



FIRE & EMS NEWS

November 3, 2013

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

CHABOT FIRE TECHNOLOGY TWITTER ACCOUNT:

In an effort to keep those that are interested, more informed (and in more timely manner) about what is going on in the fire service, with the Chabot College Fire Technology Program, with firefighter employment opportunities, with firefighter volunteers opportunities, with firefighter training opportunities and with all things career development related, I have created a Twitter account you may find of value.

If you are interested in following the Chabot Fire Technology Program, just do a search for **@ChabotFire** and follow us. I have found Twitter to be a very valuable resource to stay up-to-date with a number of things, all of which I choose to follow. In today's fast paced world, it is one of the best ways to stay informed.

CHABOT COLLEGE 2013 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE:

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

Spring 2014 Semester:

Registration for the Spring 2014 semester at Chabot College will open up as follows:

- Veterans, Foster Youth, EOPS, DSPS, CalWORKs students: November 12th
- Athletes, Aspire students: November 15th
- CONTINUING students (by priority): November 18th
- NEW students, RETURNING (former) students: December 19th
- CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT (high school 10th, 11th, 12th): January 13th

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

CLASSES AVAILABLE - SPRING SEMESTER 2014

COURSE	DAY
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization) Note: This section (Monday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 20 lecture hours conducted over the internet.	Monday (am)
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)
FT 51 (Fire Service Operations)	Thursday (am)
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival)	Wednesday (am)
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival) Note: This section (Wednesday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 24 lecture hours conducted over the internet.	Wednesday (pm)
FT 53 (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (pm)
FT 55 (Fire Protection Equipment & Systems)	Thursday (pm)
FT 56 (Building Construction for Fire Protection)	Wednesday (pm)
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - March 5, 7 and 9 (Wed/Fri/Sun) - April 8, 10 and 12 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) or Mon & Wed (pm) Sunday (all day)
FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 91A (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - April 29 through May 18	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - April 22, 24, 26 and 27	Tue (pm) Thurs (pm) Sat/Sun (all day)
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - April 8, 10, 12 and 13	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91D (Firefighter Survival) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - March 30, April 1, 3 and 5	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 95 (Work Experience) **Must also be registered in FT 96**	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95**	Wednesday (pm)
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)
Health 81 (EMT) **Must also be registered in Health 83**	Wednesday (all day)
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) **Must also be registered in Health 81**	Saturday (one day only - March 22)
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - April 28 through May 10	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FFT1 (Intermediate Fire Fitness Training)	Mon & Wed (mid)
FFT1 (Intermediate Fire Fitness Training)	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

My suggestion is to register as soon as you are eligible to. Classes fill up quickly, and with more people wanting to become firefighters, I don't see our numbers of students decreasing, only increasing. Also, if you are registered in the Chabot College system, you are eligible to take classes at Las Positas College in Livermore as well. Just because one class is full (or does not fit your schedule) at Chabot doesn't mean it isn't being offered at Las Positas. When you register for classes on the Chabot College website, you can see both schedules – Chabot and Las Positas.

2013 FRESNO SYMPOSIUM – TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

The annual California Fire Training Officers Fresno Symposium is now open for registration! This year's Fresno Symposium will occur the week of November 18 through 22, 2013. There are numerous classes to attend, from one day to one week in length. Many classes will be State certified through the State Fire Marshal's Office. From entry-level Firefighter to Fire Chief, there should be something for everyone to benefit from!

For more information, go to:

<http://www.cvent.com/events/annual-training-officers-symposium/event-summary-70f4e5a0f62b43d69ca3ab82b5275777.aspx>

FUTURE FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY:

For 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 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 - I look forward to seeing you there!

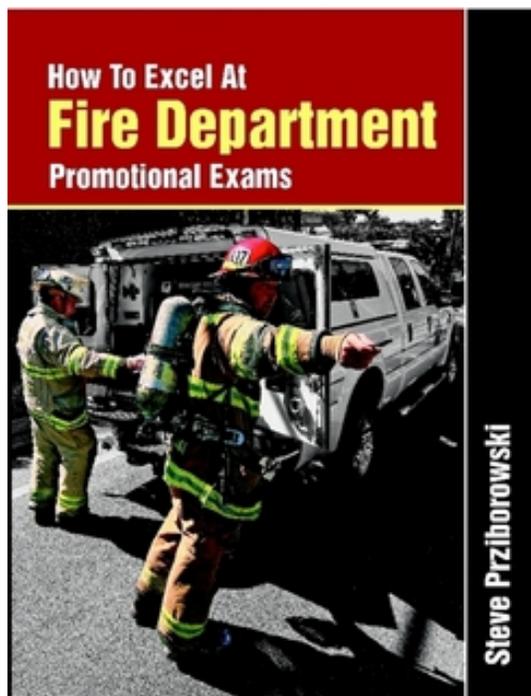
Steve Prziborowski

FIREFIGHTER PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION BOOK:

I have finally published my 278 page promotional preparation book for anyone planning on promoting to Engineer, Company Officer or Chief Officer.

It is titled "**How To Excel At Fire Department Promotional Exams**," and can be ordered off of my website at www.code3firetraining.com

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



FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The 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:

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. 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

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.

FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION BOOKS COMING SOON!:

I am very excited to say I am in the process of publishing a couple of different firefighter career preparation books that will be available in paperback format and electronic / digital download format.

The two books that should be available before the end of the year include:

- Reach for the Firefighter Badge – How to Master the Fire Department Testing Process; and
- The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide

As soon as I have more information, I will put it in future newsletters and post it on our website – www.chabotfire.com

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The Santa Clara County Fire Department is accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter!**

See the next six pages for the two job announcements for EMT & Paramedic positions:



FIRE DEPARTMENT SANTA CLARA COUNTY



14700 Winchester Boulevard
Los Gatos, CA 95032
(408) 378-4010

PLEASE POST UNTIL November 27, 2013

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN AND COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FIREFIGHTER/ENGINEER

TESTING DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 27, 2013 @ 1700 HOURS

Firefighter/Engineer Monthly Base Salary: \$7,771.01 to \$9,445.72

THE POSITION

The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) is recruiting for the position of Firefighter/Engineer (FF/E). Please read the following announcement carefully. Failure to follow these instructions may eliminate potential candidates from continuing in the recruitment/selection process.

All successful applicants hired through this process will initially participate as FF/E Trainees during the 14-week Fire Academy. The FF/E Trainees will receive a flat rate of \$4,500.00 per month without any benefits. At the conclusion of the Fire Academy, successful Trainees will become probationary Firefighter/Engineers. Please review the Firefighter/Engineer Trainee information document and SCCFD information found on our web site at www.sccfd.org under employment opportunities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Firefighter/Engineer: By November 27, 2013, applicant must be at least 21 years of age and has not reached 35 years of age. Applicants 35 years of age and older **MUST** have a minimum of 5 years of full time firefighting experience within the last 10 years prior to the testing deadline of November 27, 2013. Applicants must have completed education equivalent to the 12th grade; visual acuity of not less than 20/40 uncorrected vision in each eye, with only mild red/green color defects being acceptable; be in good physical condition; weight in proportion to height; and in possession of a valid California driver's license. A current CPAT card is required at the time of the Oral Board interview and upon commencement of the Fire Academy. The Oral Board date is tentatively scheduled for two (2) weeks beginning January 6, 2014.

Applicant must hold a current EMT-1 certificate with the ability to certify within the County of Santa Clara at time of appointment.

Highly desirable qualifications:

- Firefighter I Academy Certification from an "Accredited Regional Training Program," as approved by the California Office of State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training, **or**
- Firefighter I Certification from the California Office of State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training, **or**
- Proof of current enrollment in a Firefighter I Academy approved by the California Office of State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training as an "Accredited Regional Training Program," with a scheduled graduation date no later than May 25, 2014. Proof of current enrollment would include a signed letter from the Fire Technology Coordinator or the Fire Academy Coordinator of the Academy.



Physical Fitness Standards: The applicant should be in good physical condition; weight in proportion to height. The Department reserves the right to conduct a pre-qualification physical fitness test prior to selection of final applicant being selected to go through the recruitment process. Per Policy 3-22, the applicant may receive a fitness test within the first week of the academy. The testing will include, but not be limited to:

- Pack test - using a 45 pound pack, walk/run 3 miles in 45 minutes
- Pull-ups - 3
- Push-ups - 20 in 30 seconds
- Curl ups/crunches - 30 in 60 seconds

Tattoo Guidelines: Eligible applicants must not have any tattoos visible while wearing the SCCFD exercise uniform (i.e. exercise uniform is a SCCFD t-shirt and exercise shorts). Tattoos containing profane and/or inappropriate messages and/or images are strictly prohibited.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

SCCFD offers testing services for the position of Firefighter/ Engineer through National Testing Network, Inc. (NTN). The application and how to schedule a test is located on NTN's website, www.nationaltestingnetwork.com, select Fire and sign up for the Santa Clara County Fire Department recruitment. Applicant MUST completely fill out the application and the Personal History Questionnaire (PHQ) in order to be considered. An incomplete application and questionnaire will result in immediate disqualification. Several testing dates will be offered, but the applicant must complete the testing by November 27, 2013 at 1700 hours.

