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 2013 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE:

Looking for Fire Technology related courses to either 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.

Fall 2013 Semester:

Registration for the Fall 2013 semester at Chabot College has begun:

• For complete registration information, go to www.chabotcollege.edu

CLASSES AVAILABLE - FALL SEMESTER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)</td>
<td>Monday (am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: This section (Monday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 20 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)</td>
<td>Monday (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 51 (Fire Service Operations)</td>
<td>Tuesday (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 52 (Firefighter Safety &amp; Survival)</td>
<td>Wednesday (am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: This section (Wednesday afternoon) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 24 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 53 (Fire Behavior &amp; Combustion)</td>
<td>Tuesday (am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 54 (Fire Prevention Technology)</td>
<td>Thursday (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 56 (Building Construction for Fire Protection)</td>
<td>Tuesday (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation)</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</td>
<td>Saturday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- October 9, 11 and 13 (Wed/Fri/Sun)</td>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- November 12, 14 and 16 (Tue/Thu/Sat)</td>
<td>Mon &amp; Wed (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

August 3, 2013 www.chabotfire.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy)</strong>  <strong>Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C</strong></td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy)</strong>  <strong>Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C</strong></td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy)</strong>  <strong>Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B</strong></td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 91A (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course)</strong> Note: Class meets on the following dates: - December 3 through 22</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 91B (Haz Mat 1st Responder-Operations)</strong> Note: Class meets on the following dates: - November 19, 21, 23, and 24</td>
<td>Tue (pm) Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS)</strong> Note: Class only meets the following dates: - November 12, 14, 16 and 17</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 91D (Firefighter Survival)</strong> Note: Class only meets the following dates: - November 3 through 9</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 95 (Work Experience )</strong>  <strong>Must also be registered in FT 96</strong></td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar)</strong>  <strong>Must also be registered in FT 95</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health 61 (First Responder)</td>
<td>Tuesday (mid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health 61 (First Responder)</td>
<td>Tuesday (pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health 81 (EMT)  <strong>Must also be registered in Health 83</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health 83 (Extrication and Triage)  <strong>Must also be registered in Health 81</strong></td>
<td>Saturday (one day only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - November 26 through December 10</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KINE 20 (Intro Fire Technology Fitness &amp; Training)</strong>  <strong>Must also be registered in Health 81</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday (mid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KINE 20 (Intro Fire Technology Fitness &amp; Training)</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday (pm)</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 2013 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://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. Also, if you are registered in the Chabot College system, you are eligible to take classes at Las Positas College in Livermore as well. Just because one class is full (or does not fit your schedule) at Chabot doesn’t mean it isn’t being offered at Las Positas. When you register for classes on the Chabot College website, you can see both schedules – Chabot and Las Positas.
FIRENUGGETS.COM LIVES ON!

Some great news from Paul Schuller & Ted Corporandy:

Firenuggets.com Lives on!

When Firenuggets.com closed this past January 2013, we posted a letter titled “The End of an Era”, and in closing, we wrote the following:

“Perhaps in the future a group of energetic, web-savvy, and passionate firefighters would like to make a go of the site. Anyone so inclined is welcome to contact us”.

Many took the aforementioned seriously, and we wish to update our supporters and share an exciting development with everyone….

Lots of great firefighter training and safety information to be found - check it out!

To read more about this great news, log onto www.firenuggets.com

ONLINE FIRE TECHNOLOGY CLASSES:

TAKE FALL 2013 FIRE TECH CLASSES ON THE INTERNET @ ALLAN HANCOCK COLLEGE

Registration is Underway, Classes Start 8/19, and Registration Ends: 8/23

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

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 1A: Introduction To The California Fire Code, Part 1 - Entirely On-line
• 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

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


06/19/2013 11:39 AM EDT

An estimated 86,500 nonresidential building fires were reported to U.S. fire departments each year and caused an estimated 85 deaths, 1,325 injuries, and $2.6 billion in property losses per year. Cooking was the leading cause of all nonresidential building fires (29 percent). Smoke alarms were not present in 52 percent of the larger, nonconfined fires in occupied nonresidential buildings. Storage buildings accounted for 29 percent of the fire deaths. Download our free report to learn more about the characteristics of nonresidential building fires.

For more information, go to: http://www.usfa.fema.gov/statistics/reports/nonresidential_structures.shtm

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**FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

The Palo Alto (CA Fire Department will be accepting applications for the position of Firefighter/EMT and Firefighter/Paramedic between the dates of August 9 and August 19, 2013.

For more information about the Palo Alto Fire Department, the City of Palo Alto, and to access the Human Resources Division page, go to: http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/default.asp

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

• Looking to increase your fire service knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) or obtain some initial or continuing education?

• Check out some of the various fire service & EMS training conferences and seminars around the United States:

**Fire Rescue International** – Chicago, IL - August 13 through 17, 2013
Go to www.iafc.org/fri for more information.
Fire Shows Reno – Reno, NV - October 22 through 24, 2013
Go to www.fireshowsreno.com for more information.


Firehouse World – San Diego, CA – February 16 through 20, 2014
Go to www.firehouseworld.com for more information.

Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) – Indianapolis, IN – April 8 through 12, 2014.
Go to www.fdic.com for more information.

Firehouse Expo – Baltimore, MD – July 15 through 19, 2014
Go to www.firehouseexpo.com for more information.

Fire Rescue International – Dallas, TX - August 12 through 16, 2014
Go to www.iafc.org/fri for more information.

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

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

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

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

• www.firerecruit.com
• www.firecareers.com

For less than $100.00 per year (each), those companies (run by firefighters) will provide you with valuable testing information to help save you time and effort. Becoming a firefighter is not an easy task, and the badge will not drop from the sky into your lap. Don’t wait for your friends to tell you about testing opportunities or expect to hear about them from us. That is not our job, to replace such companies.
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>
<th>COST:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Regional Instructor Orientation</td>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>SOLD OUT!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ethical Leadership in the Classroom</td>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training Instructor 1C</td>
<td>September 30 – October 4</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Instructor 1C will be held at Saratoga Fire Station, 14380 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fire Command 2A</td>
<td>January 13 – 17, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training Instructor 1A</td>
<td>January 27 - 31, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training Instructor 1B</td>
<td>February 10 - 14, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• S-230 (Crew Boss)</td>
<td>February 24 – 26, 2014</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• S-231 (Engine Boss)</td>
<td>February 27 - 28, 2014</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fire Command 2B</td>
<td>March 10 – 14, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training Instructor 1C</td>
<td>March 17 - 21, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• S-215 (Fire Ops in Urban Interface)</td>
<td>April 8 – 11, 2014</td>
<td>$215.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fire Command 2C</td>
<td>May 12 – 16, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• S-336 (Tactical Decision Making in Wildland Fire)</td>
<td>June 10 – 13, 2014</td>
<td>Price TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• S-234 (Ignition Operations)</td>
<td>June 24 – 27, 2014</td>
<td>Price TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fire Command 2D</td>
<td>July 14 – 18, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fire Command 2E</td>
<td>September 15 – 19, 2014</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Locations: 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.
# Registration Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE:</th>
<th>DATES:</th>
<th>COST:</th>
<th>QUANTITY:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Instructor Orientation</td>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>Sold Out – Thank you!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethical Leadership</td>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructor 1C <em>(at Saratoga Fire Station)</em></td>
<td>September 29 – October 4</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Command 2A</td>
<td>January 13 – 17, <strong>2014</strong></td>
<td>$295.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructor 1A</td>
<td>January 27 - 31, <strong>2014</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>March 17 - 21, <strong>2014</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Command 2E</td>
<td>September 15 – 19, <strong>2014</strong></td>
<td>$295.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:**

  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.
CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

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

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

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

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California: 626 N. Eckhoff Street Orange, CA 92868
Northern California: 526 Commerce Way Livermore, CA 94551
Sacramento Area: 1329 N. Market Blvd., #100 Sacramento, CA 95834

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

Hey,
For all, but especially so many directly impacted, this is one of the toughest weeks in the American Fire Service.

(THIS WEEK is Int'l FF/EMS SAFETY WEEK-What are your FD's Plans? It's a great chance to honor FF's killed in the Line of Duty. http://safetyandhealthweek.org )

BOSTON: June 17, 1972
THE VENDOME HOTEL FIRE
170 Commonwealth Avenue, 4 alarms Box 1571, (Dartmouth & Newbury Streets)

These nine members died in the Line of Duty when a rear portion of the Hotel Vendome, which was under renovation collapsed, without any warning. The fire was under control and firefighters were overhauling. Several other members were injured. It took over 10 hours to remove all the firefighters; The Maxim ladder truck of Ladder Co. 15 was extensively damaged also. 4 alarms Box 1571, Lieutenant Hanbury had 23 years, Lieutenant Carroll had 27 years, Firefighter Dolan had 25 years, Firefighter Saniuk had 24 years, Firefighter Jameson had 21 years, Firefighter Beckwith had 6 years, Firefighter Murphy had 5 years, Firefighter Magee had 4 years and Firefighter Boucher had 19 months of service. The alarms were sounded at 1435 hours at 1435 hours, the Working Fire was ordered at 1444 hours, the 2nd alarm at 1446 hours, the 3rd alarm at 1502 hours and the 4th alarm at 1506 hours. Two extra engines were ordered at 1552 hours and the collapse occurred at 1728 hours. RIP.

PHOTOS AND MORE DETAILS HERE: http://www.boston.com/yourtown/boston/fenway_kenmore/gallery/vendome_fire_remembered_40_years_later/

HERE is a related story about a Father-and Son, in the BFD: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2012/06/17/a_fathers_sacrifice_a_sons_calling/

NEW YORK CITY-FDNY: THE FATHERS DAY FIRE
In 2001, Father's Day turned horrifically tragic in Queens, New York City that afternoon, when an explosion at a building fire killed 3 FDNY Firefighters who left behind 8 kids. The blast ripped through a hardware store and apartment building on Astoria Blvd. Firefighter Harry Ford, 50, a 27-year veteran, Firefighter Brian Fahey, 46, a 14-year veteran, both members of Rescue Company 4 and Firefighter John Downing, 40, an 11-year veteran of Ladder 163 were killed in the Line of Duty shocking so many, never dreaming that the worst of 9/11/2001 awaited.

PHOTOS AND MORE DETAILS HERE: http://stevespak.com/fathersday.html

NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200123.html

CHARLESTON SOFA SUPER STORE FIRE
9 Charleston Firefighters were killed at the infamous Sofa Super Store Fire on June 18, 2007. Lost were 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. We are in Charleston this week for the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs Conference and will attend the memorial service for the Charleston 9 tomorrow evening.

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 a church fire.

NIOSH REPORT: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201114.html


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

LAST MINUTE REMINDER: THIS WEEK is Int'l FIRE/EMS SAFETY WEEK-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
Take Care- BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-17-13 / 1107 Hours

AND:

All,
We regret to advise you of the suicidal death of an on duty Atlanta (GA) Fire-Rescue Firefighter. AFR Chief of Department Kelvin Cochran issued a statement regarding the tragic death yesterday of Katrina Sims, a Firefighter at Atlanta Fire-Rescue Station 35. FF Katrina Sims was a graduate of the AFR Cadet Program whose dream was to be a Firefighter. Police are treating her death as a suicide. As stated by Chief Cochran: "I know you all share my grief at the loss of such a promising young Firefighter. Please hug your children, your parents, your wife, your husband, all your loved ones, extra tightly tonight. And please keep Katrina's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers." Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

For additional information related to FF Personal Survival, please visit:
http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/personal-survival.php
Take Care. Learn Some of The Suicide Warning Signs.
See Below Links.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-19-13 / 0800 hours
Fire Fighter Suicide: A very real issue in our business....

PLEASE CHECK OUT THESE LINKS AND PASS'em ON:

HERE: http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/personal-survival.php (FFCC Personal Survival Section)
HERE: http://blog.iaff.org/post/2010/11/05/No-Fire-Fighter-Stands-Alone.aspx (IAFF-No Firefighter Stands Alone)
HERE: http://abcnews.go.com/Health/MindMoodNews/firefighter-ptsd-suicide/story?id=14466320 (ABC News Article on Firefighter Suicide)
HERE: http://firechief.com/health-safety/ar/firefighting_not_without_warning/ (Fire Chief Magazine Article)
HERE: http://tinyurl.com/7bbz8ev (The Company Officers Role-article)
HERE: http://sweeney-alliance.org/grievingbehindthebadge/?tag=national-fallen-firefighters-foundation (Grieving Behind The Badge)

--HERE: http://tinyurl.com/7kxzf9 (Nat’l Fire Service Summit On FF Suicide-NFFF)

Courtesy www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

AND:
ASSISTANT CHIEF DIES ON DUTY IN QUARTERS-RHODE ISLAND-LODD.
We regret to advise you that 58 year old Assistant Chief Edward C. Vanner, Jr. of the 143d Fire & Emergency Services - Quonset ANG Base R.I. died in the Line of Duty on June 17, 2013. Assistant Chief of Operations Vanner was found by a fellow firefighter in his office unconscious and unresponsive. Chief Vanner was transported to Kent Hospital where despite the best efforts of EMTs and doctors from the 143d FES, North Kingstown Fire Department, and Kent Hospital, Chief Vanner passed away from an apparent heart attack. Pending. Services will held on Sunday, 23 June 2013 from 1600-1900 at Iannotti Funeral Home, 415 Washington ST, Coventry, R.I. 02816; (401) 821-1100. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN CRASH WHILE RETURNING FROM TRAINING-NEW YORK-LODD.
We regret to advise you that Firefighter Thomas Burley, 20, of the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Company in NY was killed on 6-18-13. While returning from fire department mandated training at the Niagara County Public Safety Training Facility, Firefighter Burley died from injuries sustained when his privately owned vehicle was involved in an accident at Route 93 and Church Road, Cambria, NY. Our condolences to all affected, RIP.

FATAL APPARATUS RESPONDING CRASH IN CALIFORNIA.
One civilian was killed and another severely injured in an early-morning crash today in Poway (California) between a Honda and a fire engine. The crash occurred at an intersection about 0400 hours as the apparatus was responding to a medical emergency call in the northern San Diego County suburb. A female passenger in the Honda was killed and the male driver was injured and taken to a hospital. No firefighters were hurt—more details will follow.

WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER SUFFERS CARDIAC ARREST ON SCENE-HIS LIFE IS SAVED.
A Firefighter on the Horseshoe Meadow Hotshot crew working on the Big Meadows Fire in Rocky Mountain National Park northwest of Denver suffered a cardiac arrest June 16 but was successfully saved with CPR and an AED. The incident occurred in the morning as the Horseshoe Meadow Hotshot crew was hiking with the Arrowhead Hotshots to their assignment in a remote area of the Park. Luther E. Larkin, Sr., 51, a member of the crew which is based on the Sequoia National Forest in California, began having difficulty breathing and experienced chest pains. An EMT with the crews evaluated him and detected no pulse, then started CPR. A paramedic that was on the fireline arrived within 5 minutes, carrying an AED. After approximately 10 to 14 minutes with no pulse and applying one "shock" from the AED, FF Larkin was resuscitated.

FIREFIGHTER CONTINUES TO FIGHT FOR HIS LIFE AFTER BEING STRUCK ON THE SCENE BY DRUNK DRIVER.
35-year-old North Charleston FF Darin Kingery is fighting for his life after he was working at that crash scene in North Charleston earlier this month when a drunk, who was in the country illegally, drove a Honda into him and five others. His leg broken in several places, and an infection spread through the limb in the days after the June 8 injury. On Tuesday, doctors at Medical University Hospital amputated part of the leg to stop the disease and save Kingery's life. He was stabilized but still sedated yesterday—keep’em in your prayers.

REMEMBERING PETE LUND.
Last weekend, June 14 marked 8 years since Lt. Pete Lund died in the Line of Duty after becoming suddenly ill while operating at the scene of a SFD fire in Woodmere, Long Island, New York. Lt. Pete Lund joined the FDNY in 1973 and retired from Rescue Co. 2 in 2003. He was also a lifelong member of the Woodmere VFD in his hometown on Long Island, as well as an active member of the Kentland VFD in Prince Georges County, MD. Our thoughts remain with his wife, Andrea; Daughter, Valerie;
and son, Matt, who is following in his Dad's footsteps as a FF. Pete touched the lives of thousands of FF's throughout the country with his dynamic personality and endless knowledge of fire operations. RIP.

