenhan on **January 19th, 2011**. The following 36 minute video details the entire incident, beginning with the 911 call and ending after the firefighter MAYDAY. **HERE IS THE LINK TO THE ATF VIDEO/AUDIO OF THE**

DOWLING CIRCLE FIRE: <http://www.atf.gov/explosives/programs/research-development/fire-research-lab.html> HERE IS THE EDITED RADIO

TRAFFIC: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMsC8nuEvVw> HERE IS THE ATF LINK TO THE VIDEO OF THE DOWLING CIRCLE FIRE: <http://www.atf.gov/explosives/programs/research-development/fire-research-lab.html> HERE IS THE INITIAL

REPORT: <http://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/Fire/report/finalreport120320.pdf>

HERE IS THE NIOSH REPORT RELEASED TODAY:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201102.html>

Once again-take the NIOSH REPORT along with the above information, the previous reports, radio traffic etc and use them in the firehouse, drills, meetings or whatever it takes as an excellent opportunity to learn, and HONOR the memory of FF Mark Falkenhan.

FIREFIGHTERS ON TRIAL FOR APPARATUS CRASH

Some Cleveland (Ohio) Firefighters head to trial to defend themselves [today](#). It involves an apparatus incident where the video showed one thing but statements of the firefighters seemingly said another. Now, they'll try to clear their names in a trial by jury.

MORE HERE: <http://www.19actionnews.com/story/27880768/cleveland-firefighters-head-to-trial-in-truck-crash>

SOUTH AMERICA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

A 52-year veteran died [last Friday](#) in Joinville, South of Brazil. Volunteer FF Ademar Max Stuewe, 74 years old, fell from a ladder on [Wednesday](#), while cutting branches of a tree that had fallen over a house during a storm. He was taken to the hospital and remained in intensive care for two days, before succumbing to the injuries. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

<http://g1.globo.com/sc/santa-catarina/noticia/2015/01/bombeiro-voluntario-de-74-anos-morre-apos-cair-durante-ocorrencia.html>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [1/19/2015](#) 0600 Hours

AND:

6 TAIWAN FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-FIRE & COLLAPSE

We regret to pass on that 6 Firefighters were killed [today](#) as they operated at a fire that engulfed a bowling alley in northern Taiwan. The men, all in their 20s, were trapped and killed in a "sudden burst of fire" which caused the partial collapse of the building in Taoyuan county. Two of the Firefighters who died had graduated from the Academy only last year. The fire broke out in the early morning hours when the venue was shut.

HERE IS MUCH MORE INCLUDING PHOTOS AND VIDEO:

<http://m.scmp.com/news/china/article/1682795/six-firemen-killed-tackling-blaze-taiwan>

http://youtu.be/VPngCeF_cY

Our condolences to all affected.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [1/20/15-0700](#)

AND:

KANSAS FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY FOLLOWING TRAINING

We regret to pass on that Firefighter Ronnie W. Peek, 49, died in the Line of Duty last evening. Firefighter Peek fell ill while participating in fire department mandated air management training. He was subsequently transported to the hospital where he suffered a heart attack and passed away. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

==FIRE APPARATUS VS FIRE APPARATUS CRASH

Remember that crash in California last April with the two responding apparatus? Well, the cops claim that unsafe driving caused the Alhambra FD rig to collide with a Monterey Park rig last spring, injuring 15 people. Despite placing fault with the Alhambra apparatus driver, no charges are being filed in connection to the April 16, 2014, incident....**however-numerous law suits are pending**. The two fire apparatus, which were both responding to a fire at a Monterey Park home, collided about 1500 hours. The Alhambra rig had its lights and sirens on as it headed southbound on Garfield Avenue at 15 mph---at the same time the Monterey Park apparatus was driving 20 to 25 mph eastbound on Emerson

Avenue, also with its lights and sirens.

As both trucks arrived at Garfield and Emerson avenues, the Monterey Park truck had a green traffic light, **while Alhambra's truck had a red light**. Simply put-the Alhambra fire apparatus failed to ensure the intersection was clear to enter against the red light....and generally the only way to do that is to stop. Alhambra's truck struck the front of the Monterey Park rig, which kept moving and smashed into a person and a street pole before ramming into a restaurant. Five restaurant patrons and four pedestrians were injured. Six firefighters were also injured. Obviously this could have been a lot worse-thankfully it wasn't. There have been some hellacious fatal apparatus vs apparatus crashes over the years and always it is because one of the rigs drivers chose to not stop when they were required to-or should have, based upon conditions.

You never know who is on the roads. It could be your Mom, Dad, Wife, Partner, Husband ...it could be your Daughter, your Son, your Grandkids - someone you know. A few years ago, in Ohio, a Firefighter driving apparatus to a car fire **killed her own relatives...TWO relatives...in a proven avoidable crash.**

If you think this is "lame" of not, trust us on this-LOOK at the history-when you have a red light-STOP to INSURE it is clear, When you have a stop sign, STOP-to make sure it is clear. Besides, it's not your fire apparatus. Someone decided, for whatever reason, to give you the privilege of driving it. And while cops aren't charging the apparatus driver-the lawsuits are looming. We all wanna make it to the fire or emergency-we wanna get there "five minutes ago" and many times we are **NEEDED FIVE MINUTES AGO**. Make up time by being apparatus ready, hustle getting out of quarters and stuff like that-but DON'T blow red lights or stop signs-it can change you life forever-not to mention those we may strike. We have posted some pics on our home page. BELOW are some related reports of similar crashes:

APPARATUS VS APPARATUS CRASH KILLS FIREFIGHTER:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200443.html>
<http://www.fsi.illinois.edu/content/library/iflodd/search/Firefighter.cfm?ID=286>

==BLACK SUNDAY REMEMBERED:

January 23, 2005 was "Black Sunday" in New York when FDNY Lt. Curtis W. Meyran (covering Ladder 27 that day) and FF John G. Bellew (Ladder 27) died in the Line of Duty at an apartment fire in the Bronx. Four other FF's were injured: Jeffrey Cool (Rescue 3) the late Lt. Joseph DiBernardo-Rescue 3 (whose later death is Line of Duty) Brendan Cawley (Ladder 27) and Eugene Stolowski (Ladder 27). All 6 FF's were forced to jump from the 4th floor of the apartment building as they were trapped by the fire. And, as you'll also remember, at a separate incident in Brooklyn that day, just 3 hours after the Bronx fire, Brooklyn FF Richard T. Sclafani (Ladder 103) was killed in the Line of Duty after getting trapped in the basement while operating at a residential fire.

HERE are links to reports, videos and articles as we remember those who were injured and killed that day.

[\(NIOSH Report-BRONX FIRE\)](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200503.html)
[\(NIOSH Report-BROOKLYN FIRE\)](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200504.html)
[\(EXCELLENT NY Magazine Article Bronx Fire Double LODD\)](http://nymag.com/news/features/26574/index3.html)
[\(IAFF Presentation-FDNY FF Jeff Cool\)](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvxtBC2gQ1g&sns=em)
[\(Fire Engineering; FDNY FF Jeff Cool\)](http://community.fireengineering.com/video/video/show?id=1219672%3AVideo%3A591291)

==CHIEF D CONTINUES TO SAVE LIVES:

Here is a piece from yesterday about the late Joey D's Dad, retired FDNY "Chief D"-and his **untiring efforts** to save firefighters lives-ALL Firefighters: **CHECK THIS OUT:**

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/hamill-fdny-dad-save-firefighters-article-1.2087647>

DO NOT MISS THIS YEARS TRAINING SEMINAR-WELL WORTH YOUR TIME AND TRAVEL TO LONG ISLAND:

<http://www.joeydfoundation.org/seminars/2015-seminar/>

==EINSTEIN, HUGE FIRES & FIREFIGHTERS?

This morning in Homestead PA and earlier this week in Edgewater, NJ-huge fires kept Firefighters busy. Amongst those incidents, there have been some commentaries that if those fire departments had career Firefighters, the fires might have not gotten so large.

Huh? The light weight wood truss non-sprinklered building had nothing to do with it?

