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 2014 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 Fall 2014 semester at Chabot College has begun!!! For complete registration information, go to www.chabotcollege.edu

CLASSES AVAILABLE - FALL SEMESTER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FT 91A (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course)</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Class meets on the following dates:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- December 6 through 21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 91B (Haz Mat 1st Responder-Operations)</td>
<td>Tue (pm) Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Class meets on the following dates:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- November 18, 20, 22 and 23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS)</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Class only meets the following dates:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- November 11, 13, 15 and 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 91D (Firefighter Survival)</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Class only meets the following dates:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- November 2 through 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS 4 (EMT Refresher)</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Class only meets the following dates:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- December 2 through 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 2014 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:

The Alameda County (CA) Fire Department is accepting applications for Firefighter until September 1, 2014. Here is the information obtained from their website:
http://www.jobaps.com/Alameda/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=14&R2=8137&R3=01

Firefighter Recruit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE OPENED</th>
<th>7/28/2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FILING DEADLINE</td>
<td>9/1/2014 5:00:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALARY</td>
<td>$30.31/hour; $59,112.00/year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT (ACFD) provides all-risk emergency services to the unincorporated areas of Alameda County (excluding Fairview), the cities of San Leandro, Dublin, Newark, Union City and Emeryville, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. With 4 Battalions, 30 Fire Stations, 26 Engine Companies, 7 Ladder Truck Companies and 1 Heavy Rescue serving a population of 394,000, the ACFD serves densely populated urban areas, waterways, industrialized centers, extensive urban interface, agricultural and wildland regions. Over 450 personnel and 100 Reserve Firefighters provide a wide variety of services to an ever expanding, dynamic and diverse community of roughly 508 square miles. These services include:

- Advanced Life Support Rescue
- Fire Suppression
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Urban Search & Rescue
- Water Rescue
- Community Outreach & Education
- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Prevention and Code Compliance
- Regional Dispatch

ACFD is also responsible for the administration and operation of the Alameda County Regional Emergency Communications Center (ACRECC). The dispatch center provides dispatch and communication center services for the ACFD, the Alameda County Emergency Medical Services Agency, Camp Parks RFTA, and the cities of Alameda, Fremont, Livermore and Pleasanton.

ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT’S MISSION: To provide the highest level of service to our communities by valuing our members, promoting positive leadership, and dedicating ourselves to excellence. For more information about the Alameda County Fire Department, please visit their website at www.acgov.org/fire.

The Last Day for Filing (LDF) is: Monday, September 1, 2014, 5:00 p.m.

NOTE:
- Only the application and supplemental questionnaire are required by the last day for filing. Additional documentation WILL NOT be accepted with your initial application.

August 24, 2014 www.chabotfire.com 2
- Only those candidates who pass the written test will be required to submit verification of their possession of the required certification and licensure. Submission instructions/invitation will follow after the written test has been administered.

**ON-LINE APPLICATION and SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE ONLY**

To apply visit - [www.jobaps.com\alameda](http://www.jobaps.com/alameda)

**THIS IS A NEW ASSEMBLED EXAMINATION:** The eligible list resulting from this examination will cancel any existing list and may last approximately one year, but can be extended.

**APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE:** A properly completed Supplemental Questionnaire must be submitted with each application. Applications and Supplemental Questionnaires must be in the possession of the Human Resources Services Department by 5:00 p.m. on the Last Day for Filing. Failure to submit the Supplemental Questionnaire will result in disqualification. Applications will only be accepted on-line.

**DESCRIPTION**

Alameda County Fire Department's Firefighter Recruit is the entry-level fire suppression, prevention and emergency response position for Alameda County. This classification exists solely for those who are completing their initial Fire Department Training in the Alameda County Fire Department Training Academy.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES:**

The Firefighter Recruit classification is characterized by assignment to the Recruit Fire Academy and subsequent training assignments prior to appointment to a line position. Under close supervision during this Academy, the Recruit must gain understanding of lifesaving and firefighting methods through intensive academic instruction and specialized training. This class is distinguished from the classification of Firefighter in that incumbents are in training to effectively function in the position of Firefighter upon promotion. Upon successful completion of the training requirements, it is expected that incumbents promote to the class of Firefighter. The Alameda County Fire Department Recruit Academy is scheduled to begin on February 1, 2015.

**EXAMPLES OF DUTIES**

**NOTE:** The following are the duties performed by employees in this classification. However, employees may perform other related duties at an equivalent level. Each individual in the classification does not necessarily perform all duties listed.

- Attends the assigned Alameda County Fire Recruit Training Program by participating in classroom training and manipulative exercises and drills;
- Undergoes classroom training and manipulative exercises and drills to develop an awareness of the functions and responsibilities of Firefighter and how they relate to firefighting operations;
- Studies and completes homework assignments;
- Successfully completes periodic quizzes and examinations;
- Satisfactorily completes other training as assigned by the Fire Department prior to being promoted to a line Firefighter, such as maintaining the fire station and equipment and participating in drills and training classes to assure proper state of emergency readiness.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

**EXPERIENCE:**

Graduation from high school or possession of an acceptable equivalency certificate, such as the
General Educational Development Certificate (State of California)
- AND
Successful completion of a California State Fire Marshal approved Firefighter I course by last day for filing.
- OR
A current member, with twenty-four (24) months of experience, in the Alameda County Fire Department Reserve program.

LICENSE:
- Valid California Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-1 or EMT-FS) Certificate or paramedic license (EMT-P); National registry is acceptable; Required certification or licensure must be valid as of the last day for filing of the application, 9/1/2014.
- Possession of a valid California State Motor Vehicle Operator’s License
- Possession of a Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certificate issued within the last twelve months from the last day of filing. (Issued between 9/1/2013 and 9/1/2014). (CFFJAC Website Link - > http://www.cffjac.org/go/jac/cpat/)

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:
- Minimum, 18 years of age.
- Able to successfully pass a thorough background investigation, medical examination (NFPA 1582) and psychological examination.
- Must be eligible to obtain a Department of Energy security clearance.
- Those hired as firefighter-paramedics must be able to successfully obtain Alameda County Paramedic accreditation (EMSA Policy 2000).

DESIRABLE EDUCATION AND SKILLS:
- AA/AS/BA/BS fire science or fire technology - Fire Science or technology certificate
- Bilingual: Cantonese, Farsi, Mandarin, Spanish, Russian, Tagalog, or Vietnamese
- Valid CA Class A or B driver’s license with firefighter endorsement

NOTE: The Civil Service Commission may modify the above Minimum Qualifications in the announcement of an examination.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
The ideal candidates will demonstrate the ability to:

- Comprehend, remember, interpret and apply written materials which may be of a complex and technical nature.
- Follow oral and written instructions.
- Communicate clearly both orally and in writing.
- Work and deal effectively and cooperatively with the public and to work as a member of an organized team.
- Use good judgment in emergency or critical situations.
- Remain calm and work effectively in stressful situations.
- Adapt to changes in work assignments and duties.
- Perform physical tasks that require coordination, strength, dexterity and stamina.
• Work at various heights, confined areas and low visibility conditions.
• Climb ladders and fences.
• Learn the use of specialized tools and equipment.

EXAMINATION COMPONENTS

The examination will consist of the following steps:

1. A review of the applicant's application and supplemental questionnaire to determine qualification for participation in the next step in the examination process;
2. A written test, weighted as pass/fail.
3. Those candidates who pass the written test will be required to submit verification of their possession of the required certification and licensure. Those who submit and possess valid, current certification and licensure will be invited to participate in the last step of the examination process;
4. An oral panel interview which will be weighted as 100% of the candidate's final examination score. The oral interview may contain situational exercises.

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE ANNOUNCED EXAMINATION STEPS.

Alameda County utilizes a Civil Service Selection System founded on merit. Such a system is competitive and based on broad recruitment efforts and equal opportunity for qualified applicants to test in an examination process designed to determine the qualifications, fitness and ability of competitors to perform duties of the vacant position. Many of our recruitments are targeted and specific to the needs of a current vacant position, in which case, the eligible list may be exclusively used for that current vacant position. Other recruitments may be more broadly used for both current and future vacancies, or for other alternate jobs with comparable scopes of work. To learn more about our recruitment and selection process, please visit the “What You Need to Know” section of our website, www.acgov.org/hrs

SELECTION PLAN

Applicants will be informed via e-mail with reasonable notice in advance of any examination process which will require their attendance. The following dates are tentative and subject to change based on the needs of the Agency:

TENTATIVE SELECTION PLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline for Filing:</th>
<th>Monday, September 1, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review of Minimum Qualifications:</td>
<td>September 5, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Test:</td>
<td>Week of September 15, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Service Oral Panel Interviews:</td>
<td>Week of November 3, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALCO Fire Chief's Interviews:</td>
<td>Week of December 1, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALCO Fire Recruit Academy Begins:</td>
<td>February 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE ANNOUNCED RECRUITMENT & SELECTION PLAN"

Alameda County and the Human Resource Services Department will make reasonable efforts in the examination and/or selection process to accommodate qualified individuals with disabilities and/or medical conditions in accordance/compliance with the State Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Alameda County’s
Reasonable Accommodation Policy and applicable statues. To request an accommodation due to a disability/medical condition during this or other phases of the examination/selection process, please contact the assigned Human Resources Representative listed on the job announcement before the last date of filing. Alameda County requires applicants to provide supporting documentation to substantiate a request for reasonable accommodation. In order to qualify for a reasonable accommodation, applicants must have a disability/medical condition pursuant to the ADA, FEHA and applicable statues. For more information regarding our Reasonable Accommodation procedures, please visit our website, www.acgov.org/hrs

**BENEFITS**

*** For benefit information, please contact the Alameda County Fire Department Administration - (925) 833-3473.

**CONCLUSION**

All notices related to County recruitments for which you have applied will be sent/delivered via email. Please add @acgov.org and alamedacountyHR@acgov.org as accepted addresses to any email blocking or spam filtering program you may use. If you do not do this, your email blocking or spam filtering program may block receipt of the notices regarding your application for recruitments. You are also strongly advised to regularly log into your County of Alameda online application account to check for notices that may have been sent to you. All email notices that will be sent to you will also be kept in your personal online application account. You will be able to view all of your notices in your online application account by clicking on the "My applications" button on the Current Job Openings page.

Please take the steps recommended above to insure you do not miss any notices about a recruitment for which you have applied. The County of Alameda is not responsible for notices that are not read, received or accessed by any applicant for a County recruitment.

NOTE: All notices are generated through an automated email notification system. Replies to the email box alamedacountyHR@acgov.org are routed to an unmonitored mailbox. All notices are generated through an automated email notification system. Replies to the email box are routed to an unmonitored mailbox. If you have questions please go to our website at www.acgov.org/hrs. You may also contact the Human Resources Analyst listed on the job announcement for the recruitment for which you have applied.

---

**LEADERSHIP CHANGE AT FIREHOUSE MAGAZINE:**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**AUGUST 1, 2014**
Timothy E. Sendelbach Named Firehouse® Editor-in-Chief

Cygnus Business Media is proud to announce the appointment of Timothy E. Sendelbach as the Editor-in-Chief of Firehouse. In this newly expanded role, Tim will be responsible for the content and editorial direction of Firehouse Magazine, Firehouse.com, Firehouse Expo, Firehouse World, and related products.

Tim is a 29-year student and educator of the fire and emergency services, having previously served as Editor-in-Chief for FireRescue Magazine and Firefighternation.com.

Tim is a past president of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) and has served as an Assistant Fire Chief with the North Las Vegas (NV) Fire Department, as the Chief of Training for Savannah (GA) Fire & Emergency Services, and as Assistant Fire Chief for Missouri City (TX) Fire & Rescue Services. Tim has earned a master's degree in Leadership from Bellevue University, bachelor's degrees in Fire Administration and Arson, and an associate's degree in Emergency Medical Care from Eastern Kentucky University.

"We are extremely excited that Tim is joining the Firehouse team," said Greg Toritto, Firehouse Group Publisher. "His experience as a firefighter and chief officer, along with his accomplishments as an editor and educator, place Tim in a unique position to develop content initiatives and conference programming that best meet the needs of today's ever-changing and evolving fire service."

As a nationally recognized leader in the fire service, Tim joins longtime editor-in-chief Harvey Eisner, who will serve as Editor Emeritus, along with the rest of the Firehouse editorial staff, to support a unified editorial theme that continues to lead and educate the fire service via Firehouse’s multiple media platforms.

"I've known and admired Tim for nearly 10 years as a fire-service leader at the forefront of firefighter safety," said Ed Nichols, VP, Events. "His skills and experience are exactly what we need to lead our brand and properties as we move forward. The opportunity for Tim to lead an accomplished team that includes Harvey Eisner, an icon for over 40 years with Firehouse, as well as Firehouse veterans Jeff Barrington and Pete Matthews, provides us with experience and leadership unrivaled by anyone serving the fire service today." "I'm honored to join the Firehouse team and I look forward to the opportunity of working together to help train and educate our nation's firefighters while continuing to strengthen and improve the Firehouse brand," added Tim Sendelbach. Tim will join the Firehouse team on August 1st to begin building on the great work that Firehouse has done to educate and inform the fire service and lead the way in the fire-service media market.

About Firehouse

Firehouse is the leading fire and emergency services brand, reaching more than 800,000 unique visitors and subscribers monthly, and thousands of attendees annually, via its live events and media portfolio. The Firehouse brand encompasses Firehouse Magazine, the Firehouse Tablet...
Edition, Firehouse.com, Firehouse Expo, Firehouse World, Firehouse Station Design Conference and Awards, and a host of print and digital products targeting fire and emergency services personnel. Utilizing its multiple platforms and unparalleled reach, Firehouse sets itself apart from the competition by fostering a culture that encourages innovation and the use of the latest digital and database technologies to best serve its audience and companies serving the marketplace.

Contact: Greg Toritto, Firehouse Group Publisher
Email: greg@firehouse.com
Phone: 800-547-7377 x2010

---

**VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIP:**

**PLACER HILLS FIRE DISTRICT**

(Serving the communities of Applegate, Meadow Vista and Weimar)

Is Accepting Applications for a

**VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIP**

FOR

REGIONAL FIRE ACADEMY GRADUATES

Placer Hills Fire District is accepting applications for a limited term Volunteer Internship for Regional Fire Academy Graduates. This program will provide the required time for State Firefighter I Certificate. This is an unpaid position, limited to a minimum of six (6) months and no longer than twelve (12) months. A minimum of 1400 hours and a completed task book will be required to complete the internship and receive the Chief's signature for State Fire Marshal, Firefighter 1 Certificate. Participants will not have any employment or contractual rights and will not receive any compensation from the District. The Volunteer Intern is an “at will” position with the District and Interns may be dismissed at the discretion of the District at any time.

**Duties:**

The general duties of the Volunteer Intern Program may include any and all duties consistent with the operations of the Fire District.

**Requirements:**

Certificate of completion from a Regional Fire Academy, Valid CPAT within last 12 months, EMT-B, HAZ MAT FRO, S130 & S190 or CAL FIRE 67hr certificates

**Interns to provide:**

District uniform pants

NFPA 1977 compliant Wild land boots

**Applications:**

Candidates can apply in person at PHFD Station 84 16999 Placer Hills Rd. Meadow Vista, CA 95722 or mailing address: PO Box 350, Meadow Vista CA 95722

Applications and resumes will be reviewed, and the top candidates will be invited to an interview. Candidates that are successful in the interview process will be placed on an eligibility list.

**Questions:**

For the application and any questions contact District Manager Gillian Lofrano @ (530) 878-0405 or e-mail glofrano@placerhillsfire.org
On Sunday September 14, 2014, Fire Alumni will be hosting a one-day Firefighter preparation seminar at Las Positas College in Livermore – come join us for a full-day of valuable career development information!

Fire Alumni has joined forces with Deputy Fire Chief, Steve Prziborowski and the Las Positas College Fire Technology Program to present “The 25 Reasons To Hire YOU Live Event”. This practical and revealing event will focus on many of the most significant aspects of the hiring process and provide you with lasting guidance and direction as you pursue your goal to become a professional firefighter. We will explore Chief Prziboroski’s proven method of teaching the “25 Reasons We Should Hire You as a Firefighter”, discuss how to create a winning resume, help you determine what your WHY is and teach you how to effectively research each fire department you will be testing for.

**Event Topics:**

- What is Your Why? – Battalion Chief Brian Helmick
- 25 Reasons to Hire YOU as a Firefighter – Chief Steve Prziborowski
- Panel Session with the Chiefs
- The Firefighter Candidate Playbook – Ron Johansen-Fire Educator
- Resumes – Battalion Chief Bob Atlas Roundtable Discussion

**September 14, 2014**

Mertes Center for the Arts - Las Positas College
3000 Campus Hill Drive, Room 801
Livermore, Ca. 94551-7623

For more information or to register, go to [www.firealumni.com](http://www.firealumni.com)
Our friends at FireNuggets.com will be sponsoring the following fire service career and professional development seminars in the near future....

**Fire Behavior, Strategy & Tactics:**

**Attack from the Burned Side (3hrs) - Lt. Sean Gray**

There are many different tactics for attacking structure fires. For years the fire service has been preaching to Attack from the Unburned Side. This isn’t always the best tactic. The new age fire ground is evolving faster than ever and with the use of science to enhance the development of our procedures, this high-energy class will show different strategy and tactics that can be used to extinguish fires that originate on the exterior and extend to elevated floors or the attic.

Using case studies paired with practical experience participants will examine this particular fallacy along with others that have led to firefighters being injured and killed across the country. This class goes against the grain of traditional firefighting and presents an innovative approach at fighting the fires that we face today.

**Modern Fire Behavior, Strategies & Tactics (3hrs) - Chief Peter Van Dorpe**

Chief Van Dorpe presents a smooth and fact-filled presentation that is packed with great “nuggets” for anyone interested in fire ground strategy, tactics and fire behavior. Chief Van Dorpe brings decades of experience in a busy urban department along with his involvement in the NIST/UL research.

Lightweight energy efficient construction; modern fuels, firefighter encapsulation and manpower reductions have combined to make today's residential firefight a dramatically new challenge for even the most experienced firefighter. This workshop brings together cutting edge research and best practices from around the country to help develop tactics fighting fires involving modern fuels in either traditional or modern construction.

**Class Locations:**

- September 29, 2014 – Petaluma, CA
- September 30, 2014 – Campbell, CA
- October 1, 2014 – TBA
- October 2, 2014 – Rancho Cucamonga, CA
- October 3, 2014 – Vista, CA

For more details and to register, go to [www.firenuggets.com](http://www.firenuggets.com)
ONLINE FIRE TECHNOLOGY COURSES:

TAKE CFSTES FIRE OFFICER & FIRE TECH CLASSES ON THE INTERNET

Enrollment and Registration Underway, Registration Ends September 1st

The Full Fall Semester is 17 weeks that run from August 18 - December 3, 2014.

It also has two 8-week sessions: Session # 1 is 08/18-10/10 and Session # 2 is 10/13-12/10. FYI!!! Register Early, All Classes, Particularly the Fire Prevention Officer classes, Fill Fast.

Fire Technology Classes: These classes are completely on-line...............

Core Classes (Required)

- Fire Protection Organization
- Fire Prevention Technology
- Fire Protection Equipment & Systems
- Building Construction for Fire Protection
- Fire Behavior & Combustion
- Principles of Fire & Emergency Safety & Survival

Electives

- Apparatus & Equipment
- Fire Hydraulics
- Principles of Emergency Management
- EMT 1 (Basic) Refresher
- FRO Refresher

CFSTES Fire Officer Classes:

Except for Fire Prevention 1A & 1B, the CFSTES Fire Officer classes are offered in a Hybrid (On-Line\In-Class) fashion requiring students to attend an in-class session in Santa Maria, CA.

- Fire Command 1A: Command Principles For Company Officers
- Fire Command 1B: Incident Management For Company Officers Pre-Requisites
- Fire Command 1C: I-Zone Firefighting for Company Officers-Pre-Requisites
- Fire Management 1: Management\Supervision for Company Officers
- Fire Prevention 1B: Introduction To The California Fire Code, Part 2- Entirely On-line
- General Education classes are also offered on-line.

For information on how to enroll as a student and register for classes or if you want additional information on the Fire Technology Program, contact Dan Coffman at dcoffman@hancockcollege.edu

The Fire Education Company Inc.
1278 Glenneyre #190
Laguna Beach California 92651 United States
EMT PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES:

California Regional Fire Academy
Pre-Hospital Care Education Program
Upcoming EMT Classes Fall 2014

September 8- November 15, 2014
Monday & Wednesday 6pm-10pm, Saturday 8am-5pm
Location: California Regional Fire Academy
9320 Tech Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
Registration Fee: $1400

*********************************************************

October 7 - December 20, 2014
Tuesday & Thursday 6pm-10pm, Saturday 8am-5pm
Location: California Regional Fire Academy
9320 Tech Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
Registration Fee: $1400

Further Course Information and Online registration is available at
www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov
Contact Information - phone: (916) 475-1660

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The Riverside (CA) Fire Department will be accepting applications for Firefighter, October 7 through 10, 2014. More details are found on their website. You can visit their website now to start filling out your application and to find out more information:
http://www.riversideca.gov
FIREFIGHTER 1 ACADEMY OPPORTUNITY:

California Regional Fire Academy
Basic Firefighter One Academy

The Application Deadline for the next Fire Academy is Friday, October 3, 2014 at 5pm.

All applications received after October 3, 2014 will be considered for the Fall 2015 Fire Academy.

Visit www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov to download an application. (located on the “Apply” page)

Hardcopies are also available at the Business Office or may be mailed by request.

Academy 26 Start Date: January 5, 2015

FIREFIGHTER CAREER EXPOS:

The California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFFJAC), is a collaboration of two strong and influential forces, the CFFJAC is co-sponsored by the Office of the California State Fire Marshal, representing management, and the California Professional Firefighters, AFL-CIO, representing labor. This partnership of management and labor creates a balance that benefits California fire departments, firefighters and ultimately the communities in which they serve.

Make plans to attend the CFFJAC's 2014 Firefighter Career Expos in September of 2014!

- **Saturday, Sept. 6,** 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. @ FCTC Sacramento, 2560 River Plaza Dr. Sacramento, CA 95833
- **Saturday, Sept. 13,** 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. @ FCTC Orange, 626 N. Eckhoff St., #100 Orange, CA 92868
- **Saturday, Sept. 20,** 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. @ FCTC Livermore 526 Commerce Way Livermore, CA 94551

Sponsored by the CFFJAC's Commission to Recruit Women for the Fire Service, the Firefighter Career Expos are designed to welcome and encourage interested young men and women to find out if they “have what it takes” to enter this rewarding and proud profession.

Expo participants will have the opportunity to:
Meet one-on-one with fire department recruiters
Try their hand at the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT)
Learn what to expect on the written test
Find out about Veterans’ Benefits
Take an up-close look at apparatus displays
Enjoy free refreshments and barbeque

For more information, or to register, go to: http://www.cffjac.org/go/jac/news-and-events1/news-and-events/2014-firefighter-career-expos/

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 OFFICER CAREER RESOURCES:

National Fire Academy Announces New Managing Officer Program

The United States Fire Administration’s National Fire Academy (NFA) announces a new training program aimed at improving the professional skills of America’s fire and emergency medical services first responders. Called the Managing Officer (MO) program, the curriculum emphasizes leadership, safety, community risk reduction, training, and technology for those men and women who may be embarking on supervisory roles in their organization. The MO program differs from other NFA programs by providing new officers a defined nationally-recognized curriculum. Students will be able to complete the program in as little as two years, and will receive a NFA capstone certificate when they finish. NFA Superintendent Dr. Denis Onieal explained, “The MO program will fulfill the four universal elements of professional development: higher education, training and certification, continuing education and experience. This includes a combination of self-study, state and local training, and resident courses at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland.” The program curriculum and entrance requirements were established by the NFA Board of Visitors. The four resident courses include Contemporary Training Concepts for Fire and EMS, Applications of Community Risk Reduction, Transitional Safety Leadership and Analytical Tools for Decision-Making. APPLY NOW! For additional information, refer to the Managing Officer website at: http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/managing_officer_program/index.shtm

FIRE NUGGETS:
The **August / September 2014** issue is now available – best of all it is FREE! All you need to do is go to their website at [www.firenuggets.com](http://www.firenuggets.com) and you’ll find how you can access the latest issue as well as future and past issues. Lots of great fire service information for personnel of all ranks!