"DETOUR BURN" DVD NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.
BURN is out on Blu-ray, DVD and digital and a portion of proceeds goes to the Leary Firefighters Foundation to purchase much-needed gear for Detroit firefighters. The movie is EXCELLENT and well worth you checking out for purchase. It's been seen in many theaters around the USA but this gives you a chance to own a copy-or see it for the first time. DETAILS ON PURCHASING THE VIDEO (AND A TRAILER OF THE MOVIE) HERE: http://www.detroitfirefilm.org/
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-20-13 / 1200 Hours

AND:

All,
We sincerely regret that we've been informed that one of the best, most active and senior Fire Instructors in North America ...and an old pal to so many, passed away last evening. Chief John Sachen, who made such a huge difference to so many firefighters, was an Industrial Fire Training Coordinator with the University of Missouri - Fire and Rescue Training Institute, was the Hazmat Officer/Fire Instructor for the Delta Missouri Fire Protection District and served on the advisory board for FDIC. His certified teaching career began in 1956 in the U.S. Air Force in the field of communications and electronics. Chief Sachen had served in both career and non-career public and industrial fire departments with responsibilities for structural firefighting, training, hazmat, confined space, and management. His industrial career includes product development and marketing with General Dynamics during three different employment periods. John had developed numerous courses and procedures for the University of Missouri, including the "Ignitable Liquids and Class B Foam," "Killer-in-the-Attic (half-story fires)," "Meth-amphetamine Awareness and Operations" which were released nationally under a federal grant and "Rapid Intervention Teams". In addition he developed and produced the Fire Technology Ltd. video training program "Firefighting: It's A Risky Business". Throughout his career, John focused on the science of fire behavior and effective low risk attack methods and tactics for structural and ignitable liquid fires. Development of effective practices for half-story attic fires, started for Missouri's first Winter Fire School, 3 decades ago. He always loved to talk fire and would share his incredible and in-depth knowledge with anyone interested...and we always were. John was retired from Mallinckrodt Chemical as Chief of Fire Protection and Chemical Response with national responsibility for Chemtrec Responses. Here's a great interview with John: http://www.semissourian.com/story/1665937.html - Our condolences to Johns many friends and family-with thanks for all the good he did in educating all of us-directly or indirectly, throughout the world. RIP.
Take Care-Be Careful.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-22-13/0700 Hours

AND:

All,
While not confirmed as a Line of Duty death by commonwealth authorities as of yet, PA Firefighter (who was also a Police Officer) Daniel "JJ" Lomax of the Factoryville Fire Company, (Wyoming County) Station 9 as well as Scott Township Hose Company was killed yesterday by fallen wires at the scene of a car crash where he stopped to help. FF Lomax worked as a Police Officer in
Mayfield, Forest City, and Great Bend. He was a member of several FD's and was a Deputy Fire Chief in Scott Township. By all accounts, he was beloved throughout the area and very well known. We'll keep you advised as to the status of his death. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

FACTORYVILLE FIRE COMPANY WEBSITE: http://www.factoryvillestation9.com/
SCOTT TOWNSHIP HOSE COMPANY WEBSITE: http://station36fire.com/

FREE FIRE TANKER ROLLOVER PREVENTION TRAINING VIDEO.
EXCELLENT VIDEO training on fire department tanker/tender rollover crashes. Please share this DVD with fire departments in your area or membership. The video contains a special introduction for fire fighters to the Cargo Tank Rollover Prevention Video developed by the U.S. Department of Transportation in cooperation with NTTC. Single copies for reproducing the video are available at no cost for reproduction and sharing with a larger audience. DETAILS HERE: http://www.tanktruck.org/resources/resources-detail-view/rollover-safety-training-video

1 MINUTE AND 30 SECOND VIDEO ABOUT YOUR FIREFIGHTER TRAINING.
This is a must watch 3 MINUTE video for all Firefighters and Fire Officers, regarding TRAINING. The video is by our co-conspirator here at www.FireFighterCloseCalls, Gordon G. http://www.lexipol.com/rise-occasion-t-74.html

RELATED: WHO'S TRAINING Your Firefighters?
http://www.iafc.org/Operations/LegacyArticleDetail.cfm?ItemNumber=4487

CURBSIDE MANNER?
A New Approach to After-Action Reports....coupled with a new concept called Curbside Manner, the new approach can help us manage potentially tough calls. MORE DETAILS HERE: http://www.firefighternation.com/article/firefighter-safety-and-health/new-approach-after-action-reports

BOSTON FIRE LIEUTENANT REMEMBERED
Some folks like being Firefighters. A few don't. However, some LOVE being Firefighters. Lt Steve Minehan absolutely loved being a Firefighter. LOVED IT. Steve was a Firefighter long before he was appointed to the Boston FD in October of 1974. He was the 3rd generation of Minehan Firefighters in Boston. His grandfather, Mike Minehan, was a Chief. His dad Alfred Minehan was a firefighter as well. Stephen spent much of his childhood and teen years in and out of firehouses buffing and chasing fires. So as far as Stephen was concerned, from a young age he knew when he grew up he was going to be a firefighter, and that he was for almost 20 years. A Lieutenant on the BFD, Stephen Minehan was killed in the Line-of-Duty on June 24th, 1994. He lost his life while fighting a 9 alarm fire in the Charlestown section of Boston. Responding to the fire, Steve and his crew of Ladder 15 were immediately sent into the building for a rescue, along with other members of the department. Their goal was to find 2 other Firefighters who were missing and, at last check, had little air left in their air tanks. Throughout the early morning, these men were found and rescued, though both were in severe need of hyperbaric chambers. As the brave crew of Ladder 15 was exiting the building, they came to the realization that Lt. Minehan had not come out with them. Somehow, instead of exiting the building, Steve found himself alone, walking further in. What happened in that crucial moment really is not clear and may never be; but that morning at 7:30 am Steve's body was recovered by the very men he was proud to lead. Steve was just a couple of months short of twenty years of service in the BFD. Along with the legacy of a grown man whose heart still jumped when he heard sirens (he even installed his own mechanical siren in the apparatus), Steve left behind a family he loved more than anything in the world. He left his wife, Kathy, of 20 years; and he was the proud father of four kids: Kelley, Joseph, Meghan and Kaitlin. He also left behind 6 siblings, their spouses and many nieces and nephews. Please keep Steve's family in your prayers as we remember him in this week's anniversary of his death. RIP.
FINAL WORD: Our condolences to Dr. Harry Carter on the passing of his Mother this past week. RIP. Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-23-13 / 1411 Hours

AND:

UPDATE: PA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-ELECTROCUTION
The Office of State Fire Commissioner will now be treating the death of "JJ" Lomax as a Line of Duty Death and will be providing assistance the fire departments and family. As you are aware, Daniel "JJ" Lomax of the Factoryville Fire Company, (Wyoming County) Station 9 as well as Scott Township Hose Company was killed Saturday by fallen wires at the scene of a car crash where he stopped to help. FF Lomax worked as a Police Officer in Mayfield, Forest City, and Great Bend. He was a member of several FD's and was a Deputy Fire Chief in Scott Township. By all accounts, he was beloved throughout the area and very well known. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

FACTORYVILLE FIRE COMPANY WEBSITE: http://www.factoryvillestation9.com
SCOTT TOWNSHIP HOSE COMPANY WEBSITE: http://station36fire.com

THIS COMING WEEKEND ON LONG ISLAND IN NEW YORK: A FINAL REMINDER: There are still some open seats for this weekends JOEY DIBERNARDO* MEMORIAL FIREFIGHTER TRAINING SEMINAR. SIGN UP NOW for this unique program that offers you and your FF's training from an outstanding line up of Firefighters and officers-all in one session. There will never be a chance to have all of these instructors together for this kind of training. Ever. Take a moment and read about it below and consider a bus ride, car pool or whatever to Long Island, NY for this phenomenal opportunity. (June 29 & 30, 2013) Check it out so you don't regret missing it. CHECK OUT DETAILS HERE: http://joeystdoundation.org/Training_Seminars.html
FACEBOOK LINK HERE: www.facebook.com/JoeyDFoundation
*In January of 2005, then FDNY R-3 FF Joey DiBernardo responded to a tenement fire in the Bronx. This day would come to be known as "Black Sunday" in FDNY history as three firefighters died that day in the Line of Duty. Ladder Co. 27 and Rescue 3 members became trapped on the top floor of this Bronx tenement. Surrounded by fire with no way out and running out of air, they were forced to jump out the rear windows to the yard five stories below. Tragically, two members of Ladder 27 died on impact and two others were critically injured. Joey continued to live in great pain every day of his life from all his injuries and passed away November 22, 2011 as a result of the injuries suffered on Black Sunday...giving his life in the Line of Duty for the citizens of New York. RIP.

AMERICAN FIREFIGHTER CULTURE: DO WE NEED GENE THERAPY?
Check it out!
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-24-13 / 1422 Hours

AND:

WEST VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-ON THE SCENE OF A DWELLING FIRE-MEDICAL EMERGENCY
We regret to advise you that a Firefighter from Sissonville, Kanawha County, West Virginia died in
the Line of Duty this afternoon. He died after suffering from a medical condition while operating at the scene of a fire in Sissonville around 1400 hours. 62-year-old Firefighter John Appleton, with the Malden Volunteer Fire Department, (near Charleston) passed out while on the scene of a mobile home fire on Happy Hollow Road. The house was well involved, and Appleton passed out while on the scene of that fire. He was taken to CAMC General where he later died. FF Appleton had been with the department for seven years and also served as a pastor at the Kanawha Salines Presbyterian Church in Malden.

**FIREFIGHTERS LOSE THEIR JOBS OVER A GUN "CONTROL" ISSUE**

An anonymous good Samaritan apparently thought it was a good idea to turn a loaded gun over to Firefighters for safekeeping until the cops could come pick it up. However, 3 Firefighters at Largo Fire Station 40 in Pinellas County (Tampa Bay area) had another idea after they failed to properly SIZE UP the situation. Rather than calling the cops or their supervisor, they took it apart, examined it and then put it in one Firefighter's glove compartment. End result: 2 of them have lost their jobs. The third has been suspended for a shift without pay. And the sheriff has the gun.

**MORE HERE:**
http://tinyurl.com/ombhqq2  Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-24-13 / 2126 Hours

**AND:**

All,

Several new NIOSH reports are out. The first is that on December 2, 2012, a 45-year-old FF died in the Line of Duty when he was struck by a backing fire apparatus at the scene of a rural brush fire that had extended into a vacant structure. The victim was one-of-two fire fighters on the first-arriving fire apparatus (brush truck). The victim immediately got out of the apparatus and positioned himself behind the apparatus on the driver-side to direct the driver in backing the brush truck up a steep incline in the gravel roadway to get closer to the burning structure. The victim tripped or fell and was struck by the backing brush truck. The second due fire apparatus arrived on-scene just as the incident occurred and crew members helped with emergency medical efforts. There were a number of bystanders in the area but there were no known eye-witnesses to the incident. The incident occurred at night in a poorly-lighted rural area

HERE IS THE ENTIRE REPORT WITH PHOTOS & RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES:
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201231.html

**FIRE APPARATUS BACKING RELATED LINKS:**
NJ FF LODD STRUCK WHILE SPOTTING BACKING RIG:

SUGGESTED BACKING PROCEDURES:
http://www.iafc.org/files/AZ%20-20Backing%20SOP.pdf

ALSO CHECK OUT:
www.respondersafety.com and
http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/research/safety/vehicle-roadway.shtm

**NIOSH REPORT: FIRE CAPTAIN LODD IN QUARTERS**

On August 20, 2012, a 49-year-old Fire Captain was scheduled to work a 24-hour shift. The Captain arrived for duty at the fire station at 0700 hours. At 0727 hours the Captain complained of indigestion and chest pain. As he went to obtain an antacid in the bunkroom, he asked his Lieutenant to call for
an ambulance. A few moments later crew members heard what sounded like snoring and found the Captain lying unresponsive in the hallway. An automated external defibrillator (AED) was obtained as an ambulance was called. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was begun (0728 hours) as three AED shocks were administered without improvement in his clinical status. The ambulance arrived at 0738 hours and advanced life support was begun. The Captain was transported to the hospital's emergency department where advanced life support continued for 15 minutes. Despite CPR and advanced life support on the scene, in transport, and at the hospital, the Captain died at 0817 hours. The death certificate and the autopsy listed "acute coronary insufficiency" as the cause of death. Given the Captain's underlying cardiovascular disease, NIOSH investigators concluded that an arrhythmia or heart attack probably triggered his sudden cardiac death.

HERE IS THE ENTIRE REPORT:  http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201231.html

FIRE APPARATUS STOLEN BY A BAD GUY
An escaped inmate broke into the fire department in Boley, Okla., and stole a fire truck this morning. Bad guy Adam J. Holder escaped from the John H. L. Lilley correctional facility in Boley sometime after midnight. Police believe he broke into the fire house and stole a 2009 red Ford brush truck.


FIRE APPARATUS SABOTAGED IN BALTIMORE CITY BY A DIFFERENT BAD GUY
The Baltimore City Fire Department is investigating how the electric wiring in one of its ladder trucks was cut last month - damage Fire Chief Jim Clack called "suspicious." Investigators are looking into whether the 35 department members who work out of the Roman A. Kaminski Fire Station in the 2100 block of Eastern Avenue were involved, as well as the possibility that an outsider came into the station and caused the damage to the decade-old apparatus.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-26-13 / 1535 Hours

AND:
Hey,
In Rhode Island, it is now considered a privilege to not wear a seat belt while operating and riding in an emergency vehicle. Yay. Last night, the Rhode Island legislation, passed the below bill so additional cops, firefighters and EMS folks can now get ejected legally. In usual game playing, it was kinda hidden from the fire folks (who, when finding out, attempted a last minute change) but it was allegedly pushed through by advocates for the state police who find it difficult to wear their seat belts while doing their jobs. Of course, these are the same police who get grants to enforce "click it or ticket" programs on duty-and on overtime. So what's the deal on cops wearing seat belts? How does the International Association of Chiefs of Police Feel? According to them, 42 percent of police officers killed in vehicle crashes are not wearing seat belts. They passed a resolution: Mandatory Seat Belt Use by Police Officers," That resolution urges "all law enforcement executives to immediately develop and implement mandatory seat belt [use] for their departments." That IACP resolution was adopted at the 118th Annual conference of the IACP Convention in Chicago, Illinois, 2011.

AND POLICE CHIEFS CREATED A "WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT" VIDEO FOR COPS:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lv_vlNAYlqc

Does this clueless Rhode Island action make it where cops, EMT’s and firefighters in Rhode Island
cannot wear them? Duh. Of course not. Put your damn belt on so you can arrive safety to assist cops who now have a greater chance to get ejected. Legally.

HERE is the Rhode Island legislation:  [http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText13/HouseText13/H5661.pdf](http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText13/HouseText13/H5661.pdf)

HERE ARE SOME FIRE SERVICE SEAT BELT VIDEOS:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WrOWzbiOSp0  (The FDNY Seat Belt Solution)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbEwWypcuQ  (It's More Than Just Seat Belts-LODD Apparatus vs Apparatus Crash)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOfeSnvXSD8  (We've Heard All The Excuses)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZOV3Tp3U1M  (Buckle Up-We Do)

LAST CHANCE FOR A VERY UNIQUE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY.
This weekend is the 1st annual Joey DiBernardo Firefighter Training Program being held on Long Island. The seminar, Saturday June 29 and Sunday June 30 will be held at Brookhaven National Labs. It offers you and your Firefighters tactical training from an outstanding line up of Firefighters and officers-all in one session. There will never be a chance to have all of these instructors together for this kind of training. Ever. Take a moment and read about it below and consider a bus ride, car pool or whatever to NY for this phenomenal opportunity. As Joey used to say: " Are you on the job or into the job?"

CHECK OUT DETAILS HERE:  [http://joeydfoundation.org/Training_Seminars.html](http://joeydfoundation.org/Training_Seminars.html)
FACEBOOK LINK HERE:  [www.facebook.com/JoeyDFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/JoeyDFoundation)

FIRE OFFICER DEVELOPMENT TRAINING IN CHICAGO THIS SUMMER AT FIRE RESCUE INT'L.
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9ZxOTQxtTA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9ZxOTQxtTA)
Take Care-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 6-27-13 / 2100 Hours

AND:

All,
We've been advised that Wickenburg (AZ) Community Hospital (NW of Downtown Phoenix) is expecting to treat numerous Firefighters who were trapped and injured operating at the fast-moving Yarnell Hill Fire (SW of Prescott). Fire crews were sent into the fire to find an estimated 19 Firefighters who were unaccounted for this evening. Last reports are that they have been located and multiple EMS helicopters have been requested. The hospital was put on alert to expect several injured firefighters but did not know their conditions or the extent of their injuries. One report is that right now are that about 20 of the more than 250 firefighters operating at the nearly 2,000-acre fire were involved in a "very serious incident within an situation." The Yarnell Hill Fire was zero-percent contained as of last report. We'll post more as it becomes available.
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-30-13 / 2200 Hours

AND:

Hey,
25 years ago tomorrow, Monday July 1,that 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
Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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 TSL's 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:
25th YEAR ANNIVERSARY STORY, PHOTOS, VIDEO HACKENSACK FORD:
http://tinyurl.com/oxba3ze
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): 2 CT FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-2010 2 CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-2007 3 NJ FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-2002
4 WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-2001 While we cannot always write about every past LODD, we do our best to share many of them-especially multiple LODD's at the same location-and especially those with published reports so that we can all honor the Firefighters killed, by learning about what went right-or wrong.