Hmmm. There are numerous arguments on both sides, but the bottom line is that when the public dials 9-1-1, or wait....when YOU dial 9-1-1 for a FIRE....you and they want help now, and the help needs to be trained and qualified-and plenty of it. We have seen well staffed, well lead and well qualified departments on the career and the volunteer side. We have also seen poorly trained, poorly staffed and poorly lead departments on both sides. Being career doesn't always mean the best-but being volunteer doesn't always mean that serving the community for free is what's best for that community. When there is a fire, people-and your family too, want a timely response with lots of qualified Firefighters to get all the tasks done as quickly, as humanly possible-any sane person understands that.

Obviously the FACTS are not out yet on what caused the fires to get so large-but one thing is for sure-if the buildings were MASONRY and were FULLY SPRINKLERED, there would NOT have been large fires. **HERE is one persons opinion on Career and Volunteer Firefighters...a former FDNY Commissioner:**

<http://7online.com/news/former-fdny-commissioner-on-volunteer-firefighters-in-new-jersey/487108/>

One resident (below) said it was "deja vue" all over again...since this complex burned 15 years ago. **Albert Einstein** said "**Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results**" and when buildings continue to be built this way, they will burn down the same as they did the first time. Duh.

Edgewater Fire:

http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2015/01/it_was_like_deja_vu_15_years_apart_edgewater_fires.html

<http://pix11.com/2015/01/22/devastating-edgewater-apartment-complex-fire-accidentally-started-by-plumbers-officials/>

Homestead Fire:

<http://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2015/01/23/breaking-news-crews-on-scene-of-5-alarm-fire-in-homestead/>

Final Word:

HOPEFULLY you have seen this video that we posted last week-if not, check it out.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsYOTERciOU>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/23/2015-1030 Hours

AND:

WISCONSIN FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY WHILE RESPONDING

We regret to pass on to you that Firefighter Leslie "Les" Fryman, 58, of the Rosendale VFD (Wisconsin) died in the Line of Duty while responding on a run. Firefighter Fryman was a passenger in a tanker/tender responding to a mutual aid structure fire when he went unresponsive. Fellow members treated Fryman and transported him to a local hospital. Firefighter Fryman was subsequently transferred to another hospital where he succumbed to his injury seven days later. The nature and cause of fatal injury is still to be officially reported. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

NEW SIREN FEATURE:

This new "siren" feature clearly states: GET OUT OF THE WAY MORON. Well, its actually in French but the English translation of the medic's comment over the PA is "Get out of the way you morons" (In French: "Tassez vous gang de sans-génie!") Customer Service? Hmm. Yeah.

Final Word: Congrats to long time TSL member and friend Chief of Department John deHooge (Ottawa, Canada) on his retirement. John has had a very compassionate and measurable impact on the North American fire service - especially in the areas of firefighter safety, health and survival, over his decades of service. He currently serves as the Canadian rep on the IAFC Board of Directors. Congrats John!

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [1/30/2015](#)-1500 Hours

AND:

All,

It was one year ago [today](#) that Toledo Fire Rescue FF Pvts. James "Jamie" Dickman and Stephen Machcinski's were killed in the Line of Duty in an apartment over commercial structure fire, later determined to be arson. The department and NIOSH report are still pending. **PLEASE be sure to listen (and share) the audio link below.** Abou-Arab, 62, is being held in the Lucas County jail in lieu of \$5.85 million bond. He is charged with two counts of aggravated murder, each with death penalty specifications; two counts of murder; eight counts of aggravated arson, and one count of tampering with evidence.

RADIO/VIDEO OF THE TOLEDO FIRE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqzFjhIhxmY>

MUST LISTEN/LEARN:

RAW EDITED RADIO TRAFFIC FROM INITIAL TOLEDO FIRE DISPATCH

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sk2NCEmQsiU&feature=youtu.be>

MORE VIDEO:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bo032kUVs8M>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-yt-cl=84503534&v=BNsz8fkP3Nw&x-yt-ts=1421914688>

MORE on the one year anniversary of the tragic loss HERE:

<http://www.toledoblade.com/local/2015/01/26/Toledo-honors-fallen-firefighters-a-year-after-tragedy.html>

RIP.

====UPDATE: Video from Phoenix Shows FF Thru The Roof:

February 22, 2015

www.chabotfire.com

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Chabot College Fire & EMS News

As we posted [Saturday](#), Phoenix had a CLOSE CALL when some members were caught in some vented fire. The video shows one of those firefighters falling off the roof to the ground as well as the fire conditions following the venting.

Check it out HERE:

<http://www.fox10phoenix.com/clip/11066799/phoenix-firefighter-suffers-burn-falls-from-burning-home-during-early-morning-blaze>

====ARE YOU A "FAN" OF POSITIVE PRESSURE?

We have always looked at PPV as another tool-used based upon conditions, in coordination with companies operating and only ordered by command. UL is now testing positive pressure ventilation....and **HERE are excerpts from an article on ABC7 Chicago.com (entire article link and VIDEO below) about fire fighting testing at Underwriters Laboratories:**

Researchers at Underwriters Laboratories in Northbrook [monitor] the oxygen levels and temperatures [in a controlled burn] ... to reduce the number of people killed in blazes. About 150 sensors are strategically placed [two] homes, which are inside a UL warehouse. "A lot of tactics are coming in question because while the number of fires are going down the number of deaths are remaining the same we are hurting ourselves," said Mike Halterman, a firefighter and paramedic in Wilmette.

Not only are those firefighter deaths concerning, but so is the new speed of fires - because of newer construction, open floor plans and newer furnishings. In just a 90 seconds, the open box with synthetic furniture made of chemicals was swallowed by flames, while the open box with vintage furniture took more than 13 minutes. Now, UL Consumer Safety Director John Dregenberg and his team are testing positive pressure ventilation. They'll still need to perform several more tests and get more data but, they're trying to figure out if opening certain windows and increasing airflow to the fire with fans, can manipulate the flames.

"In this case it looks like if the house was vacant and nobody was in the house, the fan would have done a good job of helping to get the smoke out and letting the firefighters come in and attack the fire which was in the living room. **However if there was someone in the house, especially in the bedroom, with the window open it could have been disastrous,**" Dregenberg said.

"This is data that is ground breaking. Nobody has ever done this ... firefighters on scene know how to fight a fire but nobody knows how the fire progresses and they might want to change their tactics if some of these data points show maybe breaking the window to get at the fire may not be the best thing," Dregenberg said. UL's research will be complete in a few months. They are doing about 20 more test burns. **Thanks to ACDave for the links to this.**

MORE INFO HERE:

<http://abc7chicago.com/news/cutting-edge-fire-research-could-help-save-lives/487081/>

As discussed earlier, since it came out, we have looked at PPV as another tool-used based upon conditions, in coordination with companies operating and only when ordered by command. We'll be interested to see the progress and final outcomes on the testing.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [1/26/2015-2030 Hours](#)

AND:

IOWA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

We regret to pass on to you that an Iowa Firefighter has died in the Line of Duty. A member of the Centerville Fire Department (SE of Des Moines) died at his home following the multi-alarm fire at Cowan Enterprises that occurred [last night](#) and into [this morning](#). The identify of the firefighter is being withheld pending the notification of family members. The Firefighter died at his home after being released from the scene. Firefighters spent over 14 hours at the scene of the fire. The structure was a total loss. It was several hundred thousand square feet and loaded with hazmat along with other materials. Our condolences to all affected.

CFD HOMEPAGE: <http://www.centervillefire-ia.com/>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [1/31/2015](#)-1700 Hours

AND:

Hey,

If you needed a reason to understand the impact of FIREFIGHTER CANCER, try this story out of Syracuse NY ---where this District Fire Chief got his dying wish... He passed away [last night](#). RIP Chief Thomas Erwin. So....[today](#) and each [Sunday](#) is:

WASH YOUR HOOD SUNDAY.

- Do it before you forget.
- Do it every [Sunday](#).
- Do it to honor Chief Erwin.
- Do it to honor ALL the THOUSANDS of FIREFIGHTERS who are fighting cancer.
- Do it to honor the many thousands who fought their best.
- Do it to minimize YOUR RISK of FIREFIGHTER cancer.
- Do it before the game [tonight](#).

READ HIS STORY:

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2015/02/thomas_erwin_firefighter_watched_daughter_graduate_from_bedside_has_died.html

RIP Chief.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

Don't Breathe That Sh!t.

Don't "Wear" That Sh!t.

