



## ***FIRE & EMS NEWS***

December 22, 2013

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**T**his 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.

- **From our family to your family – wishing you, your friends, your family, your loved ones Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!**

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### **THE FIREFIGHTER'S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS:**

**T**o start out with some holiday spirit, I want to share a poem that was provided to be me by a good friend of mine, Lieutenant Mike Daley – [www.fspceducators.com](http://www.fspceducators.com)

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the station,  
The overhead speaker echoed out a location.

The Bravest came running from far and from near,  
And raced to the rig, quickly donning their gear.

And I in my bunkers, my coat and my boots,  
Clicked onto the CAD to map out the route.

Down at the corner of Hancock and Polk,  
The dispatcher reported a house filled with smoke.

We arrived on location to the reported address,  
And I did my 360 to size-up and assess.

Smoke poured from the windows, from top floor on down,  
Yet up on the roof there was none to be found.

I established command and gave out the orders,  
Ladder 8 took the roof, Engine 5 grabbed the water.

So up to the rooftop Ladder 8 raised a ladder,  
And climbed to the top to check out the matter.

I came to the chimney and what did I see,  
But a fellow in red stuck deep past his knees.

Well, we tugged and we pulled until he came out,  
Then he winked with one eye, and said with a shout:

"These newfangled chimneys, they make them too small;  
For a fellow as I, not skinny at all."

And with a twitch of his nose he dashed to his sleigh,  
and called to his reindeer, "AWAY now, AWAY."

As we backed into quarters, he flew out of sight,  
Saying **"God Bless our Firefighters", and to all a SAFE night!**

## **CHABOT COLLEGE 2014 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.

Registration for the **Spring 2014** semester at Chabot College has begun!!!

For complete registration information, go to [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

### **CLASSES AVAILABLE - SPRING SEMESTER 2014**

<b>COURSE</b>	<b>DAY</b>
<b>FT 50</b> (Fire Protection Organization) <b>Note:</b> This section (Monday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 20 lecture hours conducted over the internet.	Monday (am)
<b>FT 50</b> (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)
<b>FT 51</b> (Fire Service Operations)	Thursday (am)
<b>FT 52</b> (Firefighter Safety & Survival)	Wednesday (am)
<b>FT 52</b> (Firefighter Safety & Survival) <b>Note:</b> This section (Wednesday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 24 lecture hours conducted over the internet.	Wednesday (pm)
<b>FT 53</b> (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (pm)
<b>FT 55</b> (Fire Protection Equipment & Systems)	Thursday (pm)
<b>FT 56</b> (Building Construction for Fire Protection)	Wednesday (pm)
<b>FT 89</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) <b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b> - March 5, 7 and 9 (Wed/Fri/Sun) - April 8, 10 and 12 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) <b>or</b> Mon & Wed (pm) Sunday (all day)
<b>FT 90A</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 90B</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 90C</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 91A</b> (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course) <b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b> - April 29 through May 18	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)

COURSE	DAY
<b>FT 91B</b> (Haz Mat 1 <sup>st</sup> Responder-Operations) <b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b> - April 22, 24, 26 and 27	Tue (pm) Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
<b>FT 91C</b> (I-200; Basic ICS) <b>Note: Class only meets the following dates:</b> - April 8, 10, 12 and 13	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
<b>FT 91D</b> (Firefighter Survival) <b>Note: Class only meets the following dates:</b> - March 30, April 1, 3 and 5	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 95</b> (Work Experience )	<b>**Must also be registered in FT 96**</b> TBA
<b>FT 96</b> (Work Experience Seminar)	<b>**Must also be registered in FT 95**</b> Wednesday (pm)
<b>Health 61</b> (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)
<b>Health 61</b> (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)
<b>Health 81</b> (EMT)	Wednesday (all day)
<b>**Must also be registered in Health 83**</b>	
<b>Health 83</b> (Extrication and Triage)	Saturday (one day only – March 22)
<b>**Must also be registered in Health 81**</b>	
<b>Health 85</b> (EMT Refresher)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>Note: Class only meets the following dates:</b> - April 28 through May 10	
<b>FFT1 (Intermediate Fire Fitness Training)</b>	Mon & Wed (mid)
<b>FFT1 (Intermediate Fire Fitness Training)</b>	Wednesday (pm)

**NOTE:** The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding 2014 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

**M**y 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.

## **FUTURE FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY:**

**F**or the second year in a row, Firehouse Magazine will be hosting the Future Firefighter Experience as a part of their annual Firehouse World Conference in San Diego February 19 and 20, 2014. This year, I will be presenting the following topics (offered twice over two days):

### **Session 1:**

- **Reach For The Firefighter Badge: How To Master The Firefighter Testing Process**

This session is intended to expose future firefighters to what most fire departments are requiring as part of their entry-level hiring process in order to become a firefighter in their department. Attendees will be provided numerous key points to the most commonly found events within an entry-level firefighter hiring process: locating who is testing, submitting applications and resumes, researching a fire department, the written examination, the physical ability test, the oral interview, the chief's interview, the background investigation, the psychological examination, the medical examination, and the recruit academy. Learn from the successes and

December 22, 2013 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)

failures of others to ensure you are as prepared as you can be when it comes time to take the test for your dream fire department! One mistake can eliminate you from the process and force you to wait a few years until that department tests again.

## **Session 2:**

### **How To Excel At The 3 Most Important Phases Of The Firefighter Hiring Process**

Becoming a firefighter is very challenging, as it should be. It is the best career I can think of and as they say, nothing worth having comes easy. This session is intended to prepare the future firefighter for success during the three most important phases of the hiring process: the oral interview, the recruit academy and the probationary period, all of which will be covered in more detail than the other session I am presenting. In most departments, the oral interview is 100% of your overall ranking on the hiring list, and your ticket into the recruit academy. Just because you're successful in making it to the recruit academy or even after that into the probationary period doesn't mean you're home free. It is not uncommon for fire departments to terminate recruits during the academy or the probationary period. I plan to share numerous tips and lessons from over 20 years of experience starting when I was a future firefighter and now as the Deputy Chief of Training responsible for recruit and probationary firefighters.

For more information, go to [http://firehouseworld.com/future\\_firefighters.php](http://firehouseworld.com/future_firefighters.php) - I look forward to seeing you there!

Steve Prziborowski

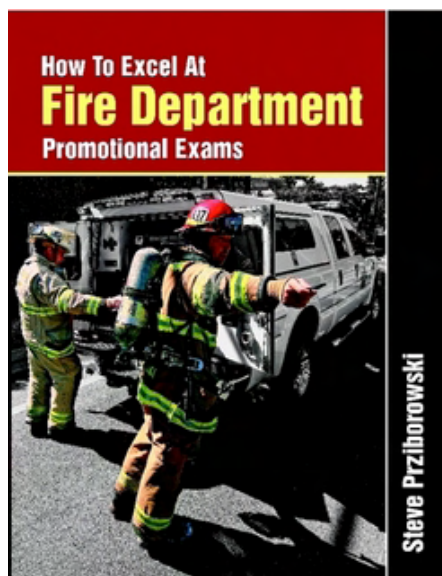
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## **FIREFIGHTER PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION BOOK:**

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

- ***Holiday Special – 25% off retail price!***

Department Promotional Exams," intended for anyone in the fire service preparing for promotion.



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

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

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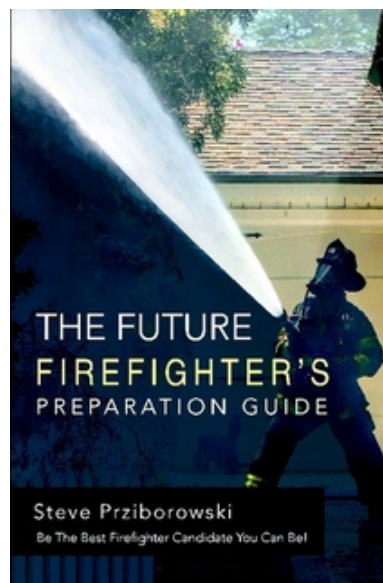
## **FIREFIGHTER ENTRY-LEVEL PREPARATION BOOKS:**

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

- ***Introductory special, for a limited time - 15% off retail price!***

### **The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide!**

**Be the best firefighter candidate you can be!**



Getting hired in the fire service is not an easy process. Many people have that desire to become a firefighter, but for whatever reason cannot put the pieces together to make it a reality. Over the 20 plus years I have been in the fire service, I have had the opportunity to be on both sides of the hiring process – as a candidate, and as a rater and proctor. This book will assist future firefighters specifically prepare for a career in the fire service.

This book is not the one-size-fits-all book to becoming a firefighter. There is just not enough room to accomplish that. Instead, this book is meant to be your stating point to get you headed in the right direction as you begin the process of becoming a firefighter. In upcoming books, I will provide more specific direction on the hiring process to becoming a firefighter and with tips for success upon getting hired with your dream department. Nobody said it was going to be easy becoming a firefighter...if it was, everyone would be doing it!

To order, go to [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)

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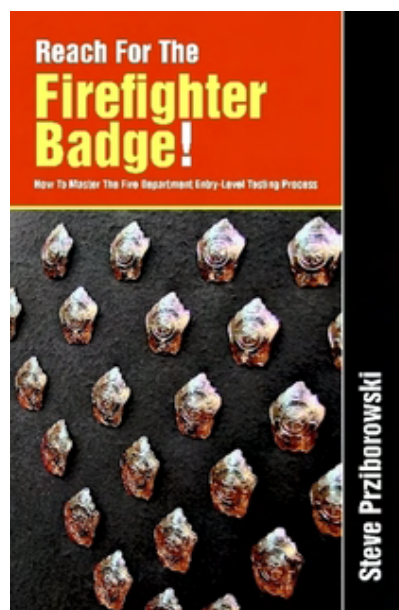
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### **Reach For The Firefighter Badge!**

**How to Master the Entry-Level Fire Department Testing Process!**



This book is intended to take over from where my first firefighter preparation book "The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide," left off. That book was intended on providing the future firefighter with a road map of what to do when starting out the journey to becoming a firefighter. This book is intended to provide more focus on what to expect and more importantly, how to be successful at the firefighter testing process, which can vary from department to department.

This book will help future firefighters by providing a road map of how to best navigate the firefighter testing process, so that they are successful in obtaining a position in the best career I am so fortunate to be a part of, a career in the fire service! If you have prepared for the position of firefighter by doing many of the things I suggested in "The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide," and follow the suggestions within this book, your chances for success will greatly increase!

To order, go to [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)



## **FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

# **FIREHOUSE WORLD**

**February 17 - 20, 2014**

San Diego Convention Center | San Diego, CA

**REGISTER**

## **Top reasons to attend this year's show...**

Innovation | Education | Community

### **Education**

- More than 75 first-time or state of the art topics
- Commanders and firefighters discuss their perspectives on the major and latest incidents
- Forward-thinking EMS programs, including Mobile Integrated Healthcare, address the fire service's increased role in EMS response and care
- Dozens of new instructors - plus returning favorites - from fire departments across the nation
- Nationally-certified classes, including Safety Officer and All-hazards Division Group Supervisor
- Network opportunities – discuss challenges and current issues with your peers

**Save \$60 if you register by [January 17, 2014](#).**

**Use promo code: [promo10](#)**

Group discounts are also available for you and your crew. Register 3 people and save an additional 10%.

### **Hotel & Travel**

Book your hotel early and take advantage of the special rates from onPeak, our official housing partner. Rates as low as \$169.



[Hotel](#)  
[Travel](#)

### **Exhibit Hall**

[Floor plan](#)  
[Exhibitor listing](#)

[Speakers Showcase](#)

## Innovation

- Over 275 exhibitors showcasing the best and most innovative equipment on the market
- New exhibitors this year:
  - Unication
  - USSC Group
  - Watermax
  - Psomas
  - Maintainer Custom Bodies
  - Maxwell Technologies, Inc.
  - Pacific Gas & Electric
  - Tecgen

## Community

- Fire Service Appreciation Night on the U.S.S. Midway
- 11th Annual Networking Event at the Firehouse Museum

### Win a Harley-Davidson motorcycle!

If you've always dreamed of owning a 'hog', attend Firehouse World Expo on Thursday for a chance to win a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. [Find out how!](#)

Official Sponsor:



Introducing the Special Edition  
Red NFFF G1 Voice Pager

Visit [FirehouseWorld.com](http://FirehouseWorld.com) for more information.

- Free to all attendees

## Conference Schedule

[Click here for conference information](#)

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## **FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

# **FIREHOUSE WORLD**

**February 17 - 20, 2014**

San Diego Convention Center | San Diego, CA

**REGISTER**

### **Advance Your Career at Firehouse World**

#### **What's Hot at Firehouse World 2014?**

Whether you attended Firehouse World last year or haven't attended for a while, 2014 will prove to be a smokin' hot event, with new and unique educational tracks, training and comprehensive exhibits to address issues in today's fire service.

Firehouse World sets the standard in education by partnering with renowned industry experts to develop content that is relevant in today's ever-changing fire service. This year's lineup includes:

- **Big Deal of the Day –**  
major incidents & lessons learned that have shaped the fire service
- First time **Labor Management** conference sessions developed by IAFF/IAFC
- Expanded **EMS** conference sessions all eligible for CECBEMS
- **Mechanics Clinic –**  
developed by the Cal Fire Mechanics
- First time **Topics of the Day** and **Fire Chiefs** panel discussions

**Save \$60** if you register by [January 17, 2014](#).

Group discounts are also available for you and your crew. Register 3 people and save an additional 10%.

#### **Hotel & Travel**

Book your hotel early and take advantage of the special rates from onPeak, our official housing partner. Rates as low as \$169.



[Hotel](#)  
[Travel](#)

#### **Exhibit Hall**

Interact one-on-one with more than 275 exhibitors.

**New product or exhibitor at this year's show**

**Seagrave Apparatus, in business for 125 years, is back at Firehouse**

With more than 70 industry-leading topics to choose from, Firehouse World provides the information you need to advance your career.

### Win a Harley-Davidson motorcycle!

If you've always dreamed of owning a 'hog', attend Firehouse World Expo on Thursday for a chance to win a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. [Find out how!](#)

Official Sponsor:



Introducing the new G1  
Voice Pager by Unication

World. Emergency Vehicles Inc.,  
will be displaying Seagrave  
apparatus at their booth.

[Floor plan](#)

[Exhibitor listing](#)

**Speakers Showcase**

- Free to all attendees

### Conference Schedule

[Click here for conference information](#)

Visit [FirehouseWorld.com](http://FirehouseWorld.com) for more information.



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## NOMINATIONS FOR INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR:

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2014 George D. Post Instructor of the Year Award presented by the ISFSI and Fire Engineering. The George D. Post Instructor of the Year Award recognizes individuals for extraordinary accomplishments in fire service training. The winner of the George D. Post Instructor of the Year Award will have:

- advanced the cause of firefighter operational effectiveness and safety;
- gone above and beyond the call of duty in training;
- brought creativity and innovation to fire training programs, or will have shown great persistence in pursuing an innovative program; and
- served as a positive model for other fire instructors and firefighters throughout the country.

The George D. Post Instructor of the Year Award marks individual accomplishments. Therefore, while members of an instructional team or ad hoc training group, for example, will be considered, nominations in the name of a fire department or training academy are not eligible. Nominations must be received by *December 31, 2013*. Send them to Diane Rothschild, George D. Post Instructor of the Year Award, Fire Engineering, 21-00 Route 208 South, Fair Lawn NJ 07410-2602.

Download the form - <http://www.isfsi.org/uploads/GDPost2014.pdf>

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## **FUTURE FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

# **FIREHOUSE WORLD**

**February 17 - 20, 2014**

San Diego Convention Center | San Diego, CA

**Stand out from the crowd**

**REGISTER**



Firefighting is a very competitive job market. For every one firefighter who is hired, there are hundreds, sometimes thousands, that did not make the cut. Make sure you're that "one in a thousand" – attend **The Future Firefighter Experience** at **Firehouse World**, and get the upper-hand in the hiring process.

Sponsored by **Firehouse**, this FREE must-attend program is designed for those who are seriously committed to beginning their journey to a career as a firefighter.

Program and registration details are coming soon, so be sure to check your email regularly. Space is limited, so register early and start your journey to a rewarding career in the fire service.

[Visit FirehouseWorld.com](http://FirehouseWorld.com) for details.

**FIREHOUSE** **CYGNUS**  
BUSINESS WORLD

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## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

**T**he San Jose Fire Department is accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter Recruit!**

- **All testing for this position must be completed by the end of the business day on April 25, 2014.**

For more information about the San Jose Fire Department, visit their website at <http://www.sjfd.org/>

This position requires FireTEAM testing through National Testing Network (NTN) and a valid CPAT at the time of closing.

### **Salary Information:**

December 22, 2013

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

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Compensation: Full-time with Benefits

- Fire Recruit: \$30.19 hourly, \$62,795.20 annual
- Firefighter, Step I: \$2536.80 bi-weekly base pay; \$65,956.80 annual (upon successful completion of the Academy)
- Anti-terrorism training pay 2% of base
- Holiday-in-lieu pay: 5.623% of base
- EMT Pay: 3% of top step Firefighter (currently \$102.02 bi-weekly)
- Eligible employees would also receive additional premium pay upon successful completion of the Academy:
- Paramedic Pay: 12% of top step Firefighter (currently 408.10 bi-weekly)
- Oral Bilingual Pay: \$29 bi-weekly
- Education & Training Pay (AA/AS - BS, Fire Science, Fire Technology, Fire Protection Technology): \$35 bi-weekly.

**Benefit Information:**

- Competitive Salary
- Paid Vacation and Sick Leave
- Insurance: Medical, Dental, Vision
- Uniform Allowance
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Retirement: [www.sjretirement.com](http://www.sjretirement.com). Retirement benefits for the Firefighter position are subject to change based upon ongoing contract negotiations between the City of San Jose and Local 230, IAFF.

More information available at [www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx)

**Department Overview:** The San Jose Fire Department is committed to excellence in public safety. We embrace innovative approaches to meet the evolving needs of our diverse city. We work in partnership with the community to achieve a fire and hazard safe environment. The San Jose Fire Department (SJFD) is committed to serving the community by protecting life, property, and the environment through prevention and response.

**City Information:** San Jose was founded in 1777 and is located in the South San Francisco Bay area within Santa Clara County, CA. It is the 10th largest city in the US and the 3rd largest city in California. SJFD serves the city-proper and other Santa Clara County areas with a total population that exceeds 1 million. Responding to approximately 74,000 calls for service each year (from 33 Fire Stations), SJFD is a high-volume, high-performance, full-service fire department. In terms of critical infrastructure, SJFD is the emergency service provider for a number of high-hazard occupancies, including an International Airport; 1 municipal airport; 7 major hospitals (including 3 trauma centers, and 7 emergency departments); the SAP Center, home of the NHL San Jose Sharks, (maximum occupancy 20,000); San Jose State University (the oldest public institution of higher education on the West Coast), student population of 31,906; three super regional malls; and 516 high-rise structures. Population: Approximately 1 Million

**Job Requirements:**

- Age: Eighteen (18) years of age at time of application.
- US Citizen: Can lawfully work in US
- High School Grad/GED

- Valid CALIFORNIA State Driver's License
- Ability to Read/Speak English
- Vision: Please read the following information to ensure that you meet the minimum vision standards.

**Uncorrected Vision:** (If you do not wear glasses or contact lenses, and have not had any vision-related surgery or medical procedures), the vision standard is: 20/100 binocular (both eyes open)

**Corrected Vision:** Your vision, with glasses or soft contacts, must be 20/20 binocular (both eyes open); 20/40 in the worst eye.

**Soft Contacts:** One year of successful use prior to the examination. Eye glasses are to be used as back-up on an emergency basis and must be available at all times. Eyeglasses must be worn when using respirators.

### **Necessary Certifications:**

- CPAT certification card which is not more than one-year-old by closing date.
- Proof of EMT Licensure and Certification as demonstrated by:
  - Possession of current active certification as a National Registry Emergency Medical Technician Basic OR; Possession of current active certification as a California State Fire Marshal Emergency Medical Technician I, OR Possession of current active certification as an Emergency Medical Technician I from any County in the State of California.

### **Desirable Qualifications:**

- Department of Defense Fire Fighter I Certificate
- California State Fire Marshal Firefighter I
- Military Veteran
- Bilingual (Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese)
- California Class B Commercial Firefighter Driver's License
- AA/AS/BA/BS in Fire Science or Fire Technology
- Proof of Paramedic Licensure and Certification as demonstrated by:
  - Documentation of successful completion of an approved paramedic training program and successful completion of the National Registry of EMT-P's written and practical examinations by the date of the written examination and actual possession of a current and valid paramedic license issued by the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority, OR Possession of a valid EMT-P certification from another state, territory, country and registration with the National Registry of EMT-P's by the date of the written examination and actual possession of a current and valid paramedic license issued by the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority, OR Possession of a current and valid Paramedic license issued by the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority.

### **To apply and sign up for pre-employment testing (FireTEAM), go to:**

<http://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com> and click on FIREFIGHTER JOBS. Select the department and read over all the requirements and if qualified, select a testing location and a time and date for testing on the website calendar. You will also be required to fill out a PHQ through your candidate account. For questions concerning the testing process, click on the Support link on the NTN website. For updates and new job announcements, "Like" National Testing Network on Facebook.



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## **FIREFIGHTER CANDIDATE WORKSHOP:**



### **Fire Alumni Workshop 2014**

**T**he Firefighter Workshop is designed for the broad spectrum of entry-level firefighter candidates from those who are just starting out and may not know what the hiring process is all about, all the way up to those candidates who are well involved in the process and may be looking to get the extra edge.