==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

==LAST FRIDAY-FIRE HELO DOWN DURING TRAINING:
A helicopter crashed in the Clark Fork River northwest of Missoula during firefighting training. The pilot was not seriously injured. The helicopter crew was practicing water-bucket drops at about 1 p.m. Friday when the helicopter crashed. It was sitting upright in about 3 feet of water. It was not immediately clear regarding the instructor as one person was on the helicopter and the instructor was on the ground, while the passenger was able to get to shore by himself and that crews rescued the pilot.

==TODAY: CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTER HURT IN FLASHOVER-VIDEO
One Sacramento Metro FF from Engine Company 61, Rancho Cordova was injured during a "flashover" while working a dwelling fire today. That firefighter had moderate injuries to the hands, shoulders and face and another firefighter was also suffered from heat exhaustion while fighting the blaze. The below link has some video: http://fox40.com/2013/06/30/firefighter-hurt-during-rancho-cordova-house-fire/

==FINAL WORD: FDNY ENJOY this clip from 1967 from the ED SULLIVAN SHOW, of the FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band:
https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151675773860238&set=o.100314420598&type=2&theater

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
Billy G
The Secret List 6-30-13 / 2100 Hours

AND:

It's with shock and regret that we advise you that 19 Firefighters have died in the Line of Duty. The Prescott Fire Department is stating that 19 firefighters have died while operating at the Yarnell Hill fire tonight. They're part of the Prescott Granite Mountain Hot Shots. http://www.cityofprescott.net/services/fire/hotshots/ - The wildfire was likely caused by a lightning strike Saturday night. The Yarnell Hill fire, about 35 miles southwest of Prescott, has burned about 1,300 acres and forced the evacuation of 50 homes. The fire started Friday and has not yet burned down any structures, but Sunday night firefighters pushed the blaze back away from communities, hoping to keep the blaze from overtaking any homes. Much more to follow.RIP.
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
The Secret List 6-30-13 / 2246 hours

AND:
All,
According to the media conference, the lone survivor of the Prescott FD firefighting crew - escaped because he was moving the crew's truck when the fire blasted over them. As you are well aware, the wind-whipped fire trapped members of the Prescott FD based "hotshot" crew Sunday. Reports are that the winds made an unpredictable "violent" 180 turn. Currently, the fire, about 85 miles northwest of Phoenix remains out of control, has burned 13 square miles with zero containment.

ONE FF IDENTIFIED: One of the 19 Firefighters killed near Yarnell, FF Kevin Woyjeck, was the son Los Angeles County Fire Captain Joe Woyjeck. This information was released through LA County. Our condolences to the Captain, his family and friends on the loss of their son. An official release of the names of all the lost Firefighters will be released at a later press conference. At least eight other Firefighters suffered injuries and were taken to Wickenburg Community Hospital but the extent of their injuries is not known.
More to follow.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-1-13 / 1428 Hours

AND:

All,
The national media is all over the incredible shocking loss of the Prescott Firefighters at the Yarnell fire (which continues to grow and burn out of control-zero containment), so we'll try and just forward information that they may not be posting. ALSO NOTE THAT the next news briefing is scheduled for 1000 hours (1300 eastern) in the Prescott city council chambers. Keep an eye on these Phoenix area TV and related news links for that report:
http://www.kpho.com/
http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/
http://www.abc15.com/
http://www.azcentral.com/12news/
The Granite Mountain Hotshots are local government, not your typical federal hotshots. They are a unit made up of career firefighters and seasonal members of the City of Prescott Fire Department. The Chief in Prescott, Dan Fraijo, who was appointed Chief earlier this year, began his career with the Phoenix FD years ago and worked his way through the ranks up to division chief. Chief Fraijo said one member of the crew had survived because the firefighter was not with the other members when they were caught in the fire, which was caused by lightning. The 19 firefighters were found in an area that also had 19 fire shelters* deployed. Some of the firefighters were inside their shelters, used as a last resort to withstand the fire if it overtakes them-as it did. Some of the crew members were found outside the shelters. Current details indicate that 18 of the firefighters killed were members of the Granite Mountain Hotshots team. It's unknown which fire crew the 19th firefighter belonged to. Earlier yesterday, the firefighters had not been heard from as the wildfire headed into town. Around 1800, command was unable to establish communications with them, although they had been seen from a helicopter.
ABOUT THE TEAM FROM THE PFD:
Before the fire near Yarnell, the Prescott group had been profiled in local media.
ARTICLE HERE:
http://www.dcourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1086&ArticleID=120497
GRANITE MOUNTAIN HOTSHOTS HOME PAGE:
http://www.cityofprescott.net/services/fire/hotshots/

*ABOUT FIRE SHELTERS:
Much more to follow on the devastating news.
KEEP AN EYE on the above local news media links.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-1-13 / 1126 Hours

AND:

All,
These are the 19 Firefighters killed in the Line of Duty yesterday in Arizona. Fourteen of the victims were in their 20s. RIP.
- Andrew Ashcraft, 29
- Kevin Woyjeck, 21
- Anthony Rose, 23
- Eric Marsh, 43
- Christopher MacKenzie, 30
- Robert Caldwell, 23
- Clayton Whitted, 28
- Scott Norris, 28
- Dustin Deford, 24
- Sean Misner, 26
- Garret Zuppiger, 27
- Travis Carter, 31
- Grant McKee, 21
- Travis Turbyfill, 27
- Jesse Steed, 36
- Wade Parker, 22
- Joe Thurston, 32
- William Warneke, 25
- John Percin, 24

STATEMENT FROM BRYAN JEFFRIES, EXECUTIVE VP, THE PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS OF ARIZONA
The fire fighting community in the State of Arizona is a close, united family. The 19 fire fighters who made the ultimate sacrifice last night in the line of duty in Yarnell are more than colleagues to us. They're brothers to each of the 6,500 men and women who belong to the Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona. http://pffaz.org/ - Our thoughts and prayers are with their families, their loved ones and with the Prescott FD and the community. The young fire fighters from the Granite Mountain Hotshots and their fellow wildland fire fighters serve every day with the utmost courage and with the strongest possible commitment to their community and to the fire service. These 19 gave their lives as heroes. They will never, ever be forgotten. Our hearts also are with area residents who lost their homes and their possessions. Last night, the PFFA established a Prescott Command with our President, Tim Hill, and Ray Maione, our member services director, on the ground to coordinate delivering services to the Yarnell area. These services include grief counseling for families of the fallen, financial support and benefits, memorial services and additional manpower for the Prescott Fire Department. These efforts are ongoing. We want to thank the public from across Arizona and the nation for their outpouring of support and for their offers of help. Anyone who wants to contribute financially to help the families of the fallen can do so by making a donation today to the 100 Club or the Wildland Firefighter Foundation. Thank you.

STATEMENT FROM THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION
The Arizona Line of Duty Death Response Team, one of NFFF's Local Assistance State Teams and
part of the Arizona Fire Chiefs Association, was activated last night to provide support. To Help the Survivors of the Fallen Firefighters from Arizona-Donate to the Yarnell Hill Fallen Firefighters Fund The families, friends and colleagues of the 19 firefighters who died in Arizona Sunday night will need immediate help and assistance for years to come. This is the mission of the NFFF. The NFFF, in cooperation with local support efforts in Arizona, has set up a national fund to accept monetary donations. 100% of the funds go to help the survivors and coworkers of the lost FF’s. To donate to the Yarnell Hill Fallen Firefighters Fund. Send checks to: National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, c/o Yarnell Hill Fallen Firefighters Fund, P.O. Drawer 498. Emmitsburg, MD 21727, Or Online: www.regoneonline.com/yarnellhill
Much more to follow.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-1-13 / 2000 Hours

AND:
Hey,
A San Francisco Firefighter who allegedly drove a ladder truck into a motorcyclist while drunk and left the scene now faces charges of felony driving under the influence and hit-and-run. Michael Quinn, 43, was arrested more than 2 hours after the crash at 2334 hours Saturday at Fifth and Howard streets - he was released from jail at midday Sunday after posting $65,000 bail. Quinn, who has been with the SFFD for more than 20 years, was suspended without pay. He was driving a ladder truck with emergency lights and siren on, responding to what turned out to be a false alarm. The rig had just entered the intersection when it hit the motorcycle headed west on Howard. The rider was thrown 75 feet and suffered broken ribs and a punctured lung and was hospitalized in serious condition but was expected to survive. The fire truck stopped after the crash. Quinn was told to remain at the scene to provide a statement and take a drug and alcohol screening test-but left - and returned to the firehouse two hours later. Cops arrested Quinn there. Quinn's blood-alcohol level was measured at 0.13 percent, above the legal driving limit of 0.08 percent.

FIREFIGHTER SHOT IN THE BACK OF THE AMBULANCE BY PATIENT
An Omaha firefighter was shot after a patient he was transporting pulled out a gun in the ambulance today. Paramedics were called to a convenience store at 48th and L Streets just after 1500 hours on a report of a woman having a seizure. While they were taking her to a hospital, she pulled out a gun near 42nd and Center Streets. The firefighter, who was not identified but is in his mid-30s, grabbed for the weapon and it discharged. A bullet grazed him in the arm, according to early reports. The woman apparently managed to get off a second shot, which struck her in the leg. She was taken to Creighton University Medical Center in critical condition.

2012-2013 MEDAL VALOR NOMINATION PERIOD IS OPEN The US Department of Justice is currently accepting nominations for the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor (MOV). MOV is the highest national award that can be bestowed on firefighters, police officers and related public safety officers and is awarded by the President to those who have exhibited extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. Under the provisions of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act, a total of five individual and/or team awards are presented each year. To be considered for the 2012-2013 MOV, an officer must be nominated for actions that occurred between June 1, 2012 and May 31, 2013. Nominations must be submitted online by the agency head of the officer's employing department and must be received by DOJ no later than 11:59 p.m. eastern time on July 31, 2013. IF YOU KNOW OF a public safety officer who has displayed exceptional courage in the performance of their duties, we encourage you to nominate them for this prestigious award. For additional information about MOV, and to complete and submit an application, please visit www.medalofvalor.gov . Should you have any questions regarding the MOV nomination process, please contact Mr. Kevin A. Jenkins
Hey,
So, a "reality" show by the "Bravo" network called "Princesses Long Island" features spoiled brat-ettes from suburban NYC and their wild, crazy and fun antics...oh those crazy spoiled kids and their lives, spending their parents bucks, looking for their prince charmings. Growing up, living at home and having the world at their disposal-that's apparently what reality is these days, at least to them. Just like Kim the Klowen-more so called reality. Anyway-Bravo decides to film a segment of their show in Jonathan Ielpi Memorial Park (Jon's Park) in Great Neck, Long Island, New York. While most of you know who Jonathan is - as we've written about him and his Dad, Lee Ielpi, numerous times, some of our newer readers may not. Jonathan L. Ielpi, 29, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 288 was murdered on 9/11/01. For Jon, the son of FDNY Rescue 2 veteran Lee Ielpi, firefighting was priority number one. A longtime hockey player, Ielpi gave up his favorite sport after joining the FDNY, worried that an injury could interfere with his work. Like his father before him, lelpi served as chief of Great Neck's Vigilant Volunteer Fire Company. A six-year FDNY veteran, Ielpi is survived by his wife, two sons-his Mom, Dad, Brother and Sisters...and many, many friends.

So what's the disgust? What's the outrage?

As you will see in the below short news video, they allowed these reality clowns to film "the girls" (featuring wanna be star Amanda Bertoncini*) in the park, literally all over Jonathan's statue, with booze, stripping down etc. It's about as disgusting as it gets. They claim to be sorry, didn't know-and related BS. You cannot enter the park without knowing it is a MEMORIAL PARK, dedicated to those killed on 9/11, named after Jon. The firefighter statue, in Jon's likeness is a large FIREFIGHTER STATUE. Look, I can rant about this or you can simply watch the report-and then take action by sharing your disgust. Their lame, self serving (again) non-apology is hardly enough....it really is disgusting-where she markets her "product" in the so called apology. What about all the other crew and production folks, did none of them realize where they were? Who was in charge? Who allows this stupidity to happen? WAIT. They knew what they were doing-but selling the show (and themselves) is the ONLY priority in their "reality" world.

WATCH THE CLIP HERE:

NEVER FORGET?
When I woke up this morning I was thinking about the "Prescott 19" (19...my God...) and how as each day passes, some will forget. As Firefighters, we have lots of responsibilities-and one of those are making sure people, especially the clueless and lame, understand the seriousness of the loss-and how we will never let them, ever forget.9/11/01-the worst day on American soil as we were attacked and thousands murdered. And the Bravo people -ALL WHO ARE NEW YORKERS, decided to forget. Accept nothing less than this act was very intentional and an attempt to get people to watch their show. Incredible disrespect beyond words - that maybe we won't allow them to forget.

BRAVO CONTACT INFORMATION:
You are encouraged to share your disgust, opinion and thoughts with any of the following individuals:
FIRE SERVICE STAND DOWN:
The fire service is standing down tomorrow in California, but naturally, it's not limited to them exclusively. The recent loss of nineteen courageous firefighters from Arizona is a grounding reminder of the dangers faced by firefighters every day. While we mourn the loss of our fallen, it is imperative that each of us take this opportunity to review the basic wildland fire safety principles that help protect California's firefighters. As we head into a very hot and dry Fourth of July holiday weekend, a coalition of California Fire Service partners is coming together to announce a Safety Stand Down for July 3, 2013. Fire departments across California are being urged to stand down Wednesday from routine, non-emergency duties to review basic safety-related training and standard operating procedures. Although the request from the California Fire Service is not an order, the stand-down call is designed to bring awareness of safety messages for the fire service that can get lost in the course of performing daily operations and responding to medical and routine calls. We stand together with the hope that every department and every member will join with us for the Safety Stand Down on July 3rd to continue to make safety our number one priority. Safety is everyone's responsibility; together we can help ensure that everyone goes home at the end of his or her shift.

Here are resources and information on the Causes of Entrapment, Situation Awareness etc: http://www.cffjac.org/go/jac/training/wildland-firefighter-safety/

Here is every Wildland LODD Report from NIOSH: http://www2a.cdc.gov/NIOSH-fire-fighter-face/state.asp?state=ALL&Incident_Year=ALL&Medical_Related=ALL&Trauma_Related=0005&Submit=Submit

Here is a letter from the California Fire Service Coalition. http://www.cffjac.org/go/jac/?LinkServID=A0D55AA7-1CC4-C201-3E76BB83FBA60C6A

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER: OPERATIONAL PAUSE
The wildland fire community, and the nation, deeply mourn the loss of nineteen firefighters from Prescott Fire Department's Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew. Even as we mourn this tragic loss we must also remember and honor the other firefighters who have perished in the line of duty on other wildland fires this year. The 2013 fire season is well underway and is likely to continue...
NMAC requests that all wildland fire personnel in the United States observe an Operational Pause in Remembrance on the morning of Wednesday, July 3.

As we remember our fallen, we must also consider those who survive and the challenges they face in dealing with the magnitude of such a loss. Agency leaders must make available the kinds of counseling and peer support that can help employees work through their emotions. The goal is to reduce the potential long-term impacts that are sometimes a consequence of normal human reactions to tragedy. Some wounds cut deeper, and take longer to heal, than others. An operational pause is also a time for thoughtful reflection about risk. It is a time-out from daily operations - even while committed to an incident. It is a time to focus exclusively on the kind of work we do, our operational environment and the hazards we encounter there, how we assess risk, and the risk mitigation’s that can be employed to reduce risk to acceptable levels. It is a time to recognize the implications of the fact that in the hazardous wildland fire environment, risk can never be reduced to zero even with the best mitigation measures in place. It is a time to reflect on the fact that we can always take an operational pause to consider these things, even during high-tempo operations. We ask that all fire managers and fire personnel take the time to thoughtfully take an Operational Pause in Remembrance. And we thank all firefighters and support personnel for their efforts.

They have definitely received the message*, and while I think their response so far, is lame, we have raised their awareness as to how atrocious their actions were. There is no reason to not keep them aware of their actions and of your concerns. To "not be aware" that statue was a memorial - as they have responded - adds insult to injury. That show was not "live" and was subject to reviews, edits and related levels of “authority” prior to being aired. WHY? While we respond to any insult like this-and should, (and certainly have) especially against any firefighters memory, this is personal. As some may know, I grew up hanging around Lee Ielpi - listening and learning - going to some decent fires between our companies on Long Island in the later 70's and early 80's- and he has had a profound impact on my career and my life. Lee is amongst the most highly decorated members of the FDNY- and as humble as they come. I love him, his family and treat what these disrespectful corporate heads and wanna be "stars" did as if they did it to one of my own.

Please don't blow this off...they knew exactly what they were doing. It's all about "reaction"- and Firefighters can "react" as well. Anyone can offer a quick apology-this requires more. A statement, a posting on their website and an approriate "put your money where your mouth is" donation to the September 11th Families Association (founded by Lee Ielpi) might be a better response. http://911families.org Perhaps some dedicated time and space to educating their viewers on 9/11. Don't back down.