The www.nationaltestingnetwork.com website provides the following:

- Application process, including the PHQ.
- Information related to the Santa Clara County Fire Department Firefighter/Engineer position, including minimum requirements, salary and benefits.
- Detailed information about the testing process for the entry-level test.
- Opportunity to take online practice tests at www.fireteamtest.com.
- Schedule your own convenient test date and time. Tests are offered multiple times a week, including Saturdays at various testing locations.
- Take high quality job simulation tests in a standardized, fair testing environment.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants who pass the written examination with a score of 70% or higher in each category will be eligible to participate in the random selection process for the Oral Board interviews. **Those selected must have a current CPAT at time of the oral board interviews.**

The Oral Board interviews have been tentatively scheduled for two (2) weeks beginning the week of January 6, 2014. **Selected applicants must bring their driver's license and current CPAT card to their scheduled oral board interview. Failure to provide the original of these documents at the time of the Oral Board interview will be basis for disqualification.** (Additional information regarding the CPAT physical ability test, practice dates, and test dates can be viewed at www.cffjac.org or by calling (877) 648-2728. In addition to the requirement of having a current CPAT for the Oral Board interview, the applicant must have a current CPAT upon commencement of the Fire Academy.

Veterans may be eligible for preference points. In order to be eligible, the applicant must provide a copy of their military discharge form (Form DD214).



ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN AND COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION
FIREFIGHTER/ENGINEER

Based on the eligibility list, those candidates invited to continue in the process may be required to successfully complete a Polygraph test. In addition, candidates may be required to complete a Department physical agility test.

Extensive pre-employment background includes Livescan (fingerprinting), psychological and medical examinations will be required for those applicants who are offered a conditional offer of employment. Candidate must have a California driver's license as part of conditional offer.

Date to be determined for the fourteen (14) week Fire Academy.

For additional information regarding the position of Firefighter/Engineer, or the application and selection process outlined herein, please visit our website at www.sccfd.org.

The information contained within this announcement may be modified or revoked without notice and does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract.

The Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



FIRE DEPARTMENT SANTA CLARA COUNTY

14700 Winchester Boulevard
Los Gatos, CA 95032
(408) 378-4010



PLEASE POST UNTIL December 11, 2013

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN AND COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FIREFIGHTER/ENGINEER assigned to Paramedic Duty*

TESTING DEADLINE: DECEMBER 11, 2013 @ 1700 HOURS

Firefighter/Engineer Base Salary: \$7,771.01 to \$9,445.72

Paramedic differential is 7.5% for the first year of assignment; 10% after the first year of assignment with a 5 year commitment

THE POSITION

The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) is recruiting for the position of Firefighter/Engineer (FF/E) assigned to paramedic duty. Please read the following announcement carefully. Failure to follow these instructions may eliminate applicants from continuing in the recruitment/selection process.

All successful applicants hired through this process will initially participate as FF/E Trainees during the 14-week Fire Academy. The FF/E Trainees will receive a flat rate of \$4,500.00 per month without any benefits. At the conclusion of the Fire Academy, successful Trainees will become probationary FF/E's assigned to paramedic duty. Please review the Firefighter/Engineer Trainee information document and SCCFD information found on our web site at www.sccfd.org under employment opportunities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Firefighter/Engineer assigned to paramedic duty: By December 11, 2013, applicant must be at least 21 years of age and has not reached 35 years of age. Applicants 35 years of age and older **MUST** have a minimum of 5 years of full time firefighting experience within the last 10 years prior to the testing deadline of December 11, 2013. Applicants must have completed education equivalent to the 12th grade; visual acuity of not less than 20/40 uncorrected vision in each eye, with only mild red/green color defects being acceptable; be in good physical condition; weight in proportion to height; and in possession of a valid California driver's license. A current CPAT card is required at the time of the Oral Board interview and upon commencement of the Fire Academy. The Oral Board date is tentatively scheduled for two (2) weeks beginning January 6, 2014.

The applicant must possess a valid State of California EMT Paramedic license with one (1) year of documented full time clinical experience by December 11, 2013, and the ability to accredit within the County of Santa Clara at time of appointment.

Highly desirable qualifications:

- Firefighter I Academy Certification from an "Accredited Regional Training Program," as approved by the California Office of State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training, **or**
- Firefighter I Certification from the California Office of State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training; **or**
- Proof of current enrollment in a Firefighter I Academy approved by the California Office of State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training as an "Accredited Regional Training Program," with a scheduled graduation date no later than May 25, 2014. Proof of current enrollment would include a signed letter from the Fire Technology Coordinator or the



Fire Academy Coordinator of the Academy.

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

Physical Fitness Standards: The applicant should be in good physical condition; weight in proportion to height. The Department reserves the right to conduct a pre-qualification physical fitness test prior to selection of final applicant being selected to go through the recruitment process. Per Policy 3-22, the applicant may receive a fitness test within the first week of the academy. The testing will include, but not be limited to:

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The Oral Board interviews have been tentatively scheduled for two (2) weeks beginning the week of January 6, 2014. **Selected applicants must bring their driver's license, Paramedic License and current CPAT card to their scheduled oral board interview. Failure to provide the original documents at the time of the Oral Board interview will be basis for disqualification.** (Additional information regarding the CPAT physical ability test, practice dates, and test dates can be viewed at www.cffjac.org or by calling (877) 648-2728. In addition to the requirement of having a current CPAT for the Oral Board interview, the applicant must have a current CPAT upon commencement of the Fire Academy.



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Date to be determined for the fourteen (14) week Fire Academy.

For additional information regarding the position of Firefighter/Engineer – assigned to paramedic duty, or the application and selection process outlined herein, please visit our website at www.sccfd.org.

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The Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

FIREFIGHTER CANDIDATE WORKSHOP:

Location:

CFRTA - 9320 Tech Center Drive Sacramento, CA 95826

Date/Time:

December 13, 2013 (Friday) Time: 0800-1500

Instructor:

Assistant Chief Niko King - Axiom Training Solutions

\$100.00 per student

This one-day workshop is created for those who are serious about entering the profession of firefighting.

Topics covered will include:

- Educational Paths: What courses will benefit you most to make you marketable?
- Physical Agility: CPAT and how to train for the academy and firefighting profession
- Mastering the Oral Interview: A unique exercise that prepares all candidates for any oral interview process.
- Medical Screening: What are agencies screening for? What tests should you expect?
- Backgrounds & Candidate Screening: Background questionnaires and polygraphs

Class size is limited.

Registration includes: A Certificate of Completion from CFRTA.

Further Course Information and Online registration is available at
www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov

INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:

National Fire Academy to Resume Normal Operations Starting November 2

Resident courses at the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy (NFA) will resume normal operations starting November 2. Students and instructors scheduled to attend the NFA's resident training at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland, beginning the week of November 3, should continue their activities to arrive at their already scheduled times. By reopening on November 2, the NFA resumes its previously planned Fiscal Year (FY) 14 two-week, one-week, and weekend resident schedules. NFA Online courses are operating normally and open for enrollment. Additionally, the enrollment period for second semester FY14 courses is open. To apply, visit <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>

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, December 20, 2013 at 5pm.
There is a \$50 non-refundable application fee due at time of submittal.**

All applications received after December 20, 2013 will be considered for the next Paramedic Academy.

**Visit 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 of
December 20, 2013.

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

Important Dates to Remember:

Application Deadline: Friday, December 20, 2013 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.

Thank you for your interest in the California Regional Fire Academy. You have received this email because you submitted an Academy Interest Card on our website. You have been added to the Academy email list and will receive all Academy & EMS Course Announcements in the future. If you are unable to attend/apply for this Academy, you are still on the email list to receive notification of future academies - there is no need to re-submit an interest card.

California Fire and Rescue Training Authority
(916) 475-1660
www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov

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

Application period for 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grants opens Monday, November 4

10/29/2013 09:11 AM EDT

The application period for 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grants opens Monday, November 4 and closes December 6, 2013. Start planning your grant application now by reviewing the Application Assistance Tools located on the AFG website. These tools were produced to help applicants begin to plan their grant applications ahead of the application period.

For more information, go to: <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/35062>

FIREFIGHTER 1 ACADEMY:

California Regional Fire Academy Basic Firefighter One Academy

Applications Are Now Available For The Upcoming Academy Classes!