Some of the highlights of the August / September 2014 issue include:

- Hose Dreams, Fire Hose’s Dirty Secrets by Dennis J. LeGear
- The Size-Up Corner by Joe Pronesti
- Hey, The Fire Went Out And Nobody Got Hurt by Eric Guida
- High-Rise Firefighting: Proper Nozzle Selection by David McGrail
- The Bigger Picture by Anthony Avillo
- The Career Corner by Steve Prziborowski
- Leadership Musings by Paul Stein

**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](http://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:


Go to www.firehouseworld.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.

WANT TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES?:

If you have some level of fire service related expertise you want to share with other fire service professionals, the following conferences are accepting call-for-papers for those presenters that are interested in presenting various topics:

Firehouse Expo – Baltimore, MD – July 14 through 18, 2015:

• Go to: www.firehouseexpo.com for more information

Fire Rescue International – Atlanta, GA – August 26 through 29, 2015:

• Go to www.iafc.org/frisubmissions for more information

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

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

Getting hired in the fire service is not an easy process. Many people have that desire to become a firefighter, 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 hiring process – as a candidate, and as a rater and proctor. This book will assist future firefighters specifically prepare for a career in the fire service. This book is not the one-size-fits-all book to becoming a firefighter. There is just not enough room to accomplish that. Instead, this book is meant to be your starting point to get you headed in the right direction as you begin the process of becoming a firefighter. In upcoming books, I will provide more specific direction on the hiring process to becoming a firefighter and with tips for success upon getting hired with your dream department. Nobody said it was going to be easy becoming a firefighter...if it was, everyone would be doing it!

- To order, go to [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)
- Available in soft cover paperback and e-book formats.
- Also available on Amazon and iTunes.

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 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 TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

What is a firefighters’ life worth?

First of all thank you for reading this information. I know you get a lot of emails but hopefully this one will be worth your time to read. When I ask the question “what would you do to save the life of another firefighter”? I usually get two answers. The first answer is, which firefighter? And after the laughing stops the serious answer comes out and that answer is whatever it takes. If that is a true statement let’s discuss “whatever it takes”.

There are several common denominators for fireground Line of Duty Deaths. They are 1) Lack of Command, 2) Underestimating Fire Behavior, 3) Communications.

Lack of Command: Command must start with a good size up. If we do not begin with a good size up we make inaccurate assumptions, when we base our decisions on inaccurate assumptions we take inappropriate actions. When we take inappropriate actions we reduce firefighter safety and increase the opportunity that our crew must do “whatever it takes”.

Underestimating Fire Behavior: Predicting fire behavior is just plain science. Fire Behavior reacts because of fire physics it is predictable and it does not change based on day of the week or who shows up to the fire. If we use our experience and knowledge of fire behavior and conditions we can predict flow path and intensity of the fire. Using a quote from Gordon Graham “If it is predictable it is preventable”. So we can use our knowledge, skills, and abilities to predict and prevent surprises from fire behavior. If we never underestimate fire behavior we will not have the need of firefighters doing “whatever it takes”.

Communications: Finally the third common denominator communications. These can range from the mechanical problems of communications, which is a never-ending battle, which is an expensive fix. The other side of the communication issue is an easier fix. The correction of this issue is solid clear text communication between the sender and receiver. We believe we communicate in a clear concise manner, but it is not always received that way. As firefighters we can improve this by self-assessment of what and how we say things. Good communications will reduce the need to do “whatever it takes”.

So hear comes the sale pitch from a non-salesman. I am a Fire Chief who has come up with a program that we think will minimize the do “whatever it takes” need by practicing and evaluating the perishable skills of Fire Command, Reading and Predicting smoke and fire behavior and Effective Communications.
The program has over 500 Emergency Simulations (http://s3m.io/1qhsrVM) that create opportunities for several groups, Existing Officers to maintain their skills by doing sets and reps of fire situations. Aspiring Officers to develop and fine-tune their skills to become an effective Fire Ground Commander. Firefighters whom may be first on scene of an emergency must set the stage for a successful event. To increase firefighter survivability everyone must be able to do a good size up and report on conditions, estimate and predict fire behavior and effectively communicate.

This sounds expensive Right? Well here is the good news it is affordable.

The Organization Price (Multiple Users single IP address) is $300 per year
The Individual Price (Single User any device) is $20 per Mo.

As an added bonus: If you do not find the building you want to see in our library all you need to do is submit photographs of your buildings and we will build them for you at no charge. The only thing we ask is that we can add them to our library for others to use.

Want a sneak preview? Click on this link - http://s3m.io/1qhsrVM

If you want to subscribe go to: https://scottgoodwinassociates.com/emergency-simulation-subscription/

Please forward this email to anyone who could benefit from this knowledge and also email me your training division/ Training Officer’s contact information and I will reach out to them.

Thank you and Be Safe out there!
Scott

---

**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE:</th>
<th>DATES:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2014:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fire Command 2E</td>
<td>September 15 – 19, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOTE:</strong> Fire Command 2E will be held at the Home Church Classroom, 1799 South Winchester Blvd., Campbell, CA 95008.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Regional Instructor Orientation (RIO)</td>
<td>September 17, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOTE:</strong> RIO will be held at the Home Church Classroom, 1799 South Winchester Blvd., Campbell, CA 95008.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

August 24, 2014 www.chabotfire.com
• **Ethical Leadership in the Classroom** September 18, 2014

**NOTE:** *Ethical Leadership will be held at the Saratoga Fire Station, 14380 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070.*

• **Fire Management 2A** November 3 – 7, 2014

**NOTE:** *Fire Management 2A will be held at the Saratoga Fire Station, 14380 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070.*

• **S-290 (Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior)** December 1 – 5, 2014

• **S-270 (Basic Air Operations)** December 4 – 5, 2014

**NOTE:** *S-270 will be held at the Saratoga Fire Station, 14380 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070.*

### 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Location:</th>
<th>McCormack Training Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unless noted otherwise</td>
<td>485 West Sunnyoaks Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Behind the Sunnyoaks Fire Station, please park along the fence towards the training tower.</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course:</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S-231 (Engine Boss)</td>
<td>January 8 – 9, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2B</td>
<td>January 12 – 16, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1A</td>
<td>January 26 – 30, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-244 (Field Observer)</td>
<td>February 2 – 4, 2015 <em>(0900 start)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-245 (Display Processor)</td>
<td>February 5, 2015 <em>(0900 start)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1B</td>
<td>February 9 – 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1C</td>
<td>February 23 – 27, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2C</td>
<td>March 9 – 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 1A</td>
<td>March 23 – 27, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-336 (Tactical Decision Making in Wildland Fire)</td>
<td>March 30 – April 2, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 1B</td>
<td>April 13 – 17, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command 1C</td>
<td>April 27 – May 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 2A</td>
<td>May 4 – 8, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2D</td>
<td>May 11 – 15, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 2B</td>
<td>June 1 – 5, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-234 (Ignition Operations)</td>
<td>June 23 – 26, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2E</td>
<td>July 13 – 17, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Location:** McCormack Training Center

**McCormack Training Center**

485 West Sunnyoaks Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008

*Behind the Sunnyoaks 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.

**Prerequisites:**

See below.
# CLASS PREREQUISITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>PREREQUISITES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1A</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1B</td>
<td>Training Instructor 1A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1C</td>
<td>Training Instructor 1A and 1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Command 1C</td>
<td>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)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Command 2E</td>
<td>I-300; Fire Command 1C and 2A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 1A</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 1B</td>
<td>Fire Investigation 1A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 2A</td>
<td>Fire Investigation 1A and 1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 2B</td>
<td>Fire Investigation 1A, 1B and 2A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-230</td>
<td>S-290 and Qualified as a CICCS Firefighter Type I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-231</td>
<td>S-230 and Qualified as a CICCS Firefighter Type 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-234</td>
<td>S-290 and at the minimum an Engine Boss, Single Resource (ENGB) initiated task book.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-244</td>
<td>Successful completion of the pre-course work; S-290; ability to use a GPS receiver; NWCG Firefighter Type 2 (or CSFM Firefighter 1).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-245</td>
<td>Successful completion of the pre-course work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-270</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-290</td>
<td>S-190 or CSFM Firefighter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-336</td>
<td>Qualified as a Single Resource Boss or Initial Attack Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethical Leadership in the Classroom</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Instructor Orientation</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2A</td>
<td>Fire Management 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2B</td>
<td>Fire Management 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2C</td>
<td>Fire Management 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2D</td>
<td>Fire Management 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2E</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COURSE</td>
<td>DATES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Command 2E</td>
<td>September 15 – 19, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Instructor Orientation</td>
<td>September 17, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethical Leadership in the Classroom</td>
<td>September 18, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2A</td>
<td>November 3 - 7, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-290</td>
<td>December 1 – 5, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-290</td>
<td>December 4 – 5, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-230</td>
<td>January 5 – 7, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-231</td>
<td>January 8 – 9, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2B</td>
<td>January 12 – 16, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1A</td>
<td>January 26 – 30, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-244 &amp; S-245</td>
<td>February 2 – 5, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1B</td>
<td>February 9 - 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Instructor 1C</td>
<td>February 23 – 27, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2C</td>
<td>March 9 - 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 1A</td>
<td>March 23 - 27, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-336</td>
<td>March 30 – April 2, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 1B</td>
<td>April 13 - 17, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command 1C</td>
<td>April 27 – May 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 2A</td>
<td>May 4 - 8, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2D</td>
<td>May 11 - 15, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigation 2B</td>
<td>June 1 - 5, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-234</td>
<td>June 23 – 27, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Management 2E</td>
<td>July 13 - 17, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 - Attention: Steve Prziborowski
  14700 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos, CA 95032-1818

- **Cancellation Policy:**

August 24, 2014  www.chabotfire.com
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.

**FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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

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

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

**CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:**

The Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) is a must have for any person planning on becoming a firefighter. More and more departments are requiring a candidate to possess a CPAT completion card (no older than one year) just to apply for their department. If you do not possess a current CPAT, you do not pass go, you do not collect two hundred dollars, and you miss out on the opportunity to compete for a firefighter position at many departments. The CPAT does not guarantee that you will be a successful firefighter. Successfully passing the CPAT means that you should be able to enter a firefighter academy at a reasonable level of fitness appropriate to the job. I encourage you to learn more about the CPAT, and also look into having this certificate on your resume. Trust me, this may be an eye-opener for some – many of you will not pass it the first time. Make sure you take advantage of the orientation and practice sessions and learn where your weak spots are so you can focus on those areas. To see the available dates to take the CPAT at any of the below three locations, visit their website at [www.cpatonline.org](http://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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Southern California:</th>
<th>Northern California</th>
<th>Sacramento Area:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>626 N. Eckhoff Street</td>
<td>526 Commerce Way</td>
<td>1329 N. Market Blvd., #100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange, CA 92868</td>
<td>Livermore, CA 94551</td>
<td>Sacramento, CA 95834</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**AND:**

Hey,
2 Firefighters were hospitalized this morning after the fire apparatus they were responding in overturned in Sullivan County, New York. The crash happened when the Hurleyville FD was called for mutual aid by Loch Sheldrake FD, for the working structure fire. The rig overturned while responding on Divine Corners Road in the town of Loch Sheldrake. The 2 Firefighters were taken to the hospital, and listed in stable condition. We have posted a photo of the rig and additional information on our home page. Reminder: Fathers Day is 2 weeks from Sunday, so if you haven't handled THAT detail yet, consider your support to the Chief Ray Downey Scholarship as well as the NFFF through the purchase of the book, PASS IT ON. 100% of the royalties go 50/50 to both organizations.

**Details about the book HERE:**

**ORDER THE BOOK HERE:**
http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/bp0190.shtml
http://www.amazon.com/Pass-It-On-What-Know/dp/1593703198
http://www.pennwellbooks.com/paitonwhwekn.html

Please consider PASS IT ON as a great Fathers Day gift-we are confident you and the recipient of your gift will not be disappointed!
Take Care. Be Careful Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 5/30/14-1217 Hours

**AND:**

**BALTIMORE COUNTY & NAVAL DISTRICT WASHINGTON DC FIREFIGHTER DEATHS**
We regret to pass on to you that a Navy veteran and long-time fire official passed away early this morning, while on duty at the Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling (JBAB)-based Naval District Washington (NDW) Fire and Emergency Services Central Battalion. NDW Fire and Emergency Services Batt. Chief John McDonald, 54, began his firefighting career in 1974, while still a teenager, as a volunteer with the Stafford Volunteer Fire Department in Stafford, Va. In Stafford, McDonald attended the fire academy for basic training as a firefighter, then in the years that followed, he took many advanced training courses and became certified in a variety of fire, rescue, leadership and management skills. McDonald continued his volunteer service until his death. He was a life member of the Stafford Volunteer Fire Department and served in many roles, including as its Fire Chief. He also served as an Operations Fire Chief, the Training Division Chief and a member of a Safety Review Board, among other roles as a volunteer for the Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department. A memorial service with full fire department honors is currently being planned, but additional details are not yet available.

**BALTIMORE COUNTY (MD) FF LODD**
August 24, 2014  www.chabotfire.com
A Baltimore County firefighter died in the line of duty today. Robert Fogel III, 58, collapsed today during a training exercise in Sparrows Point and was taken to Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, where he died of cardiac arrest. Fogel was a driver at the Pikesville Fire Station. He is a 27-year veteran of the Fire Department and is survived by his wife and two children. Our condolences to all those affected by these losses.


BillyG
The Secret List 5-30-14-1826 hours

AND:

Hey,
Earlier today, an Irondale (Alabama) Firefighter suffered a cardiac arrest while performing overhaul after a structure fire. He was immediately treated by other Firefighters on the scene and was transported to Trinity Medical Center in Birmingham, where he is being treated in the CCU. He is currently undergoing hypothermic therapy and the extent of his condition will not be known until that process is completed. Additional details as they become available. KTIYP's.

NY STATE TROOPER STRUCK DOWN ON INTERSTATE-WAS A FIREFIGHTER
NY State Trooper Christopher Skinner was killed in the Line of Duty on Thursday. A truck driver intentionally hit him while Skinner was making a routine traffic stop on I-81 near the Pennsylvania line. Trooper Skinner was a member of the Shortsville Fire Department just prior to becoming a trooper. The driver, Almond Upton, said he did it on purpose - when he swerved his truck and hit Skinner, killing him instantly. Officers claim Upton went on to say more confusing comments like, "I was two miles away from the Connecticut border and all of a sudden I'm in Binghamton, New York, being beamed to New York." Police dogs tracked Upton in a wooded area nearby where he was found naked. Our condolences to all affected by the loss of Trooper Skinner. (Scroll down for the Fire Bikers Story)

==BEVERLY HILLS SUPPER CLUB FIRE:
A memorial was held this morning for the 165 people who died in the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire on May 28, 1977 just outside of Cincinnati in Northern Kentucky. More than 200 other people were hurt in the fire, including five Firefighters.
MORE ON THIS FIRE:
TV From the Day After: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fe6dPEvjYHY
http://retro.cincinnati.com/Topics/Gallery/Beverly-Hills-Supper-Club-fire (photos)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsCTBHn2Klc (Video documentary)
http://www.enquirer.com/beverlyhills/index2.html (articles)
http://ffedic.ning.com/group/whatactuallycausedthebeverlyhillssupperclubfire (What Happened?)
http://community.fireengineering.com/video/video/show?id=1219672%3AVideo%3A177532 (FE)
http://www.beverlyhillssupperclubfire.com/ (book info)

==WASHINGTON DC CHERRY ROAD FIRE
On May 30, 1999 box alarm 6178 was transmitted for "The House" at 3146 Cherry Road, NE in the District of Columbia. The alarm assignment consisted of Engine Companies 26, 17, 10 and 12, Truck Companies 15 and 4, Rescue Squad No. 1 and Chief 1. At the height of this incident, two firemen ("Privates") received substantial burns. The two men, Anthony "Sauce" Phillips (of Engine Co. No. 10) and Louis Matthews (of Engine Co. No. 26) unfortunately succumb to their injuries. They were the 97th and 98th recorded, line of duty death within the DC Fire Department. So much has been learned
by the fire service following this fire—their sacrifice was not in vain. Keep the firefighters of the DCFD and the Matthews/Phillips family in your thoughts and prayers.

HERE is a compilation of reports, studies & info on the Cherry Road fire:

http://modernfirebehavior.com/2014/05/30/fire-behavior-case-study-townhouse-fire-washington-dc-lodd-anniversary/

==TEXAS FIRE BIKERS HONOR THEIR FALLEN:

Just a quick kudos to the 36 fire-riders who have ridden 736 miles over 8 days to date-to honor Fallen Firefighters. They completed their ride yesterday with 63 miles and ended it at Houston Fire Station #68. They did the ride to honor 19 Texas Firefighters who lost their lives in Bryan, West, Dallas, and Houston, Texas during 2013.

-On February 14, 2013 the Bryan Fire Department lost 2 firefighters at the VFW hall.
-On April 17, 2013 the surrounding communities and the City of West, Texas combined lost 12 firefighters at the West Fertilizer Plant Explosion.
-On May 20, 2013 the Dallas Fire Department lost a firefighter at an apartment building.
-On May 31, 2013 the Houston Fire Department lost 4 firefighters at a hotel off the Southwest Freeway. This ride was ridden in memory of those firefighters, who paid the ultimate sacrifice across Texas in 2013.

CHECK OUT THEIR OUTSTANDING STORY: www.brotherhoodride.com/

==HOUSTON TEXAS SOUTHWEST FIRE

Four Houston firefighters died one year ago while operating at that 5-alarm in a motel near the Southwest Freeway at Hillcroft. Three bodies were found in the rubble of the Southwest Inn motel. A fourth firefighter died after being rushed to Southwest Memorial Hermann Hospital. We take time to remember Captain EMT Matthew Renaud, 35, of Station 51; Firefighter EMT Robert Garner, 29, of Station 68; Probationary Firefighter Anne Sullivan, 24, of Station 68; and Engineer Operator EMT Robert Bebee, 41, of Station 51. Sullivan just graduated from the academy. There are no reports yet available. Captain Bill "Iron Bill" Dowling survived...barely. He was rescued from the rubble of the fire 40 minutes after the roof collapsed. The fire forced doctors to amputate his legs and left him unable to speak. He was hospitalized for six months and has been working ever since to regain the use of his limbs, eat on his own and communicate more effectively. Even now, a year later, there is burn damage, sores that have still not fully healed. His family has filed a lawsuit against the owner of the hotel and restaurant, an attempt to get answers and protect firefighters from old buildings not up to modern construction codes.

HERE IS MORE ON THE FIRE & LAWSUIT:


MORE DETAILS:

http://www.firefighternation.com/article/pennwell-fire-group-reflections-houston-s-deadly-blaze


BillyG

The Secret List 5/31/14-2100 Hours

AND:

Hey, PD arriving first at fires isn’t all that unusual—and in some areas, it is usual. Sometimes it’s a help, sometimes it causes more problems—it often depends upon training, conditions and related leadership. As your recall, earlier this year, 2 NYPD officers were on scene prior to FDNY and went in-causing one officer to die in the Line of Duty and the other getting critically injured. Officer Rosa Rodriguez suffered carbon monoxide poisoning, which killed her partner Dennis Guerra, and left her...
hospitalized after an April arson allegedly caused by 16-year-old Marcell Dockery.

Please share, forward and pass this on to your local PD. This audio is a significant reminder of how dangerous fire/smoke conditions can be.

HERE
is the NYPD dispatch/urgent radio traffic/video of that fatal fire.
LISTEN to this radio traffic if you did not hear it previously:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0up9ujwy6M

In many cases, PD have become victims that we have to deal with upon arrival-in addition to the initial fire or emergency. This issue isn't them "getting in the way"-the issue is, in so many cases, the lack of understanding of the conditions they are placing themselves in. While the intent is admirable, the goal is to help people with a problem-while not becoming part of the problem. Following the April LODD of Officer Guerra, the NYPD Brass got together with the FDNY Brass and came up with guidelines for those cases where Police Officers arrive before the Firefighters. That guideline is below-please feel free to pass this on to your local PD, Sheriff or whoever gets to your fires before you do. Additionally, the Cincinnati PD has issued similar orders to their Police Officers. Makes good sense. Below is the article about CPD.

**NYPD / Fire Operations**

DO's and DON'T's

**DO.....**

- Do verify address
- Do make sure that FD is responding
- Do determine location of fire in building
- Do develop info by questioning all present: apt#, people at home, out of building, trapped...
- Do advise dispatcher if you are entering building. Must advise FD dispatcher ASAP.
- Do close all doors behind you, confining fire.
- Do have an escape plan (secondary exit)
- Do check floor layout on floor below fire.
- Do use wall as a guide and count doors from stairway so you can find stair doorway on your return (may lose visibility in seconds).
- Do leave a member at door to fire area to guide you back (shine light / make noise). Never enter fire floor alone.

**PD / Fire Ops**

**DON'T....**

- Don't block front of the building.
- Don't park on hydrants.
- Don't use elevators.
- Don't go above the lowest level of the fire.
- Don't ventilate, breaking glass or opening doors
- Don't stay inside any longer than necessary.
- Don't expect conditions to remain the same as when you entered. Conditions will change quickly and often. You are unprotected and it can become untenable rapidly.
- Don't remain in building after FD arrives.
- Don't carry victims from fire area-drag them, staying low to the floor.
- Don't assume all windows can be opened from inside. You could end up trapped.
Cincinnati PD Article:

BillyG
The Secret List 6/1/2014-1500 Hours

AND:

NEW JERSEY FIREFIGHTER DOWN AT COMMERCIAL BUILDING FIRE
We regret to pass on to you reports that a Firefighter died in the Line of Duty this evening in New Jersey. Multiple companies and departments were operating at a multiple alarm fire. The fire was in a commercial building in Union Beach (Monmouth County) and initial reports are that the member went down from a medical emergency. There are unconfirmed reports of other Firefighters injured. KTIYP's. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-8-14-2107 hours

NEW JERSEY FIREFIGHTER DOWN AT COMMERCIAL BUILDING FIRE
We regret to pass on to you reports that a Firefighter died in the Line of Duty this evening in New Jersey. Multiple companies and departments were operating at a multiple alarm fire. The fire was in a commercial building in Union Beach (Monmouth County) and initial reports are that the member went down from a medical emergency. There are unconfirmed reports of other Firefighters injured. KTIYP's. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-8-14-2107 hours

AND:

UNION BEACH FIRE LODD UPDATE
The name of the Fallen Firefighter is reported as Robert "Hawk" Meyer. He was Life Member of the Belford Engine Company in Middletown. There are reports that a number of other Firefighters were injured at this evenings fire in Union Beach, New Jersey.

A HERO PASSES: In May 2005, Meyer was the recipient of the prestigious Carnegie Medal for extraordinary acts of heroism. On July 8, 2004, Firefighter Meyer was off-duty working as a delivery driver, when he stopped at the scene of a tractor-trailer involved in a highway accident that had caught fire. Meyer, and New Jersey State trooper Alexander Tezsla, rescued Robert Erickson, Jr. from the burning truck in East Brunswick. As smoke filled the cab and the fire entered, the two men pried the door open enough for Meyer to use his fire extinguisher to knock down the fire in the cab. They then pulled Erickson from the vehicle. Moments later, the truck was well involved. Erickson survived, and the two rescuers were treated for smoke inhalation. Our prayers and Condolences.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-8-14-2219 hours

AND:

All,

August 24, 2014

www.chabotfire.com
As you know, hero Firefighter Robert Meyer, 54, died in the Line of Duty yesterday after suffering cardiac arrest while operating at yesterday's 4-alarm fire at HayrAir, Inc., in Union Beach, NJ. What you may not know is that FF Meyer was a Superstorm Sandy survivor who lost his house in October 2012, and had only last week finally moved into a renovated house for the first time since that disaster. RIP. Funeral/memorial details to follow.