BillyG

The Secret List [2-1-2015-0900 hrs](#)

AND:

Hey,

We've been asked to share this information from the same folks who did the EXCELLENT video entitled Detroit BURN...so here ya go:

"Ford Motor Company recently released a great mini-document about a Wisconsin Ford dealer who's also a volunteer Firefighter ... and they want you to check out the video and share it."

"We, (the Detroit BURN folks) posted a while back that we are pitching a documentary about volunteer Firefighters. And guess what? ONCE AGAIN, we're being told that there's NO AUDIENCE for a volunteer firefighter project. Sounds just like what we heard with BURN!! We've been down this road before, and we look forward to proving them wrong ... AGAIN! If we can really drive up views of

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

this video, we can convince folks to back us for another important volunteers project." Here's what you can do: **WATCH & like the video here:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9lij3NDO8A&feature=youtu.be>

SHARE IT on Facebook & Twitter FORWARD this email to everyone you know who supports the volunteer fire service. Thanks so much, Brenna Sanchez & Tom Putnam Directors/Producers, BURN Well-looks like that's a homework assignment.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [1/31/2015-2129 Hours](#)

AND:

All,

Here's an update on the Centerville (Iowa) Firefighter who died in the Line of Duty after operating at that large commercial/industrial fire. Centerville Assistant Fire Chief Mike "Coop" Cooper died in the Line of Duty [Yesterday](#) in his home after fighting a commercial building fire at the Cowan Enterprises building in Centerville. His death is being treated as a line of duty death. Chief Cooper started with the Centerville Fire Department in 1977. He is the longest-serving volunteer firefighter in the department's history by service 37 years. Chief Cooper's cause of death has not been released.

THE FIRE:

Firefighters were called to 22900 Highway 5 in Centerville on reports of a fire around 7:30 p.m. [Friday](#). When crews arrived at the 300,000 square-foot facility, they found the 50-year-old structure engulfed in flames. There was a 1,000-gallon propane tank outside the building and a 500-gallon propane tank inside, so crews took a defensive stance for survival reasons. Crews deemed the fire under control around 3 a.m. [Saturday](#). Below is a video of the fire taken from just 50 yards away. Almost 20 hours after the fire started, smoke still lingered over what's left of the building. The city now mourns the loss of Chief Cooper who put his life on the line trying to save the 50-year-old Centerville icon.

VIDEO AND MORE HERE:

<http://m.kcci.com/news/fire-destroys-50yearold-commercial-building/31026130>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2-1-2015/1930](#)

AND:

NY FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-STRUCK BY VEHICLE

We regret to pass on that the Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department (Orange County, NY) has announced the passing of veteran Firefighter Charlie Wallace. Charlie passed away [last night](#) due to injuries received in the Line of Duty on [January 10th](#) while he was directing traffic. He was a Fire Commissioner, 40+ year member and he will certainly be greatly missed. Funeral details are incomplete at this time, there will be more info to follow. Please keep his family in your thoughts, may he rest in peace. Our condolences to all affected.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2-4-2015-0930 hr](#)

AND:

ILLINOIS FIRE CHIEF STRUCK BY APPARATUS KILLED IN THE LINE OF

DUTY

We regret to pass on to you that the Fire Chief of the Medora (Jersey County, Illinois) Fire Department was killed in the Line of Duty this afternoon after being run over by a fire apparatus. Fire Chief Kenneth Lehr was reportedly backed over by the apparatus trying to close off a road for a medical emergency. Initial reports are that the Medora FF's responded to a medical emergency in rural Chesterfield around 1430 hours [today](#). The members were attempting to close off Illinois 111 about a half mile south of Illinois 108 to allow a helicopter to land safely in response to the medical emergency. While doing so, the fire truck backed up and struck Chief Lehr. The Chief was pronounced dead at the scene. Our condolences to all those affected. RIP. More to follow.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2/5/2015](#)-1900 Hours

AND:

All,

A Polk County (Florida) Fire Rescue SWAT Medic was shot [last night](#) during an incident. Fire-Rescue SWAT Medic John Mikula, 35, who was wounded during an armed standoff with a suicidal man, is expected to make a full recovery. FF/PM Mikula, who was shot in the shoulder, was taken to Lakeland Regional Medical Center. He has been with Polk County Fire Rescue for 10 years and worked as a SWAT Medic for approximately five. The suicidal man barricaded himself inside the building for hours [Friday](#), exchanged gunfire with sheriff's SWAT members and then likely set fire to the building. The chain of events actually started [Thursday](#), when the man was being taken to the hospital by his mother--he had been threatening to harm himself. On the way to the hospital, the man jumped out of the car, fired a shot into the air with a handgun, and ran into the woods. Cops tried to locate him, but were unable to do so. His mother learned her son had barricaded himself [Friday](#) afternoon at his business, Polk Plumbing. His mother called the sheriff's office, who told them, "I don't think he's going to come out alive".

Law enforcement attempted to negotiate with him, but he said, "I know how this is going to go," and said that when/if officers broke in, he was going to blow the place up with chemicals, "and we're all going to die." The sheriff's office called out the SWAT team and obtained a warrant to take him into custody. While deputies moved a vehicle out of the way, He opened fire, hitting a SWAT medic in the shoulder-as stated above. During the exchange of gunfire, the building erupted in fire, more shots were fired out and then it stopped as the fire burned. The business was destroyed except for the walls, and the shooter was likely dead, No other injuries were reported. Glad it worked out for FF/PM Mikula and all others trying to stop this guy.

==LIKELY LINE OF DUTY DEATH IN MINNESOTA

Perham (MN) Firefighter John Merkins, who had been with the Perham Fire and Rescue Department since 2006, died Jan.28 at the age of 50. FF Merkins died of a heart attack one day after fighting a fire at a Barrel O' Fun facility. He married his wife, Gloria, in 1994 and they had three daughters: Susan Marie, Kimberly Ann, Elizabeth Alexis, and a stepdaughter, Cathy Villarreal. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

==FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDING SEMI-WATER TANKER CRASH

2 Whatcom County (Washington) firefighters were taken to the hospital as a precaution early [yesterday](#), when their responding water tanker crashed at a bend in the road. Fire companies were called to North Fork Road, a long drive up a gravel road for a large fire in a roughly 30-by-40-foot outbuilding [Friday](#) morning. The 911 caller reported a propane tank had exploded near the building. Cody James Hollibaugh, 25, an on-duty volunteer firefighter from Maple Falls, left the Welcome

firehouse driving the apparatus, a 2010 Peterbilt semi tractor hauling a 3,000-gallon water tank. Another volunteer firefighter, Kendra Lee Hollibaugh, 18, was in the passenger seat. Moments after the tender crossed a bridge, the driver lost control to the left, then over corrected to the right at a slight bend, about a quarter-mile east of the fire station. The apparatus started to spin, then rolled over at least once as it crashed. The tank separated from the tractor, broke open and gushed water onto the road. Both the truck and the water tank landed upright. FF Cody Hollibaugh had a broken nose, bruises and facial cuts; FF Kendra Hollibaugh had cuts to her face. An ambulance took them to a Bellingham hospital, where they were treated and released. Glad they are OK-the building was a total loss.

VALENTINES DAY GIFT?

Looking for the PERFECT gift? We have that easy solution!

...now look, forget flowers, candy or expensive jewelry-no one really wants that stuff--what they REALLY want is the best selling firefighter book "***PASS IT ON-What We Know, What We Want You To Know***" ...it's the genuine HEARTFELT way to show YOUR valentine you truly care! 100% of the royalties go to the Chief Ray Downey Scholarship and the NFFF. Seriously-with the opinions, thoughts and advise of 99 FIRE SERVICE VETERANS AND FRIENDS, you can't POSSIBLY go wrong!