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

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

**The California Regional Fire Academy is Now Accepting applications for
Academy Classes scheduled to begin in 2014.**

**Start Date: January 6, 2014
Academy 24 ~ Full-Time Format Academy**

**Start Date: July 7, 2014
Academy 26 ~ Full-Time Format Academy
Academy 27 ~ Extended Format Academy**

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

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:

California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium – Fresno, CA - November 18 through 22, 2013 - Go to <http://register.calchiefs.org/> for more information.

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

Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) – Indianapolis, IN – April 7 through 12, 2014.
Go to www.fdic.com for more information.

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

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

FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES:



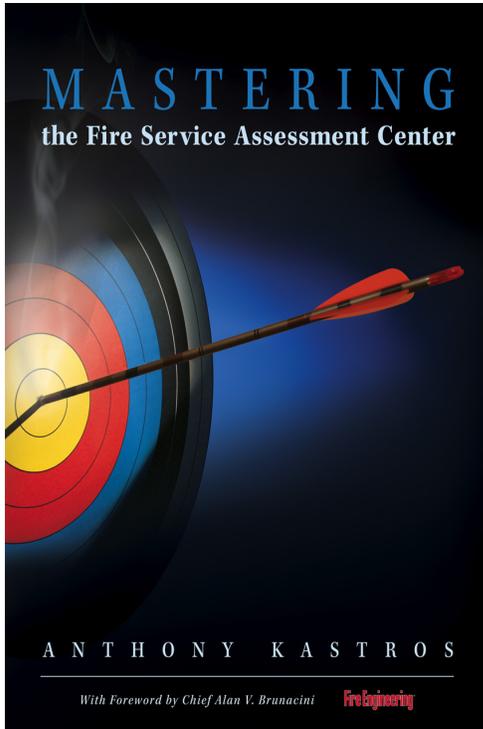
MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER

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*

**GO TO WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION
 CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO DUE TO DEPTH OF INSTRUCTION**

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

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

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

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

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

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

- www.firerecruit.com
- www.firecareers.com

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

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:



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

COURSE:	DATES:	COST:
• 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

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- **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 or 408-896-6890.

Prerequisites:

See below.

CLASS PREREQUISITES

COURSE	PREREQUISITES
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.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

COURSE	PREREQUISITES
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**

COURSE:	DATES:	COST:	QUANTITY:
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	_____
Instructor 1A	January 27 - 31, 2014	\$295.00	_____
Instructor 1B	February 10 - 14, 2014	\$295.00	_____
S-230 (Single Resource/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	_____
Instructor 1C	March 17 - 21, 2014	\$295.00	_____
S-215 (Fire Ops in the 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)	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 the 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	_____
	TOTAL:		_____

Name: _____

Rank: _____

Department: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

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

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

Santa Clara County Fire Department.

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

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

- **Cancellation Policy:**

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

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

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

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

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

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California:
626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Northern California
526 Commerce Way
Livermore, CA 94551

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



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 30th 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 or www.SAMatters.com

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

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

<u>Choose the date you plan to attend:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Quantity:</u>
- Monday January 6, 2014	\$95.00	_____
- Tuesday January 7, 2014	\$95.00	_____
- Wednesday January 8, 2014	\$95.00	_____
TOTAL:	_____	_____

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

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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.

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

VETERAN FIREFIGHTER KILLED AT WAR

A Ramsey (NJ) Firefighter serving in Afghanistan was one of three soldiers killed in an attack earlier yesterday. Staff Sgt. Timothy Raymond McGill, a 30-year-old Ridgewood (NJ) native, was killed when **an Afghan wearing a security forces uniform turned his weapon against U.S. troops** today in the eastern part of the country. The shooting occurred in Gardez, near the Pakistan border - a front line in the fighting with the Taliban and other militants. McGill, a Ramsey Rescue squad member, was a software trainer and business consultant who was graduated from Ramapo College and Ridgewood High School. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 2001 and was deployed to Iraq four years later. After returning to Ramsey, he resumed his military career with the Rhode Island National Guard in 2008 as an anti-armor specialist. McGill became an elite special forces soldier in 2011 and was assigned to Company A, 2nd Battalion 19th Special Forces, in support of "Operation Enduring Freedom." Killings of foreign soldiers and civilians by uniformed Afghans has risen dramatically - including 11 foreign soldier's this year alone - as NATO tries to give Afghans responsibility for security prior to a planned 2014 withdrawal. Our condolences to those affected as we are reminded that we are a Country still at war-with thousands of soldiers at risk and in harms way as your read this. RIP. More details here:

<http://cliffviewpilot.com/veteran-ramsey-firefighter-30-killed-in-action-in-afghanistan/>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-22-13 / 1030 Hours

AND:

FIREFIGHTER DIES ON DUTY

A Hillsborough County Fire-Rescue Firefighter passed away while on duty yesterday, but his cause of death has not been determined. Firefighter Iran D. Rivers died after a "medical incident" while on duty, but not while working a fire call. The medical examiner has not determined the cause of death at this time. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

2013 FLORIDA FIREFIGHTER SAFETY & HEALTH CONFERENCE.

DEC 9-11, 2013, Orlando. This conference was developed as a partnership of FFCA, the Florida State Fire College, Florida Professional Firefighters and The Florida Fire and Emergency Services Foundation to provide a forum to share the latest in safety procedures, research, fitness, equipment, and lessons learned. CHECK IT OUT HERE:

<http://www.ffca.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=4390>

YOUR OPINION. YOUR PPE.

Take a few minutes and give the NFPA your opinion. <http://www.nfpa.org/PPECareSurvey>

Take Care,. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-23-13 / 0750 Hours

AND:

Hey,

There was a fatal fire apparatus crash earlier today in northern California. A civilian who was driving his pickup truck and collided with responding fire apparatus succumbed to his injuries. A Hamilton City

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

FPD (Glenn County, Calif-near Chico) engine company was eastbound on its way to a crash when a civilian driving a pickup truck came into his lane at about 1450 hours today on Highway 32. Volunteer Firefighter Mario Medrano, 27, was driving the 1991 Ford F600 with its lights and sirens activated. The civilian began to yield, but for an unknown reason he made a sharp left turn into the path of the engine and was broadsided by the rig. Both the Firefighter and the civilian were transported to Enloe Medical Center in Chico. The unidentified man was pronounced deceased at the hospital. FF Medrano was transported as a precaution. We'll post updates as they become available.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-23-13 / 2032 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Brazilian Firefighter/HazMat Technician David Marcelino, 59, is hospitalized in critical condition after inhaling toxic smoke in a huge ammonium nitrate warehouse fire in the State of Santa Catarina, Southern Brazil. The member of Guaramirim FD was wearing a SCBA, according to preliminary information. In the same operation, the Fire Chief of Balneário Barra do Sul VFD also had respiratory problems, but was already released from the hospital. A major fire struck a fertilizer warehouse in São Francisco do Sul, Santa Catarina, 111 miles from the state capital Florianópolis. The fire was controlled today, after 60 hours of operation. More than 150 people had to receive medical care due to the smoke. HERE IS MORE:

<http://g1.globo.com/sc/santa-catarina/noticia/2013/09/bombeiro-que-inalou-fumaca-toxica-durante-incendio-e-internado-na-uti.html>

PHILLY FIREHOUSE FIRE:

A very serious fire broke out in a Philadelphia (PA) firehouse late this morning. HERE are details and photos: <http://www.myfoxphilly.com/story/23548336/crews-responding-to-fire-at-fourth-arch-streets>

MUST READ: PUBLIC PENSIONS.

If you participate in any aspect of public service retirement pensions, take the time to read this expose' in today's issue of Rolling Stone:

<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/looting-the-pension-funds-20130926>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-27-13 / 1259 hours

AND:

**FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:
PARACHUTING/TRAINING INCIDENT**

A Boise (Idaho) BLM (Bureau of Land Management) Smokejumper Firefighter died in the Line of Duty yesterday, in a parachuting incident near the town of Prairie. His death was related to some sort of failure with his parachute system, but don't yet know exactly what the problem was. 40-year-old FF Mark Urban of Boise worked at the Great Basin Smokejumper Base in Boise. The incident was reported near Prairie, about 45 miles east of Boise. It happened when Urban was doing a proficiency jump. If wildland Firefighters are not out parachuting on fires, smokejumpers have to complete proficiency jumps every couple of weeks. Urban was a senior member of the crew. FF. Urban had jumped with BLM for ten years and was one of the leaders of the crew in terms of training people. FF Urban is the 33rd wildland firefighter lost in the line of duty this year in the United States. More details to follow. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

ARIZONA 19 FF LODD REPORT RELEASED.

The much anticipated reported outlining the deaths of 19 FF's was released today. **CLICK HERE:**
<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B36DlycSgbzWSUtiNkl1Z2ROT0k/view?usp=sharing&sle=true>

FLORIDA TRAINING INCIDENT COVERUP?