We will cover topics such as:

- Being the Ideal Candidate
- Education
- Chief's Interviews
- How to Successfully Search for the JOB
- Technology in the Hiring Process
- Application and Resume Development
- Physical Fitness
- Discipline & Accountability
- Backgrounds & Psychologicals
- Written Exams

**Date:** March 2, 2014

**Address:**

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

To register – go to: <http://firealumni.com/allevnts/fire-alumni-workshop-2014-2/>





**FIREALUMNI<sup>SM</sup>**  
EVENTS

## **FIREFIGHTER WORKSHOP**

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE - MERTES CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
MARCH 2, 2014

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Chief Bobby Halton (ret)**  
**Editor in Chief Fire Engineering**

### **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER**

**Paul Lepore - Division Chief**  
**Redondo Beach Fire Department**

### **WORKSHOP TOPICS**

**Being the Ideal Candidate**  
**Networking & Building Relationships**  
**Education**  
**Chief's Interviews**  
**Secrets to a Winning Job Search**  
**Written Exam**  
**Technology in the Hiring Process**  
**Background & Psychological Exams**  
**Discipline & Accountability**  
**Physical Fitness**  
**Application & Resume Development**

**Reservations**  
**[www.firealumnievents.com](http://www.firealumnievents.com)**

**Event Location:**  
**3000 Campus Hill Dr.**  
**Livermore, Ca.**

**Event Time:**  
**Registration: 7:00am**  
**Event: 8:00am-5:00pm**



**FIREALUMNI<sup>SM</sup>**

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## **INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:**

### **TAKE CFSTES FIRE OFFICER & FIRE TECH CLASSES ON THE INTERNET**

**Open Registration Has Begun!**

**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](mailto:dcoffman@hancockcollege.edu)

*The Fire Education Company Inc.  
1278 Glenneyre #190  
Laguna Beach California 92651  
United States*



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## **INFORMATION FROM THE UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION:**



### **Research findings from NIOSH/USFA firefighter cancer study published**

Mortality patterns and cancer incidence among a group of 29,993 U.S. career firefighters employed between 1950-2009 in the cities of San Francisco, Chicago and Philadelphia were examined. Cancers of the respiratory, digestive and urinary systems accounted mostly for the higher rates of cancer seen in the study population. The higher rates suggest that firefighters are more likely to develop those cancers. Visit our website to read more about the findings and to download the Occupational and Environmental Medicine peer-reviewed journal article.

For more info, go to:

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/firefighter\\_health\\_safety/health\\_fitness/cancer.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/firefighter_health_safety/health_fitness/cancer.shtm)

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## **PARAMEDIC PROGRAM INFORMATION:**

*California Regional Fire Academy  
Prehospital Care Education Program*

*Paramedic Academy*

**Applications are now available for Paramedic Academy 14-1.  
This Paramedic Academy is scheduled to start on Monday, March 3, 2014.**

**The Application Deadline is Friday, January 3, 2014 at 5pm.  
There is a \$50 non-refundable application fee due at time of submittal.**

All applications received after January 3, 2014 will be considered for the next Paramedic Academy.

Visit [www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov](http://www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov) to download an application.

Hardcopies are also available at the Business Office or may be mailed by request.  
All applications will be reviewed after the deadline.

Selected applicants will be invited to participate in an oral interview and skills assessment.

### **Important Dates to Remember:**

- Application Deadline: Friday, January 3, 2014 at 5:00pm
- Oral Interviews & Skills Assessment: January 13-17, 2014
- Mandatory Acceptance Orientation: Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 5:00pm
- Mandatory CRFA Orientation: Friday, February 28, 2014 at 5:00pm

Further information is available on the website and in the application packet.

### **California Fire and Rescue Training Authority**

(916) 475-1660

[www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov](http://www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov)

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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:**

**Firehouse World** – *San Diego, CA* – February 17 through 20, 2014

Go to [www.firehouseworld.com](http://www.firehouseworld.com) for more information.

**Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC)** – *Indianapolis, IN* – April 7 through 12, 2014.

Go to [www.fdic.com](http://www.fdic.com) for more information.

**Firehouse Expo** – *Baltimore, MD* – July 15 through 19, 2014

Go to [www.firehouseexpo.com](http://www.firehouseexpo.com) for more information.

**Fire Rescue International** – *Dallas, TX* - August 12 through 16, 2014

Go to [www.iafc.org/fri](http://www.iafc.org/fri) for more information.

**California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium** – *Fresno, CA* - November, 2014 - Go

to <http://www.to.calchiefs.org/> for more information.

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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

## FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES:



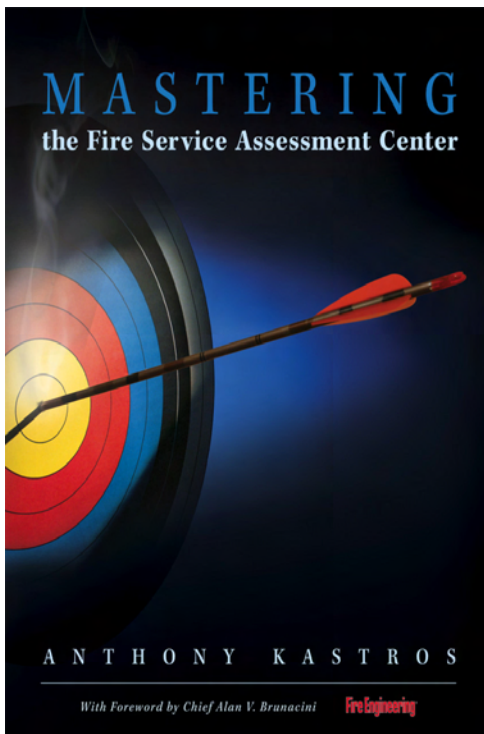
### MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER

4-DAY WORKSHOP

BASED ON THE TEXT:

**MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER**  
**BY FIRE ENGINEERING**

- PARTICIPATE IN EMERGENCY SIMULATIONS, ORAL PRESENTATIONS, VISUAL RESUMES, PROMOTIONAL INTERVIEWS, COUNSELING SESSIONS, VIDEO COUNSELING, IN-BASKETS, AND SUPERVISORY EXERCISES.
- DISCOVER THE PROPER MENTALITY FOR THE TEST, INCLUDING HOW TO SHED BAGGAGE AT THE DOOR.
- FOCUS ON BECOMING POSITION ORIENTED VS. TEST ORIENTED.
- LEARN ABOUT THE 27 KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES THAT SPAN THE DIMENSIONS OF LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.
- ASSESS AND BE ASSESSED USING SCORING CRITERIA UTILIZED IN TODAY'S ASSESSMENT CENTERS.
- PRACTICE EXERCISE-SPECIFIC TOOLS AND AVOID CANDIDATE PITFALLS.
- \* INCLUDES BEST-SELLING BOOK PUBLISHED BY **FIRE ENGINEERING**.



*"I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE EXCELLENT SEMINAR THAT YOU GAVE IN PREPARATION FOR LA CITY'S FIRST EVER ASSESSMENT CENTER FOR FIRE CAPTAIN. BETWEEN WHAT I HAD BEEN STUDYING IN YOUR BOOK WITH FRIENDS AND WHAT WENT ON AT THE SEMINAR, WE ATTAINED SCORES OF 93.5% AND 100%. I REALLY LIKED THE FACT THAT YOUR INFORMATION ISN'T BASED ON TECHNIQUES OR GIMMICKS RATHER IT TEACHES HOW TO MOST EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE OUR ALREADY ACQUIRED SKILL SETS."*  
**CHUCK - LA CITY FD**

*"I JUST WANTED TO DROP YOU A LINE AND LET YOU KNOW THAT I PLACED #1 ON OUR CAPTAINS LIST WITH AN OVERALL SCORE OF 95.36% AND I WAS PROMOTED LAST MONTH. THE PLAN THAT I PUT TOGETHER AFTER YOUR ASSESSMENT CENTER CLASS WORKED. YOUR METHODS ARE PROVEN. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND YOUR INSPIRATION THAT YOU GAVE ME TO PURSUE MY PROMOTION."*  
**BRIAN - ROSEVILLE FD**

*"I AM SO, SO HAPPY THAT I TOOK YOUR COURSE. IT WAS ABSOLUTELY THE DIFFERENCE IN ME BEING SUCCESSFUL IN MY PROMOTIONAL PROCESS. I TOOK YOUR COURSE WITH SEVERAL OTHER COLLEAGUES FROM MY DEPARTMENT. I CAME OUT NUMBER 5 OF A LIST OF 47. THERE ARE THREE (3) OF US IN THE TOP 5 FOR CAPTAIN. THERE ARE 5 OF US IN THE TOP 10."*  
**REGGIE - SAN JOSE FD**

Brett Loomis has 22 years of fire service experience and is currently a battalion chief with the Salinas Fire Department. His seven years of command experience includes two years as the

interim deputy fire chief of operations with the City of Salinas. He is a California Master Instructor and lead instructor for FIRE. He has been an assessor on multiple assessment centers.

Stewart Roth has 34 years of fire service experience and is a division chief with Monterey Fire Department. Stew has been an instructor with the Monterey Peninsula College Fire Science Program for over 30 years and teaches Chief Officer Command and Leadership Programs. In 2005 Stew was chosen as "Training Officer of the Year" by the CSFA. Stew has been an assessor, administrator, and designer of countless assessment centers.

**JANUARY 21 - 24, 2014 – LAS VEGAS, NV - \$595.00\***  
**FEBRUARY 24 - 27, 2014 – SACRAMENTO, CA \$595.00\***

GO TO [WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM](http://WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM) FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION  
CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO DUE TO DEPTH OF INSTRUCTION

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**



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

<b>COURSE:</b>	<b>DATES:</b>	<b>COST:</b>
• Fire Command 2A	January 13 – 17, 2014	\$295.00
• S-244 (Field Observer)	January 21 – 23, 2014	\$175.00
• S-245 (Display Processor)	January 24, 2014	\$75.00
• Training Instructor 1A	January 27 - 31, 2014	\$295.00
• Training Instructor 1B	February 10 - 14, 2014	\$295.00
• S-230 (Crew Boss)	February 24 – 26, 2014	\$150.00
• S-231 (Engine Boss)	February 27 - 28, 2014	\$100.00
• Fire Command 2B	March 10 – 14, 2014	\$295.00
• Training Instructor 1C	March 17 - 21, 2014	\$295.00
• S-215 (Fire Ops Urban Interface)	April 8 – 11, 2014	\$215.00
• Fire Command 2C	May 12 -16, 2014	\$295.00
• Fire Prevention 1	May 19 - 22, 2014	\$225.00
• S-336 (Tactical Decision Making in Wildland Fire)	June 10 – 13, 2014	\$480.00
• S-234 (Ignition Operations)	June 24 – 27, 2014	\$495.00
• Fire Command 2D	July 14 – 18, 2014	\$295.00
• Fire Command 2E	September 15 – 19, 2014	\$295.00
• Regional Instructor Orientation	September 17, 2014	\$175.00
• Ethical Leadership in Classroom	September 18, 2014	\$100.00
• Fire Management 2A	November 3 – 7, 2014	\$295.00



- **Fire Management 2B** January 12 – 16, **2015** \$295.00
- **Fire Management 2C** March 9 – 13, **2015** \$295.00
- **Fire Management 2D** May 11 – 15, **2015** \$295.00
- **Fire Management 2E** July 13 – 17, **2015** \$295.00

**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 (page 14) for registration form.

**More Info:**

Contact Steve Prziborowski at [steve.prziborowski@sccfd.org](mailto:steve.prziborowski@sccfd.org) or 408-896-6890.

**Prerequisites:**

See below.

### **CLASS PREREQUISITES**

<b>COURSE</b>	<b>PREREQUISITES</b>
Training Instructor 1A	None
Training Instructor 1B	Training Instructor 1A
Training Instructor 1C	Training Instructor 1A and 1B
Fire Command 2A	I-300; Fire Command 1A
Fire Command 2B	I-300; Fire Command 1B and 2A
Fire Command 2C	I-300; Fire Command 2A
Fire Command 2D	I-300; Fire Command 2A
Fire Command 2E	I-300; Fire Command 1C and 2A
Fire Prevention 1	None
S-215	Qualified as a Single Resource Boss or Initial Attack Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)
S-230	S-290 & Qualified as an NWCG FF Type 1
S-231	S-230 & Qualified as an NWCG FF Type 1
S-234	S-290 and at the minimum an Engine Boss, Single Resource (ENGB) initiated task book.
S-244	Successful completion of the pre-course work; S-290; ability to use a GPS receiver; NWCG Firefighter Type 2 (or CSFM Firefighter 1).
S-245	Successful completion of the pre-course work.
S-336	Qualified as a Single Resource Boss or Initial Attack Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)
Ethical Leadership in the Classroom	None
Regional Instructor Orientation	None

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT - CLASS REGISTRATION FORM

<b>COURSE:</b>	<b>DATES:</b>	<b>COST:</b>	<b>QUANTITY:</b>
<b>Fire Command 2A</b>	January 13 – 17, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>S-244</b> (Field Observer)	January 21 – 23, <b>2014</b>	\$175.00	_____
<b>S-245</b> (Display Processor)	January 24, <b>2014</b>	\$75.00	_____
<b>Instructor 1A</b>	January 27 - 31, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Instructor 1B</b>	February 10 - 14, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>S-230</b> (Single Resource/Crew Boss)	February 24 – 26, <b>2014</b>	\$150.00	_____
<b>S-231</b> (Engine Boss)	February 27 – 28, <b>2014</b>	\$100.00	_____
<b>Fire Command 2B</b>	March 10 – 14, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Instructor 1C</b>	March 17 - 21, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>S-215</b> (Fire Ops in the Urban Interface)	April 8 – 11, <b>2014</b>	\$215.00	_____
<b>Fire Command 2C</b>	May 12 - 16, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Fire Prevention 1</b>	May 19 – 22, <b>2014</b>	\$225.00	_____
<b>S-336</b> (Tactical Decision Making)	June 10 – 13, <b>2014</b>	\$480.00	_____
<b>S-234</b> (Ignition Operations)	June 24 – 27, <b>2014</b>	\$495.00	_____
<b>Fire Command 2D</b>	July 14 – 18, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Fire Command 2E</b>	September 15 – 19, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Regional Instructor Orientation</b>	September 17, <b>2014</b>	\$175.00	_____
<b>Ethical Leadership in the Classroom</b>	September 18, <b>2014</b>	\$100.00	_____
<b>Fire Management 2A</b>	November 3 - 7, <b>2014</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Fire Management 2B</b>	January 12 – 16, <b>2015</b>	295.00	_____
<b>Fire Management 2C</b>	March 9 - 13, <b>2015</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Fire Management 2D</b>	May 11 - 15, <b>2015</b>	\$295.00	_____
<b>Fire Management 2E</b>	July 13 - 17, <b>2015</b>	\$295.00	_____
	<b>TOTAL:</b>		_____

**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.

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## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:**

**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



**SANTA CLARA COUNTY TRAINING OFFICERS**  
*SECTION OF THE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS*

**The Santa Clara County Training Officers, in partnership with the  
Santa Clara County Fire Department, presents:**

**The Mental Management of Emergencies:**  
*Improving Situational Awareness and Decision Making Under Stress*

Instructed by Rich Gasaway

**January 6, 7, or 8, 2014**

**Home Church, 1799 S. Winchester Blvd., Campbell, CA**

0900 to 1600 hours each day - (A one-day class offered on 3 separate days)

Since the inception of the National Firefighter Near-Miss Reporting System in 2005, the leading contributing factors to near-miss events are NOT strategy, tactics, equipment, procedures or training. The leading contributing factors are flawed situational awareness, poor decision-making and human error. Likewise, the line-of-duty death investigation reports issued by the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health repeatedly cite issues with situational awareness and decision making as leading contributing factors in casualty events. Organizations with state-of-the-art equipment, sound strategy & tactics, well-developed SOPs and command training centers are still experiencing incident scene casualties. The solution to improving your safety lies with improving your situational awareness and decision-making – learning how to see the bad things coming in time to change the outcome.

This program explores and discusses:

- 6 ways physical and mental stress impact decision making;
  - 7 step process for making decisions in high stress, dynamic, rapidly changing environments;
  - 4 essential components to making quality decisions under stress.
  - How the brain uses pattern matching, mental modeling and information chunking to make high stress decisions.
  - 3 levels of situational awareness including how to develop and maintain each.
  - Common situational awareness flaws that can have catastrophic outcomes.
  - Best practices for developing and maintaining situational awareness in high-stress, high consequence situations
- *This is not a strategy and tactics presentation. This program focuses on the neuroscience of high stress, high consequence decision-making and the process for developing and maintaining situational awareness.*
  - *This class is not just for fire service personnel; law enforcement and emergency medical service personnel who serve as first responders will also find great benefit from the information provided.*

## **Presenter Biography**



Richard B. Gasaway entered the fire service in 1979 and has served as firefighter, paramedic, lieutenant, captain, assistant chief and fire chief in 6 fire and EMS agencies in West Virginia, Ohio and Minnesota. After completing his 30-year fire service career, Chief Gasaway founded Situational Awareness Matters! a consulting and teaching organization dedicated to improving how individuals, teams and organizations make decisions in stressful environments. Since launching in October 2011, the Situational Awareness Matters website has welcomed over 300,000 worldwide visitors who have downloaded over 2.5 million pages of free content.

As a professional speaker and author, Dr. Gasaway has contributed to more than 350 books, book chapters and journal articles on topics related to leadership, safety, situational awareness and decision making under stress. His best selling books, *Situational Awareness Matters Volumes 1 & 2*, *Fireground Command Decision Making*, and *Situational Awareness for Emergency Responders* recently published by Fire Engineering, serve as essential guides for helping first responders develop and maintain situational awareness while making high-stress, high-consequence decisions. His high-energy, humor filled presentations are a favorite with emergency service providers and have earned him over 2,200 program and keynote address invitations throughout the United States, Canada, The United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Australia.

Chief Gasaway holds bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees and is a graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer program where he now serves as a resident faculty member. He also serves as an instructor for the Executive Development Program at the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute. Chief Gasaway was the 30<sup>th</sup> chief officer to be credentialed by the Commission for Public Safety Excellence. Chief Gasaway is a big proponent of "Paying it forward" and gives back to the profession by serving as the Chancellor for the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) credentialing program and a peer evaluator for the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) Chief Fire Officer Credentialing program. He can be reached through his websites: [www.RichGasaway.com](http://www.RichGasaway.com) or [www.SAMatters.com](http://www.SAMatters.com)

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**Cost:** \$95.00

**To Register:** Please see next page for registration form.

**More Info:** Contact Steve Prziborowski at 408-896-6890 or [steve.prziborowski@cnt.sccgov.org](mailto:steve.prziborowski@cnt.sccgov.org)

# REGISTRATION FORM

*Dr. Rich Gasaway presenting...*

## **The Mental Management of Emergencies:**

*Improving Situational Awareness and Decision Making Under Stress*

**Home Church, 1799 Winchester Blvd., Campbell, CA 95008**

**Choose the date you plan to attend:      Cost:      Quantity:**

- Monday January 6, 2014	\$95.00	_____
- Tuesday January 7, 2014	\$95.00	_____
- Wednesday January 8, 2014	\$95.00	_____
<b>TOTAL:</b>	_____	_____

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Santa Clara County Fire Department.

- **Please send your payment to:**

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

- **Cancellation Policy:**

Full refunds will be provided if requested more than 14 calendar days before the first day of class at 1500 hours. 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.



# ELITE

## COMMAND TRAINING

IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE,  
SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

### State Fire Training Command Level II Certified Courses:

**San Jose Fire Department Training Center**  
255 South Montgomery Street, San Jose California

**Command 2A – January 7 – 10, 2014 (\$300.00)**  
**Command 2B – March 3 – 6, 2014 (\$300.00)**  
**Command 2C – April 14 – 17, 2014 (\$300.00)**  
**Command 2E – May 5 – 8, 2014 (\$300.00)**

**What you will receive by attending:** State & Nationally qualified, experienced, and knowledgeable instructors. An effective incident command system process for all hazard emergencies. "Adult learning" command methods that can be immediately incorporated into your current position. Improve your knowledge, skills and abilities to enhance your command confidence and promotional advancement. Will NOT waste your valuable time.

**What you won't receive by attending:** Inexperienced instructors. Watching movies in class all day. Having to write your own final exam questions. Getting out of class at 2:30 pm. Wasting a week of your valuable adult learning time. Learning absolutely nothing about how to command all hazard emergencies!!