FIREFIGHTER LODD IN GERMANY
A 31 year old Firefighter sadly died in the Line of Duty Saturday afternoon while driving fire apparatus returning from a wildfire. The 17-ton rig left the winding forest road and rolled down a steep embankment about 150 ft., ending up on its roof and fatally entrapping the Firefighter. It took two hours to extricate him after a delay in locating the crash that was unreported when it occurred. RIP. More details HERE from FireGeezer BillS: http://www.firegeezer.com/2014/06/09/loidd-germany-6/

FIRE BOOK PUBLISHER PASSES
A good friend of the fire service has passed away. While you may not know the name, you know the books as he, for example published everyone of Leo Stapleton's classics. Dennis Campbell of DMC Associates, publisher of many wonderful fire books written by Stapleton as well as Harry Ahearn, Phil Burns and Billy Noonan, among many others, passed away last Tuesday after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 60 years old and a very good friend to the fire service-and you saw him at many of the fire service conferences and expos. A graduate of Harvard and Syracuse Universities, Dennis also recently rediscovered his love of education and spent several fulfilling years teaching literature at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Our condolences to his many friends and family., RIP. Obituary: http://www.taskerfh.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=2549163&fh_id=12298

A NEW FIRE LEADERSHIP VIDEO: THE DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT.
The DFD shares lessons learned about some of their LODD's in cooperation with the NFFF. In this really cool new video, they cover fires, rescues, size up, training-and this video covers it all from a leadership standpoint: CHECK IT OUT: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rxqyK1zUknc

BillyG
The Secret List
www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com
6/9/2014 - 1635hrs

AND:

All, Father's Day is coming up, here are a few stories that are related.

=DID YOU SEE THIS VIDEO ON GOOD MORNING AMERICA THIS MORNING?:
SETTING THE EXAMPLE-FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF A BROTHER:
Here is an amazing story about one Dad who also happens to be an FDNY Firefighter: CHECK OUT this video shown from Good Morning America, this morning: http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/video/nyc-fireman-ultimate-fathers-day-surprise-24053748

=CHIEF RAY DOWNEY RUNNING FOREVER 5K RUN/WALK:
As Fathers Day approaches-for those of you anywhere near the NY City/Long Island area, consider participating in the 13th Annual Forever Running Memorial 5k Run/Walk - Sunday, June 15, 2014 - Details HERE: http://www.chiefraymonddowney.com/
REMEMBERING THE FATHERS DAY

Fathers Day is typically a day of family and fun---celebrating Dads. In the fire service, it has additional meanings. On or around Fathers Day over several years, there have been notable LINE OF DUTY DEATHS, that have left many kids Dad-less. Firefighting Fathers who have given their lives in the Line of Duty.

=BOSTON:
The Boston Hotel Vendome fire was the worst firefighting tragedy in Boston history. 9 Boston Firefighters were killed when part of the building collapsed, June 17, 1972. The fire was brought largely under control by 4:30pm. Several crews, including Boston Ladder 13 and Engines 22 and 32, remained on scene performing overhaul and cleanup. At 5:28pm, abruptly and without warning, all five floors of a 40 by 45 foot section at the southeast corner of the building collapsed, burying a ladder truck and 17 firefighters beneath a two-story pile of debris. Occurring one day prior to the Father's Day, 8 Firefighters were injured, and 9 Firefighters lost their lives in the worst firefighting disaster in Boston history. The men who were killed were: Fire Fighter Thomas W. Beckwith, Fire Fighter Joseph E. Boucher, Lieutenant Thomas J. Carroll, Fire Fighter Charles E. Dolan, Lieutenant John E. Hanbury, Jr., Fire Fighter John E. Jameson, Fire Fighter Richard B. Magee, Fire Fighter Paul J. Murphy and Fire Fighter Joseph P. Saniuk.


A RELATED Father & Son story from the Boston FD: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2012/06/17/a_fathers_sacrifice_a_sons_calling/

-FDNY:
More recently, younger Firefighters (hopefully) know of the FATHERS DAY FIRE in the FDNY - The 2001 Fathers Day Fire in the Queens. 3 Firefighters were killed after and explosion trapped them in a collapse. They were FF Brian Fahey, FF Harry Ford, and FF John Downing.
NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200123.html

-CHARLESTON, SC:
And there are NO Firefighters that are not aware of the horrific loss-and so many lessons learned from CHARLESTON, SC---where 9 Charleston Firefighters were killed at the infamous Sofa Super Store Fire. They are Captain Louis Mulkey, Captain Mike Benke, FF Melvin Champaign, Captain Billy Hutchingson, Engineer Brad Baity, FF Earl Drayton, Engineer Mark Kelsey, Engineer Michael French, and FF Brandon Thompson.
NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200718.html

-MUNCIE, IN:
FF Scott Davis of Muncie, IN was killed in 2011 on June 15th in that collapse during that church fire.
NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201114.html

-MEMPHIS, TN
NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200318.html
-DU QUOIN, IL: FF Corey Shaw of Du Quoin, IL who was killed on June 17th in a collapse of a heavily involved commercial building.

NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201115.html

-ANGELINA COUNTY, TEXAS:
FF David Goins died from burns received in a wildland fire.

PREVIOUS INFO:

-HONORING FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-TRAIN LIKE YOU FIGHT:

REMINDER:
The 2014 International Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week will be held June 15-21. Check out the pages of this web site for tools, resources, and planning materials to help you and your department have a successful event and focus on health, safety, and training all year long.

-What are your FD's Plans? It's another chance to honor those Firefighters who have been killed in the Line of Duty. http://safetyandhealthweek.org


Happy Fathers Day To The Good Dad's Out There! RIP SamG.
BillyG
The Secret List 9/9/14=1100 Hours

AND:

All,
We have been advised that earlier today, FDNY Marine 4 (a 31' "fast" boat-photo on our home page) was involved in a "major" accident. Initial reports are that the boat struck a piling, causing it to puncture the pilot house. An FDNY Marine Firefighter became pinned during that incident. That Firefighter is now at Bellevue Hospital, in serious condition. KTIYP's.

BillyG
The Secret List 6/10/14-1900 Hours

AND:

DAYTON, OH FF LINE OF DUTY DEATH-MEDICAL EXPOSURE AT CRASH SCENE
We regret to advise you that Firefighter/Paramedic Rickie Halcomb of the Dayton FD died in the Line of Duty. FF Halcomb, who was assigned to Dayton Medic 11, responded on June 6, 2000, to I-75 at State Route 35 for a crash with a person trapped. After nasally intubating the patient and while assisting DFD crews with patient removal from the wreckage, FF Halcomb was exposed to the Hepatitis-C virus from the blood at the scene. Firefighter Halcomb suffered the adverse effects of the disease process until he passed away last March 21, 2014. This is obviously a delayed notification via the USFA, but one critical to pass on. Another reminder of the extreme risks on this job - at literally and potentially any run we may turnout on. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful.

Protect Yourself. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-16-2014/0907 hrs

AND:

MAINE FIRE OFFICER POSSIBLE LODD-HEART ATTACK WHILE DIVING
Off-duty Portland (Maine) Fire Captain Michael Kucsma died earlier this week—just hours after responding to a serious crash. 6.5 hours before he suffered a fatal heart attack while scuba diving, Kucsma was among the Firefighters who responded to that serious multiple-vehicle crash in Standish. Captain Kucsma worked full time as a Captain with the Portland Fire Department, was a Deputy Chief with the Gorham Fire Department and was a friend to us at FFCC.

-UPDATE: MONTANA CRASH KILLS FIRE CHIEF PLUS FIVE OTHERS:
That fire apparatus and a pickup truck that collided in Montana caused an explosion and fire that killed a family of five and a volunteer fire chief -there were no survivors. The apparatus driven by Three Forks VFD Chief Todd Rummel (who was a former Pennsylvania Fire Chief as well) was heading east on U.S. Highway 12 when it collided with the westbound pickup about 10 miles east of Helena. He was returning to quarters from maintenance. Before moving to Montana, Chief Rummel served with the Haycock Fire Company in Quakerstown (Bucks County), where he was a lifetime member.
Killed in the pickup were a yet to be identified Helena couple and their three young children. RIP.

-TENNESSEE APPARATUS ROLLOVER:
Two volunteer Firefighters were injured when their tanker from the Kittrell VFD crashed around noon today responding to a house fire in Readyville. There were two Firefighters in the truck when it crashed, flipping two and a half times, landing on its roof in the middle of the road. Both firefighters sustained non-lifethreatening injuries. They were in stable condition when taken from the scene.

-REMEMBERING THE 1964 EXPLOSIVE LINE OF DUTY DEATHS OF 3 FIREFIGHTERS....EVERY TIME YOU SEE A VEHICLE PLACARD
Shortly after 0400 on June 26, 1964, the Marshall's Creek Volunteer Fire Company (PA) turned out to a tractor-trailer fire on the northbound side of Route 209. Just as firefighters arrived, fire had spread to the trailer's cargo of nitro carbo nitrate (the oxidizing ingredient in fertilizer), partially gelatin dynamite and blasting caps. This caused an explosion that killed Firefighters Edward Hines, 42, a welder who had helped start the fire company in 1945; Leonard Mosier, 38, a carpenter, architect and local rod and gun club member; and Francis Miller, 50, a state highway department employee who also had helped start the fire company and whose brother was chief at the time. Three other people were killed and two other Firefighters and eight others were injured. The explosion left a large crater visible from the air, damaged three fire apparatus, the Regina Hotel, Middle Smithfield Elementary School and the Pocono Reptile Farm, sending poisonous snakes scurrying.

Tomorrow (June 21, 2014) the fire company will mark the Marshall's Creek explosion's 50th anniversary with a memorial ceremony at the firehouse. The three Fallen Firefighters' families, other area volunteer fire companies and others are among those invited. "This event we're having marks the anniversary of an incident that was not only tragic, but also changed federal safety regulations to now require all vehicles transporting hazardous or explosive materials to always have warning placards on them," said Fire Chief Joseph Quaresimo. "This way, the public is made aware, as well as firefighters responding when one of these vehicles is on fire."

THE DRIVER:
Albert Koda, then 51, of Port Carbon, was driving the tractor-trailer that fateful morning. Koda drove for American Cyanamid, which at the time made agricultural, industrial and specialty chemicals. Koda said he was driving when two flat tires on the trailer forced him to pull over. He said the trailer's warning placards fell off shortly before he pulled over, but a federal report published as part of the subsequent investigation into the disaster said the placards were later found under the tractor cab's
seat and showed no signs of having fallen off. Koda said he unhitched the trailer and drove the tractor to the nearest gas station to get help. After he left the trailer, a passer-by spotted it burning and contacted the fire company. Koda was later charged with six counts of involuntary manslaughter, one for each person killed, but acquitted on all charges after a Northampton County trial.

MORE DETAILS:
FROM THE MARSHALL'S CREEK FIRE CO:
http://www.marshallscreckfireco.org/History
ACTUAL VIDEO FROM THE SCENE:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VU6wy5fIzA
LOCAL MEDIA:

-CONNECTICUT FIREFIGHTER - HELP NEEDED.
Please take a look-this is the young wife of a CT Firefighter...just received news that they are going to have a baby!...then diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrigs disease) just a few days later... Check the video-perhaps you can help or know someone who can:
http://www.gofundme.com/a5yejK
BillyG
The Secret List 6/20/14-1747 hours

AND:

NEW HAMPSHIRE FIREFIGHTER SERVING AS A MARINE WAS KILLED YESTERDAY
We regret to pass on that a Marine from New Hampshire was killed in an IED attack Friday morning in Afghanistan. He was also a Firefighter in New Hampshire. Lance Cpl. Brandon Garabrant, 19, was killed by a roadside bomb, as were two of his brothers in arms, on Friday. He was a Firefighter for the Temple FD in New Hampshire. Lance Cpl. Garabrant was a 2013 graduate of ConVal High School, was killed in the southern part of the country by a roadside bomb. Two other American troops and a military dog were also killed. They were assigned to a NATO security force. Before becoming a Marine, Garabrant was a member of the Temple Fire Department, a police Explorer with the Peterborough Police Department and worked at Touchstone Farm in Temple.
Our condolences to all those affected by this loss.

MUCH MORE HERE:

YOUNG NEW JERSEY FIREFIGHTER DIES FROM CANCER-HIS DAD DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY EARLIER THIS YEAR
Such deeply sad news out of NJ: Firefighter John Barnas, son of Wallington and Jersey City NJ Captain Greg Barnas who died in the Line of Duty on February 28 of this year, himself has now passed away today from a long battle with cancer. John (mid 20's) was receiving stem cells from his Dad when his Dad fell off that roof in Wallington NJ. His Dad was his primary donor. John's brother (and Greg's son) Kevin is also a Firefighter. Our deepest condolences to all those affected by this loss. HERE is some previous information about the family:
BillyG
The Secret List 6/21/14-1600 Hours

AND:
Hey, Last night, in our nations capital, DCFD Firefighters from Truck 13 were on a scene of a crash when the thinkable happened, a gunman opened fire. Apparently the crash suspect returned to the scene and opened fire in a crowd of witnesses-and the Firefighters-thankfully no one was hit. DC's Metropolitan PD was on scene but did not return fire. Internal reports say DCFD Firefighters took cover near a police car...it is unclear if the truck was hit. Two people have been arrested and thankfully the members are ok. This is the same "DC" where the soon to be former FEMS Chief has directed fire companies to do "soft postings" on the highest high-crime corners throughout the city as they wait for fire and EMS calls. Stellar idea. Imagine if the gunman walked up to the fire apparatus while the Firefighters were "soft posted" with no cops around. No, don't.


BillyG
The Secret List 6/21/2014-1300 Hours

AND:

Hey,
A civilian was killed and two paramedics injured this evening in a head-on collision on River Road near Frankfort Avenue in Louisville, KY. The crash happened shortly before 1830 hours when the Louisville EMS ambulance collided with a Geo Metro near the intersection. The driver of the Geo, who was alone in the vehicle, was pronounced dead at the scene. The two paramedics in the ambulance were taken to University of Louisville hospital, with serious injuries. We'll post more details as they become available.

RENO (NV) FD POLICY

WTF?! As you might have read, Reno Firefighters can show up to work with up to a .08 percent blood alcohol level or more than twice the legal driving limit of a variety of illegal drugs in their system without facing discipline under a 12-year-old policy. Not that they do-but they can. According to the policy, drug and alcohol use "shall not be permitted"....but an alcohol test is not considered positive below .08 percent, which is also the limit for driving under the influence. The allowable limit of marijuana is five times the legal limit for driving. The allowable limit of amphetamines and cocaine is twice the legal limit for driving. Seriously?! Come on. READ ABOUT IT HERE:

RIP: CALIF FIREFIGHTER SUCCUMBS TO CANCER

We regret to advise you that Firefighter Armando J. Mora has died from a fire service related type of cancer. City of Santa Fe Springs Firefighter Armando J. Mora Jr. 58, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer in his home on June 18, 2014 surrounded by his wife and family. For any questions or further information please contact: Joseph Walls, Secretary, Local 3507, 714-423 4030, josephwalls@mac.com R.I.P.

COLUMBUS OHIO THIS WEEK:

This week is the annual SPAAMFAA Convention in Columbus-if you are anywhere near the area and have the slightest interest in old fire apparatus-this one's absolutely for you. It's truly a "not to miss" event...especially the parade and fire muster on Saturday at the Ohio Fire Academy. DETAILS HERE:
http://www.coafaa.org/
http://www.spaamfaa.org/

BALTIMORE FIREHOUSE EXPO:
Just a few weeks away—July 15-19—looking forward to seeing many of you "on the floor."

DETAILS HERE:
http://firehouseexpo.com/
BillyG
The Secret List 6/23/14-2238 Hours

AND:

TWO MISSISSIPPI EMT’S KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-CRASH & FIRE
We regret to advise you that an "ASAP Ambulance" crew is dead after a two-vehicle crash involving an 18-wheeler and their ambulance on Highway 63 in Greene County, Mississippi around 1100 this morning. The ambulance was traveling north bound on Highway 63, heading to a medical call, red lights initiated but no sirens. The ambulance approached a semi truck, and then made an attempt to overtake the truck and another semi hauling a bulldozer in front, the ambulance went in to the left lane, and the lead semi in front made a left hand turn in front of them, they collided. After the crash, the ambulance burst in to flames, as a result of the crash and the fire, two fatalities, which were the EMT driver and EMT of the ambulance were confirmed at the scene. The driver of the 18-wheeler was transported from the scene by ambulance with minor injuries from the scene. We have a photo posted on our home page—much more to follow. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.
Take Care. Be careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 6/24/2014-1800 Hours

AND:

Hey,
A California Firefighter suffered life threatening injuries this morning after a crash fire rescue rig crashed on a taxiway at Oakland International Airport - during a drill. The crash took place just before 1145 hours during a simulated red alert drill to test emergency response time to incidents at the airport. The Oakland Firefighter was driving an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting rig with 3,000 gallons of water and 420 gallons of foam, rolled during a turn. The Firefighter, a 28-year veteran of the OFD assigned to the airport, was not thrown from the vehicle, but sustained major injuries- he was the sole occupant on the rig, was taken to a hospital in critical condition. We have a picture posted on FFCC. KTIYP's.
BillyG
The Secret List 6/24/14-1700 Hours

AND:

=CALIFORNIA FIRE DEPT ENGINEER DIES FOLLOWING SHIFT
On Saturday morning, June 21, 20-14, Chula Vista (San Diego County, California) Fire Department Engineer Sam Escalante passed away from an apparent heart attack. Although not the typical LODD, since this was within 24 hours of his last work day and heart related, they have designated it as a LODD. Sam had been with CVFD for 8 years and is survived by his wife and three small children. Sam was just 43 years old and had been a vital part of the organization. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

=LOUISVILLE RESPONDING EMS CRASH UPDATE:
The two Louisville EMS crew members involved in yesterday’s violent crash were EMTs. The driver is
in serious but stable condition. The EMT passenger is reported to be in very critical condition. Initial reports are that the civilians car actually made a u-turn in front of the ambulance - that was responding to a run with lights and siren. After impact, the ambulance then struck a parked crane at a construction site. The EMT's were trapped in the unit and the injuries were serious enough that Louisville Metro EMS CEO Dr. Neal Richmond responded to the scene. KTIYP's.

=MONTANA FIRE APPARATUS CRASH UPDATE:
Entire Family of 5 Identified in addition to the Fire Chief-all 6 lost their lives.
A 4-year-old boy and 3-year-old twins were among six people killed when a pickup truck collided with a fire engine last week outside of Helena. The family of five from Townsend was driving west on U.S. Highway 12 about 10 miles from Montana's capital city on Thursday night when their truck collided with an eastbound fire engine driven by Three Forks Fire Chief Todd Rummel. There were no survivors in the fiery crash. The children were 4-year-old Breighton Paul Boegli and 3-year-old twins Peighton Charles Boegli and Madison Marie Boegli, Jefferson County Undersheriff Mike Johnson said. Johnson identified the adults as Matthew Carl Boegli, 29, and Crystal Marie Ross, 30, of Townsend. A funeral service for the family was scheduled for Thursday in Helena. A cause of the crash has not been determined. The Montana Highway Patrol is investigating, and the wreckage from the crash has been sent to the state crime lab for analysis. Highway patrol Capt. Gary Becker did not immediately return a call for comment Monday. A memorial service for Rummel has been set for tomorrow in Three Forks. A procession through the small town at the headwaters of the Missouri River will be followed by the service at the Three Forks High School at 2 p.m. Chief Rummel, 44, became the Three Forks fire chief in May after eight years with the department. He had been a firefighter since he was 18 years old-starting in the Bucks County, PA area. He was driving the fire engine back to Three Forks after its water pump was repaired in Helena, when the crash happened. RIP.

=RENO FIRE CHIEF MEETS WITH MEDIA RE: DRUGS AND ALCOHOL POLICY
The Reno media is closely following the Reno FD and their Chief-here is an update:
BillyG
The Secret List 6/24/2014-1630 Hours

AND:

Hey,
Serious close call in PA, as last night (Wednesday) Belle Valley FD (near Erie, PA) Tower 369 was at nearby Wattsburg FD Station 17 to help them re-position a radio antenna. Three firefighters (2 BV and 1 WB) were in the bucket of the tower, raised up approximately 80 feet when a cable snapped causing the ladder to suffer a catastrophic failure. All extended sections of the ladder retracted rapidly coming to a jolting stop in the bottom section. All three firefighters were injured and one had to be extricated from the bucket. All three were transported to UPMC Hamot Trauma Center. Two of the them have been admitted but none of the injuries are considered life threatening. One member is home, another they hope to have home this weekend and the 3rd may be in for a while.

The aerial and bucket were heavily damaged. An investigation of the accident is now underway. Watch the video-it is clear that policy-and training, disciplined adherence to their policy paid off. So many times we have see Firefighter ejected out of tower ladders and snorkels for a variety of reasons-and some with tragic endings.
PREVIOUS HISTORY:
As you may remember, something similar to this happened in Arizona in 2012. Four FF’s went up in their bucket and when the ladder was nearly fully extended at a 45-degree angle, one or two cables controlling the ladder snapped. That sent the bucket sliding down about 40 feet, where it slammed to a violent stop 70 feet above the ground, the impact caused serious injuries. HERE are those details: http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/182576

Because of the Belle Valley FD’s adherence to policy, training and discipline, there will be members recuperating from non-life threatening injuries—but nothing more. That's good news and a positive reflection on their department. We'll have more regarding what happened soon.

LAST NIGHTS VIDEO HERE: http://tinyurl.com/lt69ujw
BillyG
The Secret List 6/26/2014-1024 Hours

AND:

Hey,
Tomorrow we remember the one year anniversary of the Line of Duty deaths of the 19 Firefighters in Arizona. While there has been much written about the fire-and several law suits filed-some naming fire commanders, some feel very strongly that little has changed and it could certainly happen again...which is what was heard about fires before the Yarnell Hill fire...and others before that.

• Maintaining that "gross and extreme negligence" by firefighting command officials led to the June 30, 2013, deaths of the 19 Firefighters, 12 of the families filed a wrongful death complaint this week against four public entities and three fire command officials.

The complaint, which was filed last Wednesday afternoon, names the state of Arizona, the Arizona State Forestry Division, Yavapai County, and the Central Yavapai Fire District as defendants. It also lists officials: Roy Hall, incident commander for the Arizona State Forestry Division; Russ Shumate, incident commander for the Arizona State Forestry; and Todd Abel of the Central Yavapai Fire District.

Here are some related videos worthy of your review:

America Burning: The Yarnell Hill Tragedy and the Nation’s Wildfire Crisis
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=begTiksUwqc

Video shows their last moments:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yw_Yiu6f9ik

Here is their final radio traffic:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbrlWTng2JU

Here is one article of great interest "FEW CHANGES"
http://bigstory.ap.org/article/deaths-19-firefighters-prompt-few-changes

12 Firefighter families file wrongful death lawsuit
http://verdenews.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=61049

Take a moment to remember these Firefighters who lost their lives at that wildland fire:
WASHINGTON RESCUER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-SEARCH DETAILS
A search and rescue worker died over the weekend trying to save another man who fell 100 feet at Pilchuck Falls in western Washington. The hiker who they were attempting to rescue also died Saturday night. The incident happened about 36 miles northwest of Seattle when the two men were separated from their hiking group and tried to make their way down to the falls near Lake Cavanaugh. A Skagit County Search and Rescue team was training nearby and responded to their call for help. The 61-year-old Search and Rescue Member, J.B. Bryson, fell and died in the Line of Duty as he tried to reach the two men. Yesterday, authorities recovered the bodies of two men, Pilchuck Falls is 14 feet high and 60 feet wide in a steep ravine and the trail involves using a series of ropes to get to the bottom....it is known as steep and slippery. Our condolences to all those affected. RIP.

SKAGIT COUNTY RESCUE PAGE:
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Skagit-County-Search-and-Rescue/165880196756456

BLUE CARD COMMAND, IN BALTIMORE AT FIREHOUSE EXPO
For those of you that have completed (or will quickly complete) the "online" training for Blue Card Command Certification....there will be a Blue Card Command Check Off Simulation Lab at Firehouse Expo in Baltimore so you can complete your training.

WOMEN FIREFIGHTERS
The following is from Dr Sara Jahnke of The Center For Fire, Rescue & EMS Research. Dr Jahnke is an active member of the IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section. While there have been considerable advances in the literature related to firefighter health, most publications have been focused exclusively on males. The purpose of this study is to collect data specific to the health,
perceptions and experiences of females in the career fire service. The project is funded by the National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute at National Institutes of Health. Study findings will be used to help monitor the health of female firefighters and identify areas of need for future research.