The Florida State Attorney's Office said it is deciding whether to file charges against several Ocoee FD leaders for allegedly covering up an accident during a training exercise. A Firefighter was injured when he fell during a repelling drill in April. "There is no way in this world that I would end my career on a note for covering up for anybody," said the Fire Chief in July. He gave that statement after an outside investigator hired by the city found the Fire Chief and a FD Lieutenant fabricated a story to make it look like the repelling rope broke. **The report, however, found operator error was really to blame, and experts testified that the officer cut the rope to cover up for mistakes that led to the fall.** In July, the city manager requested a criminal investigation be done. The original investigation called for the Fire Chief to be fired and the Lieutenant be put on leave. Both are still on the job as State Prosecutors decide what to do next.

HERE IS THE INVESTIGATIVE REPORT:

PART 1- <http://www.wftv.com/documents/2013/jul/24/ocoe-fire-department-investigative-report/>

PART 2- <http://www.wftv.com/documents/2013/jul/25/ocoe-fire-department-investigative-report-part-2/>

PART 3- <http://www.wftv.com/documents/2013/jul/25/ocoe-fire-department-investigative-report-part-3/>

HERE IS MORE FROM THE MEDIA:

<http://www.wftv.com/news/news/local/investigators-finish-report-coverup-accident-invol/nZ9Gw/>

WISCONSIN FIREFIGHTER ATTACKED IN THE FIREHOUSE

Cops are investigating after a Milwaukee firefighter was attacked inside a firehouse. It happened a little after 0200 today at Engine 6 quarters at 103rd and Fond Du Lac. The Firefighter heard a noise, went to check it out, and found an intruder. There was a struggle and the firefighter suffered minor injuries. Other firefighters held the unwelcome visitor until police arrived. There was not an open house at the time.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-28-13 / 1241 Hours

AND:

Hey,

In a dose of reality from the Middle East, an ambulance exploded on its way to the scene of bombings in Irbil, Iraq, yesterday. Explosions in Irbil, the capital city of Iraq's autonomous Kurdistan Province. Irbil is a generally stable part of Iraq and it has not witnessed such attacks in six years.

RAW EMS EXPLOSION VIDEO HERE:

(explosion at 1:15)

<http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/302571-ambulance-explodes-in-iraq-on-way-to-help-raw-video/>

More coverage from Firehouse:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11181258/ambulance-packed-with-bombs-explodes-in-iraq>

FEAR OF FEDERAL CHARGES AGAINST FIRE COMMANDERS?

KEEPING SECRETS? TWO REPORTS? ARIZONA 19 LODD REPORT DISCUSSION.

Lots of buzz related to the report on the Line of Duty Deaths of the 19 Prescott Firefighters. One

published media comment was from a wildland fire official who essentially stated that no one(s) may ever be named as responsible because charges have been brought against Federal wildland fire leaders in the past.

DO YOU REMEMBER THIS FROM 2001?

"In what may be the first case of its kind, federal prosecutors charged a U.S. Forest Service employee with manslaughter and making false statements for his role in the deaths of four firefighters during the infamous Thirty Mile wildfire in north-central Washington." **HERE IS MORE:**

http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2003488305_thirtymile21m.html

HAVE YOU READ THIS VERY RECENT PIECE ABOUT "TWO" REPORTS AND KEEPING SECRETS?

"The new guide for fire accident reports requires conclusions and recommendations to be kept secret" ... "The latest Wildland Serious Accident Investigation Guide, revised just last month, was written by representatives of the five federal land management agencies and recommends that two reports be prepared...."One, the Factual Report, would be made public, and the other, the Management Evaluation Report, would be confidential, and intended for internal agency use only." **WTF.**

READ THE ENTIRE PIECE HERE: <http://wildfiretoday.com/tag/thirtymile-fire/>

19 Firefighters killed at a fire is huge....making sure all the facts are out so it doesn't happen again is huge-r.

Check out the discussions about this fire on FirefighterNation

HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/qzjbm3l>

ALSO please check out these WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING website discussions:

<http://www.wildlandfire.com/theysaid.htm> (Forum)

<http://wlfhotlist.com/forum.php> (Forum)

<http://wildfiretoday.com> (Read the article about how the MEDIA handled the Yarnell Hill fire report)

<http://www.wildfirelessons.net/Home>

<http://wildfiretoday.com/tag/thirtymile-fire/>

<http://www.iawfonline.org>

Lots to read, think about and learn from.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-30-13 / 1710 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Well, as we continue to "beam with pride" over the behaviors of the congressional "beltway bandits" -- - you may or may not be aware how the so called "shut down" will impact the FAMILIES of Firefighters who were killed in the Line of Duty last year. The National Fire Academy/National Emergency Training Center site in Emmitsburg (MD) is of course, where the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial is located. It will be closed down if the bandits go forward with their shut down...forcing hundreds of volunteers and NFFF staff members to come up with a backup plan. A monumental task that is well underway. The memorial service will go on. Due to the likelihood of the shutdown, the NFFF is moving its operational offices today off of the NFA campus. The campus houses the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial where next weekend's ceremonies to honor 81 firefighters are scheduled to occur. The move will make certain that these Firefighters and their survivors are honored even if a shutdown makes the national memorial off limits. The NFFF is working on backup plans for this weekends services in the Emmitsburg area-so if you are planning to head to the memorial this coming

weekend-continue your plans. **We'll post any and all updates via The Secret List-as will other fire websites as well.**

A PREDICATBLE CATALOG OF CATASTROPHE.

Over in the UK, a series of predictable delays contributed to the death of a child. This info is well worth any of our own organizational considerations. These delays have been described as a 'catalogue of catastrophes' by a coroner. On March 11, Bella Hellings was only three months old and had been born with a heart murmur when she stopped breathing. Her mom Amy Carter urgently dialed 999 (911) and requested an ambulance. But it took 26 minutes before help arrived. *=First, two paramedics couldn't find the house because the GPS hadn't been updated. =An ambulance which was thought to be in the area turned out to not be. =A second ambulance was low on fuel and had to spend vital minutes refueling before it could respond. =Another EMS vehicle was only five miles away but the duty manager didn't realize it could be utilized. =The air ambulance had been dispatched but nobody informed the ambulance which was attending the scene and so they left without it. =On the way to the West Suffolk Hospital in Bury St Edmunds the ambulance GPS problems led to further delays.* The coroner described the delays as 'wholly indefensible' and concluded that they had 'reduced the prospects of her survival' **HERE is more:** <http://tinyurl.com/pdw5feg>

SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING FIRE ATTACK ONLINE INFO.

The UL Firefighter Safety Research Institute has released "Effectiveness of Fire Service Vertical Ventilation and Suppression Tactics in Single Family Homes" - an online course that serves as a culmination of the work performed under the 2010 Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program. The interactive training walks learners through the research approach, experimental setup, test results, and tactical considerations derived from the test results. This course supplements the project's technical report through fire service commentary on the impact UL research has on firefighting tactics, interactive fire scenarios, video from all 17 full scale residential structure fires, and numerous photos. The course content is available online at www.ULfirefightersafety.com

FIRE VIDEO/AUDIO.

This video has been posted before but we thought it would be worth sharing again. Its a PPE related video but also the audio is worth a listen-a reminder to think hard before cancelling units off a run-until we get there and size it up. While a location may be a known false alarm location, use caution:

WATCH & LISTEN HERE:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LMuIBF0qGKI&feature=player_embedded

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On. See You in Emmitsburg.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-30-13 / 1045 Hours

AND:

(In light of the recent gov't shut down, here is a classic video providing better "firefighter" options for our Congress to consider: <http://tinyurl.com/nk96lsd>)

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL SERVICE MOVED:

Hey,

As expected, the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service planned for this weekend will not be held at the National Fire Academy-National Emergency Training Center. This is of course due to the Federal Government shutdown. Even if the politicians reach a decision today, the candlelight vigil and the annual memorial service will still NOT be held on the federal property. The candlelight vigil will be held Saturday evening at the Basilica (next to the NFA at the Daughters of Charity campus) while the

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

2013 memorial service will be in Knott Arena at Mount St. Mary's University. The cost of changing venues including meals, technical equipment, transportation and security may exceed \$100,000-above and beyond the normal costs. Escorts, honor guards and related volunteers should contact their liaisons for further information.

EXCELLENT YARNELL HILL VIDEO:

While not a substitute for reading the actual investigation report, the following video briefing provides an excellent overview of the investigation and findings, with the added benefit of excellent Google Earth visualizations of the fire area, fire progression, and the deployment site. Thanks to BillM, IAFC President for passing this along:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=cSxSjRmxIE#t=0

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-1-13 / 1719 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Here are more details regarding the memorial weekend. As previously stated, the memorial weekend activities will go on regardless of Congress's behaviors.