**Instructor:** Deputy Chief Michael Bryant (ret), County of Los Angeles FD  
**REGISTER NOW at:** [www.elitecommandtraining.com](http://www.elitecommandtraining.com) or call: 626-290-6007

*"As a student and colleague, I have to say that Chief Bryant's presentation of the CSFM Chief Officer's series is the most dynamic and fundamentally sound, contemporary Command and Control course being offered today."*

– Lloyd Ogan  
Deputy Fire Chief | Sacramento Fire Department



ELITE@ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM



WWW.ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM



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

Hey,

A Police Officer was shot in Oregon City (Clackamas, Co. Oregon) yesterday (Sunday) afternoon while responding to a house fire with an armed suspect on scene. The officer was shot at the fire scene on Linn Avenue in Oregon City around 1300. A witness said he saw the suspect shoot the officer. "We saw a house on fire. I pulled over as a concerned citizen to check out what was going on. Right as we pulled up, police officers pulled up, fire department showed up," said the witness. A guy behind the fence shot the Police Officer in the face - and the officer fell to the ground. The officer was flown by LifeFlight helicopter to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center. Witnesses said medics were performing CPR on the officer as they rushed him into the emergency room. Initially when Clackamas Firefighters arrived, police told them to stay back because there was an armed suspect inside the home-so companies all staged. A SWAT team confronted the suspect at the burning house and shots were fired. A property listing shows the man who owns at the burned home is Lawrence Cambra, who is in his 80s. Court records show a history of domestic violence involving a 70-year-old woman who used to live at the home. That woman was granted a restraining order against Cambra last October, but the order was dismissed a month later. We'll post updates as they are available.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-4-13 0715 hours

**AND:**

**OREGON POLICE OFFICER DIES FROM GUNSHOT WOUND AT FIRE**

We regret to advise you that Reserve Officer Robert Libke (Oregon City, OR) succumbed to that gunshot wound sustained yesterday after responding to a house fire at 1300 hours. He passed away today just after 1200 noon. As you will recall from yesterday, as Clackamas County fire companies and Oregon City police officers arrived at the scene they were informed the occupant was armed. Officer Libke was one of the first officers on scene and confronted the man at gunpoint, ordering him to drop his gun. The 88-year-old subject instead opened fire with a revolver, striking Officer Libke in the head. Officer Libke was unable to return fire. The subject stayed at the location and was later shot and killed by members of the SWAT Team. The subject told neighbors he set the fire intentionally. Officer Libke was flown to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center in grave condition. He passed away the following today after being taken off of life support. Officer Libke had served with the Oregon City Police Department for four years. He is survived by his expectant wife. Please contact Police Chief Jim Band of OCP to send condolences or to obtain funeral arrangements: Phone: (503) 657-4964. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-4-13 / 2040 Hours

**AND:**

**OHIO FIRE LIEUTENANT DIES FOLLOWING SHIFT-LODD**

We sincerely regret to advise you that Sycamore Township (Hamilton County, greater Cincinnati area) Fire Lieutenant James Michael Hill passed away in his sleep early Tuesday morning from what is believed to be a sudden cardiac event. According to the STFD, an autopsy was performed and tentative findings support that conclusion. Lt. Hill's passing was within 24 hours of his last on-duty shift

### **Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

falling within LODD criteria. Initial details are that the funeral for Lt. Hill will take place on Monday November 11, 2013 at the Reading Field House (through the Schmidt Dhonau Funeral Home). The visitation will take place from 10-1 with the service immediately following. We will post any changes or updates.

NOTE: We had the privilege of working with Lt Hill on numerous occasions over many years. He truly loved being a firefighter and in addition to his love for family and friends, one of his greatest joys was making the runs and taking care of those in need. A "firefighters firefighter" as is said, his dedication, leadership and love for the job will sorely be missed. Our deep condolences go out to his family, friends and the members of STFD in the loss of Lt Hill. RIP.

### **PREGNANT FIREFIGHTER EJECTED & KILLED WHILE RESPONDING IN NEW ZEALAND**

A New Caledonian (NZ) Volunteer Firefighter has died in the Line of Duty in a crash responding to a wildland fire. The woman reportedly tried to evade an oncoming car and lost control of her vehicle and crashed. The 22-year-old Firefighter, who was pregnant, wasn't wearing a seat belt and thrown from the vehicle and killed. According to the New Caledonian government, she was the territory's first firefighter to die in the line of duty. RIP.

### **DEMOTIONS FOLLOWING CRASH, NO SEAT BELTS**

The Tulsa FD (OK) demoted two Firefighters after an investigation of a crash that occurred earlier this year. The crash left two rigs - Engine 3 and Engine 15 - with some damage, but the accident also revealed Firefighters on board weren't wearing seatbelts. That's a major violation of fire department policy. The companies were on the way to the same call when they collided at 7th and Elgin. The members involved, a Captain and Fire Equipment Operator, were both demoted by one rank. Three other Firefighters got disciplinary letters, but no other action.

### **COVERUP BY THE PENTAGON?**

Reserve Maj. Jason Brezler, an FDNY Firefighter, had served four combat tours when he sent information about a suspected police official from an unsecure email account. He reported his error, but now his case is before an officer misconduct board. His lawyer said Brezler, who is facing ouster from the Marines after warning of the deadly Afghan threat, claims the Pentagon is concealing case records in a coverup. Reserve Maj. Jason Brezler, a Firefighter with Squad 252 in Brooklyn, got an email in 2012 from Marines in Afghanistan reporting that a shady police chief Brezler had run out of a nearby town in 2010 had reappeared. MORE HERE: <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/coverup-pentagon-new-york-firefighter-facing-ouster-marines-article-1.1509078#ixzz2jv9oIW8t>

PRIOR INFO HERE:

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/nyfd-firefighter-faces-boot-usmc-email-mixup-article-1.1438838>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-6-13 / 2126 Hours

**AND:**

### **MARYLAND FIRE POLICE OFFICER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

We regret to advise you that David Barr Sr., a Perryville volunteer firefighter who was hit by a car while directing traffic last month, died [this morning](#). He was 65. Barr passed away around 11:15 a.m. at Christiana Hospital in Delaware and had been there since Oct. 25. On that day, Barr was working as a Fire Police Captain, managing the traffic around an accident on Route 40 near the Maryland 222 intersection when he got hit, rolled up on the hood of the car and laid on the highway with severe head injuries. Captain Barr was a volunteer with the Waterwitch and Perryville fire companies after he

retired. Before retirement he was a career Fire Lieutenant for the Federal Fire Service. Funeral arrangements have not been finalized. However, his family has asked for an official fire service funeral.

[http://eaglefirecompany.org/news/Fire\\_Police/firepoliceofficercont.htm](http://eaglefirecompany.org/news/Fire_Police/firepoliceofficercont.htm)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire\\_police](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire_police)

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

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

### **It's Been Real Bad Lately: BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!**

Captain Barr's death represents just one of several incidents recently in which public safety workers in Maryland alone have been injured after being struck by a vehicle. This includes Maryland State Police Trooper Jacqueline Kline, who suffered critical injuries while assisting on a traffic stop Oct. 6 in Glen Burnie. Similar accidents have also recently taken place involving a police officer in Baltimore City and a state trooper Baltimore County. And [this morning](#), in Cecil County, while operating at a fatal crash, a vehicle struck an unoccupied, marked MSP cruiser on West Pulaski Highway after that vehicle passed a truck in the slow lane. A Trooper had parked the patrol car with its emergency lights flashing so he could assist at the nearby crash scene.

### **FREE FIRE/EMS ROADWAY OPERATIONS TRAINING & RESOURCES:**

<http://learning.respondersafety.com/>

### **AMBULANCE RECALL:**

We're getting word that multiple fire & EMS departments are unaware of an ambulance recall. Ford issued a recall for a defective sensor in 2011-2012 F-350 and F-450's that could stop ambulance engines from working. Representatives from Ford told the departments written notices are scheduled to be sent out next week. You may want to check with your dealer.

### **FIREFIGHTER INJURY REPORT:**

The NFPA released the latest edition of its U.S. Firefighter Injury Report, highlighting data on injuries sustained by firefighters on duty that was collected from those fire departments responding to the 2012 National Fire Experience Survey. **Firefighter injuries have declined over the past three decades, hovering around roughly 100,000 from the early 1980's through early 1990's. In 2012, 69,400 firefighter injuries occurred in the line of duty.** Of those injuries, 31,490 (45.4 percent) occurred during fireground operations, with the leading causes reported as overexertion, straining (27.5 percent) and falling, slipping, and jumping (23.2 percent). The major types of injuries received during fireground operations were: strains, sprains, and muscular pain (55.2 percent), followed by wounds, cuts, bleeding, and bruising (12.2 percent), thermal stress (5.8 percent) and burns (5.7 percent) **HERE** is the entire report: <http://tinyurl.com/oe3qs5w>

Take Care. be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG

The Secret List [11-7-13](#) / 2112 Hours

### **AND:**

Hey,

Earlier this morning, several members from Prince George's County (MD) Fire/EMS Company 826 (District Heights) were injured while operating at a working house fire at 2908 Walters Lane. FF Sarge Bauer sustained the most significant injuries and was transported to the Burn Unit at the Washington Hospital Center. He is currently sedated and intubated with burns to his airway. However, he has been scoped and the doctors feel that the prognosis is good. PGFD Command staff and Leadership from PGFD IAFF Local 1619 are at the Burn Center and are insuring a 24 hour watch and assistance



for FF Bauer and his family.

HERE are more details and photos from PGFD PIO Mark Brady:

<http://pgfdpio.blogspot.com/2013/11/2-alarm-forestville-house-fire-walters.html?m=1>

**SCBA ISSUE: UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS FF DOWN:**

The final report on that Indianapolis firefighter's injury while operating at that August house fire blames a breathing mask **that had already been damaged, possibly by routine wear and tear**. IFD FF Chris McGrone was rushed to the hospital after toxic smoke and fumes overwhelmed him inside a burning home on North Columbia Avenue on August 16. His recovery prompted doctors to place him in a medically-induced coma for several days. IFD leadership said his mask somehow allowed those toxic fumes to enter his mask, causing him to be overcome while fighting the fire. The final report on the investigation (BELOW) into his injury was released on Friday and it ruled out a design defect, finding his mask had already been damaged before he went into the house to search. The report includes several pictures of his SCBA mask, with the photos showing at least one spot where the seal around **his mask had been chipped away** - [http://media.theindychannel.com/docs/IFD\\_report.pdf](http://media.theindychannel.com/docs/IFD_report.pdf)  
A critical reminder CHECK and INSPECT your SCBA's mask.

**RESCUE COPTER DOWN DURING TEST FLIGHT:**

In Shreveport this afternoon, a helicopter crash involving a LifeAir Rescue vehicle happened off Hawn Avenue. The euro helicopter went down during a test flight and crashed into a field behind Metro Aviation. The pilot and two mechanics were transported to University Health for treatment of minor injuries.

**James C. "Robbie" Robertson - former MD State Fire Marshal, RIP**

It is with great sadness that we pass on information that James C. "Robbie" Robertson - former MD State Fire Marshal, passed away around 0400 hours this morning. This true legend in the fire service made such a difference to so many from his work, his writing, his teachings and his leadership. He loved the fire service and it was a mutual relationship. Our condolences to the family and friends of this kind gentleman who genuinely made a difference. RIP.

Take care. Be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-9-13 / 1542 Hours

**AND:**

**MARYLAND FIRE POLICE OFFICER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

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[http://eaglefirecompany.org/news/Fire\\_Police/firepoliceofficercont.htm](http://eaglefirecompany.org/news/Fire_Police/firepoliceofficercont.htm)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire\\_police](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire_police)

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

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

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Take Care. be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-7-13 / 2112 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

As posted earlier, several members from Prince George's County (MD) Fire/EMS Company 826 (District Heights) were injured this morning while operating at a working (2nd alarm) house fire at 2908 Walters Lane. We posted Sarge Bauer as a FF, and I screwed that up, he is a Captain and was leading his company at that fire. Captain Bauer sustained the most significant injuries and was transported to the Burn Unit at the Washington Hospital Center. He remains in the hospital for observation with burns to his airway but the doctors feel his prognosis is good. PGFD Command staff and Leadership from PGFD IAFF Local 1619 are at the Burn Center and are insuring a 24 hour watch and assistance for FF Bauer and his family. HERE is video and additional photos from that fire: VIDEO (Courtesy of EdL):

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10202295858019785&set=vb.1291295327&type=2&theater>

PHOTOS: <http://mdfirenews.com/fire-regions/dc-metro/442-district-heights-2nd-alarm-dwelling>

**HERE** are more details and photos from PGFD PIO Mark Brady:

<http://pgfdpio.blogspot.com/2013/11/2-alarm-forestville-house-fire-walters.html?m=1>

We'll post updates on our home page.



Take Care. Be careful. Pass It On.  
BillyG  
The Secret List 11-9-13 / 1801 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

2 South Carolina Firefighters have been released from Greenville Memorial Hospital however a third remains in stable condition after they were injured when the Pumpkintown FD tanker responding to a call overturned early Monday in northern Pickens County. The tanker truck driver and a passenger were released and the other passenger remained at the Greenville Hospital. The FF driving the tanker truck had swerved to miss a deer while responding to a call at 0447 hours. They were responding to the structure fire about a mile and a half from the scene. The tanker was the 2nd due piece to the fully involved unoccupied structure. The rig was a total loss.

**CANCER FIRE STATION IN CALIFORNIA?**

Dozens of San Jose firefighters say there is something unusual about one of the city's oldest and busiest firehouses. For years, they have called fire station number five "the cancer station." It was all talk, but with no reported formal investigation by the SJFD for more than a decade. Now, the leader of the department has pledged to examine the fire station's infamous reputation after firefighters raised concerns to a media investigative unit. Several FF's say the concerns at station five are not limited to cancer. They also point to a series of environmental exposures in and around the building. The station sits in a highly industrial part of the city, and for years firefighters have sent memos and raised concerns about problems with air quality. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has determined that station five is located in a "toxic air contaminant" zone, but several air quality studies over the past decade have not identified any harmful levels of contamination. So which is it? Or is it a combination of the job, the area and the firehouse? Take a moment to read this entire piece HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/my39hyf> HERE is the FCSN FF Cancer White Paper, Videos and Related FF Cancer Info: <http://tinyurl.com/nzr93yj>

**CLOSE CALL IN CALIFORNIA-LIVE POWER LINE LANDS ON FIRE OFFICER**

A San Bernardino fire captain had a close call yesterday morning despite being struck on the head by a falling power line during a 2 alarm fire. The captain was struck on his head by an insulated portion of the line, so was not electrocuted-and was very lucky as he was able to roll away from it. Firefighters received a call at 0832 hours for a the fire on Cabrera Avenue. As the engulfed several sheds and the attic of the home, it spread quickly to a large eucalyptus tree in the backyard. It continued to burn, damaging the attic and two rooms of a neighboring home to the north and the exterior of a home to the south. While operating, the FF's faced a scary situation when the fire caused a live power line to fall onto the captain.

**PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY FIRE CAPTAIN RELEASED**

On Saturday, several members from Prince George's County (MD) Fire/EMS Company 826 (District Heights) were injured while operating at a working house fire at 2908 Walters Lane. Captain Sarge Bauer sustained the most significant injuries and was transported to the Burn Unit at the Washington Hospital Center. The good news is that he was released today.

**MARYLAND FIRE POLICE OFFICER LODD FUNERAL DETAILS**

For all those wishing to honor Captain David R Barr, respects may be paid during the following dates and times. Date of Viewing: Friday, November 15, 2013, Time of Viewing: 1pm-9pm continuous (Family will be there from 1pm-4pm & 7pm-9pm) - Location of Viewing: Perryville Firehouse, 920 Principio Furnace Rd., Perryville, MD 21903 - Date of Funeral: Saturday, November 16, 2013, Time of

### **Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Funeral: 11am - Location of Funeral: Perryville Firehouse, 920 Principio Furnace Rd., Perryville, MD 21903 - Interment with full Fire Dept. Honors immediately following funeral: West Nottingham Presbyterian, 1195 Firetower Road Colora, Md. Any departments wishing to bring apparatus please contact Brian Williams at (443)309-5396 so we can plan accordingly. All apparatus will enter Coudon Blvd. via US Rt.40 with line up on Coudon Blvd. Please plan to be in place no later than 1000 hours on Saturday. Any departments wishing to bring Color/Honor Guards please contact Buddy Schweers at (443)807-0531 or by email at [firelieutenant18@gmail.com](mailto:firelieutenant18@gmail.com).

BillyG

The Secret List 11/11/13 - 1112 Hours

### **AND:**

All,

W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. has issued an important firefighter product safety alert, along with information about enrollment in a product remediation program.

### **SEE THE BELOW LINK FOR PHOTOS AND DETAILS.**

This alert is in response to isolated incidents of seam-tape separation observed in turnout gear in North America--utilizing both Gore and non-Gore moisture barriers--that has been stored in its original packaging for three or more years before being issued and worn. Gore's alert identifies the affected GORE products and a course of action for proper product remediation. No seam tape separation was observed for turnout gear utilizing GORE moisture barriers that had been removed from its packaging before being stored. Once aware of the incidents, Gore investigated the issue and determined that the GORE-SEAM tape affected has been used with CROSSTECH moisture barriers (Type 2C), CROSSTECH black moisture barriers (Type 2F), and GORE RT7100 moisture barriers (Type 3B and Type 3D). The GORE-SEAM tape used with CROSSTECH 3-layer moisture barriers (Type 4A) is unaffected. Gore has not received any reports of adverse effects from this issue. However, as a part of its continuing heritage of standing behind its products, Gore has implemented a remediation program. For turnout gear utilizing GORE moisture barriers stored for more than three years and affected by this situation, Gore will remediate the gear. This North American program involves a newly developed GORE-SEAM tape that is markedly unaffected by the storage interactions causing this issue. Evaluation of this issue outside North America is underway. For more detailed information about this alert and Gore's remediation program, as well as the enrollment contact phone number, please click on the below link.

LINK HERE: <http://www.GoreProtectiveFabrics.com/FirefighterProductSafetyAlert>

Check it out.

Take Care. be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11/12/13 1600 Hours

### **AND:**

### **NEW YORK FIRE LT LINE OF DUTY DEATH-IN QUARTERS**

We regret to pass on to you that Lt. James Goodman Jr. 52 of the Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department, 6505 S Salina Street in Nedrow, Onondaga County, NY passed away suddenly at the Nedrow Fire Station. Calling hours for our Lt. Goodman will be Thursday 2 to 4pm and 7-9pm at Butler-Badman Funeral Home, Inc 4504 W Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215. Funeral services will be at 815 at the funeral home followed by a church service at St James Church 4845 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13205. Found unresponsive on the exercise equipment in the firehouse, Lt Goodman was a Medic for the NY National Guard and leaves behind his wife, family and friends. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**CLOSE CALL FOR ARIZONA FIREFIGHTER DURING OVERHAUL**

The video shows a firefighter close call while doing overhaul. He falls backwards on a balcony-his legs ...and other firefighters stop him from falling all the way.

**VIDEO HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/pwsukxt>

**FINAL WORD:**

Our condolences to the friends and family of 24 year old Chatham Township NJ (Green Village FD) Fire Lt. Stephen Marano. Lt. Marano found dead near a field in Chatham Township Monday and was located by another firefighter who served alongside him. Marano was reported missing Saturday after his vehicle was located near the Great Swamp in Chatham Township. Dozens of police officers, firefighters and EMS from multiple departments and others searched until his body was found Monday afternoon by a fellow member of the Green Village Fire Department. Acting Morris County Prosecutor Frederic M. Knapp has said authorities do not suspect any foul play or involvement of another person in Marano's death, but have not released a suspected cause. RIP.

**Details HERE:**

<http://tinyurl.com/k5h9med>

<http://tinyurl.com/meccz8e>

Take Care. be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11/13/13 - 0639 Hours

**AND:**

**PA FIREFIGHTER LODD-DOWN AT HOUSE FIRE**

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter in Wyoming County (PA) died in the line of duty early this morning. Initial details are that the 58-year-old Firefighter (Assistant Chief) collapsed just before midnight last night while his company was operating at a dwelling on College Avenue in Factoryville. He was immediately treated and taken to the hospital where doctors unable to save him. The fire was held to a room.

**INDIANA FF LOSES BATTLE WITH CANCER FROM WAYNE TWP CHIEF WAYNE KONZEN:** It's with a heavy heart that I have to notify everyone that after his fight with cancer, Firefighter/ Engineer Don (Donald) Hochstetler passed away Sunday afternoon November 17th 2013 at 1413 hours. Don's cancer was directly related to his duties of firefighting and was approved for an on-duty illness earlier this year. Don joined the Wayne Township Fire Department in April of 1992 as a Volunteer and became a Career firefighter with Wayne Township in 12/27/1999. Funeral arrangements for Firefighter/Engineer Don Hochstetler are as follows: Family and friends will gather on Friday, November 22, 2013, at ESEC, 400 N. High School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46214. Visitation will be held from 0900, with service beginning at 1130. RIP.

**JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER KILLED OFF DUTY**

**SAME FD EXPERIENCED A JR FF LODD/DUI RELATED APPARATUS CRASH IN 2003:**

A 15-year old Newcastle (Wyoming) junior Firefighter died Monday morning after his car rolled over Sunday afternoon west of town. Wyatt Pillen was driving when he lost control of his vehicle and over-corrected-his his car rolled one and a half times. Both Pillen and his passenger, Vincent Oedekoven, 16, were thrown from the vehicle. Neither was wearing a seatbelt nor acting as a Firefighter at the time of the accident. Pillen was sent from Newcastle's Weston County Hospital to the Denver Children's Hospital, where he died. Oedekoven was sent to Scottsbluff Regional West Medical in Nebraska where he remains. Both Pillen and Oedekoven were members of the Newcastle FD Explorers. They were also cousins, according to websites established in memory of Pillen and to raise

money for medical expenses for both teens. RIP. For more information, or to make a donation, go to [www.gofundme.com/RIP-Wyatt-Pillen](http://www.gofundme.com/RIP-Wyatt-Pillen) or [www.gofundme.com/Vincent-Oedekoven](http://www.gofundme.com/Vincent-Oedekoven).