PLEASE TAKE THE SURVEY: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WomenFirefighterSurvey
PLEASE ALSO FORWARD THE SURVEY.

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact the project lead, Dr. Sara Jahnke at Jahnke@ndri.org or 913-681-0300. Thank you in advance for your time and effort.

Here is the Center for Fire, Rescue & EMS Research Website:
http://www.ndri.org/ctrs/fire/pubs.html

FINAL WORD:
Prayers for Lt Stu Tudor of the Columbus (OH) Division of Fire. Lt Tudor remains in critical condition as of this evening after he was struck by lightning over the weekend. He was at Columbus's Crew Stadium for a charity event Saturday evening when he was struck by a lightning bolt in the stadium parking lot. Doctors put Tudor in a medically induced coma on Saturday. The extent of his injuries could become clear when doctors reverse the procedure in the next few days. KHIYP's.
BillyG
The Secret List 6/30/2014-2100 Hours

AND:

All,
Please take a moment to read about these fires-and the Firefighters who lost their lives. Please pass it on, to your troops - and compare your ops to these, your staffing, resources and training. Also pass these on to whoever may be able to learn from these sacrifices. These aren't just stories-but opportunities for us all to learn and train-and honor these Firefighters.

July 1, 1988 was when the infamous 60-ton bow strung truss roof collapsed at a working fire at Hackensack Ford killing Capt. Richard L. Williams, 53, Firefighter William Krejsa, 51, and Firefighter Leonard Radumski, 38 in the Line of Duty. And then, two additional firefighters, Lt. Richard Reinhagen, 48, and Stephen Ennis, 30, survived the initial collapse but were trapped in a closet and running out of air...as the men cried out for help over a portable radio while rescuers struggled to find them, they too lost their lives in the Line of Duty.

Every firefighter should be educated on this fire. Odd's are, many Secret List members were not old enough to remember this fire...or were not even born yet. The 5 were engaged in interior fire suppression efforts at the automobile dealership when portions of the building's wood bowstring truss roof suddenly collapsed. The incident occurred on Friday, July 1, 1988, at approximately 1500 hours., when they received the first of a series of telephone calls reporting "flames and smoke" coming from the roof of the Hackensack Ford Dealership. Two engines, a ladder truck, and a battalion chief responded to the first alarm assignment. The first arriving fire fighters observed a "heavy smoke condition" at the roof area of the building. Engine company crews investigated the source of the smoke inside the building while the truck company crew assessed conditions on the roof. For the next 20 minutes, the focus of the suppression effort was concentrated on these initial tactics. During this time, however, little headway appeared to have been made by the initial suppression efforts, and the magnitude of the fire continued to grow. The overall fire ground tactics were shifted to "defensive" and the battalion chief gave the order to "back your lines out." However, before
suppression crews could exit form the interior, a sudden partial collapse of the truss roof occurred, trapping six fire fighters. An intense fire immediately engulfed the area of the collapse. One trapped fire fighter was able to escape through an opening in the debris. The other five died as a result of the collapse. HERE is how you can learn about how those 5 Firefighters gave their lives and what has been learned since then: STORY, PHOTOS, VIDEO HACKENSAK FORD:
RELATED MEDIA: http://tinyurl.com/oxba3ze
http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2013/06/fire-engineering-vault-hackensack-ford-fire.html
http://tinyurl.com/2uchtoq

The Hackensack fire and an earlier similar incident at the Waldbaums supermarket fire in Brooklyn, New York, http://stevespak.com/waldbaums.html provide good lessons to the fire service regarding wood truss roof assemblies. RIP.

==REMEMBERING FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-JULY (Excellent links, videos, photos etc below):


14 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED: SOUTH CANYON/STORM KING FIRE
The South Canyon Fire was a 1994 wildfire that took the lives of 14 wildland firefighters on Storm King Mountain, near Glenwood Springs, Colorado on July 6th, 1994. It is often also referred to as the "Storm King" fire.
HERE is more:

==BRIDGEPORT CT: FIREFIGHTERS KILLED 2010
On July 24, 2010, 2 Bridgeport FF's, 40-year-old Lieutenant Steve Velazquez and 49-year-old Firefighter Michel Baik, from Ladder 11 were killed in the Line of Duty. They were found unresponsive at a residential structure fire. Valazquez and Baik and two additional crew members were tasked with conducting a primary search for civilians and fire extension on the 3rd floor of the multifamily residential structure. The fire had been extinguished on the 2nd floor upon their entry into the structure. While pulling walls and the ceiling on the 3rd floor, smoke and heat conditions changed rapidly. RIP.

HERE is the NIOSH Report: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201018.html
HERE ARE THE DETAILS OF THE FIRE FROM IAFFTV: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRHQxJlh7OY (GREAT VIDEO FOR A COMPANY DRILL)
HERE IS MEDIA VIDEO about the Fire: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DSIVAGV1c4

==2 CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS: KILLED 2007
Two Contra Costa County firefighters lost their lives on July 21, 2007 after they were caught in flashover as they tried unsuccessfully to rescue a couple from their burning dwelling. A "seemingly routine" call for help quickly turned disastrous with four lives lost, and left the 300-member Contra Costa County Fire Protection District reeling from the first on-duty deaths in its history. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Capt. Matt Burton, 34, and Fire Engineer Scott Desmond, 37 died in the fire at the couple's ranch-style, one-story home. The firefighters had managed to pull one victim
from the home and were trying to find the other person when they were caught in the flashover.

Captain Burton and FE Desmond were from the first arriving crew at 0150 hours. They made a fast attack and quickly knocked down the visible fire in the living room. They requested vertical ventilation, grabbed a thermal imaging camera, and made re-entry without a handline to search for the two residents known to be inside. Another crew entered without a handline and began a search for the two residents in the kitchen area. A positive pressure ventilation fan was set at the front door to increase visibility for the search teams. The crew found and was removing a civilian from the kitchen area as rollover was observed extending from the hallway into the living room. Additional crews arrived on-the-scene and started to perform various fireground activities before a battalion chief arrived and assumed command. The IC arrived at 0201 hours and asked the victims' engineer the location of his officer. The officer who assisted removing the civilian from the kitchen briefly re-entered to fight the fire. He then exited and notified the incident commander about his concern for the air supply of both victims who were still in the structure at approximately 0205 hours. Crews conducted a search for the victims and found them in a back bedroom where they had been overcome by a rapid fire event. RIP.

VIDEO: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCLqybjExOY
NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200728.html

==GLOUCESTER CITY, NJ: 3 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED 2002
On July 4th, 2002 at 0136 hrs., The Gloucester City FD along with auto-mutual aid including the Mt Ephraim FD was dispatched to 200 North Broadway in Gloucester City for a dwelling fire. Responding units were advised that occupants may be trapped. First arriving units were on the scene in less than three minutes and had heavy fire, burn victims and kids trapped. While Firefighters were operating an interior attack and rescue, a partial collapse of the structure occurred. An emergency evacuation signal was sounded and while that was happening, a much more substantial collapse occurred trapping 8 Firefighters. Additional rescue resources were requested, Firefighter accountability was initiated and rescue efforts continued. Five of the eight trapped Firefighters were rescued. But 3 Firefighters (see below) died in the Line of Duty and 3 children were killed.

We remember James Sylvester, Fire Chief, Mount Ephraim FD. Sylvester, 31, a 17 year veteran, was survived by his wife, who was pregnant with the couple's first child. John West Deputy Chief, Mount Ephraim FD. West, 40, a 23-year veteran, was survived by his wife and three children. Thomas G. Stewart III, Career Firefighter, Gloucester City FD. Stewart, 30, a 13 year veteran, was survived by his fiancée and their son. Stewart publicly proposed to his girlfriend, just hours before the fire while they watched the city's fireworks from high atop a fire truck ladder at Gloucester City High School. RIP.

HERE is the NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200232.html
HERE is the NJ STATE REPORT: http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dfs/reports/gloucester.pdf
HERE is the DISCOVERY CHANNEL VIDEO Report and re-creation w/Interviews of those FF's who Survived: (several link choices to the same video)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fVWzNNMQPU
http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=d5c_1343817924
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fVWzNNMQPU&feature=player_embedded

==4 WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS KILLED: WASHINGTON 2001
The Thirtymile Fire started as an escaped picnic cooking fire on July 9, 2001, in the Okanogan National Forest in the state of Washington. On the evening of July 9, the Libby South Fire was already burning 50 miles (80 km) to
the south, and this fire exceeded 1,000 acres (4.0 km²). To the north on the Thirtymile Fire, four firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty: FF Karen FitzPatrick, 18; FF Jessica Johnson, 19; FF Devin Weaver, 21, and fire squad boss FF Tom Craven, 30 - asphyxiating them in, intense heat that literally melted vehicles. The Thirtymile seemed at first to be a very controllable fire, and fire managers assigned a crew of 21 firefighters, estimating that the fire would be contained by nightfall. However, the temperature on the day of the fire was nearing 100 degrees, and the fire was spreading fast. By mid-afternoon, the crew watched the fire crawl up the slope on the opposite side of the valley, and they called in for more help. The fire's location caused communication difficulties regarding the firefighters' request for helicopter support because of confusion over the legality of dipping water from a "protected" river. RIP. Details of the issues are explained in author John N. Maclean's book The Thirtymile Fire. HERE is the Thirtymile Fire Investigation Report. http://www.fs.fed.us/t-d/lessons/documents/Thirtymile_Reports/Thirtymile-Final-Report-2.pdf

BillyG
The Secret List 7-1-14-1100 Hours

AND:

Hey,
A 48-year-old man died this morning in a crash involving a North Kitsap (Washington State) Fire & Rescue apparatus. Around 1100 hours this morning, an engine company was heading south on a roadway and attempted to turn left and collided with the driver of a 2006 Yamaha scooter. The driver of the scooter was pronounced dead at the scene. The front left bumper and corner of the engine was damaged. It's not yet clear if the company was responding or who had the right of way. We'll post more as it becomes available.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-4-2014-1820 hours

AND:

FDNY LT DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY
An FDNY Lieutenant recently hailed as a hero for saving a 7-year-old Williamsburg (Brooklyn) boy has now been killed in the Line of Duty last night fighting a fire in a Brooklyn high-rise. Lt. Gordon Matthew Ambelas, 40, a 14-year veteran of the FDNY, was searching for victims as he and members of Ladder 119 beat back fire on the 19th floor of the Independence Towers on Wilson St. at about 2110 hours. Lt. Ambelas got trapped in the fire in an apartment. While he was removed following maydays and rescue, he succumbed to multiple injuries. More to follow. RIP. Our condolences to all affected.
MAYOR & FIRE COMMISSIONER NEWS CONFERENCE: http://youtu.be/nNB2QVoS_9E
BillyG
The Secret List 7-6-2014-0630 hours

AND:

FIRE DEPARTMENT LIFEGUARD LODD-DURING RESCUE
A 15-year veteran Newport Beach (California) Fire Dept. Lifeguard had died in the Line of Duty attempting to rescue a swimmer in distress yesterday. Rescue boats and search helicopters spent nearly three hours looking for 32-year-old Ben Carlson, before he was found around 2000 hours.
The other Lifeguards on the scene attempted to rescue Lifeguard Carlson, but were unable to find him because of the turbulent water and up to 10- to 12-foot surf. The male swimmer Carlson was attempting to save made it to shore safely, according to Poster. Witnesses say Carlson went under after getting struck by a large wave and never came back up. This is the first time the city of Newport Beach has lost one of its lifeguards in the line of duty. Lifeguards made hundreds of rescues over the weekend due to strong dangerous rip currents and large waves, and warned swimmers who were getting in too deep. It was a preemptive warning designed to save lives after the National Weather Service issued a coastal hazard warning due to the high surf. Our condolences to all those affected. RIP.

-FDNY LT HONORED AS HERO JUST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO GIVING HIS LIFE
-FIRE APT WHERE HE DIED: "COLLYERS MANSION CONDITIONS" KNOWN IN 2014 AS "HOARDERS"

On June 26th, FDNY Lieutenant Gordon Ambelas and his fire company were honored by FDNY Commissioner Dan Nigro, Chief of Department Ed Kilduff, Rabbi David Niederman of the United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg and North Brooklyn, and a family extremely grateful for the FDNY saving the life of their young son, who had been trapped in a role-up gate. Less than 10 days later, the community was shocked to learn that Lt. Ambelas passed away. "This tragic story shows the dangers the lieutenant and all FDNY members put themselves in, willingly and knowingly, to save others. They are really the bravest," said Rabbi Niederman.

PREVIOUS RESCUE DETAILS HERE:

COLLYERS MANSION CONDITIONS:
Well before the TV show Hoarders, veteran Firefighters know the dangers of cluttered dwellings. When FDNY officials referred to "Collyers conditions" found inside the Brooklyn apartment where Lt. Gordon M. Ambelas died Saturday night, they were using a shorthand that date backs to the 1940's. A "Collyers' Mansion," in fire talk is a dangerously cluttered house, packed with anything from stacks of newspapers to boxes to junk and collectibles. It's a historical reference to Homer and Langley Collyer, two brothers found dead in 1947 amid more than 100 tons of collectibles, furniture, newspapers and junk in their Harlem brownstone, which they had booby-trapped. Their lives, and deaths, have passed into the folklore of New York City - Homer's body was found first, on March 21, 1947, Langley's second, on April 8, 1947, about 10 feet away from his brother.

LEARN ABOUT THE "COLLYER BROTHERS" HERE:

IMPORTANT:
LEARN MORE ABOUT FIREFIGHTING IN HOARDER CONDITIONS:
http://chamberofhoarders.com/

BillyG
The Secret List 7/7/14-0828 Hours

AND:

Hey,
Serious close call in PA, as last night (Wednesday) Belle Valley FD (near Erie, PA) Tower 369 was at nearby Wattsburg FD Station 17 to help them re-position a radio antenna. Three firefighters (2 BV and
1 WB) were in the bucket of the tower, raised up approximately 80 feet when a cable snapped causing the ladder to suffer a catastrophic failure. All extended sections of the ladder retracted rapidly coming to a jolting stop in the bottom section. All three firefighters were injured and one had to be extricated from the bucket. All three were transported to UPMC Hamot Trauma Center. Two of the them have been admitted but none of the injuries are considered life threatening. One member is home, another they hope to have home this weekend and the 3rd may be in for a while.

The aerial and bucket were heavily damaged. An investigation of the accident is now underway. Watch the video-it is clear that policy-and training, disciplined adherence to their policy paid off. So many times we have see Firefighter ejected out of tower ladders and snorkels for a variety of reasons- and some with tragic endings.

PREVIOUS HISTORY:
As you may remember, something similar to this happened in Arizona in 2012. Four FF's went up in their bucket and when the ladder was nearly fully extended at a 45-degree angle, one or two cables controlling the ladder snapped. That sent the bucket sliding down about 40 feet, where it slammed to a violent stop 70 feet above the ground, the impact caused serious injuries. HERE are those details: http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/182576

Because of the Belle Valley FD's adherence to policy, training and discipline, there will be members recuperating from non-life threatening injuries-but nothing more. That's good news and a positive reflection on their department. We'll have more regarding what happened soon.

LAST NIGHTS VIDEO HERE: http://tinyurl.com/lt69ujw
BillyG
The Secret List 6/26/2014-1024 Hours

AND:

LOUISIANA FIRE CAPTAIN KILLED-EJECTED FROM FIRE APPARATUS NO SEAT BELT
We regret to pass on to you that an apparatus crash has claimed the life of a 52 year old Louisiana Fire Captain. He died in the Line of Duty when the fire apparatus he was driving, while unrestrained, crashed last night. Initial reports are that the 1999 Freightliner fire apparatus, registered to Bienville Fire District 7, was traveling north on LA 155 when the vehicle entered a curve and drifted off the roadway. The driver, Fire Captain Robert B. Thomas 52, over corrected, crossed the center line and crashed into a ditch. The fire apparatus overturned pinning Captain Thomas under the vehicle. Thomas, who was not wearing a seat belt, was pronounced dead at the scene by the Bienville Parish Coroner’s Office. Louisiana law requires every vehicle occupant, front seat and back seat, to be properly restrained day or night. Anyone, including a Firefighter, who chooses not to wear a seat belt increases the likelihood of injury or death in the event of a crash. Our condolences to all those affected. RIP. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.
Seat Belts....Again.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-1-14-1300 Hours

AND:

Hey,

It looks like improper cables installed on the Belle Valley (PA) VFD's tower ladder during a rebuild two
years ago are blamed for causing that accident with the rig's ladder that injured three firefighters on June 26. Sutphen has accepted responsibility and will pick up the truck today to make the necessary repairs at no cost to Belle Valley. Two Belle Valley firefighters and a member of the Wattsburg Hose Co. were in the tower ladder bucket that was about 80 feet in the air outside of the Wattsburg Hose Company firehouse on June 26 when raising and lowering cables snapped and the ladder retracted suddenly. The firefighters suffered neck, back and knee injuries. The firefighters were taken to UPMC Hamot for treatment. The last Firefighter was released from the hospital on Friday. It appears the investigation into the accident determined that the wrong raising and lowering cables were placed on the truck when the ladder was rebuilt after suffering major chemical damage while at a fire at a building in Harborcreek Township on May 14, 2011. The building housed American Biodiesel Energy Inc. and North American Powder Coatings. Sutphen continues to investigate whether the improper cable installation was caused by employee error, mismarked inventor or an identification error by a supplier. You can get more details at goErie.com.

BillyG
The Secret List 7-2-14-1300 Hours

AND:

Hey,
This is something that we will probably see more and more of as video and security cameras are pretty much everywhere these days. This one is well worth it to show to:
-Fire Students-yep
-Citizens-yep
-Firefighters-yep
-Elected Officials/City Hall Dwellers-yep
-Anti-Sprinkler Peoples-Definitely

This fire killed 4 people at a Point Pleasant Beach (NJ) motel in March, and it started when one of the residents fell asleep standing up while smoking a cigarette over a chair...and it was caught on video.

Portions of the videotape capture the minutes before the fire broke out at the Mariner's Cove Motel on March 21 and show how the fire spread so quickly that authorities said patrons in nearby rooms had little chance of getting out. Video also shows Mariner's Cove Motel resident John Alberti walk into the lounge area on the second floor and fall asleep standing up while smoking a cigarette. Embers from Alberti's cigarette fell into the corner of a chair, which quickly ignited. Four people, including Alberti, were killed in the March fire.

HERE are the videos:

HERE is the dispatch and related photos:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W73OFegdNww
This is a GREAT opportunity to share this and pass it on... so the un-knowing (about fire) can become the knowing.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-2-14-1500 Hours

AND:
All,

Murrieta (San Diego County, California) Fire Chief Matt Shobert was severely injured yesterday by a rock thrown from brush-clearing equipment. Shobert, who has served as chief of the Murrieta Fire Department since 2011 and was previously fire chief in Hemet, suffered severe trauma to his face. He was taken to Inland Valley Medical Center in Wildomar Wednesday then flown to Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda. He underwent his first reconstructive surgery last night.

WHAT HAPPENED: Maintenance crews were clearing brush yesterday morning and had called the Fire Department to make sure they weren't at risk of starting a fire. A Firefighter, along with Chief Shobert, went to check on conditions there. About 0900 hours, Chief Shobert was standing outside his SUV, a good distance from the nearest mower, when a large rock struck him in the face-witnesses thought he was shot. When paramedics saw the trauma to his face, they thought it was a gunshot wound as well.

Police were called out for fear there was a person armed with a gun. They used an armed vehicle to search the area but found not sign of a gunman. Eventually, they realized it must have been a projectile flung by the mower and they found the rock that struck the chief. Reports are that Chief Shobert is likely to face many more surgeries. His wife is at the hospital and other family are on their way from Arizona. Keep him and his family in your prayers.

FIREFIGHTERS SHOCKED BY LIGHTNING

Yesterday, 7 Firefighters were hospitalized with injuries they sustained following a lightning strike while operating at a dwelling fire in Guilford, VT. The hospitalized firefighters were in the building on East Mountain Road when they suffered their injuries. Heavy storms and lightning hit the area-and continued as the members were operating. All suffered NLT injuries.

Take Care. Be careful. Pass It On.

BillyG
The Secret List 7/3/2014-1800 Hours

AND:

Hey,

As you may recall, a "new style" natural gas tanker rolled over in Raymond, NH back on May 16th. These tankers are basically four large gas cylinders stacked in a roll cage with a control panel inside the rear doors and disguised inside a normal-looking box trailer. The trailer in this case was placarded as "Flammable" displaying UN1971 and a "Compressed Natural Gas" label. A few months prior to this accident, NH Fire & EMS had received a statewide safety/awareness bulletin about these tankers operating in the state produced by the NH Department of Homeland Security. Long-time TSL-er and NHDHS Director Perry Plummer has approved release of that bulletin on TSL and it is below for fire, EMS & police department usage.

According to their website (http://xng.com/), Xpress Natural Gas (XNG), the company involved in this particular accident is expanding operations and has customers and plants in Maine and New York. Their transport trailers double as the on-site storage tanks for their customers, and are basically hooked up and left in place, then replaced as needed.

News links, including footage of the tanks venting:

Interesting article regarding XNG's business & expansion plan:


Here's a link to a page on one of the carrier's investor's web site with photos of a transfer operation:

And while we are talking about CNG on the highways, for some excellent training on alternative fuel vehicles, look at West Virginia University's National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium (NAFTC):
http://www.nafc.wvu.edu/

PLEASE look in to whether this type of "disguised" transportation is going through your area, and help raise awareness that it is coming if it isn't there yet.

==THE BROTHERHOOD BASH-SUPPORT BURN SURVIVORS:
The Brotherhood Bash event will be on July 17th during Firehouse Expo in Baltimore in Little Italy. The event will be on South High street between Stiles and Fawn Street it will be from 5 pm until 11 pm. This event will benefit Sons of the Flag. Please visit their website at www.cmdfools.com.

==THE SILENT AUCTION AT FIREHOUSE EXPO:
The annual Silent Auction will be held at the Firehouse Expo on Saturday, July 19, outside the entrance to the main exhibit hall. Bidding will begin when the exhibit floor opens and will end at 12:30, with the winners being announced at 1:00. Items available:
-A BlitzForce portable attack monitor
-A Transformer Piercing Nozzle
-A PRO/pak foam system
-A full set of head to toe PPE from Morning Pride/Honeywell
-Helmets and PPE from Morning Pride, LION, and MSA
-Extrication/fire gloves
-Electronics, including: a GoPro Camera, an iHome speaker system, a Nike Fuel band, and a stream light
-Win social media advertising on Statter911
-Grant writing sessions
-Hotel/Vacation stays
-Firefighter survival seminar at your FD
-Fire/EMS memorabilia...
and much more.
The Silent Auction is one of the primary fundraisers for the Congressional Fire Services Institute, whose mission is to make sure our politicians "get it" on a national level.

PASS IT ON IN BALTIMORE.
Stop by Firehouse Expo Booth # 1812 (Fire Engineering) to consider purchasing a copy of PASS IT ON. 100% of the royalties go to the Chief Ray Downey Scholarship and the NFFF. Cya there!

HISTORY LESSON? For those of you that fall asleep at night.. tossing, turning and wondering "how did this wonderful thing called the secret list ever get started"...you can now sleep better. Finally.

==CONDOLENCES:
=Chief Greg Riddle
Greg Riddle was one of the first paramedics in Elk Grove Village, (IL) the founding executive director of the West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center in River Forest, and a leader in the statewide initiative for wireless 911 funding. "In Illinois, Gregg is considered one of the godfathers of 911," said John Ferraro, executive director of the West Suburban center since 2013. "He understood the importance of radio communications in public safety and the people involved in that line of work. They're the first, first responders." Mr. Riddle, 65, a former deputy chief with the Elk Grove Village Fire Department, died of melanoma Friday, June 27, at JourneyCare, a critical-care facility. Our condolences to all those affected. RIP Chief Riddle.