LIVE STREAMING-

It is hoped that you (or your local media) will again be a part of the FireHero Network and embed live streaming of Saturday's Candlelight Service and Sunday's Memorial Service on your website. Click here for streaming information:

<http://weekend.firehero.org/live/>

SOCIAL MEDIA-Follow the weekend's events through social media. NFFF has a team of fire fighters in Emmitsburg to provide pictures, video and details from the entire event. The hashtag for Memorial Weekend is **#FIREHERO2013**. Please share and re-tweet: It is: [National Fallen Firefighters Foundation on Facebook](#) and [@](#)

[NFFF_news](#)

on Twitter.

IN YOUR COMMUNITY-Please continue to spread the word about Bells Across America for Fallen Firefighters. This important, grass-roots program encourages the public to pause and remember the firefighters who have died in the Line of Duty.

<http://bellsacrossamerica.com/>

ON THE WEB-

The Virtual Remembrance Banner is available for anyone to pay tribute to a fallen fire fighter or share a special memory of Memorial Weekend. It's a solid way for family, friends and others who can't be in Emmitsburg to have a connection to the events.

<http://weekend.firehero.org/remembrance/banner.php> Departments and individuals can still add the National Fallen Firefighters Tribute Widget to their website, blog or Facebook page. Go to <http://weekend.firehero.org/widget/> to copy and embed the widget.

The Memorial Weekend website will be updated with fresh pictures and information at <http://weekend.firehero.org/>.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-2-13 / 1232 Hours

AND:

TENNESSEE FIRE CAPTAIN DIES IN QUARTERS-LODD

We regret to pass on to you that 34+ year veteran Fire Captain Richard Floersch, of the Milan Fire Department passed away while on duty in the station. Around 0130 this morning, he experienced a medical emergency and although his crew members and paramedics attempted to save his life, he sadly succumbed. It should also be noted that Captain Floersch's Father is a former Chief of Department. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. The MFD website is www.milanfd.com

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER RECKLESS RESPONSE LAWSUIT

On Wednesday justices in South Dakota heard arguments in a lawsuit involving a Chester volunteer firefighter who was driving more than 80 miles per hour (in a 40 mph zone) when he got into a crash in his personal pick-up truck responding to a fire call. "I want them to get to the fire but I don't want them to kill anybody," Peter Bendorf said. Bendorf is the attorney for Areyman Gabriel, a Sioux Falls man who was hit by Chester volunteer firefighter Tim Bauman. FF Bauman hit Gabriel at an intersection north of Chester in 2007 while speeding to a mobile home fire. "The radio dispatch indicated there were children present but their parents were not home. Clearly Bauman was responding to a serious emergency situation," Bauman's attorney Lisa Prostrollo argued Wednesday. Gabriel had made a left hand turn in front of FF Bauman as he came over a hill and approached the intersection. Bauman's attorney says he's protected by South Dakota's Good Samaritan laws. A lower court agreed and threw out the lawsuit.

"The legislature enacted the Good Samaritan statute for an important reason. It intended to protect those citizens who were seeking to render emergency aid," Prostrollo said. Gabriel's attorney is appealing the decision to throw out the lawsuit arguing that Bauman was driving his personal vehicle recklessly at more than twice the posted speed limit on the way to the call. "He stayed at 81 miles per hour through a 40 mile per hour zone with stopped traffic on his left and a residential area on his right," Bendorf said. "Let's supposed Gabriel didn't turn and that he maintained his speed. Was he still reckless? I believe that falls under the meaning of criminal recklessness," Bendorf said. It will now be up to the five justices to determine if Bauman was reckless, or doing everything he could to respond to an emergency call. **HERE is media radio coverage:**

Listen to the attorneys speak to SD's Supreme Court justices in this story)

<http://listen.sdpb.org/post/high-court-hears-crash-case>

HERE is more: <http://tinyurl.com/mv87w6e>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-2-13 / 2032 Hours

AND:

Hey,

OSHA (who had not inspected the West facility since 1982) has fined the company that owns the fertilizer plant in West, Texas, for safety violations following that explosion at the facility in April, which left 15 dead (including Firefighters and Medics) and more than 100 injured. OSHA is penalizing the Adair Grain, Inc., parent of the West Fertilizer Co., with 24 serious violations after the explosion exposed workers to ammonium nitrate chemical burns and inhalation hazards and destroyed hundreds of homes in the area. The OSHA report states that the West Fertilizer Co. plant did not have proper ventilation or drainage systems and the ammonium nitrate bins were not stored properly. "The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which was free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death," it stated. The company also is being fined for not having fire-resistant walls, available fire hydrants and poor labeling of chemical substances. It's no

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

secret that there are hundreds of other similar violating facilities across the USA. The government's investigation into the West plant's explosion isn't complete because of the current government shutdown. There is a separate state criminal investigation underway, too. Investigators previously narrowed the number of possible causes to three: a problem with one of the plant's electrical systems, a battery-powered golf cart, and a criminal act. They ruled out others, including a rail car on site loaded with fertilizer or someone smoking. HERE IS MORE:

http://www.kristv.com/news/west-texas-fertilizer-plant-cited-for-safety-lapses/#_

FLORIDA FIREFIGHTER FALLS THRU ROOF AT FIRE

A fire hit a Miami shopping center today, gutting several stores and a close call for Firefighters. The run came in around 0100 at the shopping center, on Flagler Street and took about 90 minutes to knock. An unstable roof, not uncommon at working fires, affected the Firefighters operating on the building causing a Captain to partially fall through roof-but was fortunately stopped half way by his equipment. HERE is video:

http://www.miamiherald.com/video/NDN-news/?freewheel=90045&sitesection=miamiherald_nws_us_sty_vmpp&VID=25243132

LOS ANGELES FIRE CHIEF STEPS DOWN

Los Angeles Fire Chief Brian Cummings is stepping down effective Nov. 1. James Featherstone will become acting chief until a permanent replacement is named, HERE is the media release:

<http://tribktla.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/press-release-fire-chief-1.pdf>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG

Welcome To The World Harper Sophia! xoxo

The Secret List 10-10-13 / 2029 Hours

AND:

All,

We wanted to pass this information on related to three regionally well known firefighters we have lost their lives.

FDNY: FF John W. Monteverde, 56, was on his way to work was killed early yesterday morning when his motorcycle was hit by a car whose driver was drunk. The driver of the car, Anthony J. Marsal, 24, was arrested on charges of vehicular homicide, driving while intoxicated and other offenses in connection with the death. It's believed that FF Monteverde, who was wearing a reflective vest on top of his uniform, was driving to New York from a vacation home he owned in Pennsylvania. In addition to his work at the World Trade Center site on 9/11, FF Monteverde, with 31 years of service, was cited four times for bravery at fires and for his life-saving medical work. Our condolences to all those affected. RIP.

KILEEN (TX):

KFD Fire Chaplain Steve Timmerman was killed last night in a one vehicle rollover crash on the way home from the Austin airport. He was picking up two other ministers who were returning from a missionary trip in Bulgaria...they were also killed. A witness says the vehicle was going north when their tire blew, and then rolled over into the southbound lanes. Cops confirmed that one male passenger believed to be in his 60's was thrown from the vehicle, while a female passenger also in

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

her 60's was pinned in the car...both died at the scene. The driver of the vehicle, believed to be in his 70's, was taken to a nearby hospital, where he also died. Our condolences to all those affected. RIP.

EAST MEADOW (NY)

If you are lucky, you had a fire instructor like Chief Nelson Finkelman...who you consider "a friend for life." We belatedly pass on to those who are not aware that Chief Nelson H. Finkelman, a 56-year veteran of the East Meadow (Nassau County, Long Island, NY), died on Oct. 2 of complications of a stroke. He was 83. Chief Finkelman, born Feb. 11, 1930, joined East Meadow FD in 1958 as a member of Ladder Company 2, and he rose to Chief of Department in 1967. He was a Nassau County Fire Marshal Supervisor, a Chief Instructor at the Nassau County Fire Service Academy and a board member and fundraiser for the Nassau County Firefighters' Burn Center Foundation that supports the Nassau University Medical Center's burn unit. As a young Firefighter in the early 70's, Chief Finkelman was our lead instructor at the Nassau County Fire Service Academy, and talk about no BS. Wow. He was pure business ...and when you are a rookie-that's what's needed-tough, no nonsense instructors giving you the facts-and making you do it over and over until you got it right and couldn't get it wrong. He had a life lasting impact on those "youngsters" of us going through that simulated basement fire on that one evening that I will never forget...which, back then, was a nasty, well involved, thick, black smoke, fuel pan fed fire. And if you didn't do it correctly. he ordered us to do it over and over. When we finally did what Chief Finkelman expected, he would have us do it again. Not for any other reason than to insure we understood engine ops in a basement fire-in the 1970's. A hot, sticky, summer night...his mission was to teach us-nothing else mattered. He was an instructor and Chief who definitely got it. he took care of us by teaching us how to take care of ourselves in that basement, in the dwelling, in the taxpayer and the multi-family.