A Statement sent to use from BRAVO, and we are posting it as they requested. "We are extremely sorry for any distress we caused the family of Jonathan Ielpi and other firefighters. As soon as we were alerted that this was a memorial statue, Bravo immediately removed the footage from any future airings. Again, we deeply regret this."
Jodi Davis-BRAVO

ADVERTISERS:
Some have suggested their advertisers be contacted. Here is a list of what we have been able to find:
Hershey’s (Mr Beckman, CEO) - JBeckman@hersheys.com
Pepsi - Pepsicomediarelations@pepsico.com
Target (Gregg Steinhafel, Chairman President and CEO of Target) - Gregg.Steinhafel@target.com

August 3, 2013 www.chabotfire.com
HERE are the Executives at BRAVO That Should Be Contacted (We Added Their Director of Communications) - Andy Cohen-Exec VP Programming: Andy.Cohen@nbcuni.com

NEW CONTACT: Jodi Davis-Corporate Communications: Jodi.Davis@nbcuni.com
Julia Nietsch-Manager-"Princesses: Long Island" julia.nietsch@nbcuni.com
Dan Realson. Director, Digital Media Sales, East Coast Dan.Realson@nbcuni.com
"Reality Performer" Amanda Bertoncini: https://www.facebook.com/amanda.bertoncini
Amanda Bertoncini e-mail: DrinkHanky@Gmail.com
OR Contact Them Here: http://www.bravotv.com/contact
FACEBOOK Bravo HERE: https://www.facebook.com/BRAVO

ASK THEM TO POST a statement on their website. Perhaps suggest that they have a page on their site dedicated to EDUCATING their viewers on 9/11. Suggest an appropriate donation to the September 11th Families Association as a better response, as this bell cannot be un-rung. Don't back down.

HERE is the original information:

9/11 BRAVO DISGUST:
An Insult And Slap In The Face Of All Killed On 9/11 And Those Firefighters Across North America Who Continue Serve

HERE are some thoughts From Ray M:
Take Care-Be Careful.
BillyG
The Secret List

AND:

All,
As the fire service prepares to honor and bury the Prescott 19, remember that today, July 5, 1973 is the date a BLEVE occurred as the Kingman Fire Department was just attacking a fire in a 33,000 gallon rail car loaded with LPG. 11 Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty, along with a civilian who was killed. RIP.
DETAILS HERE: http://kingmanhistoricdistrict.com/points-of-interest/firefighters-memorial-park/the-disaster-story.htm

UPDATE: CalFIRE FF STRUCK & KILLED
CAL FIRE Fire Apparatus Engineer/Paramedic Christopher Douglas, 41, of Temecula was fatally injured in the Line of Duty while responding to a crash along Interstate 10 near the Thousand Palms (not Thousand Oaks) area in Riverside County. He was an 8 year member of CAL FIRE. The CAL FIRE / Riverside County Fire Department fire engine was on Interstate 10 near Monterey Ave, when they received the run, when he was struck by a passing vehicle. Fire Engineer/Paramedic Douglas was transported to Desert Regional Hospital but sadly the injuries were fatal. Please keep Christopher's wife Amy, who is pregnant, and his 2 year old son Sammy, his extended family and his CAL FIRE brothers and sisters in your thoughts and prayers deal with this horrible loss. The CHP
Multidisciplinary Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) will be handling the investigation into the accident. Funeral arrangements are pending. RIP.

TEXAS FIREFIGHTER ATTEMPTS RESCUE AT HIS OWN HOUSE FIRE-POSSIBLE LINE OF DUTY DEATH
A Volunteer Firefighter in Tow, Texas (Llano County VFD) died while attempting to rescue his own family at their mobile home fire this evening. Initially reports are that he went in to search for and rescue his family-but they had gotten out through the rear. We will post more details as they become available. RIP.

FDNY FIREFIGHTER REMAINS IDENTIFIED FROM 9/11
The remains of an FDNY Firefighter were positively identified nearly 12 years after he was killed in the World Trade Center. The identification of Jeffrey Walz, a 37-year-old lieutenant with Ladder 9, was made by retesting remains that were recovered during the initial recovery phase before May 2002. Nearly a dozen years after the attacks, the identification process has continued. Of the 2,753 victims, 1,116 have not had remains identified, according to a report from the medical examiner's office. Walz, of Tuckahoe, N.Y., worked as a U.S. Navy engineer, but decided to follow in his father's footsteps in 1992 when he became an FDNY Firefighter. RIP. NOTE: 127 FDNY Firefighters remain missing from 9/11.
Take Care-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 7-5-13 / 2130 Hours

AND:

MISSISSIPPI FIRE CHIEF KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-CRASH/EJECTION RESPONDING
We regret to advise you that Fire Chief Mickey Yates of the Greenfield VFD, was responding to a reported vehicle crash - when he was involved in a crash himself. Initial reports are that he was ejected from the vehicle which then rolled over him. We'll post more details as they are made available. RIP.
Take Care-SLOW DOWN. BELT IN.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-8-13 / 1510 hours

AND:

All,
Here is an update (Friday) on Captain Bill Dowling from his wife, Jacki. You can follow her on Facebook (link below):

UPDATE ON HOUSTON FIRE CAPTAIN BILL DOWLING:
It's funny how the small things become so exciting when your in a situation like I am. The first 3 days in ICU, the nurses were in the room with Bill almost 24/7. I stayed on pins and needles, and watched their facial expressions to see if I could read what they were really thinking. (They have obviously learned how... to keep a poker face, because I could never tell!) The past few days, Bill seems to being doing a little better. The best thing ever, today, was when we had a lot of left over food, and we offered the nurses to come in a fix themselves a plate. When I saw Bill's nurse come in a fix a plate, I wanted to cry. I was so happy that she felt comfortable enough to leave him for a few minutes, to make a plate of food. It doesn't seem like much, but to me it was glorious. She just wanted some food, but to me it was so much more. Tomorrow will be a tough day for the Houston Fire Department, and my prayers go out to all of the men and women that serve this city and it's community. My heart
especially aches for the families of Robert Garner, Anne Sullivan, Matthew Renaud and Robert Bebe. Capt. William Dowling truly cared about his crew, and about every single Houston Firefighter. I just want to make sure that those family members know how much he cared. Bill will be going into surgery tomorrow at 7:30. This will probably be a trend for some time to come. Surgery, break, surgery, break. He looks good, and he turned his head towards us when we were talking to him. Baby steps, but I will take them.

FOLLOW JACKI DOWLING ON FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/jacki.dowling.9

REMEMBERING THE STORM KING FIRE - 9 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.
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. It was the subject of John Maclean's book Fire on the Mountain: The True Story of the South Canyon Fire. Killed In The Line of Duty Were Prineville Hotshots: Kathi Beck, Tamera Bickett, Scott Blecha, Levi Brinkley, Douglas Dunbar, Terri Hagen, Bonnie Holtby, Rob Johnson, Jon Kelso. Missoula Smokejumpers: Don Mackey. McCall Smokejumpers: Roger Roth, Jim Thrash. Helitack: Robert Browning, Jr., Richard Tyler. RIP.

CALFIRE FIREFIGHTER LODD DETAIL UPDATE:
On the Morning of Friday, July 5, 2013 Riverside County Fire Engine 35 (E-35) was parked on the right shoulder of the east bound Monterey Avenue onramp in the City of Palm Desert. A vehicle traveling east bound down the onramp struck and fatally injured the Fire Apparatus Engineer - Paramedic (FAE-P), Chris Douglas. NARRATIVE - On July 5, 2013 at 9:36 A.M. E-35 was dispatched to a traffic collision on westbound Interstate 10, east of Washington Street. While responding and prior to entering the freeway, E-35 proceeded to the right shoulder of an onramp where FAE-P Chris Douglas exited the engine and donned structural Personal Protective Equipment. A civilian vehicle traveling down the onramp then struck the FAE-P Douglas propelling him to the front of E-35. The Fire Captain contacted the Perris Emergency Command Center and notified them that a member had been struck by a vehicle and requested additional resources. During this time the Firefighter Paramedic assessed and administered Advanced Life Support treatment to the downed member. The FAE-P was transported and succumbed to injuries at a local Trauma Center. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVIEW Ø Maintain situational awareness at all times. Ø Review highway safety procedures, i.e., crew protection, warning devices, and traffic control.

PREScott 19 Fire Commentary:
Here is an editorial commentary opinion regarding the fire that killed 19 Firefighters in Arizona. It is written by Crystal A. Kolden, a fire ecologist and former U.S. Forest Service firefighter, who is an assistant professor of geography at the University of Idaho, where she heads the pyrogeography lab. "No One Should Die For A House"
http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/arizona-fire-deaths-show-no-one-should-die-for-a-house/2013/07/05/1c14eaf2-e343-11e2-aef3-339619eab080_story.html?wpisrc=emailtoafriend

Two Firefighters tragically died in the Line of Duty after they were trapped in a fire at a furniture factory in New Taipei yesterday. The Firefighters, Chen Yi-ju, 26, and Peng Yi-hsiang, 30, from the Taishan fire station, had no pulses and had stopped breathing when they were found trapped under debris in the factory at about 4:15 p.m. Saturday. They were rushed to the Taipei Hospital, where doctors tried to revive them—but were later pronounced dead. They were among the first alarm crew, became lost and disoriented and could not be located until after the fire was well under control. RIP.

Rhode Island Fire Chiefs Fight Back.
Update from the Rhode Island Fire Chiefs and the seat belt bills, (where police and fire would be
exempt from mandatory seatbelt usage) the House bill never came to a vote in the Senate, so that one is dead. As for the Senate bill, it passed the Senate and the House, but has not been transmitted to the Governor. They are watching to see if it does or does not get transmitted but I have been told it may just go away without ever being dealt with. That would be a win...and a reminder for the police folks who pushed this change. KUDOS to the RI FIRE Chiefs.


BRAVO/NBC: Some progress is being made at the top levels of NBC and they are starting to fully grasp how badly they screwed up-stand by. (PREVIOUS DETAILS BELOW)
EDITORIAL: CANCEL THE SHOW:
NOTE: If you have not written them-PLEASE take 5 minutes to do so....details below.

T-SHIRT FUND RAISING AND DONATION CAUTION: Several have written asking what we know about various folks selling shirts to honor fallen firefighters.USE CAUTION when it comes to purchasing LODD t-shirts, such as for the Prescott 19. We don't know who is legit and who is not. My rule of thumb is if the check isn't being made out to the actual FD, the FD Association, Union local, etc-we avoid it. Cash donations? Same thing-but also trust the IAFF, NVFC and NFFF-they can always be trusted 100%. Anyone else or any other group? Use extreme caution.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-8-13 / 1132 Hours

PREVIOUS NBC/BRAVO "PRINCESSES OF LONG ISLAND" DETAILS:
BRAVO UPDATE: They have definitely received the message*, and while I think their response so far, is lame, we have raised their awareness as to how atrocious their actions were. There is no reason to not keep them aware of their actions and of your concerns. To "not be aware" that statue was a memorial - as they have responded - adds insult to injury. That show was not "live" and was subject to reviews, edits and related levels of "authority" prior to being aired. If you have not written them-PLEASE take 5 minutes to do so. WHY? While we respond to any insult like this-and should, (and certainly have) especially against any firefighters memory, this is personal. As some may know, I grew up hanging around Lee Ielpi - listening and learning - going to some decent fires between our companies on Long Island in the later 70's and early 80's- and he has had a profound impact on my career and my life. Lee is amongst the most highly decorated members of the FDNY-and as humble as they come. I love him, his family and treat what these disrespectful corporate heads and wanna be "stars" did as if they did it to one of my own. Please don't blow this off...they knew exactly what they were doing. It's all about "reaction"-and Firefighters can "react" as well. Anyone can offer a quick apology-this requires more. A statement, a posting on their website and an appropriate "put your money where your mouth is" donation to the September 11th Families Association (founded by Lee Ielpi) might be a better response. http://911families.org Perhaps some dedicated time and space to educating their viewers on 9/11. Don't back down. A Statement sent to use from BRAVO, and we are posting it as they requested.

"We are extremely sorry for any distress we caused the family of Jonathan Ielpi and other firefighters. As soon as we were alerted that this was a memorial statue, Bravo immediately removed the footage from any future airings. Again, we deeply regret this." Jodi Davis-BRAVO

ADVERTISERS: Some have suggested their advertisers be contacted. Here is a list of what we have been able to find: Hershey's (Mr Beckman, CEO) JBeckman@hersheys.com Pepsi Pepsicomiarelations@pepsico.com Target Gregg
Steinhafel Chairman President and CEO of Target Gregg.Steinhafel@target.com  HERE are the  
Executives at BRAVO That Should Be Contacted (We Added Their Director of  
Communications) Andy Cohen-Exec VP Programming: Andy.Cohen@nbcuni.com   NEW CONTACT:  
Jodi Davis-Corporate Communications: Jodi.Davis@nbcuni.com   Julia Nietsch-Manager-"Princesses:  
Long Island" julia.nietsch@nbcuni.com Dan Realson. Director, Digital Media Sales, East Coast  
Dan.Realson@nbcuni.com  "Reality Performer" Amanda Bertoncini:  
https://www.facebook.com/amanda.bertoncini  Amanda Bertoncini e-mail: DrinkHanky@Gmail.com  
OR Contact Them Here: http://www.bravotv.com/contact   FACEBOOK Bravo HERE:  
https://www.facebook.com/BRAVO  ASK THEM TO POST a statement on their website. Perhaps  
suggest that they have a page on their site dedicated to EDUCATING their viewers on 9/11. Suggest  
an appropriate donation of services to the September 11th Families Association as a better response,  
as this bell cannot be un-rung. Don't back down.  HERE is the original information:  
9/11 BRAVO DISGUST:  
An Insult And Slap In The Face Of All Killed On 9/11 And Those Firefighters Across North America  

AND:  

All,  
Here is a link to a pdf of the actual program that will be distributed to the attendees of today's  
memorial service: http://media.bonnint.net/az/31/3184/318459.pdf  - Our thoughts and prayers go out  
to the families and friends of the 19 Prescott Firefighters who gave their lives.  
Take Care,  
Billy G  
The Secret List 7-9-13 / 0700 hours  

AND:  

MASSACHUSETTS FF LODD-MEDICAL EMERGENCY DURING TURNOUT  
We regret to advise you that a 37-year-old Quincy Firefighter died in the Line of Duty yesterday  
afternoon while turning out on a run. FF John Austin, a Firefighter since 2002, became unresponsive  
at the Copeland Street firehouse and was later pronounced dead at Quincy Medical Center. FF Austin  
became unresponsive shortly after 1500 hours Monday, just as he and other Firefighters started  
responding to a call. The other firefighters and EMS crews tried to revive Austin at the firehouse  
before he was taken by ambulance to Quincy Medical Center. We'll post updates as they become  
available. RIP.  

UPDATE: MISSISSIPPI FIRE CHIEF LODD-COLLIDES WITH SHERIFFS PATROL CAR  
As an update to yesterdays report, the chief of the Greenfield (Miss.) VFD was killed in the Line of  
Duty when the pickup truck he was driving while responding to a crash in Newton County struck a  
sheriff's deputy's vehicle and overturned. Chief Mickey Yates was ejected from his pickup truck when  
he collided with the deputy's vehicle at about 2046 hours Saturday night. The deputy sheriff did not  
suffer any life-threatening injuries.  

CLOSE CALL REPORT: TWO FIREFIGHTERS SERIOUSLY BURNED IN A SINGLE FAMILY  
DWELLING FIRE  
The report on the injury House Fire from the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service is now  
available at http://www.mfs.sa.gov.au/public/download.jsp?id=50177 One of the firefighters is now  
back at work on light duties with the other firefighter released from hospital and still undergoing rehab.  
Take Care-Be Careful.  
BillyG
The Secret List 7-9-13 / 0925 Hours

AND:

All,
The following is a media account of a fatal crash involving an ambulance-where an 18 year old girl was killed. Its an important read for numerous reasons-the fatality of a civilian-but also the fact that the media is all over this case, as they, unfortunately, should be. If you drive apparatus, chiefs car, POV, ambulance-whatever-or know someone who does-pass this along-it is worth their time reading-as a reminder to stop at red lights and stop signs until the intersection is fully clear. Put yourself in the shoes of the EMT driving this unit...whose life, in so many ways, is now changed forever.

And then there is the family of 18 year old girl who was killed.....

When an emergency vehicle approaches a red light with emergency lights and siren, technically the emergency vehicle is requesting other vehicles to yield to the ambulance. Legally, however, it is the responsibility of the ambulance driver to make sure the intersection is clear, yielding to all other vehicles, before crossing a red light. On Monday the Tennessee Highway Patrol continued its investigation into a crash involving a Hawkins County EMS ambulance Saturday night that took the life of 18-year-old Samantha K. Hathaway and injured nine others in Church Hill. As of Monday evening the THP hadn't released any new information, and charges are still pending. Witnesses told the media that the ambulance was heading east on Highway 11-W taking a burn victim to the Holston Valley Medical Center when it crossed a red light at the Silver Lake Road intersection around 10:30 p.m. Hathaway, had just gotten off work at the nearby McDonald's restaurant where her father is manager.