=Chief Lou Molino
Louis N. Molino Sr. was an EMT/Firefighter practically all of his life. He even lied about his age to join the volunteer department when he was just 16. Lou battled with his health issues most of his life, had diabetes, which cost him his leg almost 3 years ago. Recently he went into kidney failure. He had lost his eye sight and just recently got most of it back. Unfortunately, he lost his battle as on July 4th, 2014 at 11:00pm, he was called home. Lou was "A Texan with a Jersey attitude" who had served as a feisty advocate for Firefighter survival. Our condolences to all affected. Lou was a friend and a character who is missed.
MORE DETAILS ABOUT LOU HERE: http://www.gofundme.com/b2k5y8

=FALLEN MARINE:
We have a marine buddy who OD'd on July 3rd. Apparently he had a hard time after serving his country. His friends are trying to raise money to cover his funeral costs. If you can help or know anyone who might please pass this along. http://www.youcaring.com/memorial-fundraiser/usmc-combat-veteran-joe-lumpkins-final-expense-fund/200558

BillyG
The Secret List 7/15/2014-1400 Hours

AND:

EMS HELICOPTER CRASHES IN NEW MEXICO-ONE CREW MEMBER WAS A FORMER FF/MEDIC FROM NJ
We regret to pass on that a medical helicopter carrying three crew members has crashed in eastern New Mexico. The Federal Aviation Administration said the helicopter disappeared from radar early Thursday morning and went down near Newkirk. Ranch workers found the wreckage after they were asked to look around. New Mexico State Police didn't immediately disclose the conditions of the three crew members on board. However, the ranch manager says he saw no survivors when he and another ranch employee found the burning wreckage on the side of a mesa. The FAA said the cause of the crash is unknown. It said the helicopter was flying from Santa Fe to pick up a patient in Tucumcari. Bullhead City, Arizona-based TriState CareFlight LLC confirmed it owned and operated the helicopter.

=ONE CREW MEMBER IDENTIFIED
Paramedic Rebecca Serkey, 36, was one of three members killed in the Line of Duty when the chopper crashed around 0300 about 135 miles east of Albuquerque, a flight nurse in Nevada and a local EMT who had plans to get together with her this weekend confirmed. "She was a tremendous asset to every department that she worked for and has touched so many lives!" wrote the Ridgefield (NJ) Volunteer Ambulance Corps, one of many she worked for in her career. "She will be truly missed!" Paramedic Serkey and fellow members of her TriState CareFlight crew, based in Arizona,
were well known in the area.

"These crew members were our colleagues, our friends and our neighbors," the hospital said in statement. "Our hearts, and our prayers, go out to the loved ones of these extraordinary individuals, who were committed to saving lives every single day." Serkey, a nationally certified paramedic who began her career in Bergen County, NJ, joined the CareFlight team in July 2012. She previously worked for Saint Clare's Health System in Dover, Denville, Boonton, Sussex and Hacketstown, as a lab instructor at Rockland (NY) Community College in Suffern and as a paramedic with UMDNJ in Newark and Holy Name Medical Center in Teaneck, NJ.

A self-described "adrenaline junkie," Serkey studied police science at John Jay College in Manhattan and was an active SCUBA diver. "I love my jobs and my volunteering I wouldn't give it up," she once said. "I work ridiculous hours sometimes, but people do not wait until 9 AM to get sick or hurt." A former pool lifeguard and camp counselor, Serkey also was an EMT with Fort Lee (NJ) for eight years, with Holy Name for four years and with Ridgefield for a year. Serkey was corps secretary, training officer, crew chief and driver for the Leonia (NJ) Volunteer Ambulance Corps from May 2003 to September 2007 and a probationary firefighter with the Leonia Volunteer Fire Department from March 2006 through December 2007. She also was driver and EMT crew chief with the Palisades Park (NJ) Volunteer Ambulance Corps from April 2005 to November 2006.

Our condolences to all affected.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-17-14/2200 hrs

AND:

All,
A major fire broke out at a hi-rise building called the Lotus Business Park in India (Mumbai area) this morning. There were no reports of any civilian casualties yet as people working in the offices were quickly evacuated by the Fire brigade. However Fire Brigade, Navy and Coast Guard personnel are attempting to rescue Firefighters trapped on the terrace of building. One Firefighter has reportedly died in the Line of Duty and others may be seriously injured in the incident. Rescue operations are in progress to rescue several firefighters, who are still stuck on the terrace of Lotus building. Reports are that around 15-20 firefighters were/are trapped. Dramatic video footages shows Navy and and Coast Guard helicopters lowering ropes on the rooftop to help the trapped Firefighters. - See more at:
=HERE:
http://www.mid-day.com/articles/fire-still-raging-at-andheri-s-lotus-business-park-1-firefighter-feared-dead/15458186#sthash.uH3kCoBe.dpuf
=HERE:
KTIYP's
BillyG
The Secret List 7-18-2014/0700 hrs

AND:

Hey,
It appears that there has been another tower ladder failure. 3 Hall County (Georgia) Firefighters were injured this afternoon during training. Initial reports are that there was some type of mechanical failure
involving a tower ladder (possible free fall of the device) at their training facility—and that the injuries may be serious. Medevac helicopters were on scene. HERE are photos from the scene: [http://tinyurl.com/k7xxdld](http://tinyurl.com/k7xxdld) - We'll post more as it becomes available. PKTIYP's. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG
The Secret List 7/22/2014-1656 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,
We just received this notice from the Sutphen Corporation regarding certain aerial devices and their focus and concern related to firefighter safety. Sutphen is instructing customers to remove all SPH 100, SP 110, SPI 112, and SA 110 Aerial devices from service, until further notice, effective immediately. The Company states that customers are instructed to use the affected apparatus in the capacity of an engine/pumper or support vehicle only. The Company will stay in close contact with its customers to report details and when the units may be place back in service. "At this time, our priority is the safety of our firefighters," says Drew Sutphen, President of the Company. "In light of the recent incidents, we recognize there is an immediate need to take precautionary action. I would rather take every precaution necessary than to put firefighters at risk." The Company states that it will be contacting customers with the affected units personally to inform them of the events that have occurred and the steps that are being taken to get the units back in to service in a timely manner. "We feel the need to personally assure our customers that we are working to investigate and correct the situation," Drew continues. Sutphen Corporation is an Ohio based privately held, family owned business that manufactures custom built emergency response vehicles. The company's headquarters are located in suburban Dublin, Ohio northwest of Columbus. For more information contact the sales office or visit [www.sutphen.com](http://www.sutphen.com) - Sounds like they are doing the right thing.

Take Care. be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG
The Secret List 7/22/14-1930 Hours

**AND:**

All,
Here is an update regarding the conditions of the members of the Hall County (GA) FD who were injured when their tower ladder had that catastrophic failure earlier this week. As you know, Will Griffin, TJ Elliott and Stephen Jackson were injured at that fire training detail Tuesday and are recovering at area hospitals.

**Will**-
Was scheduled for surgery yesterday to have rods put in his back-- L4 and L5. The hospital has stopped visitors so he can get some rest. NEGMC and Grady have gotten log books so if you go you can sign in. They are asking folks to curtail their visits so these guys can get some rest. Don't be upset if you can't see them, but they do want you to sign the log book so they can track who comes and the guys can read that later on after the pain meds are out of their system.

**Stephen**-
Has about 20 staples in his scalp to close up lacerations; does have a sternum fracture; his fracture in back they do not feel will require surgery will put him in a back brace today and possibly start physical therapy tomorrow; have another scan scheduled today [24 hours after first one] to see if discs are ok and head is still clear.
They have him on steroids—once swelling starts to go down they have called a plastic surgeon in to consult on his face—will require plates and plastic surgery due to several fx's on the left side of his face. Right Tib was a clean break...no surgery...will be cast and should heal good; does have lot of fluid around right knee; right shoulder was put back in place and is feeling better; has a dislocation in the coccyx and should heal ok; his fracture in his back they do not feel will require surgery either and anticipate bracing his back today.

Naturally the focus remains on their Firefighter's health and supporting their families. A fund has been set-up at Hall Co Credit Union [http://www.hallcocu.org] in the name of, Hall County Injured Firefighters Fund. Local citizens have called into to ask how they can help and this is the best way. This money will go directly to the three families. Thanks to Chief David Kimbrell for passing this on, and on his behalf, thanks to all who have reached out. Please remember these guys and their families in your prayers.

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN BROTHERS IN BRIDGEPORT, CT.
On July 24, 2010, 2 Bridgeport FF's, 40-year-old Lieutenant Steve Velazquez and 49-year-old Firefighter Michel Baik, from Ladder 11 were killed in the Line of Duty. They were found unresponsive at a residential structure fire. Valazquez and Baik and two additional crew members were tasked with conducting a primary search for civilians and fire extension on the 3rd floor of the multifamily residential structure. The fire had been extinguished on the 2nd floor upon their entry into the structure.

While pulling walls and the ceiling on the 3rd floor, smoke and heat conditions changed rapidly.

We take time to remember them, their families and the BFD membership. Honor their Line of Duty deaths by learning about this incident—see below.

RIP.

HERE is the NIOSH Report: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201018.html

HERE ARE THE DETAILS OF THE FIRE FROM IAFF-TV: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRHQxJlh7OY

(GREAT VIDEO FOR A COMPANY DRILL) HERE IS MEDIA VIDEO about the Fire: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DSIVAGV1c4

BillyG
The Secret List 7/24/2014-1200 Hours

AND:

All,
The NY Post is reporting the very tough but not unexpected news that more than 2,500 Ground Zero rescuers and responders have come down with cancer—year... with an additional 863 from FDNY. The grim toll has skyrocketed from the 1,140 cancer cases reported last year. In its latest tally, the World Trade Center Health Program at Mount Sinai Hospital counts 1,655 responders with cancer among the 37,000 cops, hard hats, sanitation workers, other city employees and volunteers it monitors.

NOTE: The tragic sum rises to 2,518 when Firefighters and EMTs are added. The FDNY, which
has its own WTC health program, said Friday it counts 863 members with cancers certified for 9/11-related treatment.

A retired FDNY captain, 63, who toiled non-stop at Ground Zero for a week after 9/11, and months in all, recently received a $1.5 million award from the federal 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund for lung disease and inoperable pancreatic cancer. The emaciated Bravest brought VCF Special Master Sheila Birnbaum to tears when he testified at a hearing in May - expedited because of his dim prognosis - telling how he loves his grandchildren and worries about his wife of 40 years. "I'm hoping they rush more cases like mine, where we're not expected to last long," he told The Post. On 9/11, he commandeered a city bus and got the Brooklyn Bridge closed so he and his crew from Ladder Co. 132 could race to the towers, where they joined the dig for victims. "I knew that day that a lot of us would get sick," he said.

He was forced to retire in 2008 after lung damage left him wheezing after fires. Last year, doctors found a huge tumor entwined around arteries: "They couldn't take it out without killing me," he said. The 6-foot-2 firefighter - a muscle-bound 240 pounds on 9/11 - now weighs 160 after chemotherapy and radiation. "I was a very active guy. Now there's not much I can do," he said, adding that his three toddler grandkids give him joy, though he's often too weak to play with them. "I'm grateful for it," he said of his VCF award, which is mainly based on lost earnings but includes $250,000 for pain and suffering. "I just don't understand why they're making everyone wait two years." VCF recipients get 10 percent immediately, with the rest due in 2016. As of June 30, the VCF had received 1,145 claims listing cancer, many also with other ailments, according to data compiled for The Post. Of those, 881 claims - for scores of cancer types - were deemed eligible for compensation, with the rest under review. The vast majority are 9/11 workers, but they include 17 downtown residents and five visitors.

So far, 115 cancer claimants have been awarded a total $50.5 million, in sums from $400,000 to $4.1 million. The VCF could not say how many cancer claimants have died. Many more sufferers or their next-of-kin are expected to file by the Oct. 14 deadline for cancer claims. WTC epidemiologists say studies show that 9/11 workers have gotten certain cancers at a significantly higher rate than expected in the normal population - prostrate, thyroid, leukemia and multiple myeloma. HERE IS THE ENTIRE ARTICLE:

FIREFIGHTER DIES FROM OCCUPATIONAL CANCER-LEAVES NINE CHILDREN BEHIND:
It is with deep regret that we pass on the news that Firefighter Kevin James of the Southwold Township Fire Department (Ontario, Canada) has passed away from an occupational related cancer. Kevin has been a firefighter with Southwold for 12 years and prior to that was with Southwest Oxford FD for 9 years. **He leaves a wife and 9 children behind.**

Kevin James of St. Thomas passed away peacefully after a valiant fight with cancer at home on Friday, July 25, 2014 in his 49th year. Loved husband of Caitlin (Traviss) James and loving father of Nicole, Cynthia, Joseph, Jennifer, Michael, Angela, Benjamin, Geoffrey and Jeremy. Kevin was born December 28, 1965 in Wallaceburg. He was a volunteer Firefighter with the Southwold Fire Department and also was a security guard at London Health Science Centre. Resting at Williams Funeral Home, 45 Elgin St., St. Thomas where visitation will be held Tuesday from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. The funeral service will be held at Forest City Community Church (3725 Bostwick Rd., London, N6P 1G9) on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Cremation to follow. Donations to the Cancer Society or the Bruce Trail Conservancy. Logistics for Kevin's fire department funeral are still being arranged and we will post them as soon as we have the information.

Link to the funeral home: http://www.williamsfuneralhomeltd.com/index1.htm
Link to the Southwold Firefighters: http://southwoldfiredept.ca/
Southwold is a predominately rural township in Elgin County, in Ontario, Canada, located on the north shore of Lake Erie. It has a population of about 4400 residents. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

FERTILIZER MANUFACTURERS BLAME WEST (TEXAS) VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS:
C.F. Industries is one of the fertilizer manufacturers named in hundreds of lawsuits filed by families of those killed and injured in the West Fertilizer Company explosion on April 17, 2013. In recent court filings, C.F. Industries is seeking to designate the City of West as a "responsible third party" in the lawsuits. The fertilizer manufacturer contends that the city failed to properly train the first responders to fight the fire that triggered the explosion in West that killed 15 people and injured hundreds of others:

http://kwhi.com/fertilizer-manufacturers-blame-volunteer-firefighters/

BillyG
The Secret List 7-27-2014-0524 hrs

AND:

Hey,
Bad news out of Montana-a wildland Firefighter working on a fire on the Bitterroot National Forest in Montana is now missing. The Firefighter was a member of an eight-person hand crew working out of Darby, Montana mopping up the one-acre Weasel Fire yesterday afternoon July 27 when reported missing. The other Firefighters began a search and notified Ravalli County Search and Rescue, which is continuing the effort today. The Weasel Fire is about 10 miles east of Hamilton and 40 miles south of Missoula near the border of the Bitterroot and Beaverhead/Deerlodge National Forests. The fire had been contained on Saturday and was being checked and mopped up by the Darby crew on Sunday. KTIYP's.

FOLLOW more details at www.Wildfiretoday.com as well as thru The Secret List and www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

TWO FIRE SERVICE MEMBERS KILLED IN TRAINING COPTER CRASH-ITALY-CO PILOT SURVIVES
An Italian firefighting helicopter crashed yesterday near the city of Rieti in central Italy killing the pilot and a technician. The co-pilot was wounded and rushed to a hospital in nearby Rome in serious condition. The victims, aged 60 and 67, were confirmed dead soon after the crash, which occurred near a lake in the area while the firefighter helicopter was carrying out a flight training. Local authorities said the accident could have been caused by a sudden damage of the aircraft's transmission system. The pilot was thought to have attempted an emergency landing before the engine collapsed definitely. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

=NOT TO MISS:
=SPECIAL UNVEILING EVENT AT FRI- RE: "MODERN" FIRE ATTACK
=YOU ARE INVITED:
The Principles of Modern Fire Attack SLICE-RS Training Video Release at FRI! The much anticipated training video is a culmination of years of fire research by Firefighters. It outlines new tactical operational plans that incorporate the latest fire dynamic research from UL and NIST and introduces SLICE-RS to the fire community. The video will be unveiled during 2014 FRI on August 14, 2014 to a select audience and you're invited to be a part of it.
THURSDAY AUGUST 14
ROOM D-165
FRI Dallas Convention Center
1330 HOURS (complimentary snacks and beverages provided)
DETAILS HERE: http://isfsi.org/media/Video_Invite_Release-11.jpg
WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER HERE:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qv8LiPJfaOo&feature=youtu.be

Also....
Fire Engineering/Pennwell will also have the book PASS IT ON for sale at their booth at FRI-to raise funds for the NFFF and Chief Ray Downey Scholarship.
HERE are ALL the details for FRI-cya there:
http://www.iafc.org/micrositeFR1conf/
BillyG
The Secret List 7/28/2014-1500 Hours

AND:

All,

A very young Firefighter from Ontario, Canada continues to fight for her life in a Kingston hospital, after suffering a bleed in her brain, Line of Duty Injury. Firefighter Jessica Boomhower, a 20-year-old volunteer Firefighter with the Napanee Dorland Station was at training at the Napanee Fire Station on June 25. While there, a call came in, and she was getting ready to respond-she felt ill as she was getting onto the apparatus, and firefighters helped her and called EMS. FF Boomhower was rushed to the hospital in Napanee, where she was unconscious on arrival. They then moved her to Kingston where she received emergency surgery on her brain for a brain injury. FF Boomhower remains in KGH and is making some slow steps towards recovery. A Go Fund Me online fundraising campaign has raised nearly $4,500 for the family from 47 different donors, all who have left wishes for recovery for Boomhower on the page. FF Boomhower has been a member of Greater Napanee Fire Services for just over a year. She was planning to do her firefighter classification exam the night she collapsed.
For more information, please visit: www.gofundme.com/axl0ww, or search "Please Support the Boomhower Family" on Facebook. We wish her a successful recovery. There are more details HERE:
http://www.napaneeguide.com/2014/07/29/napanee-firefighter-fighting-for-her-life

BillyG
The Secret List 7-29-2014-2231 hrs

AND:

Hey,
Well this is really good news from The National Fire Academy about a much needed program. Today they announced a new training program aimed at improving the professional skills of America's fire and emergency medical services first responders. Called the Managing Officer (MO) program, the curriculum emphasizes leadership, safety, community risk reduction, training, and technology for those men and women who may be embarking on supervisory roles in their organization.

NOTE: The MO program differs from other NFA programs by providing new officers a defined nationally-recognized curriculum. Students will be able to complete the program in as little as two years, and will receive a NFA capstone certificate when they finish. NFA Superintendent Dr. Denis Onieal explained, "The MO program will fulfill the four universal elements of professional development: higher education, training and certification, continuing education and experience. This includes a combination of self-study, state and local training, and resident courses at the National
Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland." The program curriculum and entrance requirements were established by the NFA Board of Visitors. The four resident courses include Contemporary Training Concepts for Fire and EMS, Applications of Community Risk Reduction, Transitional Safety Leadership and Analytical Tools for Decision-Making.

APPLY NOW! For additional information, go here:
http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/managing_officer_program/index.shtm

==FIREFIGHTER T-SHIRTS & FIREFIGHTER FIGHTING CANCER
CAN YOU HELP??
A Firefighter from New York is calling on his brothers and sisters in the fire service to lend a hand, in his battle with a serious illness. "I love the fire service," said David Blank of Lake View, who has been a member of North Boston Fire Department for the past 30 years including time as Chief of Department. Earlier this year, Blank, 53, began experiencing unexplained and excruciating bone pain. "I kind of blew it off at first as old age and overdoing it sometimes," Last month after a bone marrow biopsy, doctors confirmed a diagnosis of Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). Blank has been hospitalized at Roswell Park Cancer Center since July 3rd, undergoing chemotherapy. Several of his Brother and Sister Firefighters are collecting t-shirts-so he can wear a different one each day as he fights his cancer- CAN YOU HELP?
Please send an XL tee-shirt from your FD or FIRE/EMS org for Ex-Chief Blank to:
Firefighter Dave Blank T-Shirt
5564 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221
You can also find out more on the Williamsville Fire Department facebook page.
https://www.facebook.com/WilliamsvilleFire

==DO YOU KNOW A FIREFIGHTER OR FIREFIGHTER FAMILY MEMBER WITH CANCER?
Do not hesitate to reach out to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network-it is WHY they exist-SUPPORT firefighters dealing with cancer: http://www.firefightercancersupport.org/

==F.R.I. IS COMING UP....August 13-16 in Dallas, Texas
If you are on TWITTER follow the FRI updates from the IAFC at: @FireRescueIntl (Are you on Twitter? Its pretty cool, right? I'm at @BillyGoldfeder and I post fire and related stuff that's normally outside and beyond the scope of what we post here on The Secret List)

SPECIAL EVENT AT FRI--YOU ARE INVITED:
F.R.I. STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTING--DO NOT MISS THIS SPECIAL UNVEILING EVENT AT FRI-RE: "MODERN" FIRE ATTACK
The Principles of Modern Fire Attack Training Video will be released at F.R.I! The much anticipated training video is a culmination of years of fire research by Firefighters. It outlines new tactical operational plans that incorporate the latest fire dynamic research from UL and NIST and introduces SLICE-RS to the fire community.
The video will be unveiled during 2014 FRI on August 14, 2014 at 1330 to a select audience and you're invited to be a part of it. And there is free food & drink. What's not to like?
THURSDAY AUGUST 14
ROOM D-165
FRI Dallas Convention Center
1330 HOURS (complimentary snacks and beverages provided)
DETAILS HERE:
http://isfsi.org/media/Video_Invoke_Release-11.jpg
WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER HERE:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qv8LiPJfaOo&feature=youtu.be
and lastly....PASS IT ON.
Fire Engineering/Pennwell will also have the book PASS IT ON for sale at their booth at FRI-to raise funds for the NFFF and Chief Ray Downey Scholarship.

HERE are ALL the details for FRI-cya there:
http://www.iafc.org/micrositeFRIconf/
BillyG
The Secret List 7/30/2014-1300 Hours

AND:

FIREFIGHTER FALLS AND LOSES HIS LIFE IN OREGON
We regret to pass on that a 21-year-old Firefighter has died at the Launch fire near Fourmile Lake in Klamath County, Oregon. Firefighter Matthew David Goodnature's mom has told media that her son loved his job working as a Firefighter with Pacific Aasis Wildland Firefighting, based in Ashland. Around 1830-1900 hours last night FF Goodnature stepped on a rock, slipped, and fell on a downed tree. The lower part of his back hit and it appears he broke his back and died. Detectives are working on ruling out foul play, but there's no evidence to suggest it was anything other than an accident. This was his second season as a Wildland firefighter. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-30-2014-2100 Hours

AND:

Hey,

While I have been in the fortunate position of trying to push a few changes in our business, don't ever confuse that for me liking much change. I could write a lengthy TSL about the changes I have fought-and in some cases still don't agree with. However, the fact of the matter is change happens and like it or not, it's coming. In the fire media world, change happens generally for one reason-business. It's business. The fire media world, with rare exception, are for profit businesses and there are few things more American than that. While on one hand I may or may not like the fact that it's business, on the other hand these media businesses who are in our fire world do provide us with a life support service.....platforms to learn and share information. From the magazines to the websites to the conferences and shows-these businesses are a very critical part of how we learn. We were sent a media release this morning from Cygnus and have used most of it below-but will take editorial privilege to add some personal comments.

Anyway, so once again change has hit the fire media business. Cygnus Business Media has announced the appointment of Tim Sendelbach as the new Editor-in-Chief of Firehouse. In this newly expanded role, Tim will be responsible for the content and editorial direction of Firehouse Magazine, Firehouse.com, Firehouse Expo, Firehouse World and their related products. Tim will be replacing a dear friend and Brother to so many of us, Harvey Eisner, who is currently editor-in-chief of Firehouse (who will now serve as Editor Emeritus of Firehouse). Harvey is retired Chief of Department of the Tenafly, NJ, FD, which he joined in 1975 and served as Chief of Department for 12 years. Harvey also was a firefighter in the Stillwater, OK, FD for three years while attending Oklahoma State University. Eisner is an honorary Assistant Chief of the FDNY and program director for the Firehouse Expo, Firehouse World conferences.
Harvey started at Firehouse as a photographer in July of 1976-and the rest of his time at the helm of Firehouse is legendary. He started working full time as Editor in Chief in 1982 and there no major incidents that Harvey didn't respond to by plane, train or automobile. Literally. WTC (both times), Oklahoma City bombing, Worcester, Charleston...name it, Harvey turned out to report the facts to the world's fire service thru the pages of Firehouse.