Like they do, years passed and we saw each other from time to time - then one day, at a fire conference, in the back of my classroom, was sitting Chief Finkelman. First staring. Holy sh!t was my internal response. Then smiling. In the words of EMFD Fire Commissioner (and former Chief) Michael Finkelman, who followed in his Dad's firefighting footsteps, "Anyone who knew my father," he said, "you had a friend for life. And you couldn't have a better friend in the world."

Hopefully, each of you have memories of a great Instructor, Officer or Chief who mattered, one who also became a friend of yours, for life. RIP. Thanks Chief.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-12-13 / 1922 Hours

AND:

Hey,

This reporter from the Washington Post wrote this well balanced article about a not-so-routine single family dwelling fire that nearly took the lives of two Firefighters. Below this article link is another link to the entire PGFD investigation team report...and the prioritized recommendations. This report can serve as a template for any department in determining "can it happen here?"

PLEASE take time to read the article then download the report as well.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/local/2013/10/12/cold-air-then-heat-then-terror/>

Entire investigation report:

http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/download/file_id/9758

Lots to learn.

November 3, 2013

www.chabotfire.com

34

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 10-13-13/1035 hrs

AND:

Hey,

A combined population of 30,000 firefighters from 3 large cities had higher rates of several types of cancers, and of all cancers combined, than the U.S. population as a whole, researchers from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and colleagues found in a new study.

The new findings are generally consistent with the results of several previous, smaller studies.

Because the new study had a larger study population followed for a longer period of time, the results strengthen the scientific evidence for a relation between firefighting and cancer, the researchers said. The findings were reported in an article posted on-line on Oct. 14, 2013, by the peer-reviewed journal Occupational and Environmental Medicine. The article is available online at: <http://oem.bmj.com/content/early/2013/10/14/oemed-2013-101662.full>

The researchers found that:

* 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.

* **The population of firefighters in the study had a rate of mesothelioma two times greater than the rate in the U.S. population as a whole.** This was the first study ever to identify an excess of mesothelioma in U.S. firefighters. The researchers said it was likely that the findings were associated with exposure to asbestos, a known cause of mesothelioma. The study analyzed cancers and cancer deaths through 2009 among 29,993 firefighters from the Chicago, Philadelphia, and San Francisco fire departments who were employed since 1950. The study was led by NIOSH in collaboration with the National Cancer Institute and the Department of Public Health Sciences in the University of California at Davis. The study was supported in part by funding from the U.S. Fire Administration.

HERE IS MUCH MORE: The Firefighter Cancer White Paper with many related links: <http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/193617>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 10-15-13 / 1700 Hours

AND:

NORTH CAROLINA FIRE CAPTAIN DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

We regret to advise you that a 48 year old New Hanover County Fire Captain has died in the Line of Duty from an apparent heart attack while participating in a training exercise. Shortly after 1600 hours today, Captain David Heath, a 10-year veteran, collapsed while participating in that training exercise. Despite an exhaustive effort by fire rescue personnel who immediately performed CPR, applied a defibrillator and instituted advanced life support measures, Captain Heath died. Captain Heath was assigned to the Professional Development Division, and worked out of Station 17 on Murrayville Road. Formal arrangements are still pending. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

BELOVED PA FIRE CHIEF PASSES

It's with sincere sadness that we pass on to you that Chief Bill Purifoy of the Homestead VFD in Pennsylvania has passed away. Bill was a very highly respected Fire Chief and a friend to so many. Homestead is a borough in Allegheny County, 7 miles southeast of downtown Pittsburgh. RIP Chief.

MORE HERE: <https://www.facebook.com/HomesteadVFD>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-14-13 / 2054 Hours

AND:

All,

We are deeply saddened to pass on that the North American EMS community has lost one of its most well known leaders yesterday as Mike Smith, chair of the Tacoma Community College EMS program and a well-known EMS speaker, died of an apparent heart attack. Mike was transported by EMS from his home to a local hospital where he succumbed to a myocardial infarction. He was 61 years old. Mike was a prolific writer and presenter whose leadership in EMS education was well known and who served as role model to many new and old EMS professionals and instructors. He is survived by his wife Sylvia and two grown children, as well as a new granddaughter. Mike started as a firefighter in Harvey, IL, and became one of the first paramedics when the service started in the early 70's. Mike then moved to Iowa to teach EMS and craft First Responders, EMT's, and Paramedics. While there he learned about the hazards of farming, and it sparked one of his landmark talks regarding rescuing patients from heavy machinery. Mike then moved to Washington to take over the Paramedic Program at Tacoma Community College. Be it writing articles for JEMS and EMS Magazines, giving lectures at EMS conferences throughout the USA and Canada, or writing for textbooks and inspiring others to do the same-he loved it all. Our condolences to all affected in Mikes passing. RIP.

FIREFIGHTER MIKE OSIECKI-CT

It is with a great sense of sadness and loss that the South Fire District announces the passing of Firefighter Michael Osiecki. Mike suffered a medical emergency yesterday evening, Sunday (10/13/13) and succumbed a short time later. He proudly served our nation as a member of the United States Marine Corps after graduating high school. Mike also proudly served the citizens of the South Fire District and the City of Middletown for the past 25 years. As a member of South District Firefighters Local 3918, Mike held various positions within the union including serving as its President. Always a champion of labor issues that effected firefighters, especially those that involved health and safety, Mike served on various committees for the Uniformed Professional Firefighters Association and CT AFL-CIO. Mike was also a long time councilor for the CT Critical Incident Stress Debriefing team. TSL NOTE: Mike regularly submitted info to pass on to members of The Secret List and FireFighterCloseCalls ...and we send our sincere condolences out to Mike's friends, family, the MFD and IAFF Local 3918. RIP.

FDNY: TRUTH AND FICTION:

Truth:

there is a higher than normal drop out rate with the current court mandated FDNY academy class - as reported yesterday **HERE:**<http://nypost.com/2013/10/13/fdnys-court-mandated-class-flaming-out/>

Fiction: There is another article "out there" today in Internet-land claiming the judge has now ordered the academy to lower the academy requirement and standards. Not true. At least not at this time.

NOTE:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

DaveS will straighten you right out on how news-both true and false-gets created these days on the internet HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/kw7pj7m>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-14-13 / 1648 Hours

AND:

All,

Today is the anniversary of the 23rd Street Fire that took place on October 17, 1966. Firefighters from the FDNY responded to a fire at 7 East 22nd Street entered a building at 6 East 23rd Street as part of an effort to fight the fire. Twelve members of every rank, from a probationary Firefighter to a Deputy Chief, made the Supreme Sacrifice when the ground floor of the store collapsed. The fire originated in a basement storage area, which was concealed by a four-inch thick cinderblock wall illegally constructed by the building's previous owner. It was the largest loss of life in the department's history until the collapse and murders at the World Trade Center in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

R.I.P. **MORE HERE:** http://www.nyfd.com/history/23rd_street/23rd_street.html

Take Care-Be Careful-Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-17-13/ 0952 hours

AND:

ALABAMA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN FIRE APPARATUS ROLLOVER

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter from the Oden Ridge Fire Rescue in Morgan County, Alabama was killed in the Line of Duty this afternoon. There was only that one Firefighter on board the pumper-tanker when it rolled. The crash happened while he was responding to a fire at around 14:39 central time this afternoon on Wilson Mountain Road. This area is about 30 miles SW of Huntsville. FF Jantzen Murrell Frazier, 28, was responding to the scene of a fire when the apparatus he was driving flipped and slammed into power pole, knocking it down. FF Frazier, a retired U.S. Army Ranger/Sniper, was still fairly new member of the Oden Ridge Fire Rescue. He was deployed to Iraq twice, where he received five Purple Hearts for injuries received in combat. YOU MAY recognize that FD name, as in 2011, an Oden Ridge VFD apparatus went off the same road, Wilson Mountain Road and first, it hit a mailbox....18-year-old FF Ben Cahela was driving that day when he over-corrected, crossed the road and then crashed into the house. 19-year-old Jessica Bullard was also a passenger in the vehicle. Both were injured but thankfully, in that crash, both were wearing seat belts in that 2011 crash. **MORE DETAILS** on today's crash to follow. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

RELATED FIRE TANKER/TENDER OPERATION SAFETY INFO:

<http://www.nvfc.org/health-and-safety-news/eliminating-fire-department-water-tanker-rollovers-is-goal-of-new-nttc/dot-video>