Driving a 2001 Toyota Corolla, 18 year old Hathaway was northbound on Silver Lake Road, had just gotten the green light, and was attempting to cross Highway 11-W when the ambulance struck her vehicle on the driver's side door.

The ambulance then struck two other westbound vehicles which were stopped at the red light waiting to turn left. The three Hawkins County EMS members were treated and released at HVMC including driver Amanda Carr, 22, of Mooresburg; Kayla Murrell, 22 of Rogersville; and Brenda Joyner, 39, of Chuckey. There was no information about the occupants of their two other vehicles, although rescuers at the scene said they didn't appear to be seriously injured. One vehicle was occupied by an 18-year-old woman from Mount Carmel, and the other by a 34-year-old woman and three children ages 11, 8, and 4 from Church Hill. At the time of the accident the ambulance was transporting a burn victim from Mooresburg to the HVMC. That burn victim, Randall Ashlea, 35, of Talbot, was transferred from HVMC to a burn center in Augusta, Ga.

Among the responders on the scene was Church Hill firefighter Luke Wood who lives less than a mile from the wreck scene. Wood said that when he arrived it "looked like a bomb had gone off." "The first thing I noticed was the flashing lights from the ambulance and the ambulance laying on its side," Wood said. "People were screaming. People were standing around in shock. The EMS guys were trying to get enough ambulances in. It was one of those bad situations you try to prepare for but you hope it never happens." Wood added, "There were two EMS workers in the back of the ambulance and they were trying to get their patient situated to where they could get him moved. But, there was so much debris inside the ambulance, they were trying to get him dug out. Me and two other EMS workers and another gentleman from the rescue squad finally got him on a board and wheeled him out."
The Times-News (media) contacted multiple officials from law enforcement and the attorney general's office about this situation. Due to the fact that the accident remains under investigation, no one was willing to speak on the record about this specific case. In a case like this, however, experts agreed that the results of a lengthy THP investigation would likely be turned over to the attorney general's office for disposition. That evidence will then likely be presented to the Hawkins County Grand Jury to determine what, if any criminal charges will be filed. If it was determined that an ambulance driver crossed a red light intersection, struck a vehicle, and caused a death, experts said there are multiple charges a Grand Jury can consider. There is a Class B felony vehicular homicide charge which is not based on impairment or intoxication, but is based on reckless conduct; as well as lesser Class D felony reckless homicide and Class E felony criminally negligent homicide. Pertaining to the injuries in the accident the grand jury could consider vehicular assault, felony reckless endangerment, or lesser but included misdemeanor charges such as reckless driving, reckless endangerment.

We wanted to pass this on as a reminder that the only real way to best minimize a crash in an intersection is to stop. Just stop. Sounds simple enough but when turning out on runs-we want to get there-and often need to be there 5 minutes ago. Or, when transporting a critical patient, we wanna get them to the hospital 5 minutes ago. It doesn't matter. Some states allow us to go through red lights and stop signs without fully stopping...as long as the intersection is clear. The only way to know - is to stop. This situation in Tennessee has altered the lives of all those involved-especially the families of the young girl killed-and the EMT driving the unit.

Take Care-Be Careful. Especially When Responding.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-9-13 / 1100 Hours

AND:

IDAHO WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL
We regret to advise you that a wildland Firefighter/Dozer Operator died in the Line of Duty yesterday afternoon at the Pardee Fire in the Idaho Department of Lands Maggie Creek Forest Protective District. FF Dennis Long of Clarkston died from an apparent heart attack or other natural cause while operating the fire dozer and putting in fire lines during suppression operations. IDL staff notified Long's wife and grown daughter in Clarkston Monday night. Long was in his 50s and was a private logging contractor. The dozer boss performed CPR on Long before Life Flight and emergency medical services arrived on scene, where Long was pronounced dead. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. The Pardee Fire started at 7:00 AM on Monday, July 8. It was caused by lightning. It is located between Greer and Kamiah on the east side of the Clearwater River, approximately 8 miles northwest of Kamiah in Idaho County. The nearest structures (homes) are within two miles of the fire, but the IDL does not expect the structures to be threatened. The fire has grown to approximately 55 acres but started to lay down after an active night shift on the fire. Fire crews were able to establish 40 percent containment over night. The fire is burning in grass and open pine stands in steep terrain that plateaus atop the mountains. Carrot Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, the U.S. Forest Service, and an inmate crew from Orofino assisted IDL on the fire Monday, along with assistance from the Idaho County Sheriff's Office and Kamiah Ambulance.
Take Care-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 7-9-13 / 1055 Hours

AND:

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FIREFIGHTER LODD: STORM RELATED
A Firefighter in the central city of Bonao yesterday became Tropical Storm Chantal's first fatal victim, while the torrential rains are expected to cause major damages and evacuations. Firefighter Juan Ramon Rodriguez, 26, a resident of the town of Maimon was killed in the Line of Duty while trying to clear debris from a storm drain and release the rainwater. His colleagues couldn't save him from drowning when he fell and was swept away by the rushing waters, becoming the first victim in Chantal's wake. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

CONGRATS TO CAPTAIN MORRIS-FDNY RESCUE 1.
Our congrats to one of the absolute most no nonsense fire officers in the business-Captain Bobby Morris of FDNY Rescue 1. The Captain is retiring-working his last tour (shift) as you read this. You can google his name to find out much about him (don't confuse him with his son, also a phenomenal and deeply respected FDNY Captain) and all he has done in his career. From our perspective, Captain Morris is the consummate "pass it on" officer who will teach as much as you want to learn...and he sets the example on what training is and should be to a company officer-and those they command. Seriously, firefighter and rescue training and preparedness literally never stops with him. Ever. While he has no interest in retiring, the fire service nationally will fortunately continue to benefit from his knowledge and "come here, you wanna learn something?" attitude ..as he will continue to teach-coming up, for example, very soon in Baltimore at Firehouse Expo, July 23-27 http://firehouseexpo.com/ (register now!) and other national fire training programs in the future. Our best to the Captain and we wish him an very long and healthy retirement from the FDNY and a prosperous future. God bless and thanks. CHECK OUT this related editorial from the NY Daily News: http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/hamill-firefighters-bravest-article-1.1394368
Take Care-Be Careful.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-11-13 / 1430 Hours

AND:

FF STRUCK, Critical, 40 Years-Video (The Secret List)
Hey,
A Macon-Bibb County (GA) Firefighter remains in critical condition at the Medical Center of Central Georgia. He was struck by a car as deputies and other Firefighters operated at a crash yesterday morning on I-75. 18 year old Nayef Mohammad Shroof of Warner Robins was identified as the person driving the car that hit the Firefighter. The sheriff's office says he also almost hit deputy. The name of the Firefighter has not been released, and the accident remains under investigation. Keep'm in your prayers. 40 YEARS: VIDEO - We wanted to share this video with all members of The Secret List: http://youtu.be/U8XFhXrVxTQ Enjoy, and again, congrats to Captain Bob Morris. RELATED: http://m.nbcnewyork.com/nbcnewyork/pm_107633/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5jyTHOzu
Take Care-Be Careful. Pass It On. BillyG The Secret List 7-12-13 / 0700 Hours

AND:

UK FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY A Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service Firefighter has died in the Line of Duty and another hospitalized as they operated in a commercial building fire in Manchester last night. FF Stephen Hunt, 38, and another Firefighter had to be pulled from the burning building after they may have been caught in a flashover as they operated at "Paul's Hair World" last night. Reports are that 2 teenage girls have been arrested for suspected arson - in that fire that is still burning this morning.

HERE IS A LINK WITH PHOTOS AND DETAILS:
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2362851/Firefighter-Stephen-Hunt-death-Teenage-girls-
MO FIREFIGHTERS BURNED
Several Marshfield (MO) Firefighters were reportedly caught in a flashover with 1 FF now in a burn unit-in critical condition. Yesterday's fire, in Niangua (MO) was reportedly in a dwelling and the injured Firefighters, who were burned, may have also had some kind of structural collapse. One FF was T & R, another is expected to be released today but another remains critical with initial reports of 80% burns. He was reportedly pulled from the fire by a Chief, who suffered burns to his airway. He is in stable condition and should be released from the hospital today. We'll update as more is available on the Firefighter who is critical. Keep'm in your prayers and thoughts.
Take Care-Be Careful.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-14-13 / 0725 hours

AND:
Hey,
6 Forest (Bedford County, VA) Firefighters were injured when the engine they were riding in overturned while responding on a run this morning. 6 Firefighters were on the truck at 0630 hours when it tipped over on New London Road, near Forest. All of the Firefighters' injuries are described as non-life threatening. The firefighters are being treated at Lynchburg General Hospital. They were responding to a structure fire when the crash happened. HERE are more details: http://www.wdbj7.com/news/local/six-firefighters-hurt-in-fire-truck-rollover/-/20128466/21011526/-/eloa46z/-/index.html

UPDATE ON MO FIREFIGHTER:
38 year old Fire Lieutenant Matthew Blankenship is a mechanic who works in Springfield-and a volunteer Firefighter. As you know, he was critically burned Saturday in a flashover at a dwelling fire. About thirty minutes into operations at the fire, something went wrong. Then a Mayday call went over dispatch....Lt. Blankenship was trapped inside. Niangua Chief Shaun Ricks went in to get him....and stated "I heard them hollering... it's very sad. Very sad," Chief Ricks went to the hospital for smoke inhalation. He's fine now but FF Blankenship has burns over 75% of his body. Yesterday afternoon hospital officials say Lt. Blankenship was still in critical condition and doctors were keeping him in an induced coma and that a surgery was planned.

A CRITICAL CRY FOR HELP-THE LOSS OF A FIREFIGHTERS 5 YEAR OLD CHILD
Unfortunately, we can't share every need for every fire family-or we'd be sending The Secret List a lot more than we do. However, once in a while we do reach out to the members of The Secret List (you) to see if you can help in any way possible. One of our neighboring departments, Hamilton Township Fire/ Rescue (in Warren County, near Cincinnati, Ohio) has suffered a terrible loss. On the morning of July 15, 2013 Firefighter Matt Shelton's 5 year old son, Christian, already stricken with Cerebral Palsy, died in a truly tragic accident at home: http://tinyurl.com/l79spmw - Adding to the tragedy, Matt is to be sworn in as a full time Firefighter this week, but he and his family have been without health insurance. As you might imagine, the family, due to Christians special needs, has an incredible amount of debt...and now this. A fund has been established for the family to help with all needs. Donations can be made at any 5/3 bank to the IAFF 4055 fund for the benefit of the Shelton Family (or mailed below). The bank has started the fund with a generous donation of their own. We thank you for any support you can provide and ask that you keep the Shelton family in your thoughts and prayers.

Shelton Family Fund
August 3, 2013
I assure you any amount will make a difference, no matter how small. ALSO -if any of you are aware of any funds or benevolent organizations out there that can help a family like this-please let me know. Take Care-Be Careful.

Take Care-Be Careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-17-13 / 1019 Hours

AND:

MISSOURI Firefighter dies following critical injuries at a structural fire.
It is with great sadness that the Marshfield Fire Protection District announces the death of Lieutenant Matthew Blankenship. Lt. Blankenship Passed away at Mercy Hospital Burn Center in Springfield, MO. this morning at 0435 hours, July 20, 2013. As you know, Lieutenant Blankenship was critically injured during firefighting operations at a structure fire on July 13, 2013. Lt. Blankenship served the Marshfield Community for greater than 4 years. Arrangement information will be sent out as it becomes available. Also watch: http://www.mofirefuneral.org - Our condolences to all those affected.
Take Care-Be Careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-20-13 / 1100 Hours

AND:

PENNSYLVANIA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:
CRASH WHILE RESPONDING
It's with deep regret that we pass on to you the Line of Duty death of a volunteer Firefighter from Lebanon County, PA. Initial reports are that the Firefighter, in his 20's, was responding to an initial vehicle crash when he was involved in a separate crash. The Firefighter, from the Quentin Volunteer Fire Company, was killed in the Line of Duty in crash that occurred in West Cornwall Township, at the intersection of Horseshoe Pike and Spangler Road. We'll post more details in the morning. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-22-13/2128 Hours

AND:

Hey,
Have you checked out the "ALIVE" Training Tool? It is FREE. Read on. As you are well aware, many factors contribute to the significant number of Firefighter deaths and injuries, but perhaps most troubling may be the fact that many Firefighters were probably not aware of advancements in firefighting methods - that could have changed these tragic outcomes. With the support from DHS/USFA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, in collaboration with the FDNY, the Chicago Fire Department (CFD) and the Bloomington (Minn.) Fire Department (BFD), NYU-Poly scientists conducted research to develop new web-based, interactive training (ALIVE) to assist in the dissemination, training, and retention of new firefighting information and techniques. You can read more about the success of this research in the article to be published in upcoming August Issue of FireRescue Magazine. The online version is available HERE: http://www.firefighternation.com/index.php?q=article/training-0/alive-training-tool-game-changer

August 3, 2013
www.chabotfire.com
NOTE: The research will also be featured this week at Firehouse Expo Conference (July 26, 10:15 to 11:45 am, Room 318) and IAFC’s FRI (Fire Rescue International) Conference (August 16, 1 to 2:30 pm, Track: SHW-13).

Two modules of ALIVE: Wind-Driven High-Rise Fires and Fires in Residential Lightweight Construction, have been released nationwide to the fire service community free of cost. The iOS and Android applications of this training are also available at www.poly.edu/fire.

The Chicago and the Cleveland Fire Department’s are currently using ALIVE to train their firefighters with the support of their training divisions. 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. If your fire department is interested in utilizing this scientifically tested and proven training, please have your Chief or Chief of Training contact the NYU-Poly Fire Research Group at fire@poly.edu - Please visit www.poly.edu/fire for more information about this research and to access the ALIVE modules.

REMEMBERING A FIREFIGHTER MURDERED-LODD:
On July 21st, 2008, Ryan Hummert, a Maplewood (MO) Firefighter, was shot and killed in the Line of Duty. As you will remember, he was murdered while responding to a car fire deliberately set by the shooter. He died instantly on the scene leaving behind hundreds of mourning friends, family members, and Firefighters. This could have happened to anyone of us. And has.
No warning.
Nothing.
Not Preventable.
MORE about Ryan:
http://www.fboryanhummert.org/
Take Care-Be Careful-Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-21-13 2235 hours
A happy, fun and love filled 5th Birthday to our wonderful Henry M!

AND:

SOUTH CAROLINA ASSISTANT CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL EMERGENCY (Delayed)
It's with deep regret that we advise you that Assistant Fire Chief Rodney Hardee, 66, of the Loris FD died in the Line of Duty on 7-9-13. He had 40 years of service. Chief Hardee responded to a brush fire late in the evening of July 6th, 2013. Upon returning to quarters, Chief Hardee complained of having a headache and then left quarters and returned home. Early the next morning, Chief Hardee failed to respond on another emergency call. His wife noticed he was seriously ill and called 911 for a possible stroke. Chief Hardee was transported to Grand Strand Hospital in Myrtle Beach where surgery was performed that day. Assistant Fire Chief Hardee succumbed to his CVA injury and passed away around 0200 hrs on the morning of July 9th. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.
Take Care-Be Careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 7-23-13/1416 Hours

AND:

All,

August 3, 2013  www.chabotfire.com
Once again the issues of emotional and mental health involving fire & EMS personnel comes to light....as police in Indiana are investigating the deaths of a man and woman in Monroe County (Bloomington area) in an apparent murder-suicide at the home the two. 48-year-old EMS Supervisor Kelly Emerick and 42-year-old Fire Captain and EMS Supervisor William "Randy" Roudebush were found dead at the scene yesterday, of an early-morning shooting. It appears Roudebush shot Emerick, and then himself, at their home just southwest of Bloomington. Emerick was a paramedic supervisor at IU Health Bloomington Ambulance Service. Roudebush was a Fire Captain for the Perry-Clear Creek Fire Department and a Firefighter for the Ellettsville Fire Department. He also worked at the hospital as a Paramedic Supervisor.