Also a long time friend, Tim has 29 years in fire and emergency services, having previously served as Editor-in-Chief for FireRescue Magazine and Firefighternation.com. Tim is a past president of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) and has served as an Assistant Fire Chief with the North Las Vegas (NV) Fire Department, as the Chief of Training for Savannah (GA) Fire & Emergency Services, and as Assistant Fire Chief for Missouri City (TX) Fire & Rescue Services. Tim has a master's degree in Leadership from Bellevue University, bachelor's degrees in Fire Administration and Arson, and an associate's degree in Emergency Medical Care from Eastern Kentucky University. As a nationally recognized leader in the fire service, Tim joins veteran Editor-in-Chief Harvey Eisner, who will serve as Editor Emeritus, along with the rest of the Firehouse editorial staff, to support a unified editorial theme that continues to lead and educate the fire service via Firehouse's multiple media platforms.

So as the old school media people used to say, "so there ya have it".

Look, I have no insight on why some change happens - but in the business world, it's for business reasons. I do know that. And when it's an owned business, those who own the business make the decisions that lead to changes.

Am I saddened to see the "Harvey" part of this change? Absolutely. Harvey and Firehouse Magazine have been with us for a long, long time. Harvey and Firehouse has been something that could be counted on. I'm not sure of what Harvey's specific role will be in the future at Firehouse-but I can tell you this, whatever he does for Firehouse will be well worth reading or listening to. Count on that.

What else can you count on? Firehouse will be different. Sounds like it will be very different under Tim's leadership. What Tim writes about will certainly be well worth listening to-always has been. Obviously the change makers feel that this will be a better change. We certainly hope that whatever those changes are-that the Firefighters and Fire Officers are the ones who ultimately profit from those changes.

It's all about us.

BillyG
The Secret List 8-1-2014-0830 Hours

AND:

All,

A series of gas explosions in the southern Taiwanese city of Kaohsiung has killed 22 people (at least 5 of them Firefighters) and injured about 270. The exact cause of the gas leaks is not clear, but reports say the blasts were caused by ruptured pipelines. Images from the scene (link below) show major fires, cars overturned and significant damage to roads and buildings. The local fire department received calls of gas leaks late this evening and then there was a series of blasts around midnight affecting an area of about one square mile. VIDEO & MORE HERE: http://m.bbc.com/news/world-asia-28594693 - Our condolences to all affected. RIP.
Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Billy G
The Secret List 7-31-14-2100 hours

AND:

Hey,
On your personal "list of fires to study and know", the Waldbaums fire is a must.

Just prior to the collapse, Louise O'Conner, Wife of FF William O'Conner was at the scene of the fire with her 3 small children. While FF O'Conner was operating on the roof, he waved to his family, and then they waved back, then shortly thereafter the roof collapsed, taking her husbands, and the father of her children's life.
HERE ARE REPORTS FROM THE FIRE:
http://www.fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/fire97/art141.html
HERE is the story with photos from STEVE SPAK:
http://stevespak.com/waldbaums.html
HERE is an excellent related video:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pTzBg1YlZml
RIP.

DUI "LAST CALL" FOR AUSTIN TEXAS FIREFIGHTERS
News from down in Texas is that the Fire Chief, Rhoda Mae Kerr, is getting tough on DUI's involving her personnel.

Austin Firefighters Association President Bob Nicks states that Chief Kerr's "tactic" is "very heavy-handed." But Chief Kerr's actions target what has been described as a significant AFD problem, and this also follows an apparent crackdown by Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo on his personnel as well.

In early April, APD Chief Acevedo distributed a dramatic video to departmental personnel (LINK TO VIDEO BELOW) announcing a new, zero-tolerance policy against drunk-driving police officers. First-time offenders won't just receive temporary suspensions anymore, the Chief asserted. Each suspected offender stands to be fired, whether or not they're found guilty in a court of law.
"If our investigation shows through an abundance of evidence that someone at our department, whether they're sworn or unsworn, committed a violation of DWI, we're not going to tolerate it," he clarified at the time. He has not had to fire any officers for that offense since the program rollout.

READ: According to the NHTSA an estimated 10,322 people died in drunk driving crashes in 2012, accounting for 31% of all traffic deaths that year.

DUI is a lose/lose for everyone involved-many of us know that first hand. When a Fire Chief takes a fair but tough stance against DUI, (and that includes getting help for the members involved) - that Chief is protecting the member, the other members, their families and the public.
Austin DUI VIDEO:
Hey,
A Lenox (Missouri) firefighter had been airlifted to a Springfield hospital around 1815 hours last night after being ejected from a brush truck with a blown tire in Dent County. Kyle A. Good, 26, was driving the Lenox Rural FD brush truck westbound on Highway C, about 10 miles northwest of Salem, when the front left tire blew out. The truck struck an embankment and overturned, ejecting Good. Good was flown by an air ambulance to Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Missouri. He was not wearing a seat belt, the state highway patrol report stated. The brush truck was totaled and he is reported to be in critical condition. It is not clear at this time if the truck was responding to an incident at the time of the crash.

See more at:
http://m.therolladailynews.com/article/20140804/NEWS/140809635/1994/NEWS#sthash.f2p7ZKCn.dpuf

**UPDATE ON HALL COUNTY (GA) FIREFIGHTERS INJURED IN TOWER LADDER FAILURE**

One of the three Hall County firefighters injured in a training accident two weeks ago is now being treated at Shepherd Spinal Center in Atlanta. FF Will Griffin, 24, was transferred from Northeast Georgia Medical Center Friday and began his rehabilitation program Monday. He is staying in Shepherd Center's Spinal Cord Injury Unit. There are no details on how long the rehabilitation process would take. Griffin and two other Hall County firefighters - TJ Elliott and Stephen Jackson - suffered serious injuries on July 22 when the ladder on a ladder truck collapsed during a training exercise, dropping the men more than 40 feet. Elliott and Jackson have both been released from the hospital; both were taken to Grady in Atlanta for treatment at that hospital's trauma unit. Hall County Fire Services has established a fund for the three firefighters - now known at the department as the "Tower Trio." Donations are being accepted at the Hall County Injured Firefighters Fund at the Hall Co. Credit Union, P.O. Box 908237, Gainesville, GA 30501 or call 770-534-4255.


BillyG
The Secret List 8-5-2014 0623 Hours

**AND:**

**INDIANA ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

We regret to advise you of the Line of Duty Death of New Carlisle (LaPorte County) Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Middlebrook. Late last night, area fire companies (not far from South Bend, IN on US 20) responded to a commercial building fire. At some point, as Chief Middlebrook and another Firefighter were setting up a portable ground monitor within a section of the structure, and while inside, there as a catastrophic collapse of the building. One Firefighter was rescued from the fire and taken to a local hospital (treated and released with a leg fracture) however Chief Middlebrook could not be saved. The fire occurred at K-Fex, a septic pumping business. There are reports that there had been explosions at the fire prior to the collapse. Chief Middlebrook was a career EMT for New Carlisle EMS. He
leaves behind his wife, Julie and his Father Robert—who is a 40 years member and past Chief of the department. Our condolences to the family of Chief Middlebrook as well as the members and friends of the department, Jamie was a friend of the crew here at www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com. RIP.

HERE is video and photos from the scene:
We will have much more on this tragic loss later.

MISSOURI TAXPAYERS SAY NO!
Take a look at this piece regarding numerous tax proposals going up in “flames” (sorry) as fire and ambulance districts attempt tax hikes in Missouri.
BillyG
The Secret List 8/6/2014-0530 Hours

AND:

Hey, Last evening, eight (8) Firefighters, three (3) Santa Clara County Firefighters and five (5) CAL FIRE/CDCR inmate Firefighters, received burn injuries while fighting the Lodge fire in Mendocino County. All were medivaced and transported to the regional burn center at UC Davis. Initial reports indicate their burn injuries are serious, but are not life threatening. We’ll keep you advised-KTIYP's
BillyG
The Secret List 8/9-14-1330 Hours

AND:

Hey,
A mechanical failure in the front drive train of that 2002 International fire apparatus was determined to be the cause of a June 19 crash that left 6 people dead near Helena, Montana. Shortly after 2100, the apparatus, driven by Three Forks Fire Chief Todd Rummel, was traveling east at about 55 mph on Highway 12 roughly 10 miles east of Helena when it experienced a mechanical failure, causing Rummel to lose control of the vehicle and veer suddenly to the left, into the westbound lane. He was bringing the rig back from being in the shop. State Police reported: The failure occurred prior to impact and caused the driver to lose control of the vehicle...there are several markings on the pavement (before the skid marks start) where the drive shaft was spinning and colliding with the pavement. The truck then collided with a 1997 Chevrolet pickup truck occupied by Matt Boegli, Crystal Ross and their three children: Brighton Boegli, 4, and 3-year-old twins Madison and Peighton Boegli. The driver of the pickup truck veered to the right in order to avoid the fire truck, but was unable to do so...the impact ruptured a diesel fuel tank ... on the fire truck. Fuel from the massive tank splashed out of the fire truck onto both vehicles and within moments, both the fire apparatus and the pickup were in flames. Chief Rummel died "from smoke inhalation while unconscious," according to a Jefferson County coroner's report, and the family of five in the pickup died from "blunt force trauma." None of the three children in the pickup were wearing seat belts or restrained in any way.
BillyG
The Secret List 8/13/2014-0705 Hours
Hey,
A "firefighter close call" yesterday, when at approximately 1730 hours, a burnover occurred on the Beaver Fire near Klamath River, California. **Three firefighters were trapped as a rapid wind shift overtook them.** All three firefighters deployed their fire shelters. At the time of deployment, they were in a predetermined Safety Zone. The firefighters were evaluated on scene. No serious injuries have been reported at this time. All firefighters were actively withdrawing from the fire as a thunderstorm approached. All personnel are safe and accounted for. The thunderstorm produced 30-35 mph outflow winds that changed direction rapidly and caused extreme fire behavior. With the increase in wind speed, flame lengths extended into the canopy of the trees, causing a sustained crown run which aligned with the exposed west slope on Buckhorn Ridge. Fuels are at critically low moisture conditions and extremely receptive to fire due to the exceptional drought. **GOOD NEWS.**

Between 2007-2011, residential fires accounted for about 8 out of 10 firefighter fireground injuries. The fire dynamics encountered during modern residential fires differ greatly from traditional models. The size and configuration of the typical single-family home, new construction techniques, high heat release-rate furnishings, and energy-efficient building technologies are increasing the risk to firefighters. The cumulative effects of these changes are faster fire movement, excessive volumes of smoke, shorter escape times, decreased time to flashover, faster structural collapse, and reduction in time available for effective fire ground operations. This requires all firefighters to be constantly training on fire response, size up and fire attack.

**Many factors contribute to the number of deaths and injuries, but a likelihood is that many firefighters may not have been aware of the advancements that could have changed these tragic outcomes.**

Given the success that ALIVE (Advanced Learning through Integrated Visual Environments) has shown as a tool for training and disseminating information to firefighters, NYU-Poly researchers and firefighters from FDNY, Chicago, and Bloomington, with support from AFG, collaborated with subject matter experts from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to develop an ALIVE module to provide a basic understanding of the science of modern fires.

**You and your department can now take advantage of this advanced multimedia interactive training at no cost.** The scientists from NYU-Poly will work with your training academies to build a customized ALIVE portal for your department.

**DETAILS:** If your fire department is interested in utilizing this scientifically tested and proven training, please contact the NYU-Poly Fire Research Group at fire@poly.edu.

Please visit www.poly.edu/fire for more information and to access this info.

**Also, be sure to check out www.ModernFireBehavior.com**

**DO NOT MISS THIS SPECIAL UNVEILING EVENT AT FRI- RE: "MODERN" STRUCTURAL FIRE ATTACK**

The Principles of Modern Fire Attack Training Video will be released at F.R.I! The much anticipated training video is a culmination of years of fire research by Firefighters. It outlines new tactical operational plans that incorporate the latest fire dynamic research from UL and NIST and introduces SLICE-RS to the fire community. The video will be unveiled during 2014 FRI on August 14, 2014 at 1330 to a select audience and you're invited to be a part of it. And there is free food & drink. What's
not to like?

THURSDAY AUGUST 14
ROOM D-165
FRI Dallas Convention Center
1330 HOURS (complimentary snacks and beverages provided)
DETAILS HERE:
http://isfsi.org/media/Video_Invite_Release-11.jpg
WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER HERE:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qv8LiPJfaOo&feature=youtu.be

TRUCK COMPANY ROLLS IN VIRGINIA
This morning there was a serious crash in Fairfax County. The truck, that was responding on a run, is in bad shape but the members are doing OK. We have details on our homepage.
BillyG
The Secret List 8/12/14-1026 Hours

AND:

===AUSTRALIA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-BLDG FIRE/COLLAPSE
We regret to pass on to you that a Firefighter in New South Wales (AU) was killed in the Line of Duty while operating at a hotel fire. Firefighter Daniel Howard, 37, was killed after a wall collapsed on him and a fellow firefighter at the Cobar New Occidental Hotel at about 0900 hours. The second firefighter is being treated for a broken arm at Cobar Hospital. FF Howard had stayed at home this weekend, because, it was reported that few other members were available for fire calls. Companies were called to the inn at 0800 hours following reports the building was on fire. Ten people who had been inside the building were accounted for. About an hour later, the wall collapsed onto the two fire officers. Our condolences to all affected.
VIDEO FROM THE FIRE: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZgnMPQhHF
Our condolences to all those affected. RIP.

===FATAL EMS CRASH IN OHIO:
A patient in an ambulance was killed Friday night when the vehicle rolled over at Interstate 71 and Ohio 13. The crash happened at 2345 hours on the I-71 southbound exit ramp to Ohio 13 in Washington Township. The vehicle was from Community Care Ambulance Service of Ashtabula. The 2011 Ford Ambulance driven by Amber D. Brown, 30, of Cleveland, traveled off the left side of the exit ramp, striking the guardrail, according to the Ohio Highway Patrol's Mansfield post. The vehicle continued through the guardrail over an embankment, where it rolled several times. Willis and an EMT, James A. Phillips, 30, of Garfield Heights, were ejected from the patient transport area. Phillips and Brown were transported to OhioHealth MedCentral Mansfield Hospital with minor injuries.
VIDEO/PICS FROM THE SCENE: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ewhnADdVuyk

===DRUNK SLAMS INTO FIRE CHIEFS CAR AT SCENE
Early yesterday morning in Texas, a drunk driver drove up onto the scene of a previous crash and slammed into the rear of the Spring Fire Chief's Dodge Charger. That crash pushed the chiefs vehicle into the rear of a Cypress Creek EMS ambulance parked on the scene. That driver was arrested by Harris County Sheriff's Department deputies and transported to the Harris County Jail. For an unknown reason that intoxicated driver felt the scene to be amusing. As he was escorted to the patrol car he was smiling as he looked at the scene. Then while this was happening a female driver in the only moving lane of traffic stopped in the lane to rubber neck the scene and was rear-ended. No injuries were reported on that crash. So what's the lesson-expect to be struck -- so take your
TRAINING HER so you can understand what to o before this happens to you or your FD/EMS:
FREE FIREFIGHTER/EMS HIGHWAY OPERATIONS TRAINING/DRILL INFO:
http://learning.respondersafety.com/

===DO YOU RESPOND TO FIRES? READ THIS:
Cincinnati Fire Lt. David Herth describes the Queen City Barrel blaze as "one of the most exciting
fires" he has fought in his more than 26 years with the CFD. The five-alarm fire had towering flames,
bollowing smoke and a fireball that just barely missed some of his colleagues. But Herth has more
than dramatic stories to tell from that day a decade ago. He also has concerns about the long-term
health impacts of fighting a fire without knowing exactly what hazards he was exposed to on
Aug. 19, 2004. "I don't think there was any fear of what was burning at the time," said Herth,
who is now 52 and still stationed at the Lower Price Hill firehouse not far from where Queen
City Barrel once stood. "But after you think about it, what kind of chemicals were in those
barrels? That weighed on your mind after the fact."

Two firefighters who were there have since retired with different neurological problems. One had
symptoms that mimicked ALS with muscle weakness across his body. Another had breathing
problems because of a weak diaphragm. But officials couldn't pinpoint either of the conditions to any
specific exposure, said District Chief Marc Monahan. A few others have reported diagnoses of
prostate cancer, but those haven't been linked definitively to the Queen City Barrel fire either, said
Ken Kiefer, a retired Cincinnati Fire Department captain who now works as Local 48's workers'
compensation and pension representative.

"The latency period on a lot of these cancers is 20-plus years," Kiefer said. "It's complex."

Complex and dangerous.

READ MUCH MORE HERE:
http://www.wcpo.com/about-us/history/a-decade-later-firefighters-wonder-how-queen-city-barrel-fire-
could-impact-their-health#sthash.hpuDVRfD.dpuf

===DISAPPEARING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS?
It's one of those issues some people don't like talking about-and that's too bad-because when citizens
dial 9-1-1, there is a reasonable expectation that a well staffed, well trained first alarm assignment will
arrive real quickly. But that's not always the case. Just listen to the fire radio scanner in so many
areas.....1st tone...2nd tone...3rd tone. And some areas, leadership knowing well that the problem
exists, ignore it. No changing the way they operate to best benefit the community.

No re-thinking about the training needed-or not needed.
No change on funding-so VFF's don't have to raise money to also fight fires.
No automatic mutual aid.
No open discussion about hiring personnel.
No discussions about whats right for those having their fire.
But it's not our fire.
It's their fire....those who dialed 9-1-1.
And they needed help 5 minutes ago....
So what's best for the people having the emergency?

In that In most places in North America, when a fire breaks out, a volunteer shows up to put it out. But
the ranks of volunteers are dwindling. What was once an iconic part of North American life is losing its
allure, in part because the work - some would say the calling - is a lot less fun than it used to be.
There are still more than twice as many volunteers as career firefighters. But the number of volunteers has dropped by around 11 percent since the mid-1980s, while the number of career firefighters has grown more than 50 percent, according to the National Fire Protection Association. The allure has diminished because fund-raising now takes up roughly half the time most volunteers spend on duty. It's also harder to fit in volunteer work. The rise in two-income households often means that there is no stay-at-home parent to run things so the other can dash off for an emergency. Urbanization and the aging of the rural population are taking their toll as fewer young people are available to replace firefighters who retire.

READ THE ENTIRE NY TIMES VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE ARTICLE HERE:

BillyG
The Secret List 8-17-2014/1941 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Here are some additional details (and history) related to the recent failures (and previous reported recall) of the Sutphen aerial devices. Naturally, if you have any questions or concerns, reach out to the folks at Sutphen directly. This information was sent via the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration. According to their information, recall inspections were done on these rigs (see below) between 2/1/2013 and 5/17/2013, by specially trained technicians. One report shows that 28 of the 156 rigs needed to be repaired.

HISTORY:

On May 22, 2013 their Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened a Preliminary Evaluation investigation (PE13-017) on Sutphen SPH aerial ladder bucket equipped vehicles for cable failures resulting in unintended bucket retraction. ODI closed the PE on November 19, 2013 when Sutphen submitted a safety recall 13V-565 in which they concluded that the main bucket cables were wearing and failing. The bearings in the sheaves used in the extend/retract the system were seizing and preventing the sheaves from rotating. The cables sliding over the non-moving sheaves could wear and result in reduced load carrying capacity. Failure of the extend/retract system could result in either the aerial becoming inoperable or cause it to unexpectedly retract. This movement could result in damage to the vehicle and/or injuries to personnel on or around the vehicle.

CURRENT ISSUE AND UPDATE:

Since the closing of PE13-017 ODI has been made aware (through media reports) of two post recall failures that resulted in 6 injuries. These failures occurred following the implementation of the recall remedy on the vehicles. ODI is also aware that Sutphen sent a field representative to assist and evaluate the failure mechanism in each event. The first incident occurred in Belle Valley, PA on Wednesday June 25, 2014 where three people were injured when a platform cable failed. The second incident occurred in Hall County, Georgia on Tuesday July 22, 2014. In that case, three people were seriously injured when a platform cable failed. Both vehicles were remedied per safety recall 13V-565. As a result of the injuries and post remedy failures, ODI is opening this Recall Query (RQ) to assess the adequacy of the recall remedy.

==Additional details can be found on these links:
==At this NHTSA web page you can select to receive email recall notifications from up to 5 manufacturers: http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/subscriptions/

==This page shows investigations within the last 30 days: http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/RecentInvestigations

DOES YOUR DEPARTMENT CONDUCT APPARATUS BACKGROUND CHECKS?
Hall County (GA) Fire Chief David Kimbrell was relieved of duty this week-and it may or may not be tied to that failed tower ladder. However, Chief Kimbrell, as part of his job, was to go before commissioners with information about the used 2006 Sutphen fire truck, that they bought. It was the same truck bought back by the company from South Carolina, after a fire department there "had lost all confidence in the truck, due its catastrophic and consistent failures." However, Chief Kimbrell stated that "no one involved with procuring the ladder had any knowledge of its reported history during the procurement; it was never revealed by the manufacturer."

EVENTUALLY -we'll be able to learn what happened to the numerous failed rigs-including Hall County-and we suspect there will be numerous "lessons learned" when it all comes out.

BUT IN THE MEANTIME -when purchasing used apparatus, INSIST on a full "background check" that goes from the time of manufacturer to delivery to the most recent use-and every aspect at each and every level. INSIST on full disclosure of names, phones numbers and anything else that will INSURE you and your department know everything about that rig-everything. Make the hone calls and ask the questions-DO NOT risk your folks in what may be a predictable-and preventable event. HERE is much more from the media:

BillyG
The Secret List 8/20/14-2054 Hours

AND:

Hey, Earlier today, up to four Kentucky Firefighters were injured, with one in very critical condition after their tower ladder came in contact with power lines. Initial reports are that the Campbellsville/Taylor County Fire Department (located an hour and a half south of Louisville) was on campus at Campbellsville University - doing a community related detail - when the truck came in contact with the power lines. Some reports are that they were assisting in a "cold water challenge" involving the school band. Two Firefighters were critically injured and transported from the campus by helicopter, while the at least one other was transported by ambulance. The two most critical were flown to University of Louisville Hospital with at least one reported to be extremely critical condition. The incident knocked out the power for all of the city of Campbellsville, according to Smith, as well as the city of Greensburg. We will keep you advised as additional information is made available. Also, below are links related to firefighter safety/survival when working near power lines. KTIYP’s.

http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200801.html
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/
BillyG
The Secret List 8-21-2014-1422 Hours

AND:
All,
As you know, 4 Firefighters with the Campbellsville (Taylor County, KY) FD were shocked with one being critical, while helping the Campbellsville University marching band with an ALS ice "bucket" challenge this morning. 2 of the injured firefighters are being treated at and will be released from a Campbellsville hospital today. The other two firefighters were transported to University of Louisville Hospital. One of them is in critical condition and the other is in fair condition. In critical condition from burns at University of Louisville Hospital is Captain Tony Grider and Firefighter Simon Quinn is in fair condition who were reportedly in the bucket. The other Captain and Firefighter who were on the ground, were treated and released. At the conclusion of the event, as the firefighters were preparing the rig for their return to quarters, an arc occurred between the power lines and the firefighters in the bucket. The two firefighters on the ground were slightly hurt from the electrical shock but were able to lower the bucket and get to the more seriously injured firefighters. Other reports are that the incident happened when the bucket actually touched power lines. Either way, power went out across a wide portion of the Campbellsville area, affecting about 4,500 customers...and at least one Firefighter is fighting for his life.

It happened around 1145 hours this morning right outside the university's football and baseball facilities. "The band students were moving away from the truck and the area," CU band director Jennifer Tinnell stated, "and I was standing at the fire truck thanking the [firefighters] for helping us out in this. Out of nowhere, we heard a huge explosion, and at the same time saw sparks coming from the rear of the fire truck and just a lot of electricity that shot straight up to the bucket ladder." Tinnell said several firefighters were in the bucket at the time. "A short amount of time after that, there was another strike of it, and everything was stopped and called in for rescue and help at that point," Tinnell added. Only firefighters were injured. We'll keep you updated here and on our home page. KTIYP's.