**RELATED:YOU MAY RECALL THAT**

Anndee Huber, 16, another Junior Firefighter with the Newcastle was killed in the Line of Duty on May 22, 2003, when the tanker in which she was responding to a fire call left the road and rolled. Huber was transported to a local hospital but was pronounced dead on arrival. Huber was a 10th-grade student at Newcastle High School who joined the fire department's Explorer program in the fall of 2002, as soon as she turned 16. She was a 4.0 student, president of her class, a swimmer, and a cross-country runner. Her brother, Kevin Huber, told reporters, "Anndee was... a little wiser, a little stronger, more outgoing than most 16-year-olds were. Rather than doing the things teenagers do, she was down at the fire hall getting her training." **The Firefighter who was driving the tanker was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, and homicide by vehicle. According to news reports, he had a history of alcohol problems.**

Sad and shocking news rang thru the fire service yesterday when corporate Penton Publishing announced the closing of its 57-year-old publication, Fire Chief Magazine. The magazine, along with their website, will end operations effective tomorrow Friday, November 22, 2013. According to long time leader, Janet Wilmoth: while it is a difficult reality to face, many factors contributed to its closing, including changes within the publishing industry, the economy and the overall decline in ad revenue that many publishers are facing. This is sad news at a variety of levels. It takes away another source of news and opinion on our business, it is indicative of where "paper" media is continuing to go and it tightens the opportunity to insure a broad and diverse range of all of our ability to learn. We wish the best to one of the most well known leaders in the fire media industry, Janet Wilmoth-along with the rest of the staff, and thank them for their years of service. Janet, who often wrote some clearly outside the box editorials and opinions to make us all think, certainly made a measurable difference over her years of service.

**Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.**

**BillyG**

**The Secret List 11-21-13/0700 Hours**

**AND:**

All,

While this is not an LODD, we do want to pass this on. A beloved Long Island Firefighter was killed in an upstate hunting accident after a fellow Firefighter mistook him for a deer, sources told the media on Monday. Charles Bruce, 52, was on an annual hunting trip with friends from the Malverne (Nassau County) Fire Department when the tragedy unfolded about 10:20 a.m. Saturday in rural Westford, about 11 miles east of Cooperstown. "Unfortunately, it was a high-powered rifle. He was dead before he hit the ground," Otsego County District Attorney John Muehl told The News. "Charlie had a bad back, so he went back to his room to rest. And when he came back out, one guy saw a tree move and fired," said a close friend of the victim's who asked to remain anonymous. The shooter was a Malverne Firefighter who is understandably "destroyed" over the incident, the friend said. Our sincere condolences to everyone that has been impacted by this tragic event. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-18-13/1830 hrs

**AND:**

All,

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

We regret to pass on to you that FDNY Lt. George Reilly E-81 (Ret), a long time Firefighter in L-40, and U.S. Army Veteran has passed away. While we cannot announce all non-LODD passings, this is related to an LODD...his son. **Lt Reilly is now reunited with his son, FF. Kevin L-40, who perished in the Line of Duty while working in E-207 as a result of the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center on 09/11/2001.** George was among the cadre of retired fire officers and firefighters who toiled tirelessly searching for victims, including their own sons, at the World Trade Center site in an attempt to bring some comfort to the families of the lost until the very last day of the recovery effort. If you never worked with George, you'll recognize his photograph. He was at Ground Zero each and every day that the Department operated there. His reputation as an outstanding and battle proven firefighter and officer, a wonderful mentor, and a kind gentleman whose inner strength was an inspiration to all who knew him. Our condolences to all affected. Our thanks to AIH for these details.

#### **FUNERAL DETAILS:**

Wake: Monday 11/18 7pm-9pm, Tuesday 11/19 2pm-4pm 7pm-9pm

Higgins Funeral Home, 321 S Main St, New City, NY 10956

Funeral: Wednesday 11/20 10am, St. Anthony's Church , 36 West Nyack Road, Nanuet NY 10954  
RIP.

#### **MARYLAND FIRE MARSHAL (Ret) MEMORIAL DETAILS:**

A formal Memorial Service for the late James C. "Robbie" Robertson will take place on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, at the Independent Hose Company in Frederick, Maryland, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Independent Hose Co info: <http://ihc-1.org/>

Business attire, including fire department dress uniforms, is appropriate. HERE is an excellent piece you'll enjoy reading about Robbie from SuzieN: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/11233194/robbie-robertson-remembered-as-king-fire-service-storyteller>

#### **HISTORIC VIDEOS:**

As the holidays approach, we always try to pass on some classic videos that we think, no, we **KNOW** you'll enjoy. Yes-once again, we give, give, give. No need to thank us. We know you appreciate it with all your heart. Of course you do. It's only natural. We recently found a few of these phenomenal classics in the i-files...take a minute to check these out. Trust us.

**THE FIREMAN:** "Social Guidance" (WTF!?) 1954 Educational Video:

<http://youtu.be/hn22Mn8jzro>

**SIRENS IN THE NIGHT:** The classic Fire Based EMS video story from 1972:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45yF0z-6G0o&feature=youtu.be> **CHICAGO FIRE 2-1-2:** is a 1957 TV pilot filmed in Chicago, about an arsonist. The video shows classic and vintage CFD apparatus, the Fire Alarm Office, great original "fire" terminology and old Chicago scenes. Listen for this from the dispatcher using the "talker": "... A FIRE!... 713 Avery...." <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJpW2HrcrIA>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-16-13 / 1936 Hours

#### **AND:**

Hey,

In an tragic incident that has many unanswered questions, a U.S. Forest Service Firefighter was hit and killed by a car ...a car that was driven by and overloaded with other Firefighters. The incident happened in California just after 0100 hours on Saturday along Marysville Road about 20 miles north of Nevada City and appears, at this point, to be a non-line of duty event. According to the cops, December 22, 2013 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)



### **Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

another car that was heading east along Marysville Road, stopped after the driver saw a person lying in the westbound roadway. Seeing a 2002 Hyundai Accent driving right into where the person was lying, the other driver started flashing his high-beams. However, the Hyundai - reportedly driven by 26-year-old San Diego resident (and FF) Andrew Gruenberg - kept on going and ran over the pedestrian. Cops says that one of the 6 other passengers in the Hyundai - which is designed to only carry five passengers, including the driver - called 911 to report that they believe they had just run over an animal. The Hyundai then eventually stopped two miles down the road, where just two of its passengers got off and into another car to drive back to the scene of the accident. They soon found that emergency personnel were at the scene, tending to the pedestrian who was hit by the Hyundai. The pedestrian was identified as 32-year-old FF Michael P. Kelley II. He had suffered major blunt-force trauma to his head and torso and was pronounced dead at the scene. The CHP believes that alcohol played a factor in the incident, but no arrests have been made as of Sunday night.

NOTE: Gruenberg, Kelley and all six other passengers in the Hyundai are reported to all be Firefighters for the Hotshots crew of the U.S. Forest Service in Yuba County. The investigation into the incident is still ongoing. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-18-13/0216 Hrs

**AND:**

Hey,

We wanted to pass this on to TSL members from Janet Wilmoth at Fire Chief Magazine. Take a moment to check out the below-some great stories about some wonderful people: IT isn't easy to be the headline. As you probably have read by now, **FIRE CHIEF** is closing its doors, effective tomorrow. Our parent company, Penton, yesterday announced the closing of the 57-year old publication, its website, and supplementary products and events.

I first started with FIRE CHIEF in 1986 as associate editor working for original publisher Marvin Ginn and editor Bill Randleman. Over the years, **FIRE CHIEF** was bought by and sold to several different publishing companies, with different CEOs, publishers and editors. In the late eighties, **FIRE CHIEF** started Industrial Fire Chief. In my time here, FIRE CHIEF has introduced a number of firsts: the tabloid Fire/EMS Product News, the quarterly In Service supplement, and the annual Focus on Foam supplement. In the eighties, FIRE CHIEF included the annual posters of the exhibit hall for the International Association of Fire Chiefs conference. Subsequently, we included oversize posters for Weapons of Mass Destruction response, health and exercise posters, and the ever-popular seatbelt posters. We even introduced the concept of the red, seatbelt wrap, which Rosenbauer produced and distributed over 30,000 wraps. We introduced the Chief of the Year Awards in 1996, honoring Career Chief Steve Paulsell of Boone County, Mo., and Volunteer Chief John Buckman of German Township, Ind. The award was created to recognize the important role of fire chiefs across North America. Thanks to the support initially from E-ONE and later by Pierce Mfg., we have recognized 34 chiefs of the year.

**FIRE CHIEF** has always had a very specific target audience - fire chiefs and officers - and each of the editors have been fortunate to secure amazing contributors over the years. Twenty-three year Editor Bill Randleman tapped into the legends of the fire service: William Clark, Don Loeb and Charlie Rule to name a few.

He also is credited with talking Ron Coleman into writing his column, Chief's Clipboard, for the past thirty years. Another editor, Scott Baltic, took FIRE CHIEF to another level with writers like Chuck Burkell of the National Fire Academy, Colin Campbell on Washington updates, and correspondent Tim Elliott. Other editors, including Rick Markley, Glenn Bischoff and most recently Lisa Allegretti Williams have each contributed to **FIRE CHIEF's** expansion into the digital realm. **FIRE CHIEF** has been privileged to be a part of the fire industry for the past 57 years. Many factors that have contributed to the decision to close, including the publishing industry's steady transition to digital, the economy, and the decline in ad revenue that most publishers are facing. The **FIRE CHIEF** staff - past and present - is extremely proud of the impact the publication has had on the industry over the years. The fire and emergency services have changed dramatically over the 57 years, no role more so than that of the chief of a fire department. Thank you for your support, and God bless the American fire service.

## **END**

A few personal thoughts:

-Janet Wilmoth-she saw our fire world with a little more common sense than we did at times-and like a big sister, reminded us about right from wrong.

-Bill Randleman-the man who inspired me to grow "this" mustache.

-Scott Baltic-who was intrigued when I told him to "run" for a position of fire officer back in the day (70's), in many volunteer departments, you would best be seen hanging around the firehouse bar-otherwise the "senior members wouldn't trust you if you weren't a drinker...and you would not get their vote.

-Bill Clark-probably responsible for saving more firefighters lives thru his writing than he ever realized...or we ever realized.

-Charlie Rule-a real salty and colorful pro who also had no problem cutting thru bs to get things done on a local, regional and especially a national level.

-Don Loeb-taught us that the booster line was responsible for burning more buildings down than any other tactic.

-Ron Coleman-who I have no doubt will continue writing (and there is so much to write about him)....but lets just say this-few appreciate the true value and historic beauty of a MARS 8 Light more than he: <http://tinyurl.com/k5mw5oo>

(If you enjoy Ron's writings, be sure to join: <http://nationalfireheritagecenter.org>)

And I guess my favorite story related to **FIRE CHIEF** Magazine is: when I was a little kid, I filled out one of those cards in the back of the magazines to get fire catalogs etc. After requesting **EVERY** possible piece of fire literature, the card asked if I would like to continue to received **FIRE CHIEF** magazine? Well-since I took the card out of the magazine that was in the firehouse potty, sure, why **WOULDN'T** a 10 year old want to keep getting the magazine delivered right to my home. How cool was that. Until the bill came. There would be a bill?! Sam and MrsG were less than thrilled.

Anyway... We wish the entire crew at **FIRE CHIEF** the best in their future. And we offer a heartfelt **WTF?!** on this "raw business" decision by their owner, Penton, that came with a "two day" warning to the **FIRE CHIEF** crew, right at the start of the holiday season....incredible. Sure-that's the corporate way. We don't have to like it. We remain confident that the talents of the people discussed above will certainly land on their feet-and hopefully in our business-so we can all continue to gain.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-21-13 / 2001 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

The Wayne-Westland FD (MI) has ruled that the fire at the Magic Stick Pool Hall in Westland back in May that killed Firefighter Brian Woehlke was arson. The Michigan State Police are now investigating his death as a homicide. FF Woehlke was 29 years old. He left behind his wife Jennifer of 4 years, and his 13 month old daughter Ava. Brian was hired on July 17, 2012. FF Woehlke is the first Westland FF to die in the line of duty in the department's 47 year history. RIP

### **THE CAPTAIN IS HEADING HOME TOMORROW**

As you are well aware, on Friday, May 31, 2013, a fire was reported in a restaurant at the Southwest Inn hotel off Highway 59 in southwest Houston. members of HFD Station 68, including Captain Bill Dowling, Ann Sullivan, and Robert Garner was the second unit on the scene. Bill and his crew entered the burning building. The heavy tile roof collapsed. Captain Dowling was trapped under the burning debris while his crew members perished. He hit his mayday button and the rescue team entered the fire in search of their fellow firefighters. Captain Dowling was located, rescued and transported to Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Medical Center in Houston. The attending physician in the ambulance said that Captain Dowling, though severely injured, kept asking about the condition of his crew. He told the doctor, on the way to the hospital, to tell his wife and children that he would fight for them and that is what he continues to do. he suffered incredibly horrible injuries which included the required amputation of both legs due to burns.

**THE GOOD NEWS!** After months of rehab, the Captain is now being allowed to return to the comforts of his own home tomorrow, but he still has a long road of recovery ahead. Captain Bill Dowling will be released from Memorial Hermann Hospital tomorrow, Wednesday, November 27th at 2pm and be transported home by the newly dedicated Engine 68. Houston Fire Department units and personal will be staged throughout the route. Volunteer Fire Departments will also be staged along the route outside the city Limits. Tragically killed in the Line of Duty at the Southwest Inn fire were: Capt. Matthew Renaud, 35, who had been with the department for 11 ½ years; Engineer Operator Robert Bebee, 41, who joined the department almost 12 years ago; Firefighter Robert Garner, 29, who joined the department 2 ½ years ago; and Anne Sullivan, 24, a Probationary Firefighter who had graduated in April from the HFD Academy. 13 Firefighters in total were injured. Firefighters Anthony Livesay and Robert Yarbrough were seriously injured in the fire, but they fought against the pain and were released from the hospital to attend the memorial for their fallen comrades.

### **UPDATE: SFFD DUI CRASH - OFFICERS AND FF'S FACE DISCIPLINE**

Two members of San Francisco Fire Department's top brass and three lower-ranking Firefighters face possible suspensions stemming from an incident in which a firefighter suspected of being drunk struck a motorcyclist with a ladder truck and left the scene. Chief Joanne Hayes-White has notified Assistant Chiefs Art Kenney and Dave Franklin that they could be suspended for 10 days and eight days, respectively, for their actions the night of the crash, June 29, 2013. The Commanders were in charge of the crash scene shortly after Firefighter Michael Quinn, 43, struck and seriously injured motorcyclist Jack Frazier at Fifth and Howard streets. FF Quinn was responding to what turned out to be a false alarm when he entered the intersection on a red light and struck Frazier, who suffered broken ribs and a punctured lung when he was thrown into a fire hydrant. Quinn allegedly left the scene (while on duty) and did not return to the department's Station No. 1 down Howard Street for several hours. Surveillance video from a local bar shows him "guzzling water" there. When he finally returned to the station, he still blew the 0.13. It's not clear why the other members of the department face discipline, but all were at the scene of the crash. The chief wouldn't shed light but denied rumors of a cover-up. No criminal charges have been filed in the case. And the call Quinn and crew were responding to? False alarm.

THINK.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-26-13/2100 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

In January of 2005, then FDNY Rescue 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. Specifically 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 (Lt. Curtis Meyran, 46, covering officer and FF John Bellew, 37) and FF's Jeffrey Cool, Joseph DiBernardo, Eugene Stolarski, and Brendan Cawley were badly hurt in the Bronx fire. Joey continued to live in great pain every day of his life from all his injuries and eventually 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 City.

**As we remember Lt. Joey D on the anniversary of his passing, now is a good time to mark your 2014 schedules for the annual Joey D Firefighter Training Seminar 2014.**

**DETAILS HERE:** <http://www.joeydfoundation.org/>

**COURAGE AND VALOR:**

The Ray Downey Courage and Valor Award (presented by Fire Engineering at FDIC) commemorates the life and career achievements of FDNY Deputy Chief Ray Downey, who lost his life while commanding rescue operations at the WTC attacks of September 11, 2001. Deputy Chief Downey was chief of rescue operations and a 39 year veteran of the FDNY. He was the most highly decorated firefighter in the history of FDNY and commanded rescue operations at many difficult and complex disasters, including the Oklahoma City Bombing, the 1993 World Trade Center Bombing, and many natural disasters worldwide. For his lifetime of unparalleled service to firefighters and citizens alike, and in remembrance of the courage and valor exemplified many times throughout his life, it is fitting that the Courage and Valor Award present to one extraordinarily courageous American firefighter each year, bear the name Ray Downey, a truly extraordinary man. Keep the tradition alive- Nominate your candidate for the 2014 Ray Downey Courage and Valor Award.

**HERE is the form:**

[http://www.isfsi.org/uploads/FE-0283\\_CourageValor2014.pdf](http://www.isfsi.org/uploads/FE-0283_CourageValor2014.pdf)

**Holiday Season Video:**

**CLASSIC OLD APPARATUS:**

For those of you interested in old motorized fire apparatus, check this great video about a beautiful old Chicago Fire Patrol (not Chicago FD, but Chicago FP) rig:

TV Feature (1st story in this show): <http://www.carshowtelevision.com/>

Additional Video of the rig: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sZk6kP6pK4>

Additional Video of the rig: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sZk6kP6pK4>

The "belt drive" Siren on the rig: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sGposKwgKxs>

MORE: Chicago Fire Patrol Website: <http://www.chicagofirepatrol.com>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-25-13/0630 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

A Virginia State Trooper and two Bath County (VA) FF's were hospitalized last night when the trooper's cruiser hit the apparatus. 1 FF remains in serious condition-the Trooper and the other FF's were treated and released. The crash happened around 20130 last night on U.S. 220 in Warm Springs near Virginia 39. The Trooper was traveling north with his "emergency equipment activated" headed to assist the Bath County Sheriff's Office with a domestic call. As he crested a hill, the Trooper struck a Hot Springs VFD pumper pulling onto U.S. 220 from a side road. It wasn't immediately clear if the fire truck had its lights and siren on or was headed to a call. The driver of the apparatus, Robert Leon Burke, 74, was taken to Bath County Community Hospital and later transferred to Roanoke Memorial where he remains in serious condition this morning. The other FF in the rig was T & R. The police car was destroyed.

**ILLINOIS LADDER STRIKES BRIDGE OVERPASS**

What will be a lesson for any of us driving fire apparatus, an Illinois fire department had a serious mishap. Initial details HERE: <http://chicagoareafire.com/blog/tag/river-forest-fire-department/>

**REMEMBERING 10 FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS**

**=OHIO:**

38 years ago 3 Massillon (Ohio) Firefighters died in the Line of Duty (Nov. 30, 1975), operating at a fire at the La Cuisina Restaurant. On that day, a series of makeshift bombs exploded inside La Cuisina killing FF's Kenneth Arnold, Donald Roseman and Frank Urwin. The arsonists had left a paper trail out the back door after splashing the basement floor of the joint with jugs of gasoline. RIP.

**=KANSAS CITY, MO:**

Nov. 29, 1988, 6 Firefighters who were operating at a trailer fire on a construction site were killed in the Line of Duty when 25,000 pounds of ammonium nitrate and fuel exploded. Thomas Fry, Gerald Halloran, Luther Hurd, James Kilventon Jr., Robert D. McKarnin and Michael Oldham all lost their lives in the Line of Duty. At about 0400, 2 pumpers responded to a report of a truck on fire at 87th Street and about Hickman Mills Drive. Firefighters were aware that explosives were stored at the site, but had no idea of the breadth of that storage. At 0407 one trailer full of ammonium nitrate--the same substance that was used to bring down the federal building in Oklahoma City, exploded. This was followed by a second explosion about 40 minutes later. The two explosions killed the 6 Firefighters, completely demolishing the pumpers, and left huge craters in the land scape.

**"ON SCENE" VIDEO:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqbvPh5D90U>

**MORE MEDIA VIDEO RE: THE CONTROVERSY:**

<http://www.kansascity.com/2009/04/25/1162352/report-surfaces-in-1988-explosion.html>

<http://fox4kc.com/2012/09/27/attorneys-claim-new-evidence-in-deadly-1988-explosion/>

**=MASSACHUSETTS:**

On Nov. 29, 2003, Lancaster Firefighter Martin H. "Marty" McNamara was killed in the Line of Duty in the basement at SFD fire, leaving behind his wife, Claire, and two daughters. A week after his death, Claire gave birth to the couple's third daughter, who was named Marty in his honor. The fire was an electrical burn at 76 Mill Streer that was called in at 0330 hours. McNamara was in the basement when he got lost in the smoke and couldn't put his hand on the line that the rest of the crew used to walk out. Because McNamara was on call, his family wasn't permitted to collect death benefits from the state. Several years later, 2005, the state Legislature passed the "McNamara Bill" granting death benefits to on-call firefighters, on-call EMTs and part-time police officers. RIP.



**Final Word: Our condolences to the family and friends of DCFD Rescue 3 Fireman Mike Cohee on his sad and untimely passing. RIP.**

Take care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-30-13/1650 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

In Sao Paulo, Brazil, updates now report that 25 FFs were injured at that Latin America Memorial fire yesterday; four of them are in intensive care. Allegedly, they experienced a flashover when fighting the fire-take a look at the slideshow below-and in particular slides # 27, 30 and 34.

**SLIDE SHOW:** <http://g1.globo.com/sao-paulo/fotos/2013/11/fotos-incendio-no-memorial-da-america-latina.html>

**VIDEO:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSeyyztdM00>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jrb\\_ec9HkNY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jrb_ec9HkNY)

**==FIREFIGHTER SHOT AND KILLED (BY OFF DUTY COP) FOLLOWING HIS WEDDING**

An off duty Kansas City, Mo. Police Officer shot and killed an off duty Kansas City, Mo. Firefighter (possibly at or following his own wedding reception) early this morning in downtown Kansas City, according to the KCMOFD. About an hour ago, KCMO Battalion Chief James Garrett, confirmed Bruno was the victim in the deadly police shooting near the downtown Marriott. **Garrett said he believed Bruno was recently married and was at his wedding reception this weekend. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the Bruno family," said Chief Garrett. "Our heart goes out to the brand new wife and family."**

**ACCORDING TO COPS:**

A Kansas City, Mo. police officer shot and killed a man in his 20s early Sunday morning after the officer said the man became dangerous during a struggle. Police have not yet confirmed the suspect killed by the officer was Bruno. The police officer was off-duty at the time, but still in uniform, when he heard a dispatch call in which a cab driver reported being assaulted at about 0230 hours in the area of 12th and Wyandotte. When the officer arrived at the scene, he briefly chased the suspect and caught up with him to arrest him. The officer said the suspect began fighting with the officer in what police say was an 'assaultive' manner. According to police, the officer was seriously injured by the suspect. Fearing for his life, the officer shot his weapon, hitting him in the chest and killing the suspect. Bruno was a firefighter at Station 17. He was with Truck 2 on the B shift. He was a cadet with the academy class of Spring 2008 and a graduate of Rockhurst High School. He has at least one, and reportedly more, family members on the force. While not an on-duty incident, we felt it was worthy of sharing. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Each December, there are some very significant dates with tragic results for the fire service, worthy of note and well worth discussion with Firefighters-especially with the younger ones.