Our condolences to all affected. RIP. For additional information related to FF Personal Survival, please visit:

**ADDITIONAL LINKS**


**HERE:** [http://firechief.com/health-safety/ar/firefighting_not_without_warning/](http://firechief.com/health-safety/ar/firefighting_not_without_warning/) (Fire Chief Magazine Article)

**HERE:** [http://tinyurl.com/7bbz8ev](http://tinyurl.com/7bbz8ev) (The Company Officers Role-article)

**HERE:** [http://sweeney-alliance.org/grievingbehindthebadge/?tag=national-fallen-firefighters-foundation](http://sweeney-alliance.org/grievingbehindthebadge/?tag=national-fallen-firefighters-foundation) (Grieving Behind The Badge)

**HERE:** [http://tinyurl.com/7kxzfv9](http://tinyurl.com/7kxzfv9) (Nat'l Fire Service Summit On FF Suicide-NFFF)

BillyG
The Secret List 7-23-13-0700 Hours

**AND:**

All,
The PFD released new details into the Line of Duty death of Phoenix Firefighter Brad Harper. FF Harper was killed at that mulch pile fire scene two months ago after he became pinned between an engine and an ambulance. According to the report, this was a horrible -but preventable- accident. Three errors played a role in what happened. By policy, the Firefighters should have had a spotter when the fire apparatus backed up, and they didn't. The firefighter driving the fire truck should have noticed FF Harper on the road before moving the rig. And FF Harper should have seen the fire truck moving towards him. FF Harper was pinned between the rig and ambulance. Trapped in such a narrow space, firefighters were afraid to move either truck and hurt Harper even more. It took rescue crews 13 minutes and 22 seconds to extricate Harper.
"I don't know if I heard someone yelling, I don't know what I heard... I heard something to where... I stopped," said Shayne Arthur in a recording. He was the firefighter driving the fire truck that night and was moving the rig. But meanwhile, Harper was standing on that same road outside of his ambulance, putting his gear, when the fire apparatus hit him -- pinning him between the two trucks. Arthur: "Nate asked me if I wanted a backer. I said no, I was already moving. Brian was on the radio and I said no I got it." Phoenix Fire’s policy requires firefighters to use a spotter when backing up. A picture taken of a sticker in the fire truck reminds firefighters to use a backer. The fire truck was moving at 5 miles an hour when FF Harper was hit.


**HERE ARE PREVIOUSLY RELEASED REPORTS IN SIMILAR PREVENTABLE LINE OF DUTY DEATHS:**

**ILLINOIS FF STRUCK AND KILLED BY BACKING APPARATUS:** [http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201231.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201231.html)

**NJ FF LODD STRUCK WHILE SPOTTING BACKING RIG:** [http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200910.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200910.html)

**CA FF LODD FALLS OFF RIG, STRUCK BY BACKING APPARATUS:** [http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200501.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200501.html)

**TX FF RUN OVER BY A BRUSH TRUCK:** [http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200236.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200236.html)


**ALSO CHECK OUT:**

- [www.respondersafety.com](http://www.respondersafety.com)

Loads of training opportunities to review and share above.


BillyG

The Secret List 7-24-13 / 0917 Hours

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**AND:**

**MASSACHUSETTS FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL**

We regret to advise you that 50-year-old Middleboro FF David Brier, a married father and grandfather, died in the Line of Duty from a medical emergency on Monday. FF Brier had worked his 24-hour shift beginning at 8 a.m. on July 12. Brier told the shift commander he wasn't feeling well and rested for a bit. When he still didn't feel well, the shift commander told Brier he should go home sick, but he decided to finish out his shift. When Brier arrived home, he had a heart attack. He was rushed to Tufts New England Medical Center in Boston and was on life support until Monday, when he died. Brier never regained consciousness. In addition to being a Firefighter, Brier had also worked as a self-employed plumber and 1-800-Board Up. He was a member of the Professional Firefighters of Massachusetts, IAFF. On Friday, a gathering to honor Brier will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Middleboro Central Fire Station, 125 North Main St. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Middleboro Firefighters Local #3653, c/o Middleboro Central Station, 125 North Main St., Middleboro, MA 02346. R.I.P.


BillyG

The Secret List 7-25-13/0707 Hours

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August 3, 2013  [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)  39
Hey,
The Cleveland (Ohio) Fire Chief has been reprimanded for threatening to stab a Firefighter in the neck for not wearing duty shirt. WTF!? What's the deal with certain bosses getting all worked up about uniform perfection this year? DCFD's fiasco...now this. CFD Chief Daryl McGinnis received a verbal reprimand today for threatening to stab a firefighter in the neck for not wearing his fatigue shirt on duty, a dress code violation. Firefighter Phillip Leslie filed the complaint with the city's public safety department after he and other firefighters complained about McGinnis' threatening words in Station No. 10 on June 26. Cleveland's Safety Director found that Chief McGinnis violated two Civil Service Rules violations - conduct unbecoming an employee in public service, and offensive conduct or language toward fellow employees. Although the chief's conduct may not have risen to the level of workplace violence, the director said McGinnis' comments were inappropriate - even if his intentions were not threatening. Hmmm. He concluded the letter by telling the fire chief that he expects future communications to be professional and without threat or intimidation...and that he was issuing McGinnis a verbal reprimand. The Cleveland Fire Fighters Union called the reprimand a "slap on the wrist" and said the verbal warning was not strong enough punishment. "What the chief did was in clear violation of workplace violence policy," Cleveland Firefighters Union secretary Mike Norman said. "It prohibits behavior and conduct that includes oral, written or physical threats, harassment and intimidation. HERE IS MORE:

REMEMBERING BRIDGEPORT FIREFIGHTERS.
Two members of the Bridgeport (CT) FD who died in the line of duty three years ago continue to inspire those who serve. "Memories are like bullets," Assistant Chief Richard Thode said today. "Some whiz right past you and some hit you right here," he said, thumping his heart under his blue uniform coat. "We have 21 new firefighters who never knew Steve and Michel, and I feel sorry for them." On July 24, 2010, Lt. Steven Velasquez and Firefighter Michel Baik were on the third floor of a single family dwelling -- checking for hot spots and making sure everyone was safely out -- when they sent mayday signals from the smoke-filled attic as conditions turned ugly. The fire department's rapid intervention team found the men within minutes -- on the floor and unconscious. They were given CPR, but the pair could not be revived. RIP. HERE IS THE FIRE REPORT WITH PHOTOS:
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201018.html

ARE YOU IN BALTIMORE FOR FIREHOUSE EXPO?
CHECK THIS OUT:
For those of you in Baltimore for Firehouse Expo this week, you will see the CFSI* Silent Auction Fundraiser (huge) table in the hall just as you walk into the exhibit hall at the bottom of the stairs. Your help is needed-and they have some very cool stuff. HERE IS A SHORT LIST OF JUST A FEW OF THE NUMEROUS ITEMS YOU CAN BID ON IN BALTIMORE:
Firefighter training seminars at your FD
Full Set of Bunker Gear
Fire Helmets
Fire apparatus models
Pro Sports Memorabilia
Firefighter Training Books and DVD's
Leather Radio Straps
Boots
ProPak Foam Unit
Gloves
Hotel and Resort Stays
Kids Bunker Gear
Samsung Galaxy Tab2 Tablet
iPad Mini
Axe
Bar Stool
Restaurant Gift Cards
Rescue Tools
Flashlights
Free Memberships to various fire service organizations
Smoke and CO Detectors
And Loads More....

LOOK: We try to not bother you with items that aren't directly related to the mission of The Secret List and FireFighterCloseCalls.com—but this is important—especially these days as fire and EMS related programs and support are targeted. The more those elected folks inside the beltway are educated, the better off we are. CFSI needs your support to do just that - while offering you a chance to bid on some very cool stuff.

BillyG
The Secret List 7-24-13 / 2300 Hours

* CFSI: The goal is to raise funds to support the political efforts of the Congressional Fire Service Institute. CFSI educates members of Congress about the needs and challenges of our nation's firefighters so that the federal government provides the types of training and funding needed by us. CFSI represents all firefighters, all ranks and fire service manufacturers as well.

AND:

Hey,
Thanks to the leadership of the Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs and the RI Fire Service, Senate Bill S-624, a bs bill quietly pushed by the cops - (but not as quietly as they thought) - which would have allowed drivers of emergency vehicles NOT to have to wear seat belts, has been vetoed by their Governor.

A law that would have allowed for ejection from crashed emergency vehicles. WTF!?

As you may remember, the RIAFC was adamantly opposed to this surprising seat belt BS legislation ...and worked very hard - in unity - for the VETO of S-624 by their Governor. They won.

They worked in unity and won. How’bout that.

PREVIOUS:
BillyG
The Secret List 7-26-13 / 0700 Hours

AND:

Hey,
A Lee County (KY) Firefighter was airlifted by EMS helicopter of the University of Kentucky Hospital this afternoon after he wrecked an engine while responding on a run, by himself. The crash which
occurred around 1230 hours on Highway 2017 near Highway 52. Injured 22-year-old Firefighter Kyle Cook. The crash was described as "violent" - and pieces and parts of the fire apparatus were scattered all over the roadway. The roof and cab was torn off, where FF Cook was the driver and was the only person inside. A civilian who ran to the crash actually used the radio inside the fire apparatus to call for help, as she tried to keep FF Cook calm. FF Cook was listed in "fair" condition at UK Hospital this evening. KY State Police are working to determine what caused the crash. We'll post details as they are made available.

BillyG
The Secret List 7-29-13/2200 Hours

AND:

Hey,
A Virginia woman is in the slammer following a crash in Nelson County last Saturday night.

Why? She pulled a hand gun on fire rescue personnel arriving to assist her.

At approximately 1700, Virginia State Police was called to the scene of the single vehicle crash on Rt 6. A car traveling east on Route 6 ran off the right side of the road and up an embankment. The Faber VFD was first to arrive on scene and as their personnel approached the car to render aid to its driver, the woman pulled out a handgun and pointed it at them. The woman finally complied with their commands and dropped the weapon, just moments before the trooper arrived on scene. No shots were fired at the volunteer fire and EMS personnel. During the course of the crash investigation, the uninjured woman became combative and was finally placed under arrest. A search of the woman's purse revealed a set of brass knuckles also in her possession. Citizen Samantha D. Tyree-Vest, 25, of Schuyler, Va., was charged with 1st offense DUI, reckless handling of a firearm, brandishing a firearm, and possession of brass knuckles.

Once again, we never know what we are pulling up on. Size up 'best you can. Eyes Open. USE CAUTION.

TIME TO END THE STUPIDITY. UPDATE: Turn The 9/11 Memorial and Museum Over To The US Park Service...For Honor and Respect. Like many of you, the 9/11 family members-the survivors of those killed, especially those killed in the Line of Duty are fed up with those who run the 9/11 Memorial and Museum

. The latest clueless and insensitive issue is the "raising of the flag" photo issue (it being called being too Rah Rah American) and are now calling do DISSOLVE the "foundation" who runs it and for it to be taken over by the United States Park Service. The unending list of insensitive stupidity by the anti-Rah Rahs includes their decision to remove the ranks of all uniformed members from the memorial, the rejection of any reference to 9/11 at ground level, and the inclusion and placement in the museum of 9/11 terrorist photos at eye level while at the same time jamming all of the victims’ photos into a corridor and placing some of them 12 feet above the floor. The most shocking and disrespectful of all decisions - to place 9,000 unidentified human remains in the basement of the museum as an attraction - is truly reminiscent of "Ripley's Believe It or Not" - and is opposed by an overwhelming majority of 9/11 families in the only survey ever conducted.

LET THE FEDS TAKE OVER: The National Park Service will bring transparency, professional management, fiscal responsibility and true collaboration with family members - things that have been profoundly lacking at Ground Zero for over 10 years. It is time the 9/11 Memorial & Museum Foundation be replaced by the patriotic and respectful National Park Service. It is time to say goodbye to the out of touch and overpaid stuffed suits and fat cats. The National Park Service is what is truly wanted and needed at Ground Zero. READ Much More Here: 
FDNY CAPTAIN WHO LOST SON ON 9/11 PASSES.
We join so many in mourning the death of William "Bill" Butler, 74, who died of World Trade Center-related pulmonary fibrosis on July 13, 2013. Bill was with the FDNY for 33 years, rising to Captain's rank. His second son, FF Thomas Butler, 37, was killed in the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Bill then joined Lee Ielpi and other FDNY fathers who lost sons at the site. The "Band of Dads" searched together during months of the recovery effort for remains of all victims. Tommy was never identified. We honor Bill and miss him. RIP.

WEST VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER CRASHES INTO HOME WHILE RESPONDING.
A volunteer Firefighter with the Rock Salt VFD, responding to a fire call, crashed his pickup into a mobile home in Salt Rock, West Virginia this morning. The FF said that he was run off the road by another driver. He ended going off the road, then up the handicap ramp at the trailer before coming to a stop on the front porch of the home. The trailer has some very minor damage. The homeowner said this is not the first time a vehicle has ended up on their property. The trailer is about 35-40 feet off of Route 10. The Firefighter was turning out for a fire call just after 0600 hours at another mobile home near Salt Rock. The fire was just about an eighth of a mile from where the Firefighter was involved in the crash. That trailer was destroyed in the fire.

ONCE AGAIN, MONEY TALKS AND FIRE SPRINKLERS, AND THOSE WHO UNDERSTAND, ARE MADE OUT TO BE THE BAD GUYS:
Big BIG BUCKS Once Again Join The Fight Against The Illinois State Fire Marshal's Proposed Sprinkler Mandate in Chicago......
CHECK OUT THIS FULL PAGE AD:
http://www.sudlerchicago.com/component/content/article?id=266
MORE HERE FROM A CITY HALL DWELLER:
BillyG
The Secret List 7-30-13 / 1804 Hours

AND:

Hey,
Here is one of interest to all leaders, where these folks are going after the leadership both organizationally and individually. In Loudoun County, VA, an altercation between county career personnel and volunteer members at the Middleburg VFD two years ago has resulted in a newly filed wrongful death lawsuit. In this case, the county chief tried to do the right thing overall, balancing between taking care of his personnel, the volunteers and the citizens....but you can now read the some media reports (keep in mind, media reports) of the resulting action.

The lawsuit filed on behalf of the estate of Nathan Smith alleges a series of decisions that resulted in the Middleburg fire/EMS station being unstaffed in the early morning hours of July 14, 2011, contributed to the Smith's death. The lawsuit includes nine counts, each seeking a minimum of $3 million in damages. Named as defendants in the case are the fire department; John Brad Draisey, its
president at the time of the incident; and Loudoun County's Fire-Recue Chief W. Keith Brower. Draisey and Brower are named as defendants in their official capacities as well as individually.

BACKGROUND: The incident began late July 13 when simmering tensions between some county career firefighters and some volunteer firefighters at the Middleburg station resulted in an altercation that prompted Brower to remove the career staff members from the Middleburg Station. They were relocated to the surrounding volunteer stations in Aldie and Philomont - and ordered to respond to calls from those locations. Also that night, Draisey suspended five volunteer members who had been at the station. In the days that followed, more volunteers jumped in to support station operations and county dispatchers sent crews from Philomont and Aldie in support of emergency calls in the Middleburg service area. Ultimately, the incident resulted in a formal, positive operational agreement between the county staff and the volunteers at the station.

However, at 4:31 a.m. July 14, after Smith collapsed at his home, there were no units at the Middleburg station available to respond. Unstaffed fire and EMS stations happen. Units can be on other calls. Volunteers can fail to turnout. Citizens can delay calling. Citizens can choose to live in rural areas where response takes time. A long time. There are many, many factors...but may be a "perfect storm" scenario. There is so much to this issue...it will be important to watch.

RESPONSE TIMES: According to the lawsuit, crews were dispatched from the Aldie station, seven miles east of the Middleburg station, at 4:33 a.m. and left the firehouse at 4:39 a.m. The crew arrived at the home at 4:58 a.m. It was obviously a very significant response time. Smith was treated and transported to Inova Loudoun Hospital's Cornwall Campus emergency room, a half hour away, where he was pronounced dead shortly after his arrival at 6:10 a.m. Hospital records state he suffered cardiac arrest at approximately 5 a.m., according to the lawsuit.

The basis for the lawsuit is the claim that the failure to maintain staffing at the Middleburg station "was a direct and proximate cause" of Smith's death. "Had MVFD been sufficiently staffed on July 14, 2011, emergency personnel could have reached Mr. Smith within an adequate response time, treated the hypertensive cardiovascular disease, and prevented cardiac arrest before it led to his untimely death," the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit makes allegations of negligence, gross negligence and wrongful death against each Draisey, the fire department and Brower. The negligence counts each seek judgments of $3 million and the gross negligence and wrongful death counts each seek judgments of $3 million plus punitive damages. As we pointed out above, there are many, many factors-and another opportunity for us to access our own departments. But the bottom line is that a citizen died and the family places blame....justified or not. Below is a link with more details - http://tinyurl.com/mnpaddu

SOME SONS OF FDNY. The sons of FDNY firefighters who were killed by 9/11 illness are losing their chance to serve. A complicated 'legacy points' system bumps offspring of 9/11 heroes looking to serve in FDNY after deaths of firefighters who died of Ground Zero-related illness considered administrative not 'in line of duty.' NY's Gov. Cuomo has NOT signed the bill to change the definition. READ MORE HERE: http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/sons-9-11-fdny-heroes-losing-chance-serve-article-1.1413305#ixzz2adiZqGWu

BillyG
The Secret List 7-31-13 / 1210 Hours
Hey,
A pedestrian is dead and Paramedic badly injured after a man who was allegedly under the influence struck them with his truck at the scene of an earlier crash in Jackson, MS last night. Cops locked up Robert Lee Howard Jr., 44, for aggravated DUI death and aggravated DUI injury. The deceased pedestrian was being treated for a broken arm before Howard's truck struck him. The Paramedic from American Medical Response has injuries that include a lost eye, head trauma and a number of broken bones. The Paramedic reportedly underwent surgery and is responsive. The Paramedic originally arrived at the scene because the pedestrian was hit by a Chevrolet Caprice. The female driver of the Caprice called police, telling them the pedestrian ran in front of her car, prompting AMR to respond. While the AMR Paramedic was tending to the pedestrian, Howard's small, black pickup truck drove over a hill and struck them both. Neither the driver of the Caprice nor a second paramedic at the scene was injured.