<http://www.vfis.com/documents/EmergencyVehicleDriverOperatorRequirementsCommunique.pdf>

<http://www.vfis.com/documents/ConversionandOverweightVehicleRisks.pdf>

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo43457.pdf>

<http://firechief.com/blog/righting-tankertender-rollovers>

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa-110.pdf>

<http://www.iaff.org/hs/evsp/usfa%20safe%20operation%20of%20fire%20tankers.pdf>

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/firefighter_health_safety/safety/vehicle_safety/

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On,

BillyG

The Secret List 10-17-13 / 1700 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Firefighters in Georgia responded to an axle bearing fire on a tractor trailer today about 14:00 hours in Comer, which is in Madison County, 20 miles east of Athens. While operating, they had two Firefighters very seriously injured when one of the tires exploded. One FF was transported to Athens Regional with trauma injuries to the arm, chest, head and eyes. The other FF was air lifted to Doctors Hospital in Augusta with head trauma and the right hand almost severed at the wrist. They are going to try to reattach the hand tonight. One of the Firefighters is with the Comer VFD and the other is with the Danielsville VFD. More details will follow. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-18-12/2240 hrs

AND:

Hey,

Here is an excellent firefighter close call video that we want to pass on to you. It shows members operating - when there is a significant collapse. The video from the helicopter shows the potential from above---conditions that companies operating on the ground may not fully grasp or be able to access without a full 360 initial and ongoing size up. This is another excellent "close call" reminder regarding initial and continued size up, the 360, building construction, fire damage, water on the fire, operating time and collapse zone issues. Check this out:

<http://m.wtae.com/news/house-collapses-while-firefighters-battle-flames/-/16915058/22510896/-/mqInn5/-/index.html>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-18-13/1736 hrs

AND:

OHIO FIREFIGHTER LODD-MEDICAL EMERGENCY

We regret to pass along initial details on the apparent Line of Duty death of Leroy Murphy of the Englewood (OH) FD, near Dayton. Leroy worked as a part-time FF for Englewood and was a volunteer FF at the nearby Gettysburg (OH) FD as well. After coming off shift, he went to work as a Fire Instructor at a local community college yesterday morning when he suffered a medical event and died early this morning. Our deepest sympathies are extended to those involved. RIP

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-19-13/1618 hrs

AND:

Hey,

The Phoenix (AZ) FD has to pay \$95,000 in fines in the Line of Duty death of a Firefighter who was pinned between two apparatus five months ago. In the report released today, the Industrial Commission of Arizona cited the PFD for not enforcing the use of a spotter when backing up firefighting vehicles.

The department released its own report today on the May 18 incident that killed 23-year-old FF Brad

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Harper. Officials agreed with a previous Phoenix police report, saying no criminal or civil charges would be filed. However-the commission added an additional \$25,000 penalty, saying Harper was killed in the line of duty as a result of "willful (regulatory) violation." A review board also concluded FF Harper was likely focused on other tasks and didn't notice the approaching engine.

Phoenix fire officials also recommended new safety training in awareness at emergency scenes and devices on fire equipment such as backup cameras and / or automatic brakes. FF Harper was trapped between the engine and his rescue ambulance.

DOWNLOAD THE REPORTS:

Accident review board's final report:

<http://ftpcontent.worldnow.com/kpho/KPHO%20NEWS/finalreport.pdf>

Executive review committee's report:

<http://ftpcontent.worldnow.com/kpho/KPHO%20NEWS/review.pdf>

Notification of penalty notice:

<http://ftpcontent.worldnow.com/kpho/KPHO%20NEWS/crushed.pdf>

Chief Bob Khan and the PFD are using the findings from a thorough analysis of the incident to fortify the department's procedures, including the addition of new safety technology.

MISTAKES IGNORED IN INVESTIGATING FIREFIGHTERS DEATHS?

Former Yarnell Fire Chief Peter Andersen sat under a tree in his front yard on Sunday, June 30, when the Granite Mountain Hotshots drove past his Glen Ilah home. "At 8:03, [their] two buggies went by," Andersen says. "Right after they went by, the leaves started to blow. I shook my head. [The state] didn't listen to me." Andersen, who resigned as Yarnell chief in 2011 after 12 years of service, was aggravated because he had warned an Arizona Forestry Division fire manager the night before that it was crucial to attack the steadily expanding fire in the hills above Yarnell at dawn, before prevailing southwesterly winds picked up about 8 in the morning. HERE ARE HIS THOUGHTS-And much more in a very detailed investigative media report: <http://tinyurl.com/luu2cen>

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY: WE ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS:

The USFA has announced the National Fire Academy resident courses will resume normal operations starting November 2nd. Students and instructors scheduled to attend the NFA's resident training in Emmitsburg, Maryland beginning the week of November 3rd should continue their activities to arrive at their already scheduled times. By reopening and resuming operations on November 2nd the NFA resumes it previously planned FY14 two week, one week and weekend resident schedules. In summary, the NFA simply resumes all resident student and instructor operations with the next previously scheduled blocks of curriculum courses. The NFA Online courses are operating normally and currently open for enrollment. Additionally, the enrollment period for second semester FY14 is currently open. For information regarding the reopening and second semester enrollment period, visit <http://www.usfa.fema.gov>

MASS SHOOTER TRAINING:

Learn about the U.S. Fire Administration's active-shooter guidance on how to plan for and train a fire / EMS department for mass-shooting events, including resources chief officers need to safeguard the lives of emergency personnel and incident victims.

HERE: <http://firechief.com/friday-briefing/mass-shooting-fire-and-ems-part-1-planning-and-training>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-22-13 / 2032 Hours

AND:

TN EMS HELICOPTER CRASH

We regret to pass on to you that a medical helicopter crashed in Fayette County (TN) this morning. Three crew members were on board, a hospital wing pilot and two employees from Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. The helicopter was on its way to Bolivar, Tennessee to pick up a patient when it went down. It happened along Highway 64 near Somerville. Firefighters were having trouble accessing the crash site because of muddy conditions. Witnesses say the chopper appears to have disintegrated after catching fire. No remains have been located, but the three people on board are presumed to be dead. We'll post more as it's available. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 10-22-13/1029 hrs

AND:

Hey,
Just a dose of reality at another occupied dwelling fire in Detroit today. Listen as the Chief attempts varied means of transporting the critically injured victim - <http://youtu.be/pR1t9g39P7s> - Other typical challenges facing DFD members are also heard on this run. Their reality.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.
BillyG
The Secret List 10-23-13 / 2137 hrs

AND:

Hey,
7 years ago today, October 26, 2006, 5 Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty at the Esperanza Fire in Riverside County, CA. An arsonist set that fire just before dawn and just after 0700, Santa Ana winds stoked the fire up to 40 miles per hour, "which caused temperatures to exceed 1220 degrees Fahrenheit ahead of the fire front," according to Cal Fire. We remember Fire Capt. Mark Loutzenhiser, 43, FF's Pablo Cerda, 24, Daniel Hoover-Najera, 20, Jason Robert McKay, 27, and Jess Edward McLean, 27, who were protecting a home. The man who started the Esperanza Fire, Raymond Lee Oyler, was convicted in March 2009 of arson and five counts of murder. He's now on California's death row.
RIP.

GROUND LADDER SLIPS OUT:

House fire in Columbia, SC where a ground ladder slipped and a FF was injured. A good reminder for all of us on footing the ladder etc. <http://bcove.me/707pn8zv>

SMOKE EXPLOSION:

Here are multiple companies operating in Chicago yesterday ...when things got ugly:
<https://www.facebook.com/windwardboardshop#!/photo.php?v=786962698768&set=vb.129051547150483&type=2&theater>

THANKS To DaveS for that...here is more:

<http://statter911.com/2013/10/26/must-see-video-explosion-at-chicago-restaurant-fire/>

NEW ZEALAND FIRE APPARATUS CRASH INJURES CIVILIANS (VIDEO)

Civilian car pulls out in front of responding fire apparatus in Auckland, NZ:
<http://tvnz.co.nz/national-news/fire-truck-in-crash-car-way-emergency-5660516>

Take Care. be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-26-13 / 1950 Hours

AND:

AUSSIE FIRE PILOT DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-CRASH

Authorities have confirmed that the pilot of a plane which crashed while fighting bushfires west of Ulladulla has died. Fire service Pilot David Black, 43, a husband and father-of-three from Trangie in central NSW, was waterbombing when his plane crashed in rugged bushland this morning. Firefighters have been unable to recover his body as fires are still burning in the area, which is described as exceptionally rough terrain. But an EMS officer did manage to get in to confirm the Line of Duty death. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

MORE HERE: <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/pilot-david-black-killed-fighting-nsw-bushfires-20131024-2w2qw.html#ixzz2ifyiCIUM>