**==THE OUR LADY OF ANGELS FIRE anniversary is today.** That school fire in Chicago left 92 kids and 4 nuns dead-a day in 1958 where the heroics of Chicago FF's were well documented.

**OUR LADY OF ANGELS FIRE VIDEO:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YLhO25vBT5c>

**More HERE:** <http://www.olafire.com/FireSummary.asp>

**==ALSO IN CHICAGO: December 22, 2010, Chicago Firefighters Corey Ankum and Ed Stringer** were killed in the Line of Duty in a collapse-----actually on the 100th Anniversary of the Union Stock Yards fire that killed 21 Chicago Firefighters.

**VIDEO:**

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

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

**==BUFFALO, NEW YORK:** Every Firefighter should be very well familiar with the multi LODD loss in Buffalo (NY) when 5 BFD Ladder 5 Firefighters (and 2 civilians) were killed in a propane explosion on December 27, 1983. It was initially a response for an "odor gas" investigation. **HERE** is Chief Mike Lombardo's excellent account and related article:<http://tinyurl.com/7bbgfb>

**==BRACKENRIDGE, PA:** December 20th in 1991, 4 Hilltop Hose Company Firefighters were killed when they were trapped in a partial floor collapse in Brackenridge, PA. Ever read that report? Here it is along with photos:<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr-061.pdf>

**==REMEMBERING DECEMBER OF 1999.....**

In December of 1999, there were also 2 other very significant multiple Firefighter Line of Duty Death fires that we must remember.

The first is the Worcester Cold Storage fire that occurred on December 3, 1999. The second, discussed below, is the loss of 3 Firefighters in Keokuk, Iowa.

**==WORCESTER (MA) WAREHOUSE FIRE TAKES THE LIVES OF 6 FIREFIGHTERS (W6).**

We all remember wonderful but also (and sadly), tragic events that have occurred in our lives as well. On December 3rd of 1999, I was attending a community Christmas celebration in our town when beepers started to beep providing initial details about missing Firefighters in Worcester (MA)-and then more details-and then even more info and the final incredible details came out.

The Worcester Fire Department responded at 1813 hours that night to Box Alarm 1438 for a fire at 266 Franklin Street.(NOTE: 266 Franklin Street is now the the address and location of WFD's E-6, E-12, L-1, R-1 and Scuba-1 quarters)

2 members of Rescue 1, Firefighter Paul Brotherton and Firefighter Jerry Lucey, entered the building searching for occupants. Fire conditions worsened in the building at a rapid and unexpected rate. FF's Brotherton and Lucey, on the fifth floor, became disoriented in the smoke-filled building. Lost, and running low on air, they called for help. Several crews began searching for the lost Firefighters. Two crews reaching the fifth floor also found themselves disoriented in the smoke and trapped by the maze of interior walls: Lieutenant Tom Spencer and Firefighter Tim Jackson from Ladder 2, and Firefighter Jay Lyons and Firefighter Joe McGuirk from Engine 3 were now trapped. **Though many more highly heroic Worcester Firefighters attempted to locate their missing brothers, their efforts proved futile.**

**Be sure to read the link below, entitled "A Chiefs Perspective" about WFD District (Ret) Chief Mike McNamee, who made the beyond difficult decision to end search operations for the missing members-and saved more lives by doing so.**

The Line of Duty Deaths of Worcester Firefighters Paul A. Brotherton, Timothy P. Jackson, Jeremiah M. Lucey, James F. "Jay" Lyons III, Joseph T. McGuirk, and Lt. Thomas E. Spencer devastated Worcester, the Fire service, the nation and the world. Their Line of Duty deaths marked the worst loss of Firefighters' lives in more than 20 years in a building fire in America, and the third worst fire in

Massachusetts' history. R.I.P.

**==WORCESTER REPORTS & LINKS:**

**HERE** is the USFA report as well as the "must read" Esquire Magazine/Sean Flynn article:

[http://www.esquire.com/features/perfect-fire-0700?click=main\\_sr](http://www.esquire.com/features/perfect-fire-0700?click=main_sr)

(Esquire Magazine)

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr-134.pdf> (USFA Report on the fire)

**HERE** are links that we hope will be of value and interest to you and YOUR members:

Excellent Collection of Stories, Photos, Audio: <http://www.telegram.com/static/fire/>

A Chiefs perspective: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20091129/NEWS/911290432/1052>

X Marks The Spot: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20091130/NEWS/911300384/0/news06>

Photos: <http://www.pbase.com/tomcarmody/wor>

Photos: <http://www.capecodfd.com/PAGES%20Special/Worc1.htm>

WFD Sites: <http://www.iaff1009.org/index.cfm> <http://www.ci.worcester.ma.us/fire>

**==KEOKUK, IOWA-THE LOSS OF 3 FIREFIGHTERS-AND 3 CHILDREN IN A DUPLEX FIRE.**

At 0824 Hours on Wednesday, December 22, 1999, a fire was reported in a multifamily dwelling in Keokuk, Iowa. Several neighbors phoned the Keokuk 911 center to report smoke coming from a residence, and that a woman was outside screaming that there were children trapped inside.

Assistant Fire Chief Dave McNally, 48, Firefighter Jason Bitting, 29, and Firefighter Nate Tuck, 39 were killed while attempting the rescue of 3 trapped kids in that fire-who also perished. The 3 Firefighters left 8 kids of their own behind. The Firefighters died when a flashover occurred while the 3 were doing their search. The fire started in the kitchen of an old wooden two-story b/f home that had been converted into apartments. Staffing is a major issue in Keokuk, and that morning, 4 of the 5 total (+ the Chief) on duty firefighters arrived on scene with heavy smoke showing, and upon hearing the mother screaming that her children were trapped inside, they immediately and understandably went in after them. When "Mom" screams that her kids are inside-we go in. The 3 were inside, (the Asst Chief and 2 FF/pump operators) a Lt. was on the hydrant-couldn't see the building and one Firefighter was on side "A"... starting to pack up, to back the interior members up. The Chief made the terribly difficult decision to leave the scene for 3 minutes to personally transport a non-breathing rescued child--there were no other resources available... none. The hospital was a minute away. When he returned, the flashover had already occurred with only the Lt. and the one Firefighter left outside. A/C Dave McNally, FF Jason Bitting, and FF Nate Tuck perished in that duplex. R.I.P.

There are several excellent reports out on the Keokuk fire:

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

**HERE** is the NFPA report: <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/Keokuk.PDF>

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

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

The above information-and plenty from many other resources and websites as well-provides each of us with an opportunity to share:

- so younger Firefighters understand our history.
- so we all are reminded of the losses.
- so we learn from the lessons learned.
- and so we can honor all of the above members who gave their lives in the Line of Duty.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.  
The Secret List 12-1-13 / 1410 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

A volunteer Firefighter was transported to the hospital after falling from a parade float and receiving serious injuries last night. The Tiny Township FF was injured in the village of Wyevale, near Midland, Ontario (Canada) after the Firefighter fell from a float during the Santa Claus parade shortly after 2000 hours. The accident occurred while the parade was making its way along the roadway. The 33-year-old Firefighter was originally sent to Georgian Bay General Hospital after initially being treated at the scene by Simcoe County Paramedics, but he was later transported to a Toronto-area hospital with serious injuries. He is expected to recover, thankfully.

A **REMINDER** to "size up the risk" and think about FF's, civilians, kids, Santa on fire apparatus, floats etc this time of year.

**DECEMBER FIREFIGHTERS...(continued from todays earlier TSL)**

**West Webster..."It Could Have Been Any Firefighter ..at Any FD"**

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

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

**BUT NOW IT WAS WEST WEBSTER, NY....**it was a call, just about a year ago, for a car fire, the sort of routine job that all of us turn out for regularly. But this time-once again in our history-it was a trap. Christmas eve, 2012....there was a house and a car burning on arrival and they did what any Firefighter would do-go to work. What was initially **un-size-up-able** was a waiting psycho killer, who had positioned his cowardly self as a sniper on a berm above the unknowing Firefighters.

Before they could begin to hit the fire, the Firefighters were met by blasts of gunfire. Four were hit by the bullets, and two were murdered. **Radio traffic proves amazing heroism by surviving WW FF's (see below).** The 2 Firefighters killed in the Line of Duty were Michael J. Chiapperini, 43, a local Police Lieutenant, and Tomasz Kaczowka, 19, a 911 Dispatcher for Monroe County. The two wounded Firefighters, Theodore Scardino and Joseph Hofstetter fortunately survived (see below).

**WHEN** a Firefighter dies in the Line of Duty-the least any of us can do is to learn from what happened-and while this incident was as unpredictable as any-what Mike Chiapperini, and Tomasz Kaczowka did, along with the WWFD Officers and members, thru their sacrifice, is greatly heighten the awareness and education for Firefighters everywhere on the potential-and preparedness training related to "active shooter" incidents. As we approach the one year anniversary, we remember the friends and families of the late Mike Chiapperini, Tomasz Kaczowka, their family, friends and the officers and members of the West Webster FD. RIP.

**HERE** is the incredible radio traffic from that incident:

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

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

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-1-13/2030 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

A Johannesburg, South Africa Firefighter survived a six-story fall into an unused concrete elevator shaft while trying to rescue a homeless man this morning. Durban FF Malusi Mncube was rescued from the 59' hole with only a bruised hip, after he was saved by fellow FF's. He landed on burning debris but apparently was wearing an SCBA and full PPE. Incredibly, FF Mncube spent three hours inside the scorching shaft with the body of a homeless man he was trying to rescue. The man died of injuries from the fall and smoke inhalation. FF Mncube landed on a pile of burning garbage, narrowly missing two sharp metal poles. Pretty amazing as some reports are that it took FF's 3 hours to rescue him.

**THE NIGHTMARE CONTINUES IN ARIZONA**

The agency responsible for the 19 Arizona Firefighters who died in the Line of Duty placed the protection of structures and pastureland above the safety of the Firefighters during the June 30 incident. The 19 Firefighters who were killed when those 40-foot flames overtook them in a rocky canyon near Prescott in June were the victims of poor planning and bad communication, forced into a losing battle to protect structures and pasturelands that were "indefensible," a state safety commission concluded yesterday. The Arizona State Forestry Division, responsible for managing the Yarnell Hill fire, now faces a \$559,000 fine, one of the largest such fines ever levied in the state.

A report prepared by independent consultants to the Arizona OSHA found that members of the Granite Mountain hotshot team were called on to fight the fast-moving blaze outside the town of Yarnell with inadequate briefing, no good maps and radios that left them without good communication with incident commanders.

"We found no evidence that a risk assessment for the strategies and tactics were examined," said the report, prepared for the state by Wildland Fire Associates. Fire overseers "reported flame lengths of 40 feet with rates of speed up to 16 miles per hour occurred, yet no one seemed to recognize these signs as trigger points that should have led to a change in tactics and relocation of [the crew]," it found.

The agency failed to remove the crews downwind from the blaze when suppression was ineffective, placing hundreds of firefighters at risk for smoke inhalation, burns and death. The state Forestry Division oversaw the Yarnell Hill fire, which trapped the elite firefighter crew Granite Mountain Hotshots, of which 19 of its 20 members died. The tragedy was the deadliest single day any U.S. fire department suffered since the FDNY lost 343 firefighters on 9/11. The crew, which was employed by the city of Prescott, were stationed in a relatively safe position on a ridge, but they moved for unknown reasons and without notifying anyone down the mountainside. They later became trapped by a wall of flames when the winds shifted. The state Industrial Commission will vote whether to accept the recommendation or ask for more information. The 19 Fallen Prescott Firefighters are Eric Marsh,



Anthony Rose, Kevin Woyjeck, Chris MacKenzie, Scott Norris, Clayton Whitted, Travis Turbyfill, Jesse Steed, Robert Caldwell, Dustin Deford, Sean Misner, Scott Misner, Garret Zuppiger, Travis Carter, Wade Parker, Joe Thurston, John Percin, William Warneke and Grant McKee.

**DETROIT FF UPDATE.**

For those of you who have seen (or purchased) that excellent documentary about Detroit FF's entitled "BURN", you know this young man. For those who haven't---get to know him. Here is a great story and update from CNN: Check it out HERE:

[http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/04/health/human-factor-milewski/index.html?hpt=hp\\_bn13](http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/04/health/human-factor-milewski/index.html?hpt=hp_bn13)

HERE is info about BURN: <http://www.detroitfirefilm.org/>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12/5/13-0822 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Here is an update to what we had sent on The Secret List a few weeks ago. Needless to say, this NIOSH issue, but in particular, this US Army related testing issue, is extremely concerning. NIOSH contracts with the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) and by all accounts, the ball was dropped there-and interestingly, it appears this may have peaked during the Federal Government sequestration. Summary in plain English: Apparently, the ECBC discovered that all chemical agent testing performed per the NIOSH regulations has been incorrect since July 2012 and performed at a lower than required concentration. This not only prevent any certification to the already delayed 2013 edition of NFPA 1981 but affects products already in the marketplace.

**What is ECBC?**

(From their website) The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) is the nation's principal research and development resource for non-medical chemical and biological (CB) defense. As a critical national asset in the CB defense community, ECBC supports all phases of the acquisition life-cycle - from basic and applied research through technology development, engineering design, equipment evaluation, product support, sustainment, field operations and demilitarization - to address its customers' unique requirements. In more detail: in November 22, SCBA / respirators manufacturers received notification from NIOSH of CBRN testing errors conducted at ECBC. During a period from July 2012 through October 2013, utilized concentrations of Chemical Warfare Agents (CWA) that were **below those required under NIOSH testing procedures. As a result of these errors, NIOSH and ECBC have temporarily halted all CWA testing until test procedures can be validated.** As a result, all SCBA units and configurations tested from June 2012 to the present must be retested. This affects a small number of SCBA tested to the 2007 edition of NFPA 1981 and all units tested to date for compliance with the 2013 edition of NFPA 1981.

**NIOSH has posted a User Alert which can be viewed at:**

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/notices/notice11272013.html>.

NIOSH had previously identified a delay in testing and certifying SCBA to the 2013 edition of NFPA 1981, resulting in the NFPA Standards Council issuing Tentative Interim Amendment #13-1 (TIA), extending until February 28, 2014 the deadline for certification organizations and manufacturers to cease labeling SCBA as compliant to the 2007 edition of NFPA 1981.

NIOSH has developed an expedited retesting plan and estimates all required testing will be completed by April 1, 2014 and has requested the Respiratory Protection Equipment Technical Committee to

consider extending or removing the revised end date authorized in TIA 13-1. NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) is equally impacted as it recommends the same certification and testing compliance dates as NFPA 1981. The Electronic Safety Equipment Technical Committee and the Respiratory Protection Technical Committee are in close communication and developing a joint response to the NIOSH request.

**To stay up to date on any proposed changes**, contact YOUR national association, such as the IAFC, IAFF, NVFC etc and also visit the NFPA 1981: Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Page, [www.nfpa.org/1981](http://www.nfpa.org/1981), or the Document Information Page for NFPA 1982: Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) at [www.nfpa.org/1982](http://www.nfpa.org/1982). **and sign up to be alerted of any future actions.** If you have any further questions, contact your SCBA Manufacturer such as Sperian, Scott, MSA, Drager, Interspiro etc ASAP. HERE is a sample release, from MSA: <http://tinyurl.com/mrdok28> - We'll keep you advised via The Secret List and our home page as well. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-3-13/1700 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

For the younger readers of The Secret List, today, "Pearl Harbor Day" we remember the attack on Pearl Harbor, which was a surprise military strike conducted by the Imperial Japanese Navy against the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on the morning of December 7, 1941. 188 U.S. aircraft were destroyed, 2,402 personnel were killed and 1,282 were wounded in the Line of Duty. We remember them all from "The Greatest Generation" who served along with all those who continue to serve today including the Honolulu FD and Federal FD Firefighters.

**PURPLE HEARTS: REMEMBERING THE FIREFIGHTERS KILLED & INJURED IN THE LINE OF DUTY AT PEARL HARBOR:** As the Hickam Field firefighting apparatus was knocked out by the attack, Honolulu Fire companies responded to assist with the fires.

At 0826 a Japanese aerial bomb was dropped on crews from HFD Engine Co.1, 4, and 6. 3 Firefighters, Captain John Carreira, Captain Thomas S. Macy, and Hoseman Harry T.L. Pang were killed in the Line of Duty. An additional 6 Firefighters were wounded from shrapnel. They were Honolulu Fire Lieutenant Fred Kealoha, Hoseman Moses Kalilikane, Hoseman John A. Gilman, Hoseman Solomon H. Naauao, Hoseman Patrick J. McCabe, and Hoseman George Correa. In 1944 they all were awarded the Order of the Purple Heart. They are the only non-military personnel to have received this award. MORE on Pearl Harbor as we remember those lost on December 7, 1941:<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/pearlharbor/> - RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-7-13/0630 hrs

**AND:**

**FIRE CHIEF DIES FROM A MEDICAL EMERGENCY - LODD**

It is with deep regret that we pass on to you that Chief Charlie Pierson of the Southern Jackson County VFD (Ripley Jackson County, West Virginia) passed away this morning while responding on a run. Initial reports are that the Chief suffered a medical emergency. The incident occurred around 0630 this morning. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

### **CALIFORNIA CHIEF PASSES-JOB RELATED TUMOR**

A beloved Chief Officer, Mammoth Fire DC Bill Anderson passed away last night. Chief Anderson was with Mammoth Fire for almost 40 years, serving the last seven years as a full-time Division Chief. Chief Anderson was diagnosed with a brain tumor a few months ago but the operation to remove the tumor was only partially successful. He died peacefully and without pain, with his family around him. **Workman's Comp and the Doctors have determined that the tumor was job related.** Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

### **BIG GULP! FIRE APPARATUS SWALLOWED UP BY SINKHOLE**

A broken water main in California flooded several homes Friday and created a sinkhole that partially swallowed a fire apparatus. The East Bay Municipal Utilities District water main broke shortly before 1900 in the vicinity of Seven Hills Road sending rivers of water past front yards and into homes as neighbors scrambled to save their possessions. An Alameda County Fire Department engine dispatched to help dig trenches to channel the waters away became a casualty when the street beneath it collapsed, swallowing one wheel of the 40,000-pound vehicle in a 10-by-15-foot sinkhole that continued to foil salvage attempts late last night. Workers were able to shut off the water about 2140 hours. Heavy towing equipment has been summoned to the scene to regurgitate the rig. Burp.

### **CLASSIC FIRE VIDEOS:**

Here are some vintage fire videos you may enjoy:

#### **1957 Fire Conflagration:**

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

#### **1961 Fire Conflagration:**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fvk\\_jUjBXn4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fvk_jUjBXn4)

#### **And for you music lovers: Fireman's Belle:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jb-8U9tLotA>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-7-13/2044 Hours

### **AND:**

Hey,

In an article today by NY Times writer Michael Schmidt, the headline reads: **"In Mass Attacks, New Advice Lets Medics Rush In"**

**Well.....Not Exactly.**

His article (link below) states that instead of following long-established protocols that call for firefighters / EMS to take cover and stage until a threat is over, Federal officials and medical experts who have studied the Boston Marathon bombing and mass shootings like the one in Newtown, Conn., have concluded that

### **MANAGED**

aggressive emergency medical response could be critical in saving lives.

**That DOES NOT change the fact the fire and EMS personnel must still size up prior to taking action. The new guidelines also address the issue of all involved personnel being equipped with proper PPE: body armor. And being escorted by armed police officers Simply Rush In? Not Exactly.**

In response to their findings, the Obama administration has formally recommended that medical personnel be sent into "warm zones" before they are secured, when gunmen are still on the loose or bombs have not yet been disarmed.

"As we say: Risk a little to save a little, risk a lot to save a lot," said Chief Ernie Mitchell Jr., FEMA's US Fire Administrator, who released the new guidelines on mass casualty events for first responders in September.

The guidelines (link below) say that such events, which have led to more than 250 deaths in the past decade, are "a reality in modern American life" and that "these complex and demanding incidents may be well beyond the traditional training of the majority of firefighters and emergency medical technicians." They recommended that any of those first responders sent into "warm zones" focus on stopping victims' bleeding.

**NOTE: The guidelines also say that first responders should be equipped with body armor and be escorted by armed police.**

The new focus on moving faster to treat victims follows an earlier shift in thinking about how quickly the police should respond. After Columbine, law enforcement officials made it clear that they wanted the first officers on a scene to act immediately instead of waiting for specially trained officers with body armor and high-powered weapons.

The new FEMA guidelines have been embraced by state and local officials.