YET another reminder of how dangerous it is when we operate on any roads.

NEED IDEAS TO PROTECT YOUR TROOPS? HERE ARE LOADS OF FREE ONLINE FIRE/EMS ROADWAY SURVIVAL TRAINING LINKS:

ROADWAY INCIDENT SAFETY FOR FIRST RESPONDERS:
http://www.lionvillefire.org/hwy_safety/
IAFF/USFA FIREFIGHTER HIGHWAY AND ROADWAY SAFETY PROGRAM:
http://www.iaff.org/hs/evsp/PowerPoint%20Presentation%20in%20PDF.pdf

CDC FIREFIGHTER HIGHWAY SAFETY INFORMATION:
RESPONDER SAFETY: www.respondersafety.com

IAFC HIGHWAY SAFETY INFORMATION:
ROADWAY SURVIVAL VIDEO: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UwQ8e58IF4

USE THIS PSA FOR LOCAL MARKETING IN YOUR COMMUNITY:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LroL2xIVH1U
Mike Wilbur/EVR EMERGENCY VEHICLE DRIVER TRAINING/CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS:
http://www.emergencyvehicleresponse.com
Chris Daly/DTS: http://www.drivetosurvive.org/

CHIEF CERTIFICATION: Chief Relieved Of Duty
Cleveland (Ohio) Fire Chief Daryl McGinnis was relieved from duty Thursday for not completing necessary firefighter certifications - a move made a week after the media asked to review his training records. A city review of Chief McGinnis' training records revealed that between 2009 and 2012 the former chief had completed only 22 of the required 40 certification hours. HERE IS MORE:
BillyG
The Secret List 8-1-13/1426 Hours

AND:
FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY WHILE OPERATING AT OREGON WILDLAND FIRE

We regret to advise you that a FF has died in the Line of Duty and another was injured this morning in a wildfire sparked by lightning in the Deschutes National Forest near Sisters, OR. The call came in at 0910 hours, according to Capt. Gary Lovegren of the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District.

Two contract Firefighters were hit by a snag (defined as a standing dead tree or part of a dead tree from which at least the leaves and smaller branches have fallen) as part of an initial attack on the fire, dubbed 398. The FF's were assigned to cut down trees when they became trapped. One died in the Line of Duty and the other, who was injured, was able to communicate with other firefighters and escape. The incident happened in one of the dozens of fires ignited by lightning in the area in the last 24 hours-the fire is still out of control. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. More details to follow.


BillyG
The Secret List 8-1-13 / 1519 Hours

AND:

(FFCC/TSL Quickie: CHECK OUT THIS FIRE ATTACK VIDEO: Much More To Follow On This: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Uans40KdVI&feature=youtu.be )

All,
The Fallen Firefighter killed in the Line of Duty in that tree-falling incident on a fire west of Sisters this morning has been identified as John Hammack, age 60. FF Norman "Jay" Crawford of Sisters, age 45, suffered injuries to his shoulders and has reportedly been released from the hospital. The incident occurred on a lightning-sparked fire in the Mt. Washington Wilderness near Dugout Lake. As stated earlier, the Firefighters were reportedly struck by a falling snag this morning shortly after 0900-FF Hammack died at the scene and Crawford was transported to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend.

Hammack was described as far one of the most skilled fallers in the wildland business. Fallers cut down dangerous snags (standing dead trees) in fire areas to allow other Firefighters to work safely. The fire in the vicinity of Dugout Lake is one of several fires in the Sisters Country sparked by a thunderstorm cell that moved across the region yesterday and last night. A Type II Incident Management Team will take over management of the Sisters area fires.

PHOENIX FIREFIGHTERS SUING INSURANCE GROUP

A group of Phoenix (AZ) Firefighters say they're not being protected when injured in the line of duty. Nine firefighters are suing their insurance company, York Risk Service Group, claiming the insurer set up a "scheme" to "defraud" firefighters by routinely denying and delaying their insurance coverage. FF Tim Hunter is one of them. He has been a Phoenix firefighter for eight years. In 2010, he said a building collapsed on him while fighting a fire. After the incident, Hunter couldn't move his neck and "experienced persistent numbness in his extremities," according to the lawsuit....and now he and others feel they are being scammed. HERE IS MORE:


HERE are some words of experience:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Uans40KdVI&feature=youtu.be )

FIREFIGHTERS WITH EXPERIENCE?

A new study states that experienced firefighters more analytical under stress than novices The study found that experienced firefighters had a better understanding of the consequences of a bad decision and therefore felt more stressed. Are you thinking "duh?"
Well-sometimes it takes a STUDY to show us what we already know, or think we know. Sometimes it takes FACT to help us demonstrate to those making the staffing and fiscal decisions of WHY we need, for example, experienced officers leading inexperienced firefighters. Why reduction of staffing, placing company officers in command roles (vs being company officers and staying with their company), placing inexperienced firefighters in "the front seat" and other short cuts" can end up leaving inexperienced firefighters facing critical decisions—decisions they have no experience or ability to make. Firefighters have absolutely been critically injured or killed in the Line of Duty due to the absence of solid, seasoned, trained and experienced officers and senior firefighters. Sometimes that is known as setting people up for failure. Sometimes. READ ON: http://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-08-experienced-firefighters-analytical-stress-novices.html

FIRE BY THE NUMBERS
The NFPA Fire Analysis and Research Division now has a quarterly newsletter, Fire by the Numbers. It's pretty cool. In the very first issue, you will find:
- The 2012 firefighter fatality study
- Work in progress: America burning at 40
- Home fires cause the majority of fire deaths
- Fire departments do more than fight fires
Links to two reports - electrical fires and fire experience by region
http://f.e.nfpa.org/i/47/272412627/07.29.13Fire_Analysis_Research_newsALLSTAFF.html
BillyG
The Secret List 8-1-13 / 2130 Hours

AND:

Hey,
When is a line of duty death not a line of duty death? That seems like a simple question—but it's actually pretty complicated.
Real complicated.

Is it an LODD when a FF does something incredibly outlandish, causing their own death?
Is it an LODD when a FF doesn't have enough training—but did something beyond their scope?
Is it an LODD when a FF dies from a heart attack after never having a physical and weighing 350 lbs?
Is it an LODD when a FF gets ejected because they didn't wear required seat belts?
Is it an LODD when a FF ignores the command officers orders and decides to "play" on the fireground—or in the building?
Is it an LODD when a FF who has been one for 40+ years and has a heart attack when directing traffic?
Is it an LODD when a FF dies from burns sustained while at a live fire training activity?

In almost all cases, it depends on who you ask.
For example, the families of the FF who died will generally have one opinion—as will generally the firefighters who knew that fallen FF or who operated on the scene. On the other hand, the NFFF, IAFF and NFPA also all have different criteria as to what they each define an LODD as.
In this case, is it an LODD when a FF was allegedly driving "reckless"—causing his own death and injuring a citizen?
Susie Nicol from Firehouse.com has posted an intriguing story worth reading. When a firefighter responds, they sometimes don't think about what the consequences of their actions may be—such as if they are involved in a crash. Pa. Fire Commissioner Ed Mann shared an emotional e-mail this morning from the wife of a man seriously injured when his vehicle was struck by a volunteer firefighter
-who was killed, responding to another crash. Personnel attending the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association meeting also were visibly moved as Mann read the detailed message.

**WHAT HAPPENED:** The woman wrote to Mann about the crash, and disputed media reports that her husband was in good condition. She said her husband was seriously injured by "your hero firefighter" who drove recklessly without respect to others on the road. Her husband suffered a fractured leg and a broken ankle among other injuries including cuts and bruises all over his body. He has undergone numerous surgeries including one lasting seven-and-a-half hours to repair multiple crushed bones. *"Is this the type of behavior you wish to encourage," she wrote, claiming that it wasn't the 20-year-old's first crash while responding to a call.* Since both legs were affected, the man won't be able to walk anytime soon. He won't be tending to his roses, playing with his grandchildren or working with his homing pigeons. His life, she said, isn't going to be the same "because of your hero."

The woman suggested Mann "reconsider the funeral for your hero...save it for a volunteer who deserves it..." He apologized for her husband's injuries, and the lasting effects it will have on their lives. He also asked her permission to share her story so others will learn—but would not offer an excuse. There is none. As a volunteer fire chief himself, the state Fire Commissioner said he also read the woman's e-mail to his own crew. He also urged CVVFA members to take the message back to their departments.

The Quentin Volunteer Fire Company in Lebanon County (PA) has about 15 members. One of them was quiet and unassuming: FF Bruce Sensenig. The 20-year-old died in the line of duty when he was killed in that two-vehicle crash while responding to the initial run in heavy rain on July 22. Because of FF Sensenig's religious identification, as a conservative Mennonite, the funeral and memorial services were handled differently than they would be under normal circumstances in terms of memorializing a FF who died in the line of duty. There was no color guard or honor guard. There was no apparatus set up at the funeral - at the request of the family who wanted to keep services private. A fire service memorial ceremony was held separately. To me, I have always felt that when a firefighter dies, we honor the life they lead as a Firefighter—not necessarily the manner in which they were killed. One thing that we probably haven't given much public thought to is: what if the firefighter's actions not only kill themselves, but also seriously injure or kill others? Does that take away from the idea that the FF should be honored for the service they provided, as a firefighter, prior to their death? What about those who suffered—such as described above—because of the actions of that firefighter?

Naturally the answer is to do all you/we/them can do so that unnecessary Firefighter Line of Duty deaths are minimized. Keep in mind we wrote "unnecessary" because their are, on occasion, firefighter LODD's that are not avoidable. But those are definitely not the majority. We all know the majority are certainly-and have proven to be-avoidable and can usually be avoided through training—more training. What training does your FD provide related to emergency vehicle or POV driving? How often? What qualifies someone to "respond?" It appears this crash was avoidable—therefore so were the injuries to the civilian....FF Bruce Sesening paid for it with his life, while attempting to help. **Plenty to learn here. Again.**

Susie's entire article is here—so you can read it and decide how you feel. [http://tinyurl.com/pdccfxr](http://tinyurl.com/pdccfxr)

**HERE are NIOSH reports related to vehicular LODDs:** [http://tinyurl.com/7ddokvc](http://tinyurl.com/7ddokvc)
**HERE are IAFC Vehicle Response Policies:**
The Portland (OR) City Council approved next year's fiscal budget which means several bureaus will face cuts and several people will lose their jobs. The city council described this as a tough budget to put together. Starting July 1, service provided by the police and fire bureaus will be impacted, and in the end, 26 city workers will lose their jobs. More than two dozen firefighters showed up in solidarity for the budget vote; however, a plan to reduce staff size at some fire stations was approved. Under this new budget, Station 8 in the Kenton neighborhood and Station 2 in the Parkrose neighborhood will see a downsizing of firefighters and the elimination of some fire trucks. The Portland fire bureau's dive team will also be eliminated, which means the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office dive team would be responsible for any and all calls on the Willamette, Columbia and Sandy rivers. The city council is hoping the economy turns around soon so it will be able to return money to some of these bureaus and rehire some of its workers: http://www.kptv.com/story/22649562/portland-city-council-approves-budget-which-means-big-cuts
The Jacksonville (FL) Fire Department would have to close four fire stations, put 10 emergency response vehicles out of services to begin finding 14 percent in cuts to help balance the city’s budget, according to preliminary budget documents and Jacksonville Fire Chief Marty Senterfitt. The moves would cut $7.7 million from the department's budget and mean the reduction of 135 positions through retirements, attritions and not filling vacancies. The city asked the fire department to find $12.2 million in cuts but Senterfitt said this is as close as he can come because of contractual restrictions which prevent layoffs: http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/1465525-fla-fire-department-may-close-4-stations-park-10-vehicles/?source=newsletter&nlid=1464202

Chico’s (CA) Fire Chief has made a painful decision to cut staff at Station Three in response to massive budget cuts. We've reported for a while that Station Three has been in jeopardy of closing. This plan keeps the station open but only to support flights at the Chico Municipal Airport. All other services are suspended effective Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. and Engine 3 will no longer respond to emergencies in the area. To make that happen, Chief Jim Beery announced staffing at the station will be cut from three firefighters a day to just one. He says it will save the fire department $2,500 a day but will dramatically slow the response time for folks that live around the airport. http://www.krcrtv.com/news/local/chico-fire-department-makes-painful-cuts-to-station-three/-/14322302/20992098/-/tmrgkl/-/index.html

Omaha (NE) Mayor Jean Stothert is ready to lay off firefighters and idle firetrucks and ambulances to rein in next year's Omaha Fire Department budget. Stothert says such cost-cutting measures would be needed to balance the 2014 city budget. She said she is unwilling to spend more than $90.6 million on the fire budget, which is about $3.2 million less than the latest proposal from Fire Chief Mike McDonnell. “I am not raising property taxes just to fund the Fire Department,” Stothert told The World-Herald last week. “It's not going to happen.” Stothert spoke about her plans for the Fire Department budget after The World-Herald obtained a copy of her layoff proposals, which include: » An $88.7 million budget that would terminate 27 firefighters, demote eight other staffers, remove a total of four fire rigs from service, lower the number of personnel assigned to the department's main office and return others to regular firefighting duties, and remove three assistant fire chief positions and one assistant fire marshal. Stothert described this as “the most severe” option. » A $90.6 million budget that would lay off 16 firefighters, cut the paramedic training program in half, pull one medic unit out of service, and make the other suggested demotions, reductions and reassignments. Stothert prefers this proposal: http://www.omaha.com/article/20130714/NEWS/707149923/1707

The El Dorado County (CA) Fire Protection District is teetering on the verge of insolvency after running deficits for years, according to documents obtained by The Bee. The district's reserve fund is down to $130,000, from a peak of $1.4 million in 2008. The department serves 74,000 residents spread over 281 square miles, including the communities of Placerville and Shingle Springs: http://www.sacbee.com/2013/07/29/5604055/el-dorado-county-fire-district.html

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

Seven Columbus (OH) fire supervisors raced to emergencies at more than 100 mph this year, an internal investigation has determined. That didn’t violate the Fire Division's policy, and they likely won’t be disciplined. But the incidents have sparked a debate among city officials about how fast is too fast when responding to emergencies. Fire administrators launched the
investigation despite strong objections from fire union officials. The city’s new GPS tracking system had flagged SUVS driven by firefighters serving in the role of battalion chief who drove between 101 and 113 mph a total of 13 times in a two-month span, according to documents obtained by *The Dispatch* through a public-records request. Battalion Chief Jack Reall, who also is the president of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 67, was one of those whom investigators questioned after he was clocked driving his Ford Interceptor SUV at 108 mph in February:  
http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/06/17/city-fire-vehicles-often-top-100-mph.html

A federal judge said he wants to know more about the culture that led a North Bangor (PA) Fire Company assistant chief to allegedly be drunk at the wheel of a firetruck when it overturned returning from a parade in July 2010. In a decision Thursday, U.S. District Judge Lawrence Stengel refused to dismiss a lawsuit by firefighter Stuart Mintz over injuries he suffered in the crash. North Bangor Fire Company Assistant Chief Zachary Romano allegedly had been drinking when the tanker he was driving after the Tatamy Fireman's Parade crashed three miles from the firehouse. Police found open beer cans rolling around the cab, according to a report. Mintz and his wife, Paula, allege it had become a custom for firefighters to drink while operating fire company equipment and that township and fire company officials did nothing for years to stop it:  

A female firefighter who was the target of a hidden camera inside her Los Alamos firehouse is now suing. Former Albuquerque (NM) Capt. Aaron Adair pleaded no contest to voyeurism and tampering with evidence in 2010 after admitting to placing the camera inside the female firefighter's private bathroom. Now the woman is suing the department, county, Adair and others saying they helped fuel a sexually hostile work environment. The woman claims fellow firefighters made constant jokes and sexual advances:  

The anonymous good Samaritan apparently thought it was a good idea to turn a loaded gun over to firefighters for safekeeping until the cops could come pick it up. But three firefighters at Largo (FL) Station 40 in High Point had another idea. Rather than calling the cops or their supervisor, they took it apart, examined it and then put it in one firefighter's glove compartment. Now, two of them have lost their jobs. The third has been suspended for a shift without pay. And the Hernando County sheriff has the gun:  

An on-duty San Francisco (CA) firefighter was arrested this weekend after the fire truck he was driving collided with a motorcycle. Police say that firefighter was drunk and then left the scene. Michael Quinn is a 23-year veteran with the San Francisco Fire Department. Late Saturday night, with its siren and lights on, the fire truck he was driving responded to a call of smoke in a building south of Market, near 5th and Howard streets. As he turned the truck, police say it hit a motorcycle. The rider was taken to San Francisco General Hospital with serious but non-life threatening injuries. Police say Quinn suddenly left the scene of the accident and disappeared for several hours before returning. Fire investigators gave him a breathalyzer test, which showed an alcohol reading of .16, which is twice the legal limit. He was subsequently arrested:  
A police discovery of large caches of illegal fireworks has led to the arrests of three men, including a New Haven (CT) firefighter who was then placed on paid administrative leave from his job. Madison and West Haven police, in conjunction with state police, found fireworks worth thousands of dollars in two homes and a trailer Tuesday night, charging the men with both felony and misdemeanor counts. New Haven firefighter Robert Crisco, 43, of Lloyd Street, New Haven, was placed on leave Wednesday by Chief Michael Grant:


A New York firefighter has been charged with mugging a police officer in a drunken brawl outside a restaurant. Angel Valerio, 30, was arrested Friday, the New York Post reported. The charges include robbery, assault and attempted criminal possession of a weapon. Investigators say Valerio and some friends had been drinking at a restaurant in Queens June 30 and encountered the police officer after they left. The officer was walking home from work. The man identified himself as a police officer, but Valerio and his friends allegedly punched him and tried to grab his backpack and gun. They eventually ran away:


A teenager who died in the crash of Flight 214 was struck by a San Francisco (CA) fire truck, but it was not yet known if that was the cause of her death, officials confirmed Friday. A hit-and-run investigation was underway concerning the circumstances surrounding the death of 16-year-old Ye Meng Yuan. While San Francisco Police confirmed the teen had been struck, they were still awaiting word from the coroner as to if she was already deceased at the time the fire truck hit her in the tall grass and fire-fighting foam of the field in-between runways where Flight 214 came to rest:


A Columbus (OH) firefighter is accused of having sex at his fire station with a woman repeatedly over almost two years, and of giving her the access code to the building and letting her ride in fire vehicles on rescue runs — all against policy. The situation even required extra police patrols to that fire station, authorities say, after the firefighter said his life was threatened. Fire Division officials began an investigation in late April after receiving a complaint from the woman’s father about her relationship with Marc Cain, a firefighter at Station 17, the Hilltop station on W. Broad Street. According to officials, the affair began when the woman, now 20, was 18. Cain, who is married, is 48 and has been with the Fire Division for 24 years. He has a clean record, according to files obtained under open-records laws. The woman alleges that she and Cain had sex in the station’s basement and in his room there, including when he was on duty. Cain denies having had sex with her at the fire station, although he does admit to having had a physical relationship with her and letting her ride in department vehicles in violation of station policy:

http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/07/17/firefighter-is-accused-of-sex-on-job.html

"Multiple" San Francisco (CA) firefighters knew that a 16-year-old passenger from Asiana Flight 214 had been taken from the crashed plane's wreckage and placed in harm's way on the tarmac, where she was run over and killed by a fellow firefighter, the lawyer for the family of the dead girl said Friday. Ye Mengyuan was "left unattended and not properly protected, tended to or properly cared for. She did not have fatal injuries or injuries that would have resulted in death before she was run over by that truck," said attorney Anthony Tarricone, a partner with the New York-based law firm of Kreindler & Kreindler. The firm represents the families of all three Chinese teenage girls who died and a dozen other injured passengers from
the Boeing 777. The firm, which has a team of lawyers in town conducting its own investigation of the July 6 crash, has handled cases involving some of the world’s biggest aviation disasters, including the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, which exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988, killing all 259 on board along with 11 people on the ground. National Transportation Safety Board investigators said Asiana Flight 214 came in too low and too slow before it slammed into the seawall that abuts San Francisco International Airport’s Runway 28 Left. Mengyuan, 16, was alive and covered in firefighting foam when she was run over by a San Francisco fire truck responding to the burning plane, according to San Francisco police, who continue to investigate her death: http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_23741177/attorney-multiple-firefighters-knew-asiana-flight-214-passenger

A sticky-fingered FDNY Firefighter called 911 with bogus reports so his colleagues would be sent into the field, giving him time to sneak into empty firehouses and steal cash from locker rooms, authorities said Friday. Joseph Keene admitted to the scheme when interviewed by investigators and detectives Thursday, and on Friday was arraigned on charges of burglary, grand larceny, false reporting and other counts, according to the city Department Investigation and the Queens District Attorney’s office. The sneaky firefighter used his personal cell phone to call in false reports on three occasions and stole cash from four different firehouses in Queens and Staten Island, a DOI probe found. He also filched cash from an FDNY facility on Randall’s Island, DOI said: http://statter911.com/2013/07/20/fdny-firefighter-charged-with-false-alarms-emptied-firehouses-to-steal-cash-from-locker-rooms/

A Columbus (OH) Fire Division arson investigator has been suspended for two weeks and has been stripped of his city-issued firearm for ordering a motorist out of a car at gunpoint in what police called a road-rage incident while he was on duty. Jeffrey L. Smith, 50, could be allowed to return to the arson unit after serving his suspension, but it is likely he will be reassigned, fire officials said. “As of now, he remains on administrative duty, and he does not have his gun,” said Lee Cole, a spokeswoman for the Fire Division. Fire Chief Gregory A. Paxton and Mitchell J. Brown, the city’s public safety director, ruled Thursday that Smith should be suspended for abusive or violent behavior: http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/07/20/fire-official-suspended-after-pulling-out-gun.html

Channel 9 obtained an investigative report that reveals an alleged cover-up at the Ocoee (FL) Fire Department. Investigators behind the report suggest the fire chief and a lieutenant should be fired. The investigation was done by an independent contractor and began when a firefighter was injured during a training exercise in April: http://www.wftv.com/news/news/local/report-alleges-cover-after-ocoee-firefighter-falls/nY2LL/

A Falmouth (MA) firefighter has been demoted after an internal investigation into photos posted on his Facebook account that purportedly showed him drinking alcohol while in a vehicle. Former Deputy Fire Chief Michael Small is now an acting lieutenant, Fire Chief Mark Sullivan confirmed Tuesday. Small had been on paid administrative leave since June: http://www.firehouse.com/news/11075468/falmouth-mass-firefighter-demoted-after-facebook-picture

The San Francisco (CA) Fire Department is moving to terminate the firefighter who allegedly drove a ladder truck into a motorcyclist while drunk and then left the scene. Sources tell us Chief Joanne Hayes-White sent a letter to the Fire Commission on Thursday, asking that 20-year veteran Michael Quinn — who is in rehab outside the city — be fired, even though the police investigation is continuing. Quinn’s lawyer, James Bustamante, himself a former
firefighter, called the termination move “premature” and irresponsible” given that the investigations have not even been completed. Quinn, 43, a 23-year veteran, was arrested after the crash late June 29 at Fifth and Howard streets, in which the motorcyclist suffered busted ribs and a punctured lung. Quinn, who works at Station 1 on Folsom Street, was driving a ladder truck to what turned out to be a false alarm. Officials say Quinn stopped the rig but then disappeared after being told that he would have to undergo a drug and alcohol test. He showed up two hours later at the station and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of felony drunken driving and hit-and-run. The affair is particularly embarrassing for the Fire Department, because drinking on the job is not a new problem at station houses. According to law enforcement sources, Quinn was told by his captain to wait in the truck after the crash until police arrived. Instead, he walked into a nearby bar, where a security camera filmed him drinking pitchers of water before he walked away into the night, the sources said. About two hours later, Quinn showed up back at Fire Station 1, where he was tested and found to have a blood alcohol count of 0.13 percent, above the legal driving limit of 0.08 percent – and way, way over the departments zero tolerance level, said the sources, speaking on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to talk about the case:


Cleveland (OH) Fire Chief Daryl McGinnis was relieved from duty Thursday for not completing necessary firefighter certifications - a move made a week after The Plain Dealer asked to review his training records. A city review of McGinnis' training records revealed that between 2009 and 2012 the former chief had completed only 22 of the required 40 hours of continuing education, the city reported in a news release. "I am disappointed that Chief McGinnis failed to meet this minimum requirement and have relieved him of duty pending an internal review and disciplinary process," said Mayor Frank Jackson in the release. "The real problem is that this is another example of a culture within the Division of Fire that betrays the public trust," Jackson said. "The audit we are conducting as a result of this will look at every firefighter's records to ensure that they are all in compliance."


The sex scandal that has rocked Lakeland's (FL) Police Department has now spilled over to the Fire Department as well. David Bivens, a long-time fire inspector who also serves as a reserve police officer in the city, is the latest to call it quits. Bivens was about to take part in a pre-disciplinary hearing Thursday morning, but instead handed in a one-line resignation letter. He is accused of having sex with former co-worker Sue Eberle, and perhaps most disturbingly, on one occasion at the funeral for a fallen police officer. Lakeland Fire Chief Gary Ballard says given the evidence, if Bivens hadn’t resigned, he’d have fired him:


Positive Public Relations Items:

During an Oroville (CA) City Council budget meeting, the Oroville fire chief Charles Hurley asked to be laid off in order to save the jobs of his battalion chief and an administrator position – two people who have been at the department for years. "Rather than take those two people who have lived here and worked here their whole lives, than take me," Hurley said while addressing the city council Wednesday night. Three scenarios had been proposed to trim money from the budget including laying off a battalion chief, making the police chief active head of the police and fire departments, and cutting the jobs of an additional administrator and three firefighters. Only the third scenario proposed would effectively reduce the department's budget by the $400,000 requested. "If laying me off and laying off the three fire engineers
accomplishes what the city needs to accomplish," Hurley said, "I hate this analogy or I hate this cliché but, you know, I guess you gotta take one for the team."


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**Training & Safety Related Items:**

The ABC7 News I-Team has learned exclusive new details about what that lead to the death of the 16-year-old Chinese student run over by a San Francisco (CA) Fire truck after the Asiana Airlines crash. It is a case of a veteran firefighter trying to do the right thing, and having something horrible happen. The story is so sensitive, long-time police and fire sources don't want to appear on camera -- even when they praise the firefighter, who drove the truck that hit the girl. Sources say several problems occurred, including those by other firefighters and top brass, which contributed to the tragic accident:


Company Officers Must Fight Complacency: To end preventable Line-Of-Duty-Deaths (LODDs), the fire service needs company officers who are willing to speak up. In August 2004, Jamie Foster, who had been with the Los Angeles City Fire Department for only three months, was killed in the line of duty when the tractor-drawn aerial ladder that she was assigned to crushed her as it was leaving the scene of a fire. She was the first female firefighter killed in the line of duty in that city’s 133-year history. She was 25. In February 2010, Fire Chief Stanley Giles was killed when an engine struck and killed him while it was being backed into the fire station. In July of 2012, Thierry Godfrind, a career firefighter with the Montreal Fire Department, was killed while spotting a fire engine he rode to the scene after it missed the address and was backing up. The driver lost sight of Firefighter Godfrind but continued to back up and killed him. The call turned out to be “food on the stove.” How many firefighters are going to die—not heroically, but needlessly—because company officers refuse to do the right thing?


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**General Fire Service Related Items:**

Fresno (CA) Fire Chief James Robert "Rob" Brown pleaded innocent Thursday in Fresno County Superior Court to a six-count domestic violence complaint. Appearing in court flanked by his wife, Beth, and four sons, Brown was allowed to stay in his home with his family under an emergency protective order approved by Judge Dennis Peterson as long as there is not any discussion related to the case and no other domestic violence problems. Prosecutor Lisa Sondergaard wanted an emergency protective order to keep Brown out of his home and 100 yards away from family members. Peterson's order also requires family counseling on domestic violence and alcohol consumption. Brown's lawyer, Marshall Hodgkins, said Brown and his wife, Beth Brown, Fresno's emergency services manager, have removed all alcoholic beverages from their home. The chief is charged with five felonies -- two counts of making threats and single counts of corporal injury, assault and dissuading a witness -- as well as a misdemeanor count of obstructing law enforcement:


Two Montgomery County (MD) Fire and Rescue Service firefighters have been placed on routine administrative leave after their $1.5 million ladder truck became stranded in a creek...
Chabot College Fire & EMS News

during a rescue on June 10:  http://www.gazette.net/article/20130621/NEWS/130629767/1022/two-montgomery-firefighters-placed-on-leave-after-firetruck-gets&template=gazette

Seattle (WA) Firefighters miss body of man who died in a pool. Seattle firefighters searched a murky hotel pool with a hook and a thermal imaging camera, but did not enter the water. Hours later the dead man was found underwater:

Tacoma (WA) Fire working to reduce number of nonemergency calls: Where is the fire? In many cases, there isn’t one. Last year, the Tacoma Fire Department responded to twice as many “investigate only” calls — such as cats on roofs and people locked out of their cars — as actual fires. More than 30 percent of the calls — 917 in all — came from people who locked themselves out of their cars or homes, according to Fire Department records. In almost every instance, Tacoma Fire rolled a rig. Chief Jim Duggan acknowledged during a recent interview that sending a fire engine carrying a crew of three and 500 gallons of water to help a woman with a stuck door isn’t ideal. “In hindsight, that wasn’t the appropriate response,” Duggan said. But people who either don’t know how to handle such situations or feel they have no other choice often call 911, he said, and firefighters feel obligated to help them. “It’s an emergency to them,” Duggan said of the callers. Still, the department has embarked on a number of initiatives recently to reduce such calls, including a program started last year to connect people who frequently call 911 for problems with what Duggan calls “daily tasks of living” with the social service providers who can assist them. That’s a win-win, Duggan said, because the person gets the appropriate help for the situation and firefighters aren’t tied up with calls that aren’t really emergencies:
http://www.thenewstribune.com/2013/07/28/2700181/wheres-the-fire-investigate-only.html

My first reaction after reading the statement above from Captain Chris Quinn of Sacramento Metro Fire defending a veteran fire official who did a traffic stop on a citizen was “really?” Is this really the policy of Sacramento Metro Fire or is it a knee jerk defensive reaction to potentially bad publicity? The spokesman also said they won’t be investigating this incident. My second thought was if this is really the department’s policy shouldn’t someone do an on-camera interview defending it and explaining to the public in a little more detail this whole concept of firefighters doing traffic stops? Shouldn’t the public be clued in on this so they won’t have the reaction that Patrick Brosnan did when he was stopped? Pay close attention to the on-camera interview in the link below with a spokesman from the Sacramento County Sheriff’s. The department runs the Rancho Cordova police department and has jurisdiction where this occurred. Three Sacramento County Sheriff deputies backed up the traffic stop. Sgt. Jason Ramos said in general and not specifically about this incident, “Doesn’t seem like a proper course of action or a lawful detention on the part of that individual.” The sergeant added, “they’re not vested with that authority.”

A Fort Worth (TX) firefighter who was fired last year after failing a random drug test won his job back -- only to lose it again. Leslie A. McConnell, 42, was indefinitely suspended for a second time on June 26 for allegedly providing a false or tampered-with urine sample during a drug test he was required to pass before resuming his career as a firefighter, according to a letter filed with the Civil Service Commission:
A group of Las Vegas (NV) firefighter recruits accused of cheating on an academy test failed to “openly and accurately” answer questions about the botched exams that led to their dismissal, according to City Manager Betsy Fretwell. In a letter to attorney Adam Levine, who represents the trainees, Fretwell said explanations for suspicious test results were insufficient and undermined the integrity of the recruits. “In the end what I cannot understand or overcome is that the testing irregularities were not openly and accurately answered to by your clients during the interviews, not just once but on multiple occasions,” Fretwell wrote to Levine in a letter dated Monday. “It may have been difficult for them to honestly answer, but that is what was expected of them.” The letter is the latest turn in a saga that dates back to February when the day before recruits were scheduled to graduate the city announced the ceremony would be postponed after the state fire marshal identified suspicious results for written exams on handling hazardous materials. About a month later the city announced the recruits wouldn't graduate and the matter was still under investigation. The recruits were dismissed after the city had invested more than $700,000 in public money in the class. In addition to getting no return on the spending, the city had to restart the application process for another class in order to ensure a new crop of firefighters for the department:

The private ambulance company that serves Santa Clara County (CA) has narrowly avoided additional serious contract violations by paying millions of dollars in past-due bills critical to the region’s sprawling emergency-response system. The approximately $2.4 million in fines and payments to local fire departments and county dispatchers arrived Monday, just days before Scottsdale, Ariz.-based Rural/Metro would have breached its contract, county officials said. Letters sent to Rural/Metro last week warned the company it had 10 days to make payments that were in some cases months overdue. "They paid it within the 10 days, so it's not considered a breach anymore. But it does concern me in that you never want to see something like this be missed," County Executive Jeff Smith said of the past-due dates. "We made it pretty clear to Rural/Metro that we don't want to see this happening again." Smith said the more than $1 million in late payments to first-responders at the numerous fire departments serving the county's nearly 2 million residents are of particular concern, given the already-strapped budgets of local governments:

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

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

Steve Prziborowski, Editor / Publisher – Chabot College Fire & EMS News
Bob Buell  
Fire Technology Coordinator - Chabot College  
(510) 786-7565 - cellular phone  
bbuell@chabotcollege.edu

Steve Prziborowski  
Fire Technology Instructor - Chabot College  
Editor / Publisher - Chabot College Fire & EMS News  
(408) 205-9006 - cellular phone  
sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu

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

Chabot College web site:  
www.chabotcollege.edu

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