HERE are some reviews:

<http://www.amazon.com/Pass-It-On-What-Know/product-reviews/1593703198>

About The Book & The Contributors HERE:

<http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/bp0190.shtml>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2/7/2015](#)-1100 Hours

AND -----

WEST VIRGINIA FF LODD-COLLAPSED

We regret to pass on that Firefighter / Lt. Garry Rose, 67, of the McMechen Volunteer Fire Department died in the Line of Duty on [Friday](#). Firefighter Rose was on an EMS call and was transporting a patient to Ohio Valley Medical Center. As he was wheeling the patient through the doors of the ER, he unfortunately collapsed inside of the emergency room-and shortly after collapsing, FF Rose was pronounced dead. The cause believed to a heart attack. He leaves behind a wife, his daughters, family and grandsons, Ethan, Broc, Logan, Heath and Zane. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

MEMORIAL DETAILS

Friends will be received from Noon until 8 p.m. on [Monday, February 9](#), 2015 at Altmeyer Funeral Home, Benwood- McMechen Chapel, 214 Marshall Street, McMechen, where he will be honored with a Fireman's Service at 7 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated [Tuesday, February 10](#), 2015, at 10 a.m. at St. James Catholic Church, McMechen, with the Rev. Bekeh Utietiang serving as celebrant. Interment will follow at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling.

==FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN RESPONDING CRASH-NEPAL, ASIA

A huge fire occurred at a cotton factory in the Bhaktapur district of Nepal, Asia [yesterday](#). While there were no civilian losses, a Fire Apparatus Operator, 23-year old Firefighter Ranjit Shrestha died in the Line of Duty when the rig crashed while responding. Four other Firefighters were also injured in the accident. The injured ones have been hospitalized. RIP.

==SADLY-WE CAN'T....

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Sadly, we can't post every story of every firefighter fighting cancer...your emails would never stop. However, there are some from time to time that are covered by local news-reminding us of how prevalent cancer is-as the # 1 killer of Firefighters.

FIREFIGHTING CANCER-IT'S NOT JUST FOR "OLD" FIREFIGHTERS THIRTY FOUR YEARS OLD

34 Year Old Salisbury (MD) Fire Department FF/Medic Bryan Lewis is battling Hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma, a rare type of cancer. Lewis, an acting lieutenant, has undergone chemotherapy treatments, recently started radiation treatments and is expected to have a bone marrow transplant at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore in late March or early April.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO WATCH HIS STORY:

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/story/news/local/maryland/2015/02/06/bryan-lewis-salisbury-fire-department-cancer/23001917/>

We wish him and all FF's fighting cancer nothing but success.

FINAL WORD:

Another good Firefighter has lost his battle to cancer. 40+ year veteran Firefighter Pete Bernatovich Jr of the Manhasset-Lakeville FD, Rescue Co 3, in Nassau County, Long Island, NY fought a tough and heroic battle - until [Friday](#) morning. Pete was a good friend and Brother FF-and we remained so every since I got to know him as we both rode the back step (literally) together starting in 1977. Pete was not just a solid FF, but a man who did nothing but good for others his entire life. Every aspect of his life was service to others-and if you knew him, it was so obvious. Our heartfelt condolences to his Brother (and FF) Mike, sister Susan, the members of M-LFD, Company 3 and his many family and friends. **RIP Pete.** MORE HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/l38y597>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2/8/2015](#)-0800 Hours

AND:

All,

The owner of the company conducting that cold water rescue training [last Sunday](#) afternoon in Hanover, (Canada) where a Durham College firefighting student became trapped under ice in the Saugeen River and died, was previously acquitted on health and safety act charges in another cold water training death five years ago. Point Edward Firefighter Gary Kendall was killed in the Line of Duty then, as a student of training. Fire student Adam Brunt, 30, died this past [Sunday](#) after becoming submerged beneath the ice in the fast-flowing Saugeen River. He was among a dozen firefighting program students in Hanover this weekend to take the training. Herschel Rescue Training Systems was running the weekend cold water rescue training in Hanover:

MORE HERE:

http://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/2015/02/09/investigation-into-hanover-river-training-fatal-continues?utm_source=addThis&utm_medium=addthis_button_twitter&utm_campaign=Rescue+training+head+acquitted+in+2010+water+fatal+%7C+Owen+Sound+Sun+Times#.VNIVPjaeA4E.facebook

We'll have more soon-

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2-10-2015-0815](#)

AND:

Hey,

The Bristow (Oklahoma, SW of Tulsa) Fire Chief is recovering in the hospital after a fire department tanker he was working on exploded [yesterday](#) in quarters. Around 1400 hours, Fire Chief David McSpadden thought he smelled battery acid leaking from beneath the passenger seat of the newly renovated tanker truck-and after Chief McSpadden lifted the seat to investigate the smell, the truck exploded. **Chief McSpadden suffered a broken neck, jaw, damage to his eye sockets and several burns and was taken to St. John Medical Center in Tulsa and underwent surgery. The Chief was in stable condition as of last night.** The truck had not been used since it was donated by another government agency a few years ago. The Oklahoma State FM is investigating but as of now, they are unsure of what caused the explosion. **KTIYP's.**

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2/11/2015-1100 Hours](#)

AND:

US AIR FORCE FIREFIGHTER DIES-MEDICAL-POSSIBLE LODD

A U.S. Air Force Technical Sergeant Firefighter assigned to the 51st Civil Engineer Squadron in Osan, Korea, died, in what appears to be in the Line of Duty at approximately 2300 hours on Feb. 9, 2015. Tech. Sgt. Carl S. Cruz, Firefighter, collapsed following a workout and was transported to the 51st Medical Group emergency room, where he was unable to be resuscitated. HERE is the media release: [www.osan.af.mil](#). Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

BAGPIPES STOLEN FROM CHICAGO FIREFIGHTER-CAN YOU HELP?

CFD Firefighter Douglas Crowley is still searching for his bagpipes in garbage cans and alleys throughout the Southwest Side of Chicago. Crowley said a gray backpack containing his instrument was stolen from the back seat of his Honda CRV sometime between Sunday night and early Monday morning. Crowley said he parked in front of his house at 2541 W. 109th St. late Saturday night after returning from the Ignite The Spirit Firefighter/Paramedic's Ball in the Loop.

MORE DETAILS HERE:

<http://www.dnainfo.com/chicago/20150211/morgan-park/chicago-firefighter-desperately-searching-for-his-stolen-bagpipes>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2/11/2015-1600 Hours](#)

AND:

FIRE OFFICER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-OTHERS INJURED-HOUSE FIRE / COLLAPSE

It's with deep regret that we pass on that one of the Firefighters at that Georgia dwelling fire has died in the Line of Duty, and others have suffered injuries including severe burns. 20-year Macon-Bibb Fire Department veteran Lt Randy Parked was killed when he and others fell through a floor into the basement at a house fire this evening. Lt. Parker, 46, died at a local hospital. Firefighter Steven Stafford, 59, was flown to the Augusta Burn Center where he is listed in critical condition. Two other firefighters, Farell Cromer, 46, and Adam Mitchie, 34, were also transferred to Augusta. Firefighters Matt Couey, 27, and Ben Bollinger, 28, were in stable condition at Medical Center-Navicent Health. **STATEMENT FROM THE MBCFD:** "Tonight, please keep the family and friends of our firefighters in your thoughts and prayers. We have three going to the Augusta Burn Unit and two that remain at Navicent Health, Medical Center," "Sadly, we lost a 20+ year veteran of our force and ask you keep his family and friends in your prayers." Much more to follow. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

[2-12-2015-0720](#) hours

AND:

All,

Funeral services for **Bibb County Fire Lt. Randy Parker** has been announced. The service is scheduled for 11 a.m. [Monday](#) at Macon City Auditorium. Visitation is 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. [Sunday](#) at the Bibb County Government Center on Poplar Street. Fire Chief Marvin Riggins says Parker's family will attend, and the public is invited to pay their respects. Lt. Parker will be buried in Glen Haven Memorial Gardens in Macon. As you know, Lieutenant Parker was tragically killed in the Line of Duty at a house fire in south Macon [Wednesday](#). Five other firefighters were injured. We have additional information about the fire on our homepage.

The Loss of a Connecticut Fire Service Leader

It is with a deep sadness that we pass on the death of **a friend of ours at FFCC**, Old Saybrook (CT) Past Chief David G. Heiney Sr . The Chief was very active in the Fire Dept currently serving as Trustee and as Chairman of the Committee responsible for the New Engine which is soon to arrive in town. Chief Heiney's Father, Eugean Heiney Jr was an officer and member as his two sons William and David Jr, who have both served as Officers of the Dept and are each now Career Firefighters in Connecticut a point of great pride for their Father.