==JAPANESE FIRE OFFICER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY DURING RESCUE
A Japanese fire officer with a rescue unit operating in torrential rain-hit Hiroshima died in the Line of Duty while trying to save an infant. Record amounts of rain early Wednesday triggered massive landslides. 39 people died and 7 others are missing. 53-year-old Fire Officer Noriyoshi Masaoka served as deputy leader of the local rescue team of the Hiroshima City FD. Masaoka rushed to the area where 8 people were reportedly trapped in landslides. He tried to save a three-year-old boy and his mother. Masaoka was holding the boy in his arms and had nearly left the disaster site. But Masaoka, the boy, and his mother were all caught in another landslide. Several hours later, he was found dead in the mud. The boy also died, while his mother survived with an injury. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

==THE ISFSI FALL FIRE INSTRUCTOR CONFERENCE IS COMING UP:
Check out the below link for ISFSI's Fall Instructor Conference Nov 14-16th:
BillyG
The Secret List 8.21/2014-1700 Hours

AND:

All,
Campbellsville (KY) FD Capt. Tony Grider, 41, remains in critical condition this morning at the University of Louisville Hospital. Firefighter Simon A. Quinn, 22, is now reported to be stable. As you know, Captain Grider and Quinn were rushed to the hospital Thursday afternoon after being seriously injured when electricity from a high-voltage line arced onto the ladder of a fire truck they were using in a student fundraising event - a variation of the popular Ice Bucket Challenge - at Campbellsville
University. Two other firefighters - Capt. Steve Marrs, 37, and Alex Johnson, 28, - also suffered electrical shocks but were released after being treated in Campbellsville. It happened shortly before noon yesterday, as the firefighters assisted Campbellsville University students with the event to raise research money for ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Captain Grider and Quinn were in the raised tower ladder bucket, spraying cold water on members of the Campbellsville University band who had volunteered for the fundraiser. The bucket was being lowered after the event when it apparently came too near a high-power electrical line overhead. Current from the line arced, striking the bucket holding Grider and Quinn. Both men were burned.

The other two firefighters, Marrs and Johnson, suffered shocks when they took control of the ladder from below. However, they were able to lower the bucket and assist Quinn and Grider. Allen Johnson, a former Campbellsville fire chief who also is Alex Johnson's father, estimated that the line was carrying 69,000 volts of electricity. The tower ladder bucket reportedly did not touch the power line-the electricity can "jump," or arc, across open space from a high-power line and can strike another object without physical contact. The greater the voltage in the line, and the higher the humidity in the surrounding air, the farther the electricity can leap. Several hundred people turned out Thursday night for a prayer service for the injured firefighters on the campus.

HERE is more along with photos of the scene:
http://www.cknj.com/content/one-firefighter-critical-other-fair-condition

FILTHY FIREFIGHTER "KILLER FIRE PORN" VIDEOS:
There's been some interesting chatter recently about "fire porn" - videos showing firefighters in action...so we figured we would share some of our favorite videos.

I am warning you-the subjects of these first two videos are as filthy & dirty as it gets...especially for Firefighters:
==This one is a heavenly eleven minutes long....
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUqm9DMdISI
==This one is a quick six minutes...perfect for limited time opportunities...
http://vimeo.com/101956499

==AND lastly, for those who enjoy "vintage" adult films-enjoy this one:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzPSSfpRM20

BillyG
The Secret List 8/22/2014-1100 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.

Budget Related Items:

Houston’s (TX) fire chief faced a skeptical cadre of council members reviewing his $507 million budget for the next fiscal year, with many of them openly questioning whether staff shortages will force HFD to continue parking unmanned emergency vehicles in their stations during so-called service brownouts. Some critics -- including C.O. Bradford, a councilmember who once
headed Houston’s police department – flatly predicted the brownouts will roll into the next fiscal year. Although he stopped short of offering any guarantees, HFD Chief Terry Garrison predicted the roughly 300 cadets expected to graduate from the fire department’s academy in the next fiscal year will resolve the staffing problems that led to the brownouts: 

The Modesto (CA) City Council on Tuesday is expected to approve a $340 million operating budget that will provide the city with its fewest number of police officers and firefighters in many years and will result in the closure of one of Modesto’s 11 fire stations. The council also is expected to approve terminating the agreement between Modesto, Stanislaus County and the Salida Fire Protection District that formed the Modesto Regional Fire Authority in 2011, when the three governments merged their fire operations: 

Officials have said Modesto’s new budget puts the city on solid ground because for the first time in years, expenses do not exceed revenues. However, living within its means comes at a cost – $4 million less for public safety and the closure of one of the city’s 11 fire stations. But now the City Council wants to reconsider the budget and closing the station. Council members voted 7-0 Tuesday in support of Councilman Bill Zoslocki’s motion to consider increasing public safety spending by borrowing $1 million from other city accounts, a practice Modesto has used for many years and one Mayor Garrad Marsh says it no longer can afford: 

---

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

An African-American Muslim man says white suburban firefighters deliberately soaked him with the hose on their fire truck — simply because of his faith and race. Omar Ali, 30, alleges in a federal lawsuit filed Monday that three Tinley Park (IL) firefighters who saw him wearing a turban as he walked home past their fire station on the afternoon of May 6 sprayed him, leaving him “in, fear, wetness, discomfort, humiliation and severe emotional distress.” Accusing the firefighters of a hate crime, the lawsuit states that Ali confronted the unnamed firefighters later that day and that two of them “admitted, on videotape, that they sprayed the Plaintiff with their powerful water hose.” One told Ali he “didn’t mean to” do it, and “offered to apologize,” and another said they were “just kidding,” the suit alleges. “The spraying was neither an accident nor a joke, but a purposeful act that was directly related to the plaintiff’s race and/or ethnicity,” it states: 

A Superior Court judge in San Bernardino (CA) on Friday, June 6, denied a defense motion to replace the vehicular manslaughter case against a Cal Fire unit chief with a civil settlement that provided $15 million to the children of a Banning man killed in a collision. On Aug. 1, 2012, Tim McClelland was driving his Cal Fire vehicle on the 210 freeway in Highland when he changed lanes as traffic slowed and rear-ended a car driven by Gregory Kirwin, 48. Kirwin was killed, and McClelland was charged with misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence. The California Highway Patrol said McClelland had been texting a few minutes before the crash and had been talking on his phone using a hands-free device immediately before the collision: 
Two Spalding County (GA) firefighters accused of tipping off drug dealers about police activity appeared in court Monday. Dwayne Tyrone Coggins, 47, and Michael Owens, 37, were arrested Monday after being indicted by a federal grand jury earlier this month. Both men appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Alan Baverman at Atlanta's federal courthouse Monday afternoon. Chief Coggins was wearing his fire department uniform. Owens was dressed in a white t-shirt and floral pattern pajama style pants. Both men pleaded "not guilty" to the drug conspiracy charges. The unsealed indictment claims they made calls to drug dealers from the Spalding County Fire headquarters on Carver Road in Griffin while police were assembling there for drug raids in April and May:

The head of the FDNY’s hazardous materials unit found himself in quite a mess after he accepted steak dinners and other gifts from a company that supplies the department with gear. Deputy Chief Nicholas Del Re was fined $7,000 for violating conflict-of-interest rules after he raked in the perks from firefighter uniform maker Lion Apparel, city documents show. Del Re, 50, was courted by the company after he recommended that the FDNY buy a Lion-manufactured MT94 protective suit in 2008, documents show. The FDNY bought 113 of the $1,575 suits in September 2009, 604 in May 2010 and 25 in December 2011. Between June 2010 and April 2012, Lion sales reps wined and dined Del Re on 17 occasions at places like Peter Luger Steakhouse in Brooklyn and at spots in Indianapolis. “The total value of the gifts of meals and drinks I accepted from Lion is $875.67,” Del Re said in a deposition to the FDNY and city Conflicts of Interest Board:
http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/exclusive-fdny-honcho-fined-7g-fine-accepting-gifts-contractor-article-1.1835670

A Hartford (CT) firefighter who had been declared unfit for duty in four suspected alcohol-related incidents has been suspended for 89 days without pay. Douglas Caldwell, 42, of Hartford, also signed an undated letter of resignation, saying he will resign if declared unfit again within the next two years, said Vincent Fusco, president of the firefighters union. The discipline followed discussions between Fire Chief Carlos Huertas and the union:

Reno (NV) firefighters can show up to work with up to a .08 percent blood alcohol level or more than twice the legal driving limit of a variety of illegal drugs in their system without facing discipline under a 12-year-old policy negotiated by the city and the fire union. According to the policy obtained by the Reno Gazette-Journal, drug and alcohol use “shall not be permitted.” But an alcohol test is not considered positive below .08 percent, which is also the limit for driving under the influence. The allowable limit of marijuana is five times the legal limit for driving. The allowable limit of amphetamines and cocaine is twice the legal limit for driving. The policy, which dates back to 2002, cannot be changed unless it goes through the collective bargaining process — during which the city and union must agree on any changes:

No one knows for sure what prompted Brooksville (FL) Fire Department Capt. Sam Schey to climb aboard a city fire truck and cruise through the darkened streets of Brooksville on the night of April 6 — emergency lights and siren on and an unauthorized passenger by his side. Schey’s journey in the $250,000 ladder truck lasted only a few minutes, but the veteran firefighter, who spent 10 years with the department, wasn’t in pursuit of a fire. In fact, he wasn’t even on duty that Sunday night. To several department staffers interviewed by Brooksville
Police Department internal affairs investigators, Schey appeared impaired or drunk when he arrived at the station. Witnesses claimed that while inside the station, he made an inappropriate advance toward a female firefighter. Accompanying him on the ride was a teenage cousin, who also went inside the station to meet fellow firefighters. Those incidents led to Schey's resignation from the department and to the termination of veteran Capt. Bill Kaplan, 50, who has since filed a grievance against the city seeking reinstatement to the job he held for nearly five years, along with back wages and other benefits. Kaplan, who was cited for unacceptable conduct as a supervisor and inefficiency of performance of duties, believes he was made to shoulder the bulk of the blame for his role in the events that night:


Shreveport (LA) Fire Chief Ronald Craig Mulford surrendered to Caddo authorities Thursday morning after being charged with five counts of malfeasance in office. He’s accused of failing to report abuse of a mentally disabled man at the hands of firefighters and of trying to conceal the fact that firefighters hired a prostitute. A grand jury issued a secret indictment against Mulford early Thursday that spurred a warrant for his arrest. It followed a months-long investigation into the Shreveport Fire Department administration’s handling of alleged misconduct by five firefighters:

http://www.shreveporttimes.com/article/20140627/NEWS01/306260033/Shreveport-fire-chief-s-lawyer-calls-charges-absolutely-ridiculous?-nclick_check=1

Reno (NV) Fire Department response called unacceptable. The City of Reno issued a statement on Friday following a News 4 On Your Side investigation that revealed the Reno Fire Department refused to respond to a call to lift a patient. News 4’s On Your Side investigation revealed fire personnel refused to respond to a call to lift a patient. The heavy set man was inside a boat being pulled by a trailer. The incident happened on Lemmon Drive in Lemmon Valley. Documents News 4 obtained show 30 minutes after Reno Police and REMSA asked for help, the Reno Fire Department had not arrived to the scene. A report indicates Reno Fire canceled their response and requested REMSA’s bariatric unit respond. However, Reno Police were never informed. When no one showed up, officers called Reno Fire again. Nearly 45 minutes after the initial call, a Reno Battalion Chief arrived on the scene to assess the situation. He decided his crews were not available and blocked other fire departments from helping by not making a mutual assistance call. Eventually the man was lifted from the boat to the ambulance, but it was Reno police officers and REMSA medics who did the lifting. While they worked, the Battalion Chief reportedly took pictures of the ordeal. The man was eventually transported to the hospital, but the delay was 1 hour and 37 minutes. News 4 learned the man was admitted to the hospital suffering from pulmonary edema, which is a build-up of fluid in the lungs:

http://www.mynews4.com/mostpopular/story/Response-Called-Unacceptable/wXE5Rm-r20KWqr6vZzQu1g.cspx

The Houston (TX) Fire Department has launched an investigation into offensive comments a firefighter allegedly posted on his personal Facebook page while he was searching for a drowning victim. The post on Kerry Williams' page called the victim, Victor Gonzalez, a "drunk Mexican" and when HFD's search was over the post read, "We are done with our search no body recover (sic) and no 'drunk Mexican.'" HFD responded first to the call at Lake Houston Friday night followed by HPD's Marine Unit. The body of Gonzalez, 47, was recovered Saturday afternoon. His daughter is furious about the post and is demanding Williams' termination. "How dare you sit there and talk about my father like that?" questioned Gracie Gonzalez:

A week after a Hartford (CT) firefighter was suspended following a string of suspected alcohol-related incidents, another city firefighter was relieved of duty by his superiors Monday morning over suspicion of on-the-job intoxication, fire department sources said. Cinque L. Scott, awaiting trial on an unrelated charge of driving under the influence of alcohol, is assigned to Engine 9 on New Britain Avenue. Scott, 44, of West Hartford, was declared unfit for duty and the engine company was taken out of service for a period of time because it was left short-handed, the sources said. On June 18, firefighter Douglas Caldwell was suspended without pay for 89 days and was ordered to sign an undated letter of resignation stating he'd leave the job if he was involved in another on-duty incident in the next two years. Caldwell was declared unfit for duty at least four times from January 2012 to April 2014, including three times in a seven-month period, departmental records show. He was also involved in at least two off-duty incidents, including an arrest for public drinking in Hartford earlier in June. Scott had failed to show up for work Monday morning at 8 a.m. and was considered absent without leave, sources said. After he arrived at the firehouse, his superiors suspected he was intoxicated and he was relieved of duty, the sources said: http://articles.courant.com/2014-06-30/news/hc-hartford-firefighter-intoxicated-20140630_1_scott-west-hartford-fire-chief-carlos-huertas

A new Sacramento County (CA) Grand Jury report calls for an audit of the Herald Fire Protection District, saying fire officials used an unauthorized bank account to conduct business and the fire chief is not managing district personnel in accordance with state law. The report also found that Fire Chief Chris McGranahan has at times viewed photos of “nude and scantily-clad women on his work computer” that were then emailed to another employee. The grand jury report cited numerous irregularities regarding the financial affairs and management of the fire district, which serves a rural community of about 1,200 people in southeast Sacramento County and is governed by a board of five elected officials: http://www.sacbee.com/2014/07/01/6524442/grand-jury-report-slams-herald.html

A Columbus (OH) Fire battalion chief could face discipline for insubordination after an internal investigation found that he disrupted a pilot program intended to more efficiently respond to emergencies. Battalion Chief Jack Reall, also president of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 67, was served with charges on June 23 that also include neglect of duty and violating rules of conduct for supervisors. Fire administrators said the idea was meant to reduce costs and improve efficiency. An internal audit found about 84 percent of the division’s roughly 150,000 runs in 2012 were non-emergency runs. Of those 125,000 runs, 9 out of 10 were considered basic runs: responses to calls such as a broken arm, sting, headache, hurt back or dislocation in which the patient is not in mortal danger: http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/07/08/Fire-battalion-chief-union-leader-disciplinary-charges.html

The Seattle (WA) city attorney has charged two off-duty firefighters and their female companion with assault after they allegedly beat two homeless men sleeping on a firefighter memorial statue in Pioneer Square. Seattle City Attorney Pete Homes has charged firefighters Roger Howell and Scott Bullene, along with their female companion Mia Jarvinen, with one count each of fourth-degree assault and malicious harassment. If convicted they face up to 364 days in jail and $5,000 in fines. The charges stem from a March 15 incident following a Seattle Sounders soccer match. According to court documents, Bullene, Howell and a Jarvinen were walking from CenturyLink Stadium to McCoy’s Firehouse near the intersection of South Washington Street and 2nd Avenue when they spotted a homeless man sleeping under the Seattle Fallen Firefighter’s Memorial statue in Pioneer Square. Witnesses told police that Jarvinen became enraged at the man sleeping under the statue and began yelling at him.
With little response from the man, she punched the victim in the head and Howell allegedly stomped the victim:

There's something else to worry about when it comes to public safety in Memphis (TN) besides the 'Blue Flu.' It's called 'Red Rash,' a term used to when firefighters protest by calling in sick. About 65 were out sick Wednesday. 20 or so of those are on long-term disability. But the remaining 45 resulted in the department having to pull four trucks off the streets. The head of the Memphis Fire Fighters Association says he doesn't think it is a problem:
http://www.localmemphis.com/story/d/story/red-rash-spreads-as-firefighter-sick-calls-increas/16073/hYXkGSI1-kqf3TO--kjuEg

Sexy images of rippling abs and rock-hard biceps under those firefighter uniforms may obscure a serious problem: More than 70% of firefighters are overweight or obese, and most of them reported getting no advice to lose weight from their healthcare professionals, researchers said Thursday. “Obesity is a major threat to firefighter health and safety,” the researchers wrote in Preventing Chronic Disease, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

Team 10 is getting results and it is leading to changes in public safety for a whole community in San Diego County (CA). A family said firefighters could not use the nearest fire hydrant during the May wildfires and their home burned down. Team 10 Troubleshooter Cristin Severance learned this issue was ignored for nearly 30 years. She talked to the fire department in charge of the area. The fire chief admitted he knew they could not use the hydrants and did not do anything to change that:

Three members of the Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department's once highly touted arson squad were put on leave Friday in the face of the release of a state criminal investigation, according to a departmental news release released to the media. Captains Sam Richardson and Fred Andes and unit director Jack Ballentine were placed on paid administrative leave a day after the Arizona Department of Public Safety reported it had concluded a criminal investigation into the members' alleged misconduct and improper investigative techniques:

Meridian (MS) Fire Chief Anthony Clayton confirmed Friday that two firefighters were shocked earlier this month with a taser gun. "The tasing of two of my men was voluntary," Clayton said. "This was not a case of hazing. This was a situation where they wanted to see what it felt like to be tased. It was dangerous. It was against policy, and it was irresponsible." "The investigation consisted of my deputy chief, the battalion chief, the number one captain, and the rescue captain, basically getting their statements which basically corroborated what went on," Clayton said. "I demoted the rescue captain back to basic captain, and issued a reprimand to the battalion chief:
A Seattle (WA) firefighter's emergency medical license has been suspended for five years after he admitted to "sexual misconduct" with a 15-year-old Lynden girl, the state Department of Health announced Friday, July 25. Michael James Sulak, 53, of Ferndale, continues to await trial on three counts of rape of a child in the third degree and one count of unlawful harboring of a minor. He's accused of raping the girl once at Meridian High School - where they were performing in a community-theater musical together - once in a camper outside his home, and once in his truck by a fire station in Queen Anne:

Two Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department arson investigators are accused of making false sworn statements, and it could lead to felony charges, according to a new report from the Arizona Department of Public Safety. The fire that started this whole controversy was at a house in Phoenix in May of 2009. The homeowner ended up getting arrested for arson. She complained to the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, saying the investigators, Sam Richardson and Fred Andes, ignored the facts. Andes had some inconsistencies in his depositions regarding his canine's records. Now DPS is recommending one charge of making false sworn statements for Andes and six for Richardson. The director of the arson unit, Jack Ballentine, was also investigated, but DPS is not recommending any charges for him. All three are currently on administrative leave, and the fire department said it's launching an internal investigation. Both DPS and the Phoenix Fire Department declined requests for an on-camera interview. The Phoenix Fire Department asked DPS to investigate early this year, and they just released their nearly 800-page report. Richardson's investigation is being called spotty. For example, he told a grand jury the front door was blocked and first responders needed a sledgehammer to get in. He later recanted in a taped interview:

Two Cleveland (OH) firefighters face criminal charges after covering up a crash that involved a fire truck, a city spokeswoman said. Capt. Ronald Vargo, 50, and firefighter Richard Nickerson, 42, crashed the fire truck into an light pole June 21 in the 2800 block of East 116th Street. The mistake caused more than $20,000 in damage, spokeswoman Maureen Harper said. The firefighters told investigators that the collision occurred after a white car swerved in front of the fire truck, Harper said. Security camera footage revealed otherwise. "It is alleged that during the investigation of the accident both men lied to the investigating officer," Harper said. Vargo and Nickerson were charged with falsification Thursday in Cleveland Municipal Court. The charge is a misdemeanor. It carries a sentence of a maximum of 180 days in jail:

Beatrice Lozada, 35, is a single mom who volunteered for the Elmont, N.Y. Fire Department's Truck Company 1 in 2006 and 2007, The New York Post reported. She filed a Division of Human Rights complaint against the truck company in 2011, alleging that her lieutenant repeatedly said “badonkadonk” and slapped her rear end. Other firefighters at the company began to follow suit. “Badonkadonk” is slang for a “curvaceous” woman’s behind, according to Urban Dictionary (explicit). That definition was actually cited in the Division of Human Rights ruling, according to the Post. The term was also popularized in part by Trace Adkin's 2005 Top 40 hit “Honky Tonk Badonkadonk” (video). The Long Island fire department was also fined $25,000 over the complaint. But the taunts didn't end with “badonkadonk”: Lozada also received a text from one of her 35 male co-workers during a firehouse meeting in 2009 that read, “I want to eat your p—-,” the ruling revealed:
Seventeen Cleveland (OH) fire department supervisors have been disciplined for their roles in a shift-trading scandal, the city announced today. The city suspended seven supervisors for one 24-hour shift, five supervisors for two 24-hour shifts and one supervisor for three 24-hour shifts. Two others are suspended for one 24-hour shift that will held in abeyance, which means they will only serve those suspensions if they are involved in future disciplinary matters. Two more supervisors were reprimanded. Administrative charges are pending against an 18th supervisor currently on leave, the city said. "The lack of supervisory oversight in the Division of Fire regarding this matter enabled firefighters to engage in a practice of swapping their scheduled work shifts in violation of an established policy," Chief Patrick Kelly said in a statement. "This practice not only eroded the public trust, but also brought significant scrutiny and dishonor to the division."