**But they have heightened concerns about the risks to first responders and about whether response times for victims would grow even longer if medics were wounded in a danger zone.**

**They have also raised the specter that terrorists may target the first responders as they have in Iraq. In recent years, the Qaeda affiliate there has in many instances detonated a car bomb and then, as medical personnel arrived, set off others.**

General President Harold Schaitberger, who leads the International Association of Fire Fighters in Washington, said his organization played a role in creating the new guidelines and strongly supported them

**if employed correctly.** The association represents 300,000 firefighters, paramedics and others. Trying to save victims in "warm zones," Mr. Schaitberger said, "is a different risk for firefighters, but not more of a risk than firefighters already take in responding into a burning structure."

Chief Mitchell, US Fire Administrator, said the gunmen and terrorists who mounted attacks in the United States over the past decade rarely made targets of first responders. But, he said: "We know that this possibility does exist, and part of the training of the fire and E.M.S. is to be **observant and aware** and to be on the look for suspicious activity and so forth."

**Take time to organizationally review the USFA guidelines (developed by active fire personnel from around the USA) and determine how they best apply to your organizational operating policies under the direction of your FD's leadership.**

HERE IS THE ENTIRE ARTICLE:

[http://mobile.nytimes.com/2013/12/08/us/in-mass-attacks-new-advice-lets-medics-rush-in.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20131208](http://mobile.nytimes.com/2013/12/08/us/in-mass-attacks-new-advice-lets-medics-rush-in.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20131208)

**DOWNLOAD THE USFA ACTIVE SHOOTER GUIDELINES:**

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/active\\_shooter\\_guide.pdf](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/active_shooter_guide.pdf)

### **Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

As on ANY run---size up the situation.  
Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.  
BillyG  
The Secret List 12-8-13/2015 Hours

#### **AND:**

Hey,  
The Texas State Fire Marshals Office has released their investigative report regarding the Line of Duty death of 46 year old Fire Captain Neal Wade of the Atascocita VFD. Here is a summary---the entire report is linked below. RIP.

On September 16, 2012, Captain Neal Wade Smith collapsed during training at a training facility located in Beaumont, Texas. The 20-hour, multiple-task training class, called Smoke Divers, was conducted over two days during the weekend of September 15 and 16, 2012. Smoke divers training is a physically and mentally demanding firefighter survival course, with an emphasis on becoming familiar with and mastering the use of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Captain Smith was nearing completion of the second day of the course when he collapsed during the final drill on the second floor of a six-floor training tower.

Captain Smith attended the two-day class, which consisted of various drills on firefighter survival techniques. Although it included some classroom instruction, the smoke divers training course mainly focused on practical exercises including SCBA air consumption drills, buddy breathing drills, entanglement exercises, self-rescue drills, wall breaching, "hot bottle" swaps, obstacle course drills, confined space entry and rescue, and a smokehouse maze simulating a collapsed structure. Students completed all training evolutions while wearing a full complement of personal protective equipment (PPE) and an SCBA.

On Sunday, September 16, 2012, at approximately 12:35 p.m., during a search and entanglement exercise, Captain Smith appeared disoriented when he exited the second floor of a six-floor training tower. Instructors noted that he left the room as expected, but then he reentered the room. Instructors gave commands and instructions to him to exit the room, but Captain Smith did not respond. Instructors called a "Mayday," and instructors removed Captain Smith from the structure and took him to the stand-by paramedic. The paramedic removed Captain Smith's PPE, assessed his condition, and determined him to be in cardiac arrest. The paramedic initiated cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and a transport ambulance was requested.

The paramedic on scene reported that Captain Smith had a tympanic temperature of 104 degrees, and cooling treatments were initiated. The transport ambulance arrived and medical personnel continued CPR, and they introduced intravenous (IV) fluid treatment and applied ice packs to Captain Smith's body to assist in cooling. Transporting ambulance paramedics reported a temperature of 107.9 that was lowered to 105.2 during transport. Temperature at the ER was recorded at 104.4. Treatment for hyperthermia continued with cold IV fluids, ice packs, fans, and a cooling blanket. Complications of heatstroke occurred on September 17, 2012, and at 1740 hours all resuscitative efforts were stopped.

**HERE is the entire report:** <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/reports/fire/documents/fmloddsmith.pdf>

#### **REMEMBERING WORCESTER FF JON DAVIES**

December: one of the fire services worst months. We now take time to remember



### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Worcester Firefighter Jon D. Davies Sr. who died in the Line of Duty at a three-decker fire 2 years ago. On Dec. 8, 2011, Firefighter Davies and his close friend and partner on Rescue Co.1, FF Brian Carroll, had gone back into the building to search for someone they had been told might still be trapped inside. The second floor collapsed beneath them. Firefighter Carroll was rescued after being buried under a pile of debris in the basement and seriously injured. Firefighter Davies, 43, a 17-year veteran of the WFD, did not make it out alive. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

The Secret List 12-9-13 / 2043 Hours

#### **AND:**

Hey,

A private for profit ambulance service that transported more than a half-million patients a year in six states abruptly shut down without explanation, leaving dozens of cities and towns scrambling for medical transportation options [Monday](#) without a word of warning...making public safety and community officials if this could happen in any area covered by private for profit EMS. First Med EMS (MedCorp, LIFE Ambulance, TransMed) served hospitals and other medical facilities in more than 70 municipalities in Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. It operated under the names TransMed, Life Ambulance and MedCorp.

First Med's website was inaccessible [yesterday](#), and calls to corporate offices either reached disconnected lines or weren't answered. Company workers said in Facebook posts and tweets that they were told the corporation had declared bankruptcy, but no bankruptcy documents were yet on file [Monday](#) in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

First Med was the largest EMS service in Ohio, where at least 1,500 paramedics and other medical workers were left jobless in Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Toledo, Cincinnati, Youngstown and numerous smaller towns. First Med also provided services in Richmond, Norfolk and Newport News in Virginia, as well as their home base in Wilmington, N.C.

Much of First Med's business was "non-emergent" transportation - and officials in some cities said there should be little impact on patient treatment. "The unfortunate thing was lack of notice," Larry Stephens, ambulance service director for Camden Clark Medical Center in Parkersburg, W.Va. said. "They closed up shop on [Friday](#), and people were scrambling to get to their appointments all weekend, plus early this week." Many of the company's approximately 2,300 employees learned about the shutdown from colleagues. When they tried to show up for work [Saturday](#), they found locked doors. "I found out on Facebook and from a co-worker that I no longer had a job," Stacey Carpenter, a First Med dispatcher in Wilmington, told NBC station WECT. "I am absolutely devastated. I don't know what I am going to do." Dispatch services in several cities reported that First Med called them [Friday](#) night and [Saturday](#) to stop all requests for emergency runs. Workers who were in the middle of their shifts were told to turn around and go home. "We didn't know what to do," Derek Griffin, an emergency medical technician in Hopewell, Va., told NBC station WWBT of Richmond. "They told us to turn our truck in, to turn our equipment in. That was it," he said. "It was done so shadily and so behind closed doors." Medical facilities said the shutdown took them by surprise, too, and at least one county - Bertie County, N.C. - declared a state of emergency at noon [Monday](#). The county board of commissioners said in a statement that it would pursue legal claims against First Med.

**HERE** are more details:

[http://usnews.nbcnews.com/\\_news/2013/12/09/21841229-major-ambulance-service-shuts-down-without-notice-in-six-states?lite](http://usnews.nbcnews.com/_news/2013/12/09/21841229-major-ambulance-service-shuts-down-without-notice-in-six-states?lite)

<http://www.chillicothe Gazette.com/article/20131209/NEWS01/312090014/Life-Ambulance-showed-no->

signs-collapse

**VOLUNTEER, CALL AND PART TIME FIREFIGHTERS & OBAMACARE:**

The International Association of Fire Chiefs has asked the Internal Revenue Service, which has partial oversight of the law, to clarify if current IRS treatment of volunteer firefighters as employees means their fire companies or towns must offer health insurance coverage or pay a penalty if they don't.

The IAFC along with the NVFC has been working on the issue with the IRS and White House for months. Below is a media link-we will "pass on" information on this as the IAFC and NVFC is able to advise. Call your member of Congress? Senator? Why wouldn't you. But reach out to the IAFC or NVFC for all the details.

**OBAMACARE DETAILS FROM THE IAFC:**

<http://www.iafc.org/aca>

**OBAMACARE DETAILS FROM THE NVFC:**

<http://www.nvfc.org/hot-topics/ppaca/obamacare-implementation>

**MEDIA ARTICLE HERE:**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2520979/Obamacare-mandates-set-shutter-THOUSANDS-volunteer-departments.html>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-10-13 / 1516 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Two action items related to the issue:

**NOTE: Please scroll down for a clear explanation of this issue from CFSI)**

**WATCH THIS TONIGHT:**

Check out Fox News tonight at 1900 hours (eastern), as NVFC Chairman, Chief Phil Stittleburg is being interviewed regarding volunteer Firefighters and the impacts of ObamaCare. Phil is a highly respected veteran Fire Chief and Attorney and is all over this issue. The interview will be during the program "On the Record with Greta von Susteren."

**DO THIS TOMORROW:**

As per the IAFC, Rep. Lou Barletta (R-PA) and Senators Mark Warner (D-VA) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) have worked together to introduce bipartisan legislation (H.R. 3685/S. 1798) to exempt fire departments from a requirement to offer health insurance to their volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel. The Protect Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act will amend the definition of "employee" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) to create a clear exemption for nominally compensated volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel.

The PPACA (P.L. 111-148) was passed in 2010 and contained many reforms to the American healthcare system. One of these reforms requires certain large employers to offer health insurance to their full-time employees. In September 2013, the IAFC sent a letter to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to express concern that the IRS' classification of volunteer firefighters as "employees" could potentially require certain fire departments to offer their volunteers health insurance under the PPACA. Upon introduction of the new legislation, IAFC President and Chairman of the Board Chief William Metcalf stated, "The IAFC strongly supports this legislation to clarify the status of volunteer firefighters under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This is a bipartisan issue that could have serious impacts on staffing at fire departments across the United States. The IAFC looks forward to working with Congress and the Administration to help ensure fire departments of all types are able

to continue saving lives and serving their communities." Time to get crack'n if this is an issue for you, your members or your department or company. H.R. 3685 has 31 cosponsors, and S. 1798 has 5 cosponsors. SO...Just Don't Sit There! Contact your members of Congress and ask them to cosponsor this legislation. IAFC has posted online draft letters to representatives and senators (Word doc) for you to use.

**ABOUT THE ISSUE:**

The Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI), the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), are currently working with members of Congress and the Administration to address the potential impact that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) could have on volunteer fire departments throughout the nation.

According to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) (P.L. 111-148), employers with more than 50 full-time employees (or their equivalents (FTE)) must provide health insurance to employees that work more than 30 hours per week. Unfortunately, the Internal Revenue Service has ruled that volunteer firefighters that receive nominal benefits from their fire departments (including stipends, end-of-the-year banquets and awards) count as "employees" of fire departments. An unintended consequence of this IRS ruling is that fire departments may have to provide health insurance to volunteers that serve more than 30 hours per week at their local fire department. The effect of this provision could cause serious financial hardship to fire departments. Many volunteer fire departments rely upon local donations and fundraisers to fund their basic operations. The addition of a requirement to provide health insurance would present a serious financial challenge to them.

Although the final regulations have not been codified, the aforementioned organizations are working with a bipartisan group of members of Congress to address this potential consequence of the PPACA. The NVFC, IAFC, and several members of Congress have sent letters to the IRS asking Acting-Commissioner Werfel to release regulations or guidance stating volunteers who receive nominal compensation will not be considered employees under PPACA. On December 10, 2013, Senator Mark Warner (VA) and Congressman Lou Barletta (PA-11) introduced the Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act (H.R. 3685 and S. 1798). The legislation ensures that volunteers are not counted as full-time employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in PPACA. CFSI, NVFC and IAFC will continue to provide updates to the fire service as these efforts are being addressed on Capitol Hill and within the Administration. Please visit these website sites ([www.cfsi.org](http://www.cfsi.org), [www.nvfc.org](http://www.nvfc.org), [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org)) for the latest information.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On

BillyG

The Secret List 12-11-13/1611 hrs

**AND:**

**VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-VEHICLE CRASH**

We regret to pass on to you that La Crosse (Mecklenburg County, VA) FF Joshua T. Smith, age 25, was involved in a fatal vehicle crash while responding in a POV to the Fire Station to board apparatus for a MVA dispatch. This crash occurred last evening, Saturday, 12-14-13. We will have additional details posted as they become available. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**OHIO FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-FALL OFF APPARATUS IN QUARTERS**

We regret to advise you that South Zanesville FF Terry R Guss Sr, died in the Line of Duty today at 1300 Hours. At approximately midnight, last Thursday night, after returning to quarters from a house fire. South Zanesville (Muskingum County) Firefighter "Dick" Guss slipped from the running board of an engine-in quarters. He landed on his back and struck his head on the apparatus bay floor. He was

transported, reportedly was alert and was in little pain. After CT scans it was determined he had some small bleeds. Sometime after he was transferred to ICU. The bleeds enlarged and emergency surgery was done to relieve the pressure on the brain-but unfortunately he was unable to survive the trauma. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**UPDATE: GEORGIA FIRE LT KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE**

**UPDATE:**

As previously reported, Waycross Fire Lt David "Jeff" Little died in the Line of Duty early this morning. Lt Little gave his life in the Line of Duty while working that structure fire - when there was a collapse. **NOTE:** Lt Little's fire service career began in April 1984 with Childersburg Fire & Rescue in Childersburg, Alabama, as a Fire-Medic and eventually promoted to Captain prior to his move to Georgia. More to follow. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12/15/13-1452 Hours

**AND:**

**MN FIRE CHIEF LODD FOLLOWING A RUN**

Rice Lake Fire Chief Matt Frantz, 42, died on 12-9 after an emergency response. Chief Frantz had responded to the firehouse for a mutual aid and later while at work as a UPS employee, Chief Frantz died of an apparent heart attack. The Chief joined the fire department in 2000, and named chief in 2009. Frantz served in the U.S. Army from 1991-1993 and in the Army National Guard until 1998. He is survived by his wife and two daughters. Visitation will be held tonight 4-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 at St. John's Catholic Church, Duluth. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at the same church. Our condolences to all affected.

DETAILS HERE: <http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/obituary/id/285971/>

**GUILTY PLEA IN FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH:**

**".....the Township did not provide proper training on how to drive the vehicle..."**

The Canadian Township of Nipissing has pleaded guilty to violating provincial labor law in the case of the death of a young Firefighter. It was two years ago, on Dec. 27, 2011, that 21-year-old FF Paul Nelson headed to the scene of a fire in a tanker truck. He never made it. He lost control of the tanker on the highway and was pronounced dead at scene. The Ministry of Labour was called in to investigate the death of the Nipissing Township Volunteer Fire Department employee and two charges under the Occupational Health and Safety Act were levied against the Township.

**THE CHARGES:**

Charges were laid under the Act for:

- failing to provide information, instruction and supervision to a worker to protect the health or safety of the worker and failing to take all precautions reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of a worker;
- and failing to ensure that a worker was adequately trained, experience and competent to safely drive a pumper truck in winter conditions.

This past Wednesday, Dec. 11 the Township pleaded guilty to failing to provide information, instruction and supervision to a worker to protect the health or safety of the worker. The second charge was withdrawn.

According to Ministry spokesperson Matt Blajer, the court sentenced to the Township to probation. "There is no fine. They were given two years probation and specific orders to the probation," he said.

**WHAT THE FD MUST DO:**

The probation order states that the fire department must establish and maintain a driver training and education program with the goal of preventing vehicular crashes, deaths and injuries to members, employees and the public;

**-the fire department shall provide all members with driver training and education commensurate with the duties and functions members are expected to perform in order to ensure that they are able to perform their assigned duties in a manner that does not pose a hazard to themselves, other members, or the general public;**

**-fire department members shall be provided with driver training and education appropriate for their duties and responsibilities before being permitted to operate fire department vehicles or apparatus;**

**-and they must maintain driver training records for members that indicate dates, subjects covered, satisfactory completion and any certificates achieved.**

On that day, the young FF was directed to drive the tanker to the fire in snowy, slushy road conditions however he didn't have the proper license, had no training driving a pumper or a tanker truck with air brakes. It was the fire department, or the Township, that did not provide proper training that was deemed to lead to Nelson's death. "Firefighters protect us and the Occupational Health and Safety Act is there to protect them, it is a dangerous job and that is understood but there are certain things that have to be followed or somebody gets killed....and that is what happened in this case."

HERE is more:

<http://m.northbaynippissing.com/news-story/4270077-township-pleads-guilty-in-firefighter-s-death/>

**FDNY FIREFIGHTERS RESPOND MUTUAL AID:**

26 FDNY Firefighters are in Alabama this week providing mutual aid....

<http://www.wkrg.com/story/24205442/nyc-firefighters-spread-holiday-cheer>

**VINTAGE FIRE VIDEOS:** "Getting There" Some very cool fire apparatus history clips from the Aurora Regional Fire Museum:

VIDEO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leANT696pbq>

VIDEO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNB6-7uGNuM>

VIDEO: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1KQjpv3R\\_rA&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PLDF7061264514E615](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1KQjpv3R_rA&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PLDF7061264514E615)

ABOUT The Museum: <http://www.auroraregionalfiremuseum.org/>

Take Care. be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-13-13/1635 Hours

**AND:**

**GEORGIA FIRE OFFICER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

Our sincere condolences to the Waycross FD and to the family of Lt Jeff Little of the Waycross FD. Lt Little lost his life while operating at a structural fire during the night. Additional details will follow.

**"DESPERATE" Radio Calls, Facts Revealed In AZ 19 LODD'S**

Records Release Forced By The Media.... Arizona media forced the issue-and now the facts are coming out. The documentation, released Friday, Dec 13, includes interviews with commanders, fire crews and pilots who said they often did not know who was in charge of battling the fire, could not



speak to one another via radio, did not know where the Granite Mountain crew was and did not hear warnings that the fire might blow up because of an approaching monsoon storm. They characterized the overall operation as "total non-stop chaos" and "Swiss cheese" because it was so full of holes. Helmet-cam videos (link below) also reveal the 19 Hotshot firefighters who were killed while responding to the Yarnell wildfire last summer made several desperate radio calls for help. An investigation revealed commanders made numerous mistakes, and several of the victims' families are filing lawsuits.

### **WHAT WENT WRONG?**

=Slurry tankers were bombing the wrong targets.

=Commanders did not have safety or tactical plans.

=Fire-line supervisors argued while some crews didn't have maps or know who was in charge.

=And nearly everyone was in the dark with radio problems.

Those scenes of confusion from the Yarnell Hill Fire are detailed in the records released Friday from the June 30 blaze that killed 19 firefighters near Yarnell.

The documents, from a review of the tragedy conducted for the Arizona State Forestry Division, now paint a more complete picture of chaos that escalated as 19 Granite Mountain Hotshots and 127 homes were overcome by flames. A spokeswoman for the State Forestry Division, which oversaw the firefighting effort, did not respond to a request to discuss the firefighter accounts. The interview notes present a chilling montage of fire-suppression efforts that failed and the tragedy that followed. A group interview with four Blue Ridge Hotshot crew members provides the first detailed account of the day they spent working near the Granite Mountain team.

**The U.S. Forest Service, which employs them, refused to allow them to be interviewed for the workplace-safety investigation.**

In one set of notes, members of the Air Attack crew - responsible for surveillance and assistance to air tankers - told investigators they did not realize they were in charge until minutes before the fatal burn-over, when another aircraft abruptly left the fire. The air-crew members said they weren't sure where to make fire-retardant drops as the blaze reversed directions and bore down on Yarnell with a 2-mile-long wall of flame. At that moment, according to the interview notes, they heard a distress call over the radio - apparently from the Granite Mountain Hotshots - and called a ground supervisor to ask, "Do we stop and go look for the crew?" The answer came back: "No, they're safe."

### **MEDIA RECORDS REQUEST**

The materials released Friday in response to an Arizona Republic News records request contain thousands of pages compiled by a Serious Accident Investigation team that was commissioned by state Forester Scott Hunt to investigate the fatal accident. The documents included text messages, photos and videos taken by hotshots. The documents also included communication dispatch logs and redacted interview notes with fire officials.

**The Forestry Division Serious Accident Investigation team apparently did not record interviews with the firefighters, and their records consist of summaries and notes. At times, several people are interviewed, and the notes do not make clear who made which statements. Forestry officials had previously refused repeated requests by The Republic and 12 News to release supplemental material from their report. Investigators, in their "official" report released in September, said that fire commanders and crews conducted themselves properly and were victims of a rogue inferno that defied expectations. Those investigators said they purposefully avoided determining a cause for the fatal accident or placing blame on individuals.**

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Last week, a workplace-safety investigation by the Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health led to a finding by the Industrial Commission of Arizona that Forestry Division had committed serious and willful workplace-safety violations by placing about 300 fire personnel in jeopardy during the blaze. The commission levied fines and penalties of \$559,000.

**RELATED LINKS**

**HERE** is the entire investigative article:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/arizona/articles/20131213yarnell-hill-fire-documents-breakdown-disaster.html>

**HERE** are Excerpts of The Radio Traffic:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/videos/hotshot-firefighters-made-desperate-radio-calls-for-help/>

**FLORIDA FATAL FIRE DEPARTMENT CRASH-FD NOT AT FAULT:**

A Lake County man died yesterday morning after he crossed in front of a Tavares Fire Department B/C buggy on State Road 19. The 66 year old man was killed in the crash, which happened at 0649 hours. The Battalion Chief was driving back to the firehouse after helping Lake County firefighters at an earlier incident. The Battalion Chief was not at fault.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

The Secret List 12-15-13/0900 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

The Washington State Patrol is investigating a serious mishap that occurred Oct. 25th at its fire training academy in North Bend. During a training drill , Firefighters **mistakenly pumped water mixed with jet fuel** onto the airplane crash simulator. The media obtained video (link below) that shows quite the fireball that erupted when the fuel hit the fire at the training site. "When the firefighters put water on a fire that had been deliberately developed for training the fire got bigger instead of smaller," said Bob Calkins of the State Patrol, which is investigating the incident. Investigators believe that the fire academy's oil/water separator - which recycles the water used for fire training exercises - did not correctly filter the jet fuel used for the exercise from the reclaimed water. So crews filled their tanks with water tainted with jet fuel -- a combustible combination. An expert hired by WSP is investigating whether the 1990's oil/water separator malfunctioned or whether fire academy employees did not operate it correctly. Two firefighters suffered minor burns. Luckily.