OF NOTE: On [December 29](#), 2010 Chief Heiney responded to a report of a woman in the water. Chief Heiney having arrived first, in civilian clothing, and without the benefit of cold water rescue equipment entered the water, swam to the victim and brought her to safety. For this act he was awarded the Old Saybrook Fire Depts Bravery Medal and at the 2011 Connecticut State Firefighters Convention the CT State Firefighters Association awarded him their Medal for Bravery. Chief Heiney is known as "Admin" by thousands of Firefighters who visit the Firefighter website www.CTFIRE-EMS.COM - that he created. His strong belief in training and the sharing of knowledge and experiences within Connecticut's Fire Service is well respected and he will certainly be missed.

RIP Chief.

MEMORIAL/WAKE INFORMATION HERE:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/hartfordcourant/obituary.aspx?n=david-g-heiney&pid=174141626>

ARE YOU READY?

With the movie "50 SHADES OF GREY" coming out this weekend, Firefighters and EMT's are URGED to be ready for a significant increase in rescue calls. Be sure that all required forcible entry tools. jaws of life, cutting tools are all ready to go. And training-don't forget to focus on training, intense training before that call comes in...after all, no pain....no gain. **Sorry.**

FIRE DEPT RELATED ARTICLE WITH "50 SHADES RELATED" RESPONSE STATS HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/kgqjacf>

Happy Valentines Day To You & Yours From All Of Us At FFCC/TSL.

BillyG

The Secret List [2/13/2015-2120](#) Hours

AND:

REMEMBERING THE PITTSBURGH BUREAU OF FIRE & HOUSTON FD

February 22, 2015

www.chabotfire.com

37

VALENTINES DAY LODD'S PITTSBURGH, PA:

Shortly after midnight on February 14, 1995, 20 years ago today, 3 Pittsburgh Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty in a single family dwelling fire after a building collapse. Captain Thomas Brooks, Firefighter Patricia Conroy and Firefighter Marc Kolenda became separated from their crew when the stairwell collapsed. **This loss really catapulted the issues related to firefighters trapped and firefighter rescue throughout North America.** There were numerous factors that lead to the tragic deaths of these 3 Firefighters-factors that we should be well educated in. RIP.

Need a drill subject this week? No better way to honor the Fallen Firefighters. Here ya go: **HERE is the USFA Report: http://www.interfire.org/res_file/pdf/Tr-078.pdf HOUSTON,**

TX: Firefighter Lewis Mayo and Firefighter Kimberly Smith along with others, responded to reports of fire from the roof of McDonalds restaurant. This fire occurred on February 14, 2000. Due to fog conditions responses were delayed. Initial units arrived at 0439 hours and reported fire showing in the rear of the roof. Captain Frank Cucino led Mayo and Smith through the side door to make an interior attack and perform a primary search. Within minutes a large portion of the roof collapsed trapping Mayo and Smith. RIP. Need another drill subject for next week?

Again, no better way to honor the Fallen Firefighters. Here ya go: **HERE is the NIOSH report: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200013.html>**

FALLEN FIRE LT'S MOM: "HE WAS SUCH AN INSPIRATION"

Quite a story on the many adversities the late Macon-Bibb Lt Randy Parker had overcome in his life.

http://www.macon.com/2015/02/13/3585011_firefighters-mother-he-was-such.html?rh=1

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List Valentines Day 2015

AND:

All,

At just after midnight **this morning**, units from (Montgomery County, Maryland) stations 710, 711, and 726 were operating on the inner loop of I-495 just past River Road. As the crew from Ambulance 711 was assessing the occupants sitting in a car along the right shoulder before the primary accident scene, ambulance crew, the original vehicle, and the ambulance was stuck by a pickup. This impact injured two (2) of the four (4) members of Ambulance 711's crews and entrapped the original occupants sitting in the car. Additional resources were called and patient care was initiated. The two injured members of Ambulance 711's crew received serious injuries and were transported to Suburban Hospital trauma center with serious life threatening injuries. The other two crew members were un-injured. The original three occupants of the car had to be extricated from the vehicle and all three were taken to Medstar trauma center. More to follow-keep them in your prayers.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2/15/2015-0900 Hours

AND:

All-

Take a minute to read and remember these Line of Duty deaths:

FEBRUARY 14th-1962 IN CHICAGO

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Yesterday, February 14, was the anniversary of the Line of Duty deaths of Chicago Fire Battalion Chiefs Thomas Hoff and Robert O'Brien in a 4-11 fire on Chicago's South Side. Chiefs Hoff and O'Brien were killed when the building collapsed during a fire at 70th and Dorchester in Chicago, Feb 14, 1962. The story of Thomas Hoff, Bob, and his older brother the late Ray Hoff, served as the basis for the movie "Backdraft". Ray rose to the rank of Battalion Chief prior to retiring and Bob, of course, is a past Fire Commissioner and is one of the most highly decorated members in department history, having been awarded the Department's highest award for bravery twice.

WHAT HAPPENED:

On February 14, 1962, 2 Chicago FD chiefs died in the Line of Duty at an apartment building fire on E. 70th Street. Chief Robert J. O'Brien, head of the fire prevention bureau, and Battalion Chief Thomas A. Hoff, the Assistant Drillmaster for the CFD training school, were killed when the fire-weakened building collapsed.

A fire was reported in the basement of the apartment building shortly after 11:00 AM. Firefighters responded to the scene and successfully extinguished most of the flames. At approximately 12:35 PM, while firefighters were searching the apartments for trapped victims, the roof of the building began to sag and the west wall started to lean inward. Fire Commissioner Robert J. Quinn ordered all firefighters to evacuate the building, but the roof caved in before all of the firefighters could escape. Chiefs O'Brien, Hoff, and Firefighter Frank Conley were on the third floor of the building and were a few steps away from escaping onto an outside porch when the roof collapsed. They fell with the debris down to the basement where they were trapped in the wreckage. Firefighter Edward Stack, Hoff's driver, was also on the third floor when the building collapsed, but he was able to roll out a door on the first floor as he fell with the debris. Stack later described how they had seen the ceiling start to crack and had heard the shouts from outside to evacuate the building, but when the west wall buckled the third floor gave way and the ceiling collapsed on them before they could reach the porch.

Firefighters immediately descended on the debris to try to rescue their colleagues. The rescue squads labored under a stream of water from hose lines, as the previously smoldering fire had rekindled and some of the debris was now burning furiously. Conley, who had fallen under a large beam that protected him from additional debris, was rescued thirty minutes after the collapse, having suffered some bruises and a broken finger. Chief O'Brien's body was recovered a short time later, but efforts to reach Chief Hoff's body were delayed over concerns about the weakened walls that were still standing. After wrecking equipment was brought in to take down the walls, Chief Hoff's body was recovered around 6 PM. R.I.P. This account is courtesy of the Illinois Fire Service Institute.

More Details **HERE:**

<http://tinyurl.com/yzzc9fs>

<http://tinyurl.com/yadmpdh>

REMEMBERING TWO CAPTAINS IN WINNIPEG-CAUGHT IN A 2007 DWELLING FIRE WITH FLASHOVER:

Take time to also remember Winnipeg Fire Captains Harold Lessard, 55, and Capt. Thomas Nichols, 57, who died in the line of Duty in February of 2007 at a single dwelling fire resulting in a flashover. Nichols had 32 years of experience with the service, while Lessard had 31. Both men were Captains with Platoon 3 - Nichols was with Station 2 while Lessard was with Station 1. Four other firefighters were injured in the fire including some severely burned...and even today, some surviving members of that incident suffer significant PTSD based upon what happened that evening. **RIP Captains.**

RELATED: <http://www.aledonenterprise.com/news-story/4722722-growing-movement-to-treat-ptsd-in-responders/>

...AND IN BALTIMORE CITY:

Feb. 16, 1955...the 9-alarm fire at the Tru-Fit Clothing Company on 507-509 East Baltimore St. ...when a collapse AFTER the fire was declared UNDER CONTROL claimed the lives of Baltimore City Firefighters:

**Battalion Chief Francis P. O'Brien, 4th Battalion / 2nd Battalion
Fire Fighter Rudolph A. Machovec, Engine 15 / Engine 23
Fire Fighter Richard F. Melzer, Engine 15 / Truck 2
Fire Fighter William W. Barnes, Engine 17 / Engine 2
Fire Fighter Anthony M. Reinsfelder, Truck 16
Fire Fighter Joseph C. Hanley, Engine 13**

The fire began at around 2100 hours and engulfed the three-story structure with heat so intense that it shattered windows. The fire was considered under control at around 2245 hoursFirefighters then entered the building, but about five minutes later the rear roof of the building and back wall collapsed, trapping a dozen firefighters. The fire also left nearly two dozen firefighters injured.