EMS AMBULANCE CRASH LEAVES TWO EMT'S CRITICAL

Two EMTs, who were riding in the back of their ambulance are fighting for their lives after the rig they were riding in was struck by a car on Tuesday. As of THIS morning, 62-year-old EMT Sandra Sova and 70-year-old EMT Jonathon Dickinson were both listed in critical condition at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise. Dickinson had been in serious condition Wednesday before taking a turn for the worse. . The pair was injured in a crash on US Highway 95 as they transported a patient to Weiser Memorial Hospital. The ambulance was headed south with lights and sirens when it was hit head on by a northbound car driven by 36-year-old Samuel McCartney who swerved into the southbound lane to avoid another vehicle that had slowed to yield to the ambulance. **EMT's Sova and Dickinson were in the back of the ambulance tending to the patient when the crash happened, and were not restrained. They were transported to Saint Alphonsus by air ambulance. McCartney; his passenger, 36-year-old Heather Hetzel and 66-year-old ems driver Charles Penniger, of Council, were all wearing seatbelts at the time of the crash, and were taken to Weiser Memorial Hospital, along with the ambulance patient, who was uninjured.**

300+ BRAND NEW FIRE APPARATUS...JUST WASTING AWAY

In a weed-covered parking lot on the outskirts of Bangkok, (Thailand) tens of millions of dollars of never-used firefighting equipment sits decaying, punished by bouts of searing heat, monsoon rains and a flood that swamped the area two years ago. The equipment, bought from an Austrian unit of the American defense contractor General Dynamics, has remained idle since it was delivered seven years ago in a deal that quickly fell under suspicion because of its high price tag and a lack of competitive bidding. From the start, the tale of Bangkok's languishing fire trucks has been a potent symbol of dysfunctional government - and the foreigners who appeared to take advantage of it.

And to think what places like Detroit could do with those rigs....

READ THE ENTIRE STORY HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/mc6vmta>

PHOENIX FIRE CHIEF: UNACCEPTABLE & OFFENSIVE BEHAVIORS

Two apparatus incidents in three months - including a firefighter's Line of Duty death and a wreck in which an apparatus ran a red light and smashed into an SUV - have prompted Phoenix Fire Chief Bob Khan to renew efforts to bring a "culture change" to an agency that prides itself on its nationwide reputation as a standard-bearer in firefighting. **"It's unacceptable that we lost one firefighter and that we put people's lives in jeopardy," Chief Khan said. "I don't think we need to tell any member of the Phoenix Fire Department that it's offensive for any member who's being paid as a professional to violate a standing order," Chief Khan said.**

Initial reports indicated that in the SUV crash, the SUV had the right-of-way, which Khan confirmed.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Department policy requires fire apparatus to come to a complete stop at red lights and account for all directions of traffic before going through an intersection. "I'm confident that standing orders were violated - breaching a red light," Khan said.

READ THE ENTIRE STORY HERE:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/20131022fire-chief-redoubles-reform-push.html>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-24-13 / 2026 Hours

AND:

KENTUCKY FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY FOLLOWING SEARCH IN A DWELLING FIRE

Its with deep personal regret that we pass on to you the Line of Duty Death of Whitley City (KY) Fire Lieutenant Arlie "Pooh" Hill III. He leaves behind his wife Sharen, a young son, daughter and numerous family members and friends. He passed away at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center Burn Unit within the last hour. As you may recall, on Friday August 30th, Hill, 37, was at the home of his neighbor and brother-in-law, Adam Stephens, around 2230 Hours when they noticed a fire down the road.

Both men (married to twin sisters) are Lieutenants with the Whitley City Fire Department. They called it in and went to investigate. The fire was located at the former residence of Allen Ball. As the Ball family was still in the process of moving away, Lt's Hill and Stephens had good indications the house was still occupied and feared that there might be someone-specifically a young child that they knew-was possibly still in the home. As they started to search the home, a "flashover" trapped Lt. Hill in the living room and forced Lt. Stephens to the porch floor. Stephens was able to heroically grab Hill and get him clear of the burning house. While suffering burns to his face and arms, Stephens immediately attended to "Pooh." While Lt. Stephens did not require longterm care, Lt. Hill had major burns covering over 90 percent of his body. He was airlifted first to the University of Kentucky Medical Center, then to the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, where he has remained in their burn unit. Lt Hill was one heck of a fighter-as we personally witnessed. Since August 30th, when Dr's told the family there was no hope-they remained hope full and held on to their deep faith in God. And while Lt Hill has now tragically passed, their faith gave them that much more time with him. Dozens upon dozens of Firefighters from the greater Cincinnati/Ohio/Northern Kentucky area have been at the hospital since that day supporting and assisting in every possible way. This allowed many of us to get to close to the Hill and Stephens families/ friends, as well as with Chief Tony Miller and his members of the WCFD - support them through this truly "beyond difficult" journey.

MORE HERE: <https://www.facebook.com/Prayersforpooh>

We'll post funeral details as soon as they are available. Whitley City is located just west of I-75, near London and Corbin, north of the Tennessee line in Kentucky. Our deepest condolences to all affected. Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-27-2013 / 1740 Hours

AND:

SPECIAL NOTE: The late Ky. Fire Lt "Pooh" Hill was taken home today - a 200 mile trip from the University of Cincinnati Burn Unit. Here are some links of what the greater Cincinnati fire service did to honor him as he left our area: <http://tinyurl.com/ng68wd2> & <http://tinyurl.com/pde8gg8> & <http://tinyurl.com/kov6b35>

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Hey,

David Barr, Sr., the Perryville (MD) fire police officer struck by a car on Route 40 last Friday evening while directing traffic at a crash scene, remained in critical but stable condition this evening at Christiana Hospital. FPO Barr was wearing his reflective vest when he was struck at the scene of a three-car crash on Route 40, but a preliminary police investigation determined sun glare may have been a factor in the collision. Barr has been a Community Fire Company of Perryville Fire Police Officer for 13 years, and currently serves as the Captain.

He remains on pain medication for knee and back injuries, and he also suffered two injured vertebrae and a broken rib from the trauma, John said. He is breathing on his own with the assistance of a ventilator. The Barr family said that anyone who wished to aid in David's recovery could donate to an account set up at Perry Point Federal Credit Union in the name of David Barr, Sr., or Rachel Barr.

HERE IS The Community Fire Co Website: <http://www.pvfd616.com>

We wish him a quick recovery.

NEW LINE OF DUTY DEATH REPORTS:

NIOSH has recently released the following Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation Reports:

Feb 29, 2012

Fire captain dies when struck by a pickup truck while working at the scene of two traffic incidents - California. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201207.html>

Aug 10, 2012

Captain dies while participating in advanced dive training at quarry - Ohio.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201225.html>

Jan 08, 2013

Airport fire fighter suffers sudden cardiac death while performing airport runway check - Alabama.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201303.html>

Sep 02, 2012

Fire chief suffers fatal heart attack - New Hampshire.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201308.html>

Mar 19, 2012

Fire apparatus operator found unresponsive in bunk room after a ladder training drill - Virginia.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201309.html>

Mar 03, 2013

Volunteer fire chief suffers cardiac arrest at brush fire - North Carolina.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201310.html>

Mar 07, 2013

Driver/engineer suffers sudden cardiac death at scene of motor vehicle crash - Georgia.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201318.html>

LAWSUIT IN DUI FIREFIGHTER/FIRE APPARATUS CRASH

No surprise that the motorcyclist badly hurt when he was struck by a San Francisco fire apparatus driven by an allegedly drunken firefighter has sued the city. He claims the FD failed to properly train and supervise the Firefighter. Mr. Jack Frazier, 49, of Daly City suffered a collapsed lung, neck and back injuries, and fractured ribs and other broken bones when the ladder truck driven by FF Michael Quinn went through a red light late June 29 and hit his bike. Frazier was thrown into a fire hydrant. He was hospitalized for more than a month at a cost of more than \$461,000, according to the claim his lawyer filed with the city last month. The suit, filed yesterday, names the city and Quinn and seeks unspecified damages. The city owed it to Frazier and other motorists to ensure that Quinn was properly trained and "did not pose a threat of harm to the public," the suit says.

Quinn and other firefighters from Station 1 were responding to what turned out to be a false alarm.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Fire Department officials say the ladder truck's siren and red lights were on, but department rules require even rigs responding to emergencies to wait until an intersection is clear before driving through them. Quinn allegedly left the crash scene and did not turn up at Station 1 for several hours. He was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving and hit-and-run, but has yet to be charged.

Cops investigating the case obtained security-camera footage that shows Quinn guzzling water at the Chieftain Irish Pub at Fifth and Howard early June 30 before returning to the station, according to sources with knowledge of the case. At least one firefighter spoke to Quinn in the bar, sources say.

After he showed up at Station 1, Quinn