**HERE is more along with the video:** <http://www.kgw.com/news/235869551.html>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-14-13/1544 Hours

**AND:**

**VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-VEHICLE CRASH**

We regret to pass on to you that La Crosse (Mecklenburg County, VA) FF Joshua T. Smith, age 25, was involved in a fatal vehicle crash while responding in a POV to the Fire Station to board apparatus for a MVA dispatch. This crash occurred last evening, Saturday, 12-14-13. We will have additional details posted as they become available. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**OHIO FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-FALL OFF APPARATUS IN QUARTERS**

We regret to advise you that South Zanesville FF Terry R Guss Sr, died in the Line of Duty today at 1300 Hours. At approximately midnight, last Thursday night, after returning to quarters from a house

fire. South Zanesville (Muskingum County) Firefighter "Dick" Guss slipped from the running board of an engine-in quarters. He landed on his back and struck his head on the apparatus bay floor. He was transported, reportedly was alert and was in little pain. After CT scans it was determined he had some small bleeds. Sometime after he was transferred to ICU. The bleeds enlarged and emergency surgery was done to relieve the pressure on the brain-but unfortunately he was unable to survive the trauma. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**UPDATE: GEORGIA FIRE LT KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE  
UPDATE:**

As previously reported, Waycross Fire Lt David "Jeff" Little died in the Line of Duty early this morning. Lt Little gave his life in the Line of Duty while working that structure fire - when there was a collapse. **NOTE:** Lt Little's fire service career began in April 1984 with Childersburg Fire & Rescue in Childersburg, Alabama, as a Fire-Medic and eventually promoted to Captain prior to his move to Georgia. More to follow. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12/15/13-1452 Hours

**AND:**

**NORTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER (FORMER NY FF) LODD**

We regret to pass on to you that a Robeson County (NC) Volunteer Firefighter died Sunday reportedly from "a sudden illness." David Brody, 41, with Station 18, died at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, according to Lt. Richard Edge with Parkton Fire & Rescue. Initial reports are that FF Brody died after he had "answered a call and became ill later while at home." Edge said earlier Sunday that Brody died in the line of duty. Brody had been with the fire and rescue since October. "David served the Parkton community with heart and soul. He was dedicated to his brothers and sisters of the fire department," Edge said. "We are truly saddened by the loss of a firefighter (whom) we considered family." Brody served more than 15 years with Frontier Volunteer Fire Company in Niagara Falls, N.Y., Edge said. Additional details can be found at [www.Firenews.net](http://www.Firenews.net) Our condolences to all affected. RIP FF Brody.

**MEMORIAL DETAILS: WAYCROSS FD LT JEFF LITTLE**

**(It should also be noted that this fire, that took the life of Lt Little yesterday, has now been declared an arson and his death-is now a murder)**

Viewing: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 from 5pm to 9pm at Central Baptist Church, located at 201 Ava Street, Waycross, Georgia - Memorial Service: Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at 2 PM at Central Baptist Church, located at 201 Ava Street, Waycross, Georgia. RIP Lt Little.

While there are just 9 days left, here are a few cool choices you may wish to consider.

**HOWEVER**-before you do that-HERE is (yet **another** gift from us to you!) a video to get you in that holiday spirit--an ITALIAN CHRISTMAS TIME brought to you again this year-its a tradition!) by none other than our pal, NJ Firefighter Mike KC who seems to have a perfect view of his-and what may be most of our families this time of year!

**ENJOY THE BEST FIREFIGHTER CHRISTMAS TIME VIDEO:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzTBc-ARN5Y>

**AND FOR THOSE WHO DON'T UNDERSTAND ITALIAN, ENJOY THIS:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FWNcgcosMY>

**==PAUL COMBS': "Drawn By Fire" BOOKS:**

<http://artstudioseven.com/fire-ems-pages/Drawn-By-Fire.html>

**==BILL KILLEN'S: "Firefighting with Henry's Model T" Book - [nschsto@charter.net](mailto:nschsto@charter.net)**

**==DUCK THE HALLS Christmas Album (A 2013 Christmas MUST Have:)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMhEc3UGk9M>

**==AND if you are looking for some other great fire books, try this:**

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

(**AS ALWAYS**-we accept no advertising, payment or funding by any means, we just pass on stuff we like-plain and simple. Have a suggestion? Pass it on to us.)

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-16-13/1630 Hours

**AND:**

### **OHIO FIRE CHIEF DIES FROM A HEART ATTACK-LODD**

Jefferson (Ohio) Fire Chief John J. Wayman Sr. 69, with 43 years service, died in the Line of Duty from an apparent heart attack (12-15-13) within 24 hours of working with his fire department at the scene of a motor vehicle accident involving a truck and train at a railroad crossing. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

### **ARRESTS MADE IN GEORGIA LODD-MURDER CHARGES**

Two arrests have been made in the death of Waycross GA) Fire Lt. Jeff Little on Sunday. During the investigation the Waycross Police Department, State Fire Marshal's and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives received a tip from the Arson Hotline. The tip led officials to two suspects, Zachery Thompson, 17 and 23-year-old Ronnie Cranford who have been charged with murder and arson. Lt. Little, 50, lost his life in the Line of Duty while fighting a vacant home fire.

### **STRUCK & KILLED ON THE HIGHWAY-NY STATE TROOPER STRUCK**

While not a FIRE or EMS LODD, because of the potential, we respectfully share this with you. LAST NIGHT, NY State Police Trooper David W. Cuniff. succumbed to injuries sustained during a motor vehicle accident on the New York State Thruway. Shortly after 2000 hours on December 16, Trooper Cuniff was conducting a traffic stop when he was struck by a tractor trailer. The tractor trailer was traveling eastbound in the right lane and drove off the roadway for an unknown reason, striking the two vehicles at the traffic stop. Trooper Cuniff was in his patrol car at the time with emergency lights activated. The impact forced Trooper Cuniff's car off the right shoulder, partially ejecting him from the vehicle. Trooper Cuniff was airlifted to Albany Medical Center where he died Tuesday afternoon. He was a 9 year veteran of the New York State Police. **Trooper Cuniff is from Duanesburg, NY and is survived by his wife, Amy, and two sons, 6-year-old Caleb and 4-year-old Zachary. He was 35 years old. Our condolences to all affected as we remember Trooper Cuniff, his family and NYSP. WE ARE REMINDED - once again - of the extreme dangers while operating on roadways.**

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12/17/13-1700 Hours

**AND:**

**NORTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH-MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

We regret to we regret to advise you that FF Jon Schondelmayer died in the Line of Duty yesterday. Firefighter Schondelmayer was working with Swift Creek Fire Department as a Firefighter when he begin to feel ill. He communicated to his crew at approximately 1130 hrs that he was going to go home to get some medicine and return to the station. His crew became concerned when he left and called him on his cell phone to check to see how he was doing. At the same time, a Swift Creek Firefighter was sent to his residence. While on the telephone, Schondelmayer communicated that he did not feel well and needed assistance. When the other Swift Creek Firefighter arrived at the residence, he found Firefighter Schondelmayer unresponsive. Schondelmayer's Brother FF began rendering medical aid and contacted his fire company at Swift Creek for assistance. Emergency responders worked for 50 minutes to try to revive Firefighter Schondelmayer but he passed away from a nature and cause of injury still to be determined . Firefighter Schondelmayer was also a Fire Captain with the Cary Fire Department, North Carolina, and had just come off of a busy shift with Cary that included several emergency response runs before beginning duty that day with the Swift Creek Rural Fire Department. Captain Schondelmayer is survived by two teenage children (Zayne (4/97) / Alexis (2/01). Our sincere condolences to all those affected. RIP. The Swift Creek and Cary Fire Departments are jointly working on arrangements. **More details will be posted on [www.FireNews.net](http://www.FireNews.net)**

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12/19/13-2042 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

2nd only to the Charleston 9 Report, this report on the Line of Duty deaths of 2 Philadelphia Firefighters is the most comprehensive to date. As you will recall, Philly Fire Captain Robert Neary and Firefighter Daniel Sweeney died in the Line of Duty when the wall of the burning warehouse collapsed onto an adjoining furniture store where they were working. The report shows pictures, taken during the fire, that indicate there may have been a warning in advance of the collapse. The pictures show, early into the fire, a portion of the wall collapsed punching a hole in the furniture store roof. Yet the firefighters were not ordered out of the building. A total collapse of that same wall then proved deadly. We have also posted video and the radio traffic from this incident for you and your crew review below.

On April 9, 2012, a 60-year-old Lt Neary (Victim #1) and a 25-year old FF Sweeney assigned as "Tiller" (Victim #2), both assigned to Ladder 10, died when a wall collapsed during fire-fighting operations at a commercial structure fire. One engine company (Engine 2) was initially dispatched. Upon arrival, Engine 2 radioed that the fire was spreading throughout the structure. The vacant and abandoned warehouse covered more than half a block. This incident would eventually grow to 5 alarms. The fire would extend to an occupied furniture store. Ladder 10 (L10) was dispatched on the 2nd Alarm and assigned to deploy an elevated master stream. The fire originated in Building 1 on Side C and rapidly extended to the other structures within the vicinity. Building 2 located east of the building of origin and situated on Side A sustained the structural and wall collapse that resulted in the fire fighter fatalities and injuries. L10 set-up a ladder pipe operations on Side A of the fire building. The collapse occurred after the lieutenant and three fire fighters from Ladder 10 were sent inside the furniture store to operate a hand line to stop the fire extension. 2 members were trapped by the collapse and were injured. The Lieutenant and Firefighter were buried by the collapse and died as a result.

HERE is the entire report: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201213.html>



### **Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

HERE is the radio traffic: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VkU-aFGoLbw>

HERE is video from the fire:

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

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ6oIEbBkhU>

Lots to learn.

#### **FIREFIGHTER CLOSE CALL - BASEMENT FIRE VIDEO**

This video describes a close call at a basement fire in fall of 2012. The incident nearly trapped 4 members of their department as they narrowly escaped a collapse of the first floor into the basement. This video hopes to pass on lessons learned so that other firefighters are not faced with a similar situation. HERE is the video: <http://vimeo.com/82022763> - Lots more to learn.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-18-13/2151 Hours

#### **AND:**

Hey,

4 Firefighters from the City of Marshall (Saline County, Missouri) and a State Highway Patrol Trooper were hurt while working a crash scene this afternoon. Firefighters and Troopers were working to clear the rollover crash on eastbound Interstate 70 at mile marker 77 just after 1600 Hours when a westbound vehicle was going too fast for conditions, (icy roads) lost control, went through the median and guardrail, striking the Firefighters. 3 of the Firefighters suffered serious but non-life-threatening injuries and 1 suffered minor injuries. The State Trooper was able to jump out of the way and suffered only minor injuries by jumping down an embankment. Charges are expected to be filed against the driver. Another example of traffic literally coming from "anywhere" while operating on roadways.

**NOTE: FREE FIREFIGHTER & EMS TRAINING FOR HIGHWAY AND ROADWAY OPERATIONS:**

<http://learning.respondersafety.com/>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On,

BillyG

The Secret List 12-21-13/2139 Hours

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

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

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#### **Budget Related Items:**

Omaha (NE) Mayor Jean Stothert and Omaha's fire union president said Monday that the layoffs of 19 firefighters can be avoided — but each said it was the other's job to make that happen. The layoffs, effective Jan. 4, were formally announced Monday as Omaha Fire Department officials began hand-delivering pink slips. The 19 people set to lose their jobs are all probationary firefighters hired in February. Stothert said significant cuts are necessary to help balance the Fire Department budget. Late last week she offered the fire union a proposal: Cut next year's paramedic training program from 48 to 12 members and avoid layoffs through the end of 2014. On top of that, Stothert said she would promise not to lay off firefighters in 2015 if the department could stay within its \$90.6 million budget next year. Union President Steve LeClair said his group is willing to cut paramedic training in half, with one class of 12

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

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starting in January and another of 12 in December 2014. But LeClair said the union needs the city to make some assurances of its own. An agreement the union offered Monday includes a provision that would block the mayor from taking any rigs permanently out of service, with the exception of one medic unit based in South Omaha. In addition, the union wants the mayor to agree not to lay off any firefighters — including the new hires — for the life of the contract: <http://www.omaha.com/article/20131104/NEWS/131109416/1687>

San Bernardino (CA) Fire Chief George Avery said Tuesday he doesn't yet have any details of a plan due Nov. 25 that must cut \$4 million a year from the Fire Department's budget, but he is "considering elements" from a report the city manager gave him that calls for completely reconsidering how fire and emergency service is delivered. The 2010-11 Santa Clara County Grand Jury looked at the nine fire agencies in that northern California county and found that only 4 percent of the calls for service were to fires, with 70 percent being for medical service and the rest situations including rescues and hazardous materials. "Fire departments should rethink their response protocols — which are based on an historically fire-oriented model that does not match today's overwhelmingly medical-based demand for emergency services," the report says. "Given that approximately 70% of calls to fire departments are reporting medical emergencies rather than fire, and that only one of every three crew members (33%) is trained to respond to medical situations and conditions, there appears to be a mismatch between service needed and service provided." A paramedic typically makes significantly less than a firefighter or firefighter/paramedic, while a fire engine costs five times what an ambulance does, causing unnecessary wear and tear on expensive vehicles, according to the report. The report also suggests consolidating services from neighboring departments and reorganizing staffing so that seasons or times of day that are known to have a lower number of calls have fewer firefighters: <http://www.sbsun.com/government-and-politics/20131112/grand-jury-report-considered-as-part-of-plan-to-shave-4m-from-fire-department>

There was a dizzying array of charts and graphs. There were multiple statistical columns -- response times, dispatch times, time on tasks. There were five-year projections of revenues, expenditures and deficits. The 50-page PowerPoint "project briefing" that consulting firm Fitch & Associates dished up Tuesday for the Contra Costa (CA) Fire District board touched on nearly every aspect of the financially troubled district, with the notable exception of good news. Ever since property taxes plummeted and ConFire found itself spending more than it takes in, the district has sought solutions. A parcel tax was rejected by voters. Five stations were closed. The Fitch study was commissioned 10 months ago in hopes that outside experts might find a more affordable operating model. Senior consultant Jim Broman, a former fire chief, uttered the most telling words. "We are working with significant restraints," he said. "When we offer options, we are not saying this is what you need for your system. This is what you can afford today. I was fairly quickly aware of the fact that ConFire is under-resourced. Even before the station closings, you were under-resourced." So the problem is not just money, although that's problem enough. (The district is burning a hole in its \$23 million reserve fund.) A bigger problem is that it cannot operate effectively with any fewer firefighters without further eroding response time. What's really needed to fix the district's problems, Fuentes said, is a reliable funding stream that doesn't take a nose-dive when property values fall: [http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci\\_24655618/no-easy-fix-sight-confire-financial-woes](http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_24655618/no-easy-fix-sight-confire-financial-woes)

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**Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:**

The unidentified EMT captured on video restraining a bystander at a sick call is no longer employed by Mobile Medical Response (MMR) in Saginaw, Michigan. The EMT was placed on administrative leave pending an investigation shortly after the October 22 incident in the parking lot of a Family Dollar store. The man being restrained is a cashier with the store, Gregory Barnett, who said he had been trying to direct traffic around the incident when the confrontation occurred. So far, the EMT's version of the events has not been explained and the video did not show what lead up to Barnett being on the ground:

<http://statter911.com/2013/11/06/update-emt-who-restrained-bystander-in-saginaw-mi-no-longer-employed-by-ambulance-company/>

She's the Teflon probie. Despite failing a required FDNY running test five times, Wendy Tapia was allowed to graduate from the Fire Academy and become a firefighter. On Dec. 2, she is taking the test for an unprecedented sixth time. Tapia was one of only five women among 285 new firefighters who graduated from the FDNY's Randall's Island training academy on May 17. The class was hailed as the most diverse group of rookies ever, all of them EMTs or paramedics seeking promotion to firefighter. She joined a group of just 35 women among the 11,000 Bravest. But Tapia, 31, has yet to work a shift at her firehouse, Engine No. 316 in East Elmhurst, Queens, where she was assigned May 18. At the end of 18 weeks of probationary training, Tapia failed to run 1½ miles in 12 minutes without gear, as required by the academy. She blamed a foot injury. The FDNY let her graduate anyway — and gave her five more deadlines over the past six months to pass the running test. She failed all five times, insiders said: <http://nypost.com/2013/11/10/female-fdny-recruit-fails-running-test-five-times-but-graduates-anyway/>

The state has pulled the plug on the recent EMT-certification test scores of 25 people because of blatant cheating, The Post has learned. Rabbi Ezra Max, who runs a Brooklyn volunteer ambulance corps and a "Kosher Coaching" counseling business, was accused of snapping photos of the exam with his cellphone. He was photographed by a fellow test-taker who sent incriminating photos to the state Health Department, triggering an investigation. "It is highly possible that a cellphone was utilized to take pictures or otherwise record the examination booklet," Andrew Johnson, deputy director of the state's Bureau of Emergency Services, said in a letter to city EMS officials. The photos also show test-takers sitting elbow-to-elbow at tables at Universal Emergency Care Training in Brooklyn, the testing site. "Students were allowed to sit too close to one another and were looking at other students' answer sheets," Johnson wrote: [http://www.firehouse.com/news/11228998/ny-pulls-emt-scores-amid-cheating-caught-on-camera?utm\\_source=FH+Newsday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CPS131105005](http://www.firehouse.com/news/11228998/ny-pulls-emt-scores-amid-cheating-caught-on-camera?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS131105005)

Lax oversight by the Oakland (CA) Fire Department has hampered a critical component of the city's effort to prevent another devastating wildfire in the Oakland Hills, City Auditor Courtney Ruby said in a report released Tuesday. After the 1991 Hills fire that killed 25 people and destroyed more than 3,000 homes, Oakland ordered firefighters to conduct annual vegetation inspections of roughly 26,000 wildfire prone properties, but Ruby found that the Fire Department often doesn't take the inspections seriously and fails to make property owners abate fire risks. When the city has paid to abate fire hazards, it failed to recoup most of the costs -- more than \$122,000 over the past two years -- from property owners, the audit found. "We found a lackluster culture surrounding the performance of inspections," Ruby said. "This is important because our citizens' lives are at stake, and our history demonstrates that." [http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci\\_24550100/audit-criticizes-lackluster-oakland-fire-inspections](http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_24550100/audit-criticizes-lackluster-oakland-fire-inspections)

A Long Island (NY) fire district already under investigation for its spending practices has used taxpayer-funded equipment to work on private homes, photos obtained by the I-Team show. The pictures show Uniondale Fire District members mowing a lawn in front of a private

residence with taxpayer-owned equipment. On the street in front of the home, an equipment trailer marked "Uniondale Fire District" can be seen parked while the landscaping is being done. It was not immediately clear when the work took place. When asked about the photo at a public meeting, Peter Fishbein, an attorney for the fire district, said he could not comment. Several members of the fire district's Board of Commissioners acknowledged other kinds of misappropriation are under investigation too -- not only by criminal authorities, but also by the New York State Comptroller's Office. Last month, individual members of the Uniondale Fire District Board of Commissioners turned in their district credit cards and voted to strip Commissioner Noel Thomas, a former chief of the department, of his spending authority. According to documents obtained by the I-Team through a Freedom of Information request, Thomas charged at least six trips to fire conventions in just twelve months during 2011 and 2012. Thousands of dollars in hotel and travel expenses were spent on conferences in Atlanta, Orlando, Las Vegas, Baltimore, Las Vegas again, and upstate New York. Records also show Thomas used his district credit card for a cash advance at a Las Vegas casino, although he later paid the money back: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/investigations/uniondale-fire-department-spending-credit-cards-investigation-231491251.html>

The first female battalion chief of the Clark County (NV) Fire Department has filed a federal lawsuit against the county, alleging that she was fired because of her gender. Renee Dillingham was fired in 2011 in connection with the county's review of sick leave abuse within the Fire Department. However, an arbitrator in 2012 ruled that she was to be reinstated with full pay. Dillingham, who started her Fire Department career in 1987, contends in her lawsuit that male battalion chiefs were not fired and were disciplined instead with only counseling, coaching and reprimands for actions tied to sick leave and overtime scheduling. In her lawsuit, Dillingham is seeking economic damages of more than \$10,000, compensatory damages of more than \$10,000 and attorney fees. Dillingham is seeking the compensatory damages for suffering "humiliation, embarrassment and distress," according to the complaint. Dillingham was fired after emails gave the impression she put together a special roster for sick leave, according to Review-Journal archives. In Dillingham's case, she wrote a 2009 message to other battalion chiefs that said: "Please do not post the August roster with SICK. I have added the other roster for posting and the sick is for you to take home." Dillingham also appeared to arrange sick leave months in advance for Battalion Chief Gina Geldbach-Hall, who retired before the county started its review of the matter. "I will be taking off June 10, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 25 (all sick days if I can work it out)," Geldbach-Hall wrote. "... Again, thanks. It is so much nicer having a scheduler I can work with."