This fire pushed significant change in the BENEFITS for the survivors of fallen firefighters as well as education and training-related to the dangers of fire operations after the incident is declared under control. RIP.

FLORIDA LAGS BEHIND---BUT THEY AREN'T ALONE---IN FIREFIGHTER CANCER PRESUMPTION:".....every cancer facility, they said the same thing: Are you a smoker?" she said. "But when he said, 'Well, I'm a firefighter, the doctors all went 'Ahh.....' " In 34 U.S. states, there's a law presuming that if a firefighter gets cancer, it was likely caused by the job. Each state's law varies in what exactly that means and what cancers it covers, but in general that can provide protections such as use of workers' compensation for cancer claims, preventative health care requirements and safety from termination while out on disability leave. **And then there are the states that provide no coverage:**

<http://www.news-press.com/story/news/2015/02/14/florida-lags-behind-states-fighter-cancer-law/23432131/>

We'll have more soon on the stats from one state-and how the actual costs (when the FACTS were evaluated vs the BS) were so low that it was hardly measurable-and they still protect their firefighters--all their firefighters career and volunteer.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2/15/2015-2041 Hours

AND:

SOUTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-STRUCK

We regret to pass on to you that a Kenneth Stanton, a Firefighter in Sandy Springs (Anderson County) was struck and killed in the Line of Duty this evening, **Sunday**.

Initial reports are that the crash, on US-17, occurred at around 2100 hours. Stanton, 52, was operating at the scene of a previous crash when he struck by a vehicle. The former Marine and now volunteer Firefighter was immediately treated and transported but succumbed to his injuries. This incident may also be a hit and run-that's not yet been confirmed. We will have much more-also **please follow www.SConFIRE.com** for additional details. Our condolences to all those affected.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2/15/2015-2300 Hours

AND:

All,

A man has been charged in a deadly hit-and-run crash that claimed the life of Firefighter Kenny Stanton, 52, in Anderson County, South Carolina, [last night](#) around 2100 hours. Stanton, a former Marine and current cub-scout master was a volunteer Firefighter at Sandy Springs Fire Department. FF Stanton was assisting with a wreck that had already occurred when he was struck by a vehicle.

ARREST: 64-year-old Charles Pickens was driving a 2004 Chevy Suburban that hit Stanton. Pickens went around emergency equipment and struck Stanton in the roadway--and then Pickens drove away from the scene. Cops tracked down Pickens at his home a short time later. Pickens was charged with felony driving under the influence resulting in death and leaving the scene of an accident and is currently being held in the Anderson County Detention Center as is expected to face a judge this afternoon. [Updates are at www.SConFire.com](#)

HOUSTON FIRE CAPTAIN UPDATE...

Your help is needed-it will cost you \$1.29

On [May 31](#), 2013, the HFD responded to a five-alarm fire at the Southwest Inn. Approximately 14 minutes into the incident, there was a collapse occurred, trapping five firefighters under debris. As you know, Houston lost four Firefighters , and ten other firefighters were injured, making it the deadliest fire in the department's history - and Captain Bill Dowling received life changing injuries. Those critical injuries were life threatening many times over, and he faced devastating complications to his condition. Captain Dowling received many serious burns and had both legs partially amputated. A beloved Fire Officer and former Marine, he earned the nickname "Iron Bill" for his courageous fight. Bill Dowling is 40, he has been with the Houston Fire Department for 13 years. He and his wife, Jacki, have three children: Forrest, 18, Faith, 13, and Foster, 11. **If you'd like to read more and possibly help them out purchase a van so he can get around-by spending \$1.29 on iTunes, check this out:**

<http://wheelsforbill.com/wheelsforbill/download-one-good-guys-song-help-raise-money-captain-dowling/>

For \$1.29 you download Aaron Tippin's new single, "One of the Good Guys" released on [January 5th, 2015](#)...and a portion of your \$1.29 will go to help Captain Bill Dowling. \$1.29 ...that's it.
Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2/16/2015-1046 Hours

AND:

All,

We just received an update from the Chief of Montgomery County Fire Rescue in Maryland on their members that were injured last weekend. The four (4) Glen Echo VFD Ambulance 711 crew volunteers continue to do well, although two remain hospitalized at Suburban Hospital and are improving every day after being struck on the interstate. A network of support has developed to provide any and all needs for all four members of A711's crew, along with the all personnel from Fire Station 11. As often is the case, a member of the treating medical staff is a former Glen Echo volunteer and a spouse to a career fire fighter. This "family" connection has been enormously beneficial for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is that it reinforces the sense of family in the fire service, which is important under normal circumstances, but essential during times like these. The

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Maryland State Police collision reconstruction unit, with support from the County Police reconstruction unit, investigated and documented the scene. Elements from the MSP report will be incorporated into an incident review that will occur and lessons learned will be shared on The Secret List.

FDNY TRAINING SYMPOSIUM IS OPEN TO ALL FIREFIGHTERS/EMTS:

March 18 and Thursday, March 19

The annual FDNY Symposium, open to ALL FIRE-EMS personnel, provides attendees with cutting-edge research and training, while allowing the FDNY to share their best practices on a national and international scale. Members of the FDNY will share their latest knowledge, training and research in the areas of biological responses and Hazmat operations, as well as understanding the use of fire as a weapon, with a special focus on major cities across the country. The issues of fire fighter cancer and mental health will also be presented in conjunction with NFFF. Registration is now open!

<http://www.fdnypro.org/symposium/>

If you have any questions or need to contact us, please call: [718-999-0779](tel:718-999-0779)

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2/17/2015-1100 Hours

AND:

All,

Please take time to review this. It's the much awaited NIOSH paper on the Chicago-Philadelphia-San Francisco FD's 1950-2009 Firefighter Cancer Study that was released [yesterday](#):

==DIRECT LINK:

[http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/firefighters/pdfs/Daniels-et-al-\(2015\).pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/firefighters/pdfs/Daniels-et-al-(2015).pdf)

==Other NIOSH Firefighter Cancer Resources:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/firefighters/cancer.html>

==Firefighter Cancer Support Network:

www.firefightercancersupport.org

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2-19-2015-0900](#)

AND:

HOUSTON FIRE CAPTAIN DIES AFTER THURSDAY FIRE

We regret to pass on to you notice that Houston (Texas) Captain Dwight Bazile, station 46 D shift, died in the Line of Duty [today](#) at 1815 Hours at Memorial Herman Hospital. Captain Bazile collapsed on that fire scene Thursday, [February 19th 2015](#) and has been fighting for his life at Memorial Herman Heart & Vascular Institute. He is survived by his Wife Pamela Bazile, Son Dwight Bazile II, and Mother Charlotte Felder. We ask that you keep the family, of Captain Bazile, and the members of the HFD in your thoughts and prayers. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [2/21/2015-2156](#) Hours

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.