A Lebanon (TN) firefighter and mixed martial artist was suspended for two weeks after he placed another firefighter in a chokehold until he lost consciousness. Lebanon fire Chief Chris Dowell suspended firefighter Stephen Westbeld for two weeks and placed him on probation for one year for his involvement in the incident. Dowell also placed Tommy Chaffin, the victim in the incident, on probation for six months for engaging in horseplay, which is a violation of city policy. Two witnesses, firefighters Adam Sumeral and Joe Simms, received written reprimands from Dowell for improper conduct in the use of cellular telephones, videoing horseplay: http://www.lebanondemocrat.com/article/445216

Firefighter says car hit him at firehouse – Security cameras tell different story. Police in an around Wallington, New Jersey were on the lookout July 3 for a driver whose vehicle struck a firefighter in front of the firehouse and sped off. They finally made an arrest to close the case Tuesday night. Taken into custody is 36-year-old Joseph Fehl. Fehl is the Wallington firefighter and first aid squad member who told police he had been struck. Fehl’s been charged with insurance fraud and filing a false report. Just as with the Cleveland firefighters we told you about recently who were charged criminally after being accused of making up a story about how a fire truck crash occurred, security cameras tell the real story: http://www.statter911.com/2014/08/07/firefighter-says-car-hit-firehouse-security-cameras-tell-different-story/

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**General Fire Service Related Items:**

The Los Angeles Fire Department needs new rules to prevent conflicts of interest and reform a firefighter hiring process “tainted” by concerns of nepotism, according to a new study by the department’s top watchdog. The 55-page report released Thursday is the result of a probe triggered in March when Mayor Eric Garcetti suspended LAFD hiring, calling the system “fatally flawed” because it potentially favored department insiders and failed to increase the number of women and minorities in the department’s ranks. The report’s recommendations, expected to be presented to the Fire Commission on Tuesday by Independent Assessor Sue Stengel, call for policy changes that would ensure the reassignment of all fire officials involved in the selection process when they have a relative in the applicant pool. Several high-ranking fire officials were moved to different positions due to conflicts of interest following the last round of hiring. Of the 70 recruits named to a new training class in January, 21 had a family member active in LAFD during the hiring process, the report found. That is more than previously tallied by city officials and equals 30% of the total hires: http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-city-probe-calls-for-anti-nepotism-reforms-at-lafd-20140730-story.html
A controversial ambulance deployment model has improved paramedic response times in the month since it was implemented, Long Beach (CA) Fire Department Chief Mike DuRee said. According to information provided by the department, between July 10 and Aug. 3, the average time for the first paramedic to arrive on scene for a medical call was six minutes, 12 seconds, compared to seven minutes, 57 seconds for all of 2013. The average time for a second paramedic to arrive after the initial response was one minute, 54 seconds. “We’ve had a seamless transition,” said DuRee. “The data is showing us that it’s working well.” City officials have been working for more than two years to realign paramedic services under the rapid medic deployment model, which was created to help save about $1.4 million per year and help maintain staffing on fire engines and ambulances. One of two paramedics formerly assigned to each of the city’s eight ambulances was placed on fire engines; the second paramedic on each ambulance was replaced by an emergency medical technician. DuRee has said the new model ensures that a paramedic is on scene regardless of the incident and improves service since 84 percent of calls are for medical care: http://www.presstelegram.com/government-and-politics/20140806/maligned-long-beach-paramedic-model-has-improved-response-times-chief-says

Two FDNY EMTs who had to intervene to stop four police officers beating a handcuffed patient on a stretcher have turned the cops in to authorities, the Daily News has learned. The emotionally disturbed patient was punched multiple times in the face by the cops on July 20, according to FDNY documents obtained by The News. The cops only stopped when the EMTs bodily intervened, the report said. The violence broke out when the patient spat at the Emergency Service Unit officers and swore at them. The officers responded by hitting him in the face, hauling him off the stretcher to the ground and then tossing him back on the stretcher, the EMTs said in written statements submitted to the FDNY: http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/exclusive-emts-turn-officers-beat-handcuffed-patient-article-1.1891706#TpY35UD3aLteqdar.97

Last call for DWIs at the Austin (TX) Fire Department? Fire chief cracks down on drunk driving firefighters. The surprise surrounding the recent indefinite suspension of alleged drunk-driving firefighter Mark Madison wasn’t the revelation that some department staff are drinking and joyriding, but rather that it took Austin Fire Department Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr so long to drop the hammer. Madison is the sixth firefighter suspended for a DWI since January of 2013, but the first to incur a penalty lasting longer than 90 days. And even that figure’s somewhat of an outlier; the recipient of the 90-day suspension, firefighter James Doyle, was facing his third DWI charge since 2006 when Kerr handed down her decision in January 2013. Doyle agreed to alcohol counseling, randomized testing, and a one-year probation period, as well as assuming the understanding that another violation would result in an indefinite suspension: http://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2014-08-01/last-call-for-dwis-at-afd/

A Johnson City Fire Department Captain will face a five-day suspension without pay for allegedly making fun of another firefighter’s haircut and then cutting the man’s hair himself. It took more than two months to come to that conclusion, but a public records request revealed Johnson City’s internal investigation into the matter resulted in that punishment last week. According to a letter in Capt. Lynn Peters’ personnel file, Johnson City City Manager Pete Peterson alerted Capt. Peters of the disciplinary action on May 20th. The discipline follows a formal harassment complaint filed by another firefighter On March 11th, in which that firefighter accused Capt. Peters of cutting his hair on February 27th: http://www.wjhl.com/story/25644188/n-supervisor-receives-five-day-suspension-for-cutting-firefighters-hair
Three Davie (FL) firefighters — including one whose complaints led to an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice — have filed separate federal lawsuits against the town alleging discrimination, harassment and retaliation. Firefighter Lori Davis accuses supervisors of targeting her after she complained in 2010 that the department's treatment of pregnant firefighters was discriminatory. Firefighter Kristin Rohrer, who became pregnant in 2010, says she was repeatedly humiliated by male coworkers who ridiculed her for using a breast pump, accusing her of taking breaks to "pull on her udders." Jose Rivero, a battalion chief hired 18 years ago, claims he suffered retaliation after telling federal investigators the department discriminated against women by treating them as second-class citizens and denying them promotions. All three firefighters are seeking a jury trial along with punitive damages, back pay, attorney's fees and compensation for pain and suffering: http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/broward/davie/fl-firefighters-davie-lawsuit-20140716,0,3128533.story

Some New Jersey fire districts pay their employees more than the average in Philadelphia and New York City, allow for large retirement payouts, excessive longevity benefits and large annual raises, a state comptroller's report released Wednesday found. New Jersey has 185 fire districts that operate independently from municipalities and seek voter approval for their taxpayer-financed budgets. The comptroller's report looked at three districts in Woodbridge, Cherry Hill and Brick. Votes to approve their budgets were held on a Saturday in February where voter turnout was often below 2 percent, the report said. With the budgets approved by so few people, some fire districts were able to fashion their pay in a way that was above the New Jersey average and included perks that other departments didn't have, the report said. In recent years, municipal fire and police departments have been subject to a 2 percent cap on their pay increases as part of an effort by Governor Christie to limit property taxes. In one fire district in Woodbridge, a firefighter who started at $30,000 a year could see their salary grow to just over $90,000 in six years: http://www.northjersey.com/news/report-big-raises-retirement-payouts-found-in-some-n-j-fire-districts-1.1024720

Long Beach's (CA) Fire Department ambulances could be driven by EMTs, and all fire engines staffed by paramedics, by mid-July. Fire Chief Mike DuRee got the go-ahead for the new staffing model last week from the Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Commission. He has sent a memo to City Council members informing them of the impending change, and unless the council takes action to stop it, the new system will be up and running in six weeks, he said. Currently, all of the Advanced Life Support ambulances are staffed by two paramedic-certified firefighters, but only four of the 16 fire engines have paramedics. Almost two years ago, DuRee proposed having ambulances driven by non-sworn staff who had been certified as EMTs, with a paramedic in charge of patient care. The staffing approach would save an estimated $1.8 million a year. DuRee says that it also will improve medical responses because all fire engine crews will include a paramedic. Engines often arrive to calls before ambulances do: http://www.gazettes.com/news/long-beach-ambulance-staffing-change-approved/article_d511eec4-e6c6-11e3-96fc-0019bb2963f4.html

Vancouver (WA) Firefighters find way to offer a lift: Taxi tokens for rides tied to emergencies are part of District 6 experiment. "All we are is big problem solvers," said Firefighter Bill Dunlap, who spearheaded the project. Dunlap said that many people in the lower-income parts of the district don't own cars and can't afford a taxi ride. So, when someone gets injured, sometimes family members can't get to the hospital in a timely manner. About 50 tokens, each valued at $20, were printed and paid for by the Clark County Fire District 6 Firefighters
Assistance Fund, not with district funds. Each month, firefighters donate a dollar or two of their own money to the assistance fund, which goes to temporarily assist the people they serve: http://www.columbian.com/news/2014/jul/26/firefighters-find-way-to-offer-a-lift/

Marysville (CA) will part ways with CalFire and start its own fire department, the City Council decided Tuesday night. The council voted 3-2 to end its relationship with the state agency that has provided fire and rescue service for the past 17 years, citing increasing costs during a time of severe budget constraints. Councilman Jim Kitchen switched his vote from last week’s 3-2 vote to delay taking action until after a sales tax measure planned for the November election. Kitchen was joined by Mayor Ricky Samayoa and Councilman Chris Pedigo in supporting moving forward with a city department. Kitchen said after the meeting he "always supported the idea of having a city fire department." He said he switched his vote after speaking with Pedigo and City Manager Walter Munchheimer, realizing that it would be too costly for the city. "Looking at the numbers themselves, they are unaffordable for us to go in that direction," Samayoa said of staying with CalFire. "There is no way we can afford this without making cuts in the budget." Marysville officials admit that starting a new department will be a major task. But the city already owns the fire station and all of the vehicles and apparatus, meaning it will just have to hire a new chief and replacements for nine state-funded personnel: http://www.firehouse.com/news/11502433/marysville-gives-calfire-eviction-notice

Columbus (OH) police and fire chiefs now are subject to random drug tests, a move safety officials hope will increase accountability and trust within the divisions. The city started the random tests for its highest-ranking officers a few months ago. It’s the first time it has done so. Regular officers and firefighters have been subject to random tests for years. Safety Director Mitchell J. Brown’s office said there wasn’t a particular reason for the new testing other than to hold chiefs to the same standards as their subordinates. “There was an internal policy change that occurred earlier this year,” said Amanda Ford, a spokeswoman for Brown’s office. “They will all be tested at least once a year.” http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/08/06/division-brass-now-subject-to-drug-tests.html

Missouri voters shot down most attempts by fire and ambulance districts to raise taxes. In Lincoln County, voters rejected a 35-cent property tax increase that would have cost the owner of a $100,000 home an additional $66.50 a year. The increased funding would have allowed the ambulance district to build three new bases, buy three new ambulances, hire 18 paramedics and quicken response times. “We’ll have to sit down with our board of directors and accountants and see where cuts will have to be made,” he said late Tuesday. The Warrenton Fire Protection District lost its bid for a 15-cent tax increase that would have funded increased staffing, hiring an assistant chief/fire marshal and finishing the district’s training facility. Voters in the Wentzville Fire Protection District rejected a 25-cent property tax increase that would have raised taxes on a $200,000 home by $95 a year, but approved a $30 million bond issue that will increase the tax rate two to three cents for each $100 of assessed valuation, for an additional $7.60 to $11.40 a year in taxes. It was the same story for the Florissant Valley Fire Protection District, where voters rejected a property-tax rate increase that would have increased taxes on a $100,000 home by $76 a year. A bond issue without a tax increase did pass — it will allow the district to borrow $7.1 million to buy and equip new ambulances and firetrucks. Voters also nixed the Maryland Heights Fire Protection District’s plan to borrow $19 million over the next several years, which would have made the owner of a $100,000 home pay $45.60 more a year: http://m.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/most-tax-hikes-to-fund-fire-ambulance-services-are-rejected/article_c4702b66-b6ef-5482-8693-e9551021af84.html?utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=twitterfeed&mobile_touch=true
The Las Vegas (NV) Fire Department and American Medical Response have dueled for three months over a new hospital transport policy that is pulling more money into city coffers and less into the private ambulance company's. Their weapons of choice have been reports and maps that have been scrutinized and criticized. Each side has accused the other of providing misleading information to the City Council and the news media. Recently, they even have refused to share information with one another, blocking further dueling reports. But city officials haven't indicated any willingness to change their opinion that it's a wise plan to raise more money by having the Fire Department transport more patients to the hospital, though nobody knows how much it could cost the city in the long run. The first allegation to draw attention was AMR's report concluding the Fire Department was handling more hospital transports in wealthier areas. Fire Chief Willie McDonald called a news conference May 13 and said AMR's report was “completely false,” while admitting he hadn’t read it. After reading it, he became more forceful in rebutting AMR's report, which suggested that the department prefers taking patients to the hospital who are wealthier and better insured, leaving more of the poor ones to the private ambulance company: [http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/fire-rescue/amr-las-vegas-fire-still-odds-over-ambulance-services](http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/fire-rescue/amr-las-vegas-fire-still-odds-over-ambulance-services)

In Dayton, Ohio, Officer Travis Salyer was fired on May 19 after being with the department for seven years. Salyer is accused of failing to charge Dayton Fire Department Firefighter Brandon Lee with driving while intoxicated after Lee drove the wrong way on U.S. 35 last year and struck a number of vehicles with his pickup truck: [http://www.statter911.com/2014/06/01/professional-courtesy-results-fired-cop-failed-cite-dayton-oh-firefighter-dui/](http://www.statter911.com/2014/06/01/professional-courtesy-results-fired-cop-failed-cite-dayton-oh-firefighter-dui/)

The New York Post is reporting allegations that once again an FDNY recruit is getting special treatment during training. Reporters Kenneth Garger and Daniel Prendergast article today (Saturday) claimed the 39-year-old woman is being babied by being given more time to pass physical requirements that she so far has been unable to pass. The report says Choeurlyne Doirin walked through running tests and got winded on stairs. Both Doirin and an FDNY spokesman told the reporters that protocol is being followed by placing the recruit on administrative light duty after she sustained an on-the-job injury. “She’s literally the most pathetic specimen of physical fitness I’ve ever seen,” fumed an academy classmate of Choeurlyne Doirin, 39, who was given a uniform and a “light-duty” assignment even though she did not graduate on June 2 with the other 286 cadets. Prospective firefighters are required to complete a grueling 18 weeks of academy training that includes being able to run 1½ miles in 12 minutes without gear. But the over-the-hill Doirin failed to meet the required time, taking more than 18 minutes to huff-and-puff her way across the finish line: [http://www.statter911.com/2014/07/26/newspaper-claims-fdny-babying/](http://www.statter911.com/2014/07/26/newspaper-claims-fdny-babying/)

The Charlotte (NC) Fire Department confirmed Saturday that two employees were suspended without pay after a May 9 traffic accident that totaled a department ladder truck. Ladder 32 was responding to an emergency medical call when the truck overturned at the intersection of Ardrey Kell and Bridgehampton Road just before 8:30 a.m., according to officials. No other vehicles were involved in the accident and the four firefighters on board were treated for minor injuries. Investigators with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department’s Major Crash Unit determined that speed was the cause of the crash. Firefighter Mark Staker was driving the truck at about 44 mph just before the crash, according to a CMPD report. The speed limit on that stretch of road – a residential street just west of U.S. 521 – is 25 mph. The truck skidded about 25 feet and caught fire. A second firetruck responding to the emergency put out the flames on the overturned vehicle. The crash caused about $800,000 in damage. After an internal investigation, department officials said “discipline was administered” to Staker and
The onboard captain on May 27. Staker was suspended for two weeks without pay and the
captain was suspended for one week without pay:
http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2014/06/14/4978153/2-charlotte-firefighters-
suspended.html#.U591BF5EhcR

The Erosion of The Brotherhood: Guardians Needed. Daniel Byrne says the term "brother" in
the fire service needs to be restored to represent a person of high moral tenacity who has a
strong set of ethics:
http://www.firehouse.com/article/11519260/maintaining-the-firefighter-brotherhood-in-the-fire-
service?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS140610002

The New York City fire commissioner’s new right-hand man is a gal — for the first time in
FDNY history. Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro said newly promoted Capt. Elizabeth Cascio
would be the first female and first EMS member to hold the post as executive officer to the
commissioner. “Certainly it’s not a bad example for the department that we’re moving in a
different direction,” he said at a promotions ceremony in Brooklyn on Monday. “There’s a
place in the department for everyone.”

A federal appeals court has reinstated a lawsuit by three black San Francisco (CA) firefighters
who claimed bias in a 2008 promotional exam. The exam, for the command position of
battalion chief, was one of the first the Fire Department had given since the completion in 2000
of a decadelong consent decree designed to increase racial equality in a department long
dominated by whites. The decree gave federal courts oversight of hiring, testing and
promotions. Some African Americans won promotions in the 2008 exam, but three veteran
firefighters who did not receive immediate promotions claimed the test was flawed and
relegated most black applicants to the bottom of the list:

Washington DC’s interim fire chief confronts a myriad problems as he takes helm. will have to
confront crippling discord between management and labor, complaints about slow response
times, broken vehicles and a shortage of paramedics. He also will have to manage the
continued fallout for firefighters who failed to help a man who collapsed across the street from
a fire station in Northeast Washington and later died. The death of Medric “Cecil” Mills, 77, in
January led to calls for the firing of Jones’s predecessor, Kenneth B. Ellerbe, whose last day
was Tuesday: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/crime/districts-interim-fire-chief-confronts-
myriad-problems-as-he-takes-helm/2014/07/06/a0c61146-010f-11e4-b8ff-
89af3fad6bd_story.html?tid=hpModule_99d5f542-86a2-11e2-9d71-f0faedd1394

Rethinking haz mat response and staffing as grant funding dries up. Marion County (FL) Fire
Rescue’s hazardous materials crews have responded to reports of a fishy white powder in
local government offices three times within the past 18 months, including one incident in June
that targeted 11 different locations on the same day. Ultimately, potential terrorism proved to
be an unfunny prank because each time the substance was benign. But cutbacks in federal
spending have county Fire Rescue officials rethinking and redirecting their hazmat mission,
and as that occurs the burden on local taxpayers might get heavier, resources may be shifted
from other services, or the county may have to rely on other agencies outside the community
for aid, officials say:
http://www.ocala.com/article/20140722/ARTICLES/140729951/-1/articles?Title=Rethinking-hazmat-
as-grant-funding-dries-up&tc=ar
Editorial: Spokane (WA) Fire Department showed flexibility, creativity in medical-call solution, due to increasing EMS related calls. To increase efficiency, the department in October began experimenting with a system that initially dispatched one of three SUVs with a single emergency medical technician when a call for assistance came in. While responding, they were empowered to assess the severity of the patient’s condition based on their history and information collected and analyzed at the communications center. If answers to questions by dispatchers – who have EMT training – suggested a more robust response was in order, a two-man paramedic team or fire truck with more men and equipment could be summoned. To make the new system work, firefighters who have insisted on inflexible work rules had to bend, and they did: accepting 10-hour shifts that had the automatic response units – ARUs – in place four days a week. The findings: The strategy made better use of equipment, avoided unnecessary wear and did not compromise patient health. Citizens say government was working smarter:

In the span of just a few minutes, Costa Mesa (CA) received a deluge of applications from prospective firefighters and paramedics. At 8 a.m. Monday, the city started accepting applications for three openings and planned to keep collecting them for four days or until it had amassed 500 qualified applicants. Within 11 minutes, 500 people had applied. The Costa Mesa Fire Department stopped taking applications after receiving 799 by 8:22 a.m., according to Kasama Lee, a human resources analyst for the city: http://www.dailypilot.com/news/tn-dpt-me-0612-costa-mesa-firefighter-applications-20140611,0,61861.story

Sustainability in fire service depends on change:

What is going on in Reno, Nevada right now provides a good example of one of the common problems when dealing with news stories that impact the image of your department. Almost a month ago, Reno Fire Chief Michael Hernandez tried to make us believe Anjeanette Damon was just stirring the pot and creating a story that wasn’t there when the Reno Gazette-Journal reporter began asking questions about his department’s drug and alcohol policy. Chief Hernandez told Damon, “What I’m sensing is you’re trying to make an issue out of something that really isn’t an issue.” Union president Dennis Jacobsen also defended the policy that allowed firefighters to work as long as their blood alcohol content was not over .08 percent, the legal limit for driving. The same policy seemed to permit a certain amount of marijuana, amphetamine and cocaine use. The view within the fire service from around the country was quite different. Most of those commenting saw the department’s policy as a big problem with great potential for liability. Despite this initial, rather defensive stance that put the blame on the news media, the latest story from reporter Damon indicates that the union and the city are now working together to change a policy that most people see as sending the wrong message to firefighters and the public: http://www.statter911.com/2014/07/16/despite-chiefs-claim-reporter-making-something-nothing-reno-changing-drug-alcohol-policy/

The public information officer for Portland (OR) Fire and Rescue is in trouble after being charged with driving under the influence over the weekend. Police said Lt. Richard Chatman, a 16-year veteran of the department was arrested late Saturday night after he made an illegal turn at NW 16th Avenue and Glisan Street in Portland. Chapman will be reassigned from his regular duties pending the results of the case and an internal review:
Stockton’s (CA) fire trucks could soon host advertisements. The Stockton Fire Department proposed displaying public safety messages on removable decals as a way to bring in revenue. Fire officials have researched a similar fire department advertising program happening in Arizona. “Have you checked your blood pressure lately? Brought to you by a hospital,” said Fire Chief Jeff Piechura providing an example of what an ad may read. The Stockton Fire Department is one of the few fire departments in the nation that doesn’t provide school fire safety programs, said Piechura. The programs were cancelled in the early 2000s, because of budget cut backs:  http://sacramento.cbslocal.com/2014/07/14/stockton-fire-trucks-advertising/

San Bernardino (CA) City Manager Allen Parker will ask the City Council today for permission to request proposals from outside fire departments that may be able to provide the city fire services for less money. Agencies that could provide service instead of the San Bernardino Fire Department include the San Bernardino County Fire Department and Cal Fire, according to a one-page report recommending the council direct Parker to request proposals and negotiate with any agencies that respond. “Further, this comparative data will be utilized to demonstrate to the Bankruptcy Court the long-term sustainability for the provision of fire services within the submitted Plan-of-Adjustment,” the report says. “The City must make decisions, evaluate options, and provide accurate information for the Plan-of-Adjustment. Proposals from qualified agencies will assist in that process.” http://www.sbsun.com/government-and-politics/20140803/san-bernardino-to-consider-outsourcing-fire-department

The New York Post is reporting allegations that once again an FDNY recruit is getting special treatment during training. Reporters Kenneth Garger and Daniel Prendergast article today (Saturday) claimed the 39-year-old woman is being babied by being given more time to pass physical requirements that she so far has been unable to pass. The report says Choeurlyne Doirin walked through running tests and got winded on stairs: http://www.statter911.com/2014/07/26/newspaper-claims-fdny-babying/

A Tucson (AZ) Fire paramedic is suing the city for $300,000 over what she claims is a failure to provide her with a private place to pump her breast milk. Carrie Clark claimed Tucson Fire officials and city human resources personnel denied her requests to work at fire stations that could accommodate her breast pumping. And after she pointed out to the city that TFD may have violated federal labor standards by denying her consistent access to a private breast-pumping area, city officials retaliated and subjected her to further harassment, Clark said in court records. She said alternatives the city offered included such locations as private bedrooms being used by fire chiefs or captains, which she said would have required waking those officers every two to three hours and asking them to vacate their rooms, which she considered inappropriate: http://tucson.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/tfd-sued-over-inadequate-lactation-space/article_dd78f683-8d0b-55e6-aba8-33d1b19e18e6.html

Billy D. Hayes, your friend Dave Statter is one of the Larry Flynts of ‘fire porn’ & proud of it: http://www.statter911.com/2014/07/21/billy-d-hayes-friend-dave-statter-one-larry-flynts-fire-porn-proud/

The family of a Texas firefighter who died while undergoing advance training characterized as “a fraternity-style hazing ritual [intended] to sort out which firefighters were ‘tough’ enough” has filed a multi-million dollar wrongful death suit against those responsible for the program. Neal Wade Smith, 46, died in September, 2012 while undergoing an advanced mask confidence and firefighter survival training program hosted by the Industrial Safety Training Council (“ITSC”), the State Firemen’s & Fire Marshals’ Association of Texas, and the East Texas Firemen’s & Fire Marshals’ Association, at the Beaumont Emergency Services Training (“BEST”) Complex. Smith was a fire captain with the Atascocita Volunteer Fire Department: http://www.firelawblog.com/2014/08/04/texas-suit-alleges-military-bootcamp-style-training-caused-fatal-heat-stroke/

Last but not least, a big congratulations to a good friend and great person, someone I was fortunate to have served with on the Nor Cal Training Officers Association Executive Board - Modesto (CA) has picked one of its own to lead its Fire Department, which faces a tough budget year and the potential closure of one of its 11 fire stations. Interim City Manager Jim Holgersson said Wednesday that he had appointed Sean Slamon as fire chief after he has served on an interim basis since April. He will be sworn in Tuesday in the council chambers. “For the past four months, Sean has served as fire chief and has provided steadfast and visionary leadership as the Modesto Regional Fire Authority transitioned back to the Modesto Fire Department,” Holgersson said in a news release. “It is because he was able to accomplish so much in such a short amount of time and with such leadership that I appoint him to the fire chief position permanently and with full confidence.”

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
The Fine Print:

- If you would like to be added to our mailing list (no, I won’t give your email address out to others), email me at sprziborowski@aol.com and I will add you to the list. Benefits of being on the mailing list include being notified when the latest Fire & EMS news is published, and being notified of firefighter testing opportunities, volunteer opportunities, or training opportunities.

- If you know of someone who wants to receive this newsletter (as well as other updates) email me at sprziborowski@aol.com and I will place them on the mailing list.

- If you want to take your name off of the mailing list, just send me an email at sprziborowski@aol.com and in the subject heading, and type in “unsubscribe from mailing list” and I will remove your name.

- If you are subscribed to my email mailing list and you are not receiving anything (a problem some aol, hotmail and yahoo users have at times), make sure you add my name – Steve Prziborowski and the email address I use to send this newsletter and other fire and EMS related news items out – sprziborowski@aol.com to your address book, safe list, white list, etc. Since I mass mail items to thousands of people, some email providers may think these items are spam or junk mail, even though they are not. If you have not received anything from me in over two weeks, email me to let me know so that I can attempt to troubleshoot the issue.