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/clark-countys-first-female-battalion-chief-files-discrimination-suit>

The Elbridge (NY) village board suspended Fire Chief Bill Champlin for breaking a rule that prohibits firefighters from going on an emergency call within eight hours of consuming alcohol, village and fire department documents say:

[http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2013/11/elbridge\\_fire\\_chief\\_suspended\\_going\\_on\\_emergency\\_call\\_after\\_drinking\\_alcohol.html](http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2013/11/elbridge_fire_chief_suspended_going_on_emergency_call_after_drinking_alcohol.html)

The firefighter son of the chief of the District Six Fire Department in Crawford County, Arkansas is accused of raping a female firefighter at the firehouse. The rape victim's father is also under arrest, charged with firing shots at the home where the suspect lived with his girlfriend: <http://statter911.com/2013/11/20/female-firefighter-raped-in-arkansas-firehouse-victims-dad-accused-of-shooting-at-suspect-who-is-fire-chiefs-son/>

While working on the story of a Volusia County (FL) dispatcher who was suspended for three days, WESH 2 reporter Claire Metz had a gun pulled on her Tuesday. Metz had gone to the home of Shauna Justice to get her side of the story. Justice was suspended because her

superiors said she was using her cellphone in September while her dispatch trainee took a call. As a result of that call, emergency responders ended up at the wrong address, and the victim suffered a heart attack and ultimately died. Justice was arrested after the incident involving the WESH 2 News crew at about 1:30 p.m. Tuesday. She was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and held on \$1,500 bond. Metz walked up to her door on Jungle Road without a camera or microphone to see if she would share her story, Metz said. Justice opened the door with a gun in her hand, pointing it at Metz's head, cursing at her and telling her to leave her property, according to Metz: <http://www.wesh.com/news/central-florida/volusia-county/woman-arrested-after-pointing-gun-at-wesh-2s-claire-metz-/12983450/22935912/-/243vcxz/-/index.html>

A woman who worked for more than a decade as a Limington (ME) firefighter is alleging that some of the town's male EMTs unnecessarily exposed the breasts and genitals of female patients in their care and made lewd comments. Andrea Thompson, who worked for the town fire department for more than 10 years, is suing the town after she said selectmen and fellow public safety officials retaliated against her for complaining about the treatment of patients and additional inappropriate comments directed toward her:

<http://www.sunjournal.com/news/maine/2013/11/21/lawsuit-alleges-limington-emt-exposed-female-patie/1455524>

When a Columbus (OH) firefighter found chicken that had been rotting in his hot car for a week in the summer of 2012, the rest of his unit got the message: Don't be a snitch. Those details have emerged as part of a growing fire-station sex scandal that has roiled the Columbus Division of Fire for months and sparked accusations by firefighters of a cover-up and attempts to intimidate witnesses. Fire administrators now are trying to determine whether there is a culture of sex, lies and fear that went unreported for years. A new investigation was launched this month after allegations that Battalion Chief Gerald C. Birkhimer had a relationship with a female firefighter under his command while they were on duty at Station 17 on the Hilltop, according to division documents obtained through a public-records request:

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/11/24/sex-probe-widens-at-station-17.html>

Two members of San Francisco Fire Department's top brass and three lower-ranking firefighters face possible suspensions stemming from an incident in which a firefighter suspected of being drunk struck a motorcyclist with a ladder truck and left the scene, The Chronicle has learned. Chief Joanne Hayes-White has notified two Assistant Chiefs that they could be suspended for 10 days and eight days, respectively, for their actions the night of the crash, June 29, sources familiar with the investigation said Monday. The commanders were in charge of the crash scene shortly after a firefighter struck and seriously injured a motorcyclist at Fifth and Howard streets. Firefighter Quinn was responding to what turned out to be a false alarm when he entered the intersection on a red light and struck Frazier, who suffered broken ribs and a punctured lung when he was thrown into a fire hydrant. Quinn allegedly left and did not return to the department's Station No. 1 down Howard Street for several hours. Sources have said that a surveillance camera filmed Quinn guzzling water at a bar at Fifth and Howard streets after the crash. Another high-ranking official who was at the crash scene, an acting Battalion Chief, faces a possible four-day suspension, according to the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity because personnel cases are not public record:

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/5-S-F-firefighters-await-suspensions-over-crash-5011944.php>

A dozen Cleveland (OH) firefighters could lose their jobs for taking part in a prank that involved urinating on a photo of the division's former chief, an official said. The firefighters in question are accused of placing photos of retired Chief Daryl McGinnis in urinals at two



Kamm's Corners bars during an August graduation party for newly-minted firefighters, said Division of Fire Spokesman Larry Gray. Four captains, two lieutenants and six firefighters received letters stating they will be subject to disciplinary hearings as a result of the incident. The firefighters face punishments ranging from suspension to demotion to termination, Gray said: [http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/11/12\\_cleveland\\_firefighters\\_coul.html](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/11/12_cleveland_firefighters_coul.html)

A civil court jury Monday returned a \$1.1-million verdict against the city of Los Angeles, finding in favor of a black firefighter who said he had been discriminated against during a nearly three-decade career because of his race. The verdict comes after 16 days of deliberations — and six years after another jury ruled against Jabari S. Jumaane, who alleged a pattern of racial bias, harassment and retaliation in the Los Angeles Fire Department when he worked as a fire inspector. That decision was overturned after an appeals court granted a new trial, agreeing that there had been jury misconduct in the original case. According to a 2012 report by the city's office of the independent assessor on Fire Department litigation, Jumaane's allegation of jury misconduct included a declaration by a juror who "claimed to have witnessed racially motivated misconduct by fellow jurors." The retrial jury's ruling is a blow to a department that has found itself accused of systematic discrimination — particularly against black firefighters — in the past: <http://www.latimes.com/local/la-me-lafd-discrimination-lawsuit-20131126,0,2726195.story#axzz2lrrTEJ00>

A North Carolina volunteer firefighter has been arrested after a camera was found inside the women's bunk room at the fire station. Currituck County deputies have charged Timothy Ladd, Jr. with secretly using a photographic device to gratify sexual desire. Deputies say the device was found November 20th at Lower Currituck Volunteer Fire Department in Grandy. Also discovered was video from a tanning booth inside the Radio Shack in Grandy: <http://statter911.com/2013/12/05/camera-found-in-womens-bunkroom-at-nc-firehouse-volunteer-charged/>

A North Bangor (PA) firefighter injured when an allegedly drunk colleague flipped a fire truck can move toward trial with his claim that the fire company's lax attitude toward drinking on duty led to the crash, a federal judge has ruled. U.S. District Judge Lawrence Stengel refused to dismiss a claim by firefighter Stuart Mintz that the North Bangor Fire Company, Chief Frederick Farleigh and President Christopher Louszko put Mintz at risk by allowing a drinking culture to flourish in the firehouse. Mintz suffered a serious shoulder injury in July 2010 when Assistant Fire Chief Zachary Romano, then 20, rolled a fire tanker while negotiating a turn on the way back to the firehouse from a parade: [http://www.firehouse.com/news/11258337/pa-fire-chief-sued-after-alleged-alcohol-related-fire-truck-wreck?utm\\_source=FH+Newsday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CPS131127002](http://www.firehouse.com/news/11258337/pa-fire-chief-sued-after-alleged-alcohol-related-fire-truck-wreck?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS131127002)

A teenage survivor of the Asiana Airlines crash at San Francisco International Airport was run over by not one but two Fire Department rigs after firefighters mistakenly concluded she was dead without checking her vital signs, according to findings of a federal investigation released Wednesday. The Fire Department had already admitted that one foam-spraying rig ran over 16-year-old Ye Meng Yuan of China as it took part in firefighting efforts after the July 6 crash. But documents released Wednesday show that a second rig also ran over Ye. That rig's spotter had seen the girl on the ground and directed the driver around her as she lay near the burning Boeing 777's left wing: <http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SFO-crash-survivor-was-run-over-by-two-fire-rigs-5055771.php>

Firefighter Joanne Levings has been taunted about her weight and bullied by superiors because she dared to complain about them, a federal lawsuit claims. She has been harassed

on the job for more than five years, according to a lawsuit filed this month against her employer and four supervisors. "I thought the harassment was going to stop," said Levings, who says she complained about the behavior to upper management on several occasions from 2008 through 2013. "But another battalion chief took over and it continued. And another took over and it continued. I would say it's like a good old boys' club." [http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2013-11-27/news/fl-bso-firefighter-lawsuit-20131127\\_1\\_broward-firefighter-lawsuit-southwest-ranches](http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2013-11-27/news/fl-bso-firefighter-lawsuit-20131127_1_broward-firefighter-lawsuit-southwest-ranches)

**A former West Palm Beach (FL) battalion chief/fire marshal is accused of collecting fees for needed inspections and depositing the funds in his bank account:**

[http://www.firehouse.com/news/11268358/former-west-palm-beach-fla-fire-chief-jailed-on-grand-theft-charges?utm\\_source=FH+Newsday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CPS131130003](http://www.firehouse.com/news/11268358/former-west-palm-beach-fla-fire-chief-jailed-on-grand-theft-charges?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS131130003)

FDNY probie's Facebook posts about training extends probationary period 5 years. Some think he should have been fired for repeat offense. New York Post reporter Susan Edelman, who discovered the trail of racial and hate filled tweets that derailed a few careers in FDNY EMS (including FDNY Commissioner Sal Cassano's son), has been focusing her reporting efforts on classes at the FDNY Academy. Edelman's recent reports were on a female probationary firefighter who was dubbed the "Teflon probie" because of the many chances she had been given to complete a running test. Today, Edelman tells us about the 35-year-old ex-rapper Trilain Smith, a probie who has been punished by Commissioner Cassano for his postings about FDNY. According to Edelman, the 35-year-old Smith had been previously warned about violating the department's social-media policy for postings of sexually suggestive pictures dressed in firefighter gear. Then the Facebook post seen above occurred which included the line, "These n- -as try to kill you start to finish!". Smith was not fired by Cassano but he was barred from the graduation ceremony for his class, lost 90-days pay and had his probationary period stretched from 18 months to five years:

<http://statter911.com/2013/12/08/fdny-probies-facebook-posts-about-training-extends-probationary-period-5-years-some-think-he-should-have-been-fired-for-repeat-offense/>

He's too hot for the FDNY — but they won't fire him. A black probationary firefighter graduated from the FDNY Academy but was barred from the ceremony for referring to his superiors with the N-word on Facebook and posting seminude selfies. Trilain Smith, a 35-year-old ex-rapper from Fort Greene, Brooklyn, ranted online last month, "These n---as try to kill you start to finish!" after listing the tests he had to pass to graduate. The remarks, a violation of the FDNY's social-media policy, came after Smith got a strict warning about his postings, which included sexually suggestive photos of himself in fire garb. On Aug. 1, three days after his training started on Randalls Island, Smith posted several selfies under the name "King Alex" — including one of him bare-chested in his FDNY helmet and bunker gear and another showing his nude torso over an FDNY patch. "S--t is REALLLL!! Body OD sore!" he wrote of the drills. "no real lunch break and mfkaz screaming at you all day long."

<http://nypost.com/2013/12/08/fdny-probie-punished-for-selfies-and-slurs/>

Three San Francisco (CA) Fire Department commanders who directed firefighting and rescue efforts after the crash of an Asiana Airlines jetliner at San Francisco International Airport in July had never taken a training course required of rank-and-file first responders at aircraft disasters, The Chronicle has learned. Unlike the firefighters they were supervising, two of the San Francisco Fire Department commanders were not required under Federal Aviation Administration rules to take the course because they were not stationed at the airport. The third, a captain who oversees firefighters at SFO, was scheduled to be trained but had been on the job for just one month. Although the federal rules don't require commanders to take any

special aircraft-disaster training, fire departments around the country have typically chosen airport supervisors from among firefighters who have taken a basic, weeklong course, experts say. In several other countries, all fire commanders must undergo both basic and advanced training. The S.F. Fire Department's reliance on commanders who had not undergone the basic air disaster training has come under scrutiny because of an incident during the Asiana crash response in which an airport fire rig ran over and killed a survivor who had been left on the ground near the burning fuselage:

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Rescue-leaders-at-SFO-crash-lacked-training-5045056.php>

Police say a suburban ambulance driver was three times over the legal limit for alcohol when he ran a red light, his emergency lights and sirens on, and crashed into a pickup truck in the Sheridan Park (IL) neighborhood on the North Side. John P. Lara, 31, has been charged with aggravated driving under the influence causing an accident resulting in bodily harm, disobeying red light, failing to reduce speed, negligent driving, and failing to carry or display a driver's license, according to authorities. He was ordered held on \$300,000 bail. Lara has arrests dating back to 2002 in Cook County for forgery, unlawful use of a weapon and impersonating a police officer. He also has a history of moving violations, and was stopped in Louisiana seven years ago on suspicion of drunk driving. He has been a licensed emergency medical technician in the state of Illinois since February of 2011. Around 10:45 a.m. Monday, Lara was traveling south on Clark Street in a Care 1 ambulance from Arlington Heights when he hit the pickup going west on Montrose, according to the police report. Responding officers approached the ambulance and found Lara still behind the wheel and the engine running, the report said: [http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-12-11/news/chi-paramedic-ambulance-dui-20131211\\_1\\_ambulance-driver-pickup-truck-lara](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-12-11/news/chi-paramedic-ambulance-dui-20131211_1_ambulance-driver-pickup-truck-lara)

It began before she even arrived at the firehouse. By 2003, Firefighter Tracy Lewis had been happily serving in another house in Brooklyn for almost three years, where as one of the handful of women in the FDNY, she never found herself treated differently. But after budget cuts shuttered her firehouse, Ms. Lewis was transferred to Engine Co. 257 in Canarsie, where she says that from the minute she walked in, something was obviously wrong. She'd start to ask a question of a fellow firefighter—procedures can vary slightly from house to house, and she wanted to follow protocol—and he'd walk away before she could finish. Ms. Lewis said it quickly became apparent that her peers weren't speaking to her, for reasons she didn't understand. Harassment soon followed, Ms. Lewis said, and continued for years. Her gear that she'd carefully stowed in its place was thrown onto a high ledge above the rest of the cubbies, and she had to get a ladder to retrieve it. (She said this happened after she'd been at the firehouse for at least a year, and it didn't happen to other new members of the house. When she complained, her colleagues claimed she'd forgotten to put the gear away.):

[http://thechiefleader.com/news/open\\_articles/firefighter-offers-a-cautionary-tale-about-women-s-treatment-in/article\\_d8db4814-6667-11e3-a046-0019bb30f31a.html](http://thechiefleader.com/news/open_articles/firefighter-offers-a-cautionary-tale-about-women-s-treatment-in/article_d8db4814-6667-11e3-a046-0019bb30f31a.html)

A Washington DC firefighter who recently graduated from cadet program arrested on felony theft charge. A little background on this story. The DC Fire & EMS Department high school cadet program was shut down during the administration of Chief Dennis Rubin. In his book DC Fire Chief Rubin said he took this very controversial action because of concerns about background checks and screening of candidates and a high number of criminal incidents associated with the program. The program was reinstated when Chief Kenneth Ellerbe took over the department. Sources say Clarence Jones, 19, worked only a handful of shifts at Engine 26 in Northeast Washington prior to being placed on leave after a run-in with the law. Police say Jones was arrested on Dec. 11 in Prince George's County on a felony theft charge. Authorities would not provide the circumstances surrounding his arrest, but

according to the charge, the alleged incident involved an item or items valued between \$1,000 and \$10,000: <http://statter911.com/2013/12/20/dc-firefighter-who-recently-graduated-from-cadet-program-arrested-on-felony-theft-charge/>

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**Training & Safety Related Items:**

Rethinking RECEO VS: Breaking Up with an Old Friend. By now, most of us have at least heard of the latest fire dynamic research coming out of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and Underwriters Laboratories (UL). They have confirmed what some overseas fire departments have shared: traditional fire suppression tactics in the United States may need revision. Thus, the debate has ensued on which approach to tactics is best and how to move forward. And its not just our tactical plans that may be in question, our professional standards, publications and instructional content are all based on a tactical approach where an “aggressive interior mindset” is the cornerstone of tactical operations:

<http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2013/11/rethinking-receo-vs-breaking-up-with-an-old-friend.html?cmpid=EnlFireEngWeeklyNovember62013>

Chicago (IL) firefighters failed to properly coordinate and communicate their strategy for extinguishing a blaze that killed a 32-year veteran of the department last year, a federal investigation found. The report marks the second time in as many years that the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has cited poor communications as a contributing factor in a Chicago firefighter's death. Though not as scathing as the findings from a December 2010 blaze that killed two firefighters, the latest NIOSH report indicates there are still questions about how the department communicates while battling fires. The report also describes the harrowing scene inside a burning Gage Park neighborhood two-flat on Nov. 2, 2012, where Capt. Herbert Johnson repeatedly ordered his men to safety after suffering severe burns to his hands, face and the inside of his mouth:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/ct-firefighter-death-mistakes-20131203,0,5702906.story>

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**General Fire Service Related Items:**

The female FDNY probie who was allowed to graduate from the Fire Academy without passing a required running test has quit. Wendy Tapia, 31, resigned Thursday after trying again — her sixth attempt — to run 1.5 miles in 12 minutes or less, officials said. “She didn’t make the 12-minute cutoff,” an FDNY spokesman said. “She’ll return back to EMS ranks.” Tapia was one of five women among 285 new firefighters who graduated from the FDNY’s Randall’s Island training academy on May 17. The class of EMTs and paramedics was hailed as one of the most diverse ever. She was assigned to Engine No. 316 in East Elmhurst, Queens, but never worked a shift. After recovering from a foot injury, she went on light duty and continued training for the run. She failed it five times, last on Halloween, clocking 12 minutes 23 seconds:

<http://nypost.com/2013/11/24/unfireable-female-fdny-firefighter-quits/>

Fire calls are down while medical calls are up. So cities are changing how they fund and manage their departments. Most of the time when a fire truck rumbles out of a Minneapolis (MN) fire station, it’s not going to a fire. Only 4 percent of the Minneapolis Fire Department’s 36,985 runs in 2012 involved running a water line to fight a fire in a house, commercial building, car, dumpster or a field. The rest of the time, firefighters were racing to a heart attack or some other medical emergency, a rescue, a hazardous condition or a false alarm. The sharp decline in fires nationally — they are down 50 percent over the last decade in Minneapolis alone — has been credited to everything from better building codes to fewer people smoking.

As the nature of firefighting jobs has changed, city officials across the country have begun looking at less costly alternatives to responding to medical and emergency calls. In Minneapolis, next year's proposed \$58.5 million budget for the city's Fire Department includes a \$250,000 pilot program for an emergency-equipped SUV to handle medical calls in some parts of the city. If adopted, it would alter the department's bedrock practice of sending a fire truck out on every call, which is why both Fire Chief John Fruetel and union president Mark Lakosky are wary of the proposal: <http://www.startribune.com/local/minneapolis/234018111.html>

Next Los Angeles (CA) fire chief's other challenge: race and sex discrimination. In addition to 911 dispatch problems, L.A.'s next fire chief will face a legacy of discrimination that has cost the city millions. Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's search for a new fire chief has been framed largely by well-publicized problems with the agency's 911 dispatch system and reports of delayed responses to life-and-death emergencies. But another deep-rooted, if less noticed, challenge awaits the next chief: the continuing, costly legacy of race and sex discrimination in a uniformed force that remains overwhelmingly male and predominantly white. Over the last year, payouts in bias-related lawsuits have climbed, the federal government has stepped up its response to employee discrimination complaints, and an internal City Hall battle has raged over voter-imposed reforms intended to combat misconduct in the ranks. Last week a Superior Court jury awarded \$1.1 million to a black firefighter, Jabari S. Jumaane, who said he endured three decades of discrimination. The verdict followed payouts totaling \$1.5 million in other bias cases for the budget year that ended in June. Some of those escaped public notice in part because the City Council approved deals barring the accusers from publicizing their settlements. One case quietly resolved earlier this year included a \$325,000 payment to the department's first black female firefighter, d'Lisa Davies. Davies alleged that she suffered firehouse discrimination over two decades: <http://www.latimes.com/local/la-me-fire-discrimination-20131202,0,1969584.story#axzz2mKTVP9N8>

The court-appointed monitor who oversees the FDNY's controversial minority-hiring program has burned through more than \$3 million in taxpayer money so far — and he's just getting started, the city's top lawyer says. Cohen, a former federal prosecutor and white-collar litigator, was appointed by Brooklyn federal Judge Nicholas Garaufis in 2011 to ensure the FDNY fairly recruits and hires minorities. Cardozo has said Attorney Mark Cohen, appointed in November 2011 to the 10-year gig, can be expected to bill a grand total of about \$20 million. The feds sued the city in 2007, accusing it of discriminating against minorities in its hiring of entry-level firefighters. In his latest bill, Cohen said the city needs to cough up a total of \$431,819, including charges for the preparation of his fifth periodic report for the court (\$80,526 at \$650 per hour), for a stay request due to the government furlough (\$7,730) and for paralegals (\$1,584 at \$165 per hour): <http://nypost.com/2013/12/16/fdny-monitor-burns-through-3m-in-taxpayer-money-lawyer/>

The Washington State Patrol is investigating a serious mishap that occurred at its fire training academy. During a training exercise, firefighters mistakenly pumped jet fuel instead of water onto a flaming mock-up of an airplane crash. KING 5 obtained video that shows an enormous fireball erupted when the fuel hit the flames at the training site. "When the firefighters put water on a fire that had been deliberately developed for training the fire got bigger instead of smaller," said Bob Calkins of the State Patrol, which is investigating the incident: <http://www.king5.com/news/local/Firefighters-mistakenly-pump-jet-fuel-on-fire-instead-of-water-235812481.html>



***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

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**Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:** [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)  
**Chabot College web site:** [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)  
**Chabot College Fire Technology on Twitter:** @ChabotFire

**The Fine Print:**

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