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

Former Atlanta (GA) Fire Chief Kelvin Cochran has filed a federal discrimination complaint contending he faced religious discrimination when the City fired him after he published a book that contained controversial statements about homosexuality:

<http://www.wsbtv.com/news/news/ex-atlanta-fire-chief-files-discrimination-complaint/njtb7/>

Unsafe driving caused an Alhambra F.D. truck to collide with a Monterey Park fire engine last spring, injuring 15 people, according to an investigation released Thursday. The two engines, which were both responding to a fire at a Monterey Park home, collided about 3 p.m. in the San Gabriel Valley city. As both trucks arrived at Garfield and Emerson avenues, the Monterey Park truck had a green traffic light, while Alhambra's truck had a red light. "The Alhambra fire engine failed to ensure the intersection was safe to enter against the red signal light," the CHP concluded. Alhambra's truck struck the front of the Monterey Park vehicle, which kept moving and smashed into a person and a street pole before ramming into the restaurant, Lu Dumpling House. Five restaurant patrons and four pedestrians were injured. Six firefighters were also injured: <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-la-me-in-fire-truck-crash-report-20150122-story.html>

The worst firefighter charity in the nation is Long Island's Firefighters Charitable Foundation (FFCF). How do I know it's the worst? Well, it seems pretty bad to me that a firefighter charity is number four on this month's updated list of America's Worst Charities put together by the Tampa Bay Times and the Center for Investigative Reporting. But, then again, what makes Dave Statter an expert on reading these lists? And who put the biased news media in charge of telling us where to spend our money? If you feel that way, that's okay. I encourage everyone to be skeptical of what they read these days and to check multiple sources to verify the accuracy of the news they are digesting. I did the same and checked out FFCF on Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. They put Firefighter Charitable Foundation at number three on the list of 10 Consistently Low Rated Charities:

<http://www.statter911.com/2014/12/29/head-nations-worst-firefighter-charity-admits-not-good-way-people-giving-money/>

Cal Fire officials put 16 workers on administrative leave Monday after receiving preliminary results of an investigation into allegations that firefighters had sex with prostitutes at the Fire Academy in Lone. The allegations surfaced after Orville Fleming, a former Cal Fire battalion chief, was arrested in May on suspicion of murdering his girlfriend, 26-year-old Sarah Douglas. Authorities said Douglas worked as a paid escort when she and Fleming met two years earlier. Fleming's wife, Meagan Fleming, reported that her husband and other firefighters had sex with prostitutes at Cal Fire's training academy in Lone and that she had seen a videotape of Douglas having sex with firefighters on fire trucks:

<http://www.statter911.com/2014/12/30/cal-fire-probe-didnt-find-sex-fire-trucks-16-firefighters-place-leave/>

A Duluth (MN) firefighter who faces sexual misconduct and child pornography charges allegedly used a computer at a Duluth fire station to distribute pornographic images of a 4-month-old child, according to court documents. Caleb Stuart Lofald, 32, of Hermantown already is charged with sexually assaulting the infant girl and surreptitiously recording a 6-year-old boy and an adult woman in various stages of undress in a guest room at his home. But court documents and statements from authorities Friday suggested that he remains under investigation for possible additional charges related to the production, possession and distribution of child pornography:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11810769/duluth-firefighter-allegedly-used-station-computer-to-distribute-child-porn>

Most people who make the decision to retire have to figure out how to live on fewer dollars, but that is not always the case with Nevada state and local government employees, a new analysis has found. The analysis by the conservative think tank Nevada Policy Research Institute, using newly available public data provided by the Public Employees Retirement System, shows that many public sector retirees actually receive a raise upon retirement. The analysis, which looked at 10 of Nevada's largest government agencies, including the state of Nevada, Las Vegas, Clark County and the Clark County School District, found that in many cases, retiring meant a pay increase for the average local government employee. On average, those employees retiring with 30 or more years of service took in 100.59 percent of their base pay in retirement payouts, the analysis shows. Retirement in the public sector with a full life of government service is expected to top out at 75 percent or 90 percent depending on the date of hire. But pensions can end up higher than actual base pay because other forms of compensation can be counted toward retirement, including call-back pay, longevity and shift differential, but not overtime, the analysis said. "Nevada taxpayers are providing extraordinarily high pensions — far above what they themselves can expect upon retirement — to what has become, by stealth, a privileged class," said the report's authors, Victor Joecks and Robert Fellner of the Las Vegas-based institute. For police and fire retirees only, looking at Clark County, Henderson and other local jurisdictions, the overall average for 84 retirees was 114.4 percent. The highest percentage was 126.7 percent of final base pay for 15 Clark County police and fire retirees. Because of a state Supreme Court ruling in 2014 that found retirement information about individual retirees is public, a list of the individuals receiving pensions used in the analysis has been posted to the agency's TransparentNevada.com website. Among the retirees included in the analysis are Clark County fire Capt. Eddie Beaman, who retired with just over 35 years of service in 2013. His annual pension of \$114,843 is 124.7 percent of his base pay of \$92,106:

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/nevada/study-many-public-sector-retirees-making-more-they-did-job>

A 30-year-old Phoenix (AZ) firefighter is on leave after he was arrested Wednesday morning on suspicion of selling counterfeit NFL jerseys. The investigation that led to the arrest of Justin Negrete began a week before Thanksgiving when Phoenix police detectives discovered a Craigslist ad offering \$50 for new NFL jerseys:

<http://www.kpho.com/story/27796179/phoenix-firefighter-accused-of-selling-fake-nfl-jerseys>

A fiery sex scandal threatens to burn up multiple firefighters' careers, including some top brass, according to former Philadelphia (PA) Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers. News reports 2 battalion chiefs among 12 Philly firefighters & medics involved in sex scandal:

www.statter911.com/2015/01/28/news-reports-2-battalion-chiefs-among-12-philly-firefighters-medics-involved-sex-scandal/

For the second time since 2012 San Antonio (TX) Chief Charles Hood has addressed the problem of drunk driving within the San Antonio Fire Department. SAFD has increased suspension lengths for firefighters arrested for Driving While Intoxicated. A first DWI arrest now results in a 60-day suspension and mandatory alcohol abuse counseling. This suspension length is four times longer than the 15-day suspension previously given for a first offense. A second DWI arrest results in termination. The change in protocol, rolled out last month, comes after three San Antonio firefighters were arrested for suspected drunk driving during a seven-week period last summer:

<http://www.kens5.com/story/news/investigations/i-team/2015/01/12/safd-suspension-alcohol-treatment-dwi-hood-60-days/21649383/>

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection on Wednesday fired two firefighters, accepted the resignation of a third and said it would discipline 13 others in connection with evidence of dishonesty, misuse of state equipment and other policy violations uncovered during a \$2 million probe of allegations of misconduct leveled at the fire academy in Ione. The probe, conducted for the agency by the California Highway Patrol, was initiated in the wake of the May 1 slaying of 26-year-old Sarah Douglas. Authorities have charged her boyfriend, ex-battalion chief Orville "Mo" Fleming, with her slaying. Fleming's wife leveled accusations after the killing that Fleming and other firefighters had engaged in sex with prostitutes at the academy and said she had seen a tape of such activities. Cal Fire said the probe unearthed no evidence of a sex tape, a finding echoed by Sacramento County sheriff's investigators. But the CHP investigation uncovered other abuses that led to disciplinary actions against a total of 16 Cal Fire employees, 15 of them instructors at the academy and the 16th an employee in the field. "There's a variety of policy violations, including dishonesty, misuse of state equipment, misuse of state time and compromising the hiring process," Cal Fire spokesman Daniel Berlant said. "None are connected to the allegations that were made. All, though, were discovered as part of the investigation that the CHP has been conducting for us over the last six or seven months into the initial allegations that were made. In that process, other violations were discovered." <http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article7889088.html>

The controversial process for hiring firefighters at the Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department needs another overhaul, according to a new study released Thursday. The 150-page report, prepared for the city by experts at the Rand Corp., features a series of proposals to fix a hiring system Mayor Eric Garcetti rebooted last year amid concerns of nepotism and mismanagement. City officials should step up spending on the recruitment of qualified women and minorities and develop new ways of ranking candidates to winnow the pool of thousands of applicants seeking coveted firefighting jobs, according to the report. The Fire Department has struggled to overcome a history of alleged racial and sexual discrimination that has included millions of dollars in payouts to those who filed legal claims against the city:

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-lafd-hiring-report-20150122-story.html>

Discipline likely in Philadelphia (PA) Fire Department sex scandal. A fiery sex scandal threatens to burn up multiple firefighters' careers, including some top brass, according to former Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers. Ayers told the Daily News today that the investigation into a young paramedic's claims of sexual misconduct began shortly before he retired in June. The paramedic filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, alleging misconduct against another paramedic. Soon after, rumors surfaced that she had sexual encounters with numerous firefighters, paramedics and supervisors in firehouses while on- and off-duty all around the city:

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20150128_Discipline_likely_in_Fire_Department_sex_scandal.html

It seems a darker story lurks beneath the salacious headlines about the sex scandal that's consuming the Philadelphia (PA) Fire Department. The woman paramedic at the center of the controversy - which threatens to tarnish the careers of at least a dozen firefighters, paramedics and top brass - is a mentally troubled young woman who was preyed upon by those who should have protected her, according to numerous sources who asked not to be named because of an ongoing investigation. "It was widely known within the department that she had attempted to take her life," one source familiar with the case told the *Daily News* yesterday, "yet they continued to take advantage of her." The Inspector General's Office last week submitted a final report on the case to city officials, recommending the dismissal or discipline of numerous Fire Department employees who had sexual encounters with the paramedic - sometimes on-duty - in firehouses and vehicles around the city. Several of the men targeted have retired rather than face discipline, sources said:

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/20150130_Was_paramedic_in_scandal_the_perfect_prey_.html

Must see video: Captain chews out man walking on river's thin ice:

<http://www.statter911.com/2015/01/31/must-see-video-captain-chews-man-walking-rivers-thin-ice/>

An Albuquerque (NM) firefighter in the midst of sexual harassment lawsuit against the city said she found a camera pointed at her bunk at her fire station Wednesday. Adele Parker, who also goes by Adele Ortega, said the camera added to a long list of sexual jokes and harassment against her in her 13 years as a firefighter. "It's not a nice place to work right now," she said in an interview Thursday. Parker's lawsuit filed against the city in 2013 accuses other firefighters of walking in and spying on Parker in the shower, hiding sex toys in her bunk, stealing her underwear, watching pornography at fire stations, grabbing her, making sexual jokes at her expense and exposing themselves. The complaint also states that Albuquerque Fire supervisors, including Chief David Downey, have made sexually suggestive comments about her. The trial for the lawsuit is scheduled to start in April in front of state District Judge Nan Nash. "Here we are two months from trial and AFD can't control its firefighters," said Michael Cadigan, Parker's attorney:

<http://www.abqjournal.com/540809/news/firefighter-says-camera-pointed-at-her-bunk.html>

Glendale (AZ) officials are recommending disciplinary action against some of the firefighters involved in a physical altercation during an Oct. 26 medical aid call, after a YouTube video surfaced showing them swearing at the patient. "Two of the firefighters – Sean Alford and Daniel Padilla – did engage in conduct that violated the human resources department and fire department policies and procedures and can be characterized as major deficiencies in job performance," the report said. The firefighters used several expletives during a struggle with 30-year-old James Murillo, in front of his then-home in the 8300 block of West Ocotillo Road, after they had strapped his legs and waist, but not his arms, to a gurney. The incident escalated after Murillo, whose parents had called 911 after his seizure, punched Alford in the mouth. Padilla and Alford told investigators they tried to subdue the patient with punches. Alford said he was "f----- pissed" after getting hit. Alford could also be heard on the video saying, "You're f----- dead meat, b----. I'm going to have you for everything you have." The report rejected Alford's claims of self-defense. It found that he described himself, more than once, taking retaliatory actions against the patient:

http://www.glendalestar.com/news/article_d3c3057a-b601-11e4-8164-0327438b1ec3.html

Bruce Jenner joke on a personal Facebook page from a top Charlotte FD official sparks controversy. This will be an interesting SMACSS (social media assisted career suicide

syndrome) story to follow from North Carolina's Charlotte Fire Department. A personal Facebook post from Deputy Chief Jeff Dulin that makes fun of Bruce Jenner was sent to a local TV reporter. Some have found the post offensive and the City of Charlotte says it is looking into the matter:

<http://www.statter911.com/2015/02/21/bruce-jenner-joke-personal-facebook-page-top-charlotte-fd-official-sparks-controversy/>

General Fire Service Related Items:

It's OK to be aggressive, just do it safely. Fire prevention can no longer be an afterthought. Fire departments must have a zero policy for failing to buckle up and for tobacco use. Those are just a few of the recommendations included in the final report from Tampa 2 released Tuesday morning by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation:

http://www.firehouse.com/article/12030839/tampa-2-report-unveiled?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS141224005

After six months of experience with a new and sometimes controversial paramedic staffing model, Long Beach (CA) Fire Chief Mike DuRee says the program is looking good. Long Beach has been considering this model — one paramedic and one emergency medical technician on advanced life support ambulances, with paramedics on all engines — since before DuRee became chief. It picked up steam in 2012 as a potential money-saving measure during austere budget times, and the \$1.2 million in savings became part of the budget in Fiscal 2014. The new model was put in place on July 10, 2014. In the last six months, the department has averaged having a paramedic on scene 50 seconds faster than before the change. The second paramedic arrives on serious medical cases around two minutes after the first:

http://www.gazettes.com/news/long-beach-paramedic-staffing-model-passes-six-month-test/article_ff1e4676-a73d-11e4-832a-53f16a3e7c6b.html

Good riddance- Racist, bully fire chief in KY finally resigns:

<http://www.statter911.com/2015/01/30/good-riddance-racist-bully-fire-chief-ky-finally-resigns/>

He's gone from saving lives to serving time. A Portland (OR) fire captain is behind bars after pleading guilty to his third DUII arrest. Capt. Robert Hutchens was allegedly drunk behind the wheel last March when he crossed the center line on Highway 26 near the coast. He hit another car nearly head-on. "The other car came across the highway, and we rolled and rolled and rolled. We rolled several times," the 911 recordings say. "The windows are all broken out, and the car is a wreck." The couple on those 911 tapes say the emotional trauma has lasted much longer than any of their injuries. They did not know the other driver was a firefighter. "He definitely knows the risks and fatality numbers that come with driving under the influence of intoxicants, and this is something that should not happen," Clatsop County Deputy District Attorney David Goldthorp said. But it has happened three times. Hutchens' first charge came in 2006, when McMinnville Police arrested him for driving drunk. Then, in 2008, he was arrested again for DUII, reckless endangering and reckless driving. His latest charges, stemming from the crash in 2014, have now landed him 15 days in jail and 60 under electronic monitoring. Hutchens will also lose his license for a year and a half. "He'll serve those 15 days minimum behind bars, and hopefully that sends the message to him that this is just not appropriate behavior, especially for someone like him," Goldthorp said:

<http://www.kptv.com/story/28007675/portland-fire-captain-sentenced-to-jail-time-for-third-duii-arrest?autostart=true>

A Brooklyn (FDNY) firefighter was given the boot for the “malicious actions” of wearing his thoughts on his sleeve, sources told the Daily News on Thursday. The smoke-eater, Thomas Buttaro — who had been on the job since 1998 — wore offensive shirts bearing “Merit Matters” logos in his Crown Heights firehouse more than 50 times over a 10-month period in 2012, the sources said. Some of the shirts Buttaro, 44, wore while on the job at Ladder Co. 123 included slogans like “MADD — Minorities Against Dumbing Down,” which blamed court-ordered outreach to add minorities to the FDNY ranks for weakening the department, the sources said. “He was creating a hostile work environment in the firehouse,” the source said. “It was so disruptive, it was causing problems.” A long-running legal battle over minority recruits and supposedly biased FDNY entrance exams was settled last year when Mayor de Blasio agreed to have the city pay out more than \$100 million to 1,500 minority firefighter applicants. A 2011 federal court ruling found the FDNY — and then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg — intentionally discriminated against minority applicants, but it was tossed prior to the settlement:

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/brooklyn/brooklyn-firefighter-fired-hostile-shirts-article-1.2113919>

Ohio probationary Firefighter resigns after writing Facebook comment saying murdered NYPD cops ‘go n to hell’:

<http://www.statter911.com/2015/01/03/oh-probie-resigns-writing-facebook-comment-saying-murdered-nypd-cops-go-n-hell/>

Portland's (OR) fire chief has issued a letter of reprimand to Assistant Fire Marshal Doug Jones for tipping off the manager of a downtown swinger's club that no fire inspectors would be working the night of an unpermitted anniversary party there. "It was stupid, and I think he owned up as much," said Commissioner Dan Saltzman, who oversees the Portland Fire Bureau. The club held the party June 28, and to Jones' surprise, another fire inspector showed up at the club. The other inspector found the club had no permit to use the second and third floors, which had no visible exit signs. About 140 people were in the club.

http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2015/02/portland_assistant_fire_marsha.html#incart_river

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

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

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

Bob Buell Fire Technology Coordinator – Chabot College (510) 786-7565 - cellular phone bbuell@chabotcollege.edu	Steve Prziborowski Fire Technology Instructor - Chabot College Editor / Publisher - Chabot College Fire & EMS News (408) 205-9006 - cellular phone sprziborowski@aol.com
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Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:

www.chabotfire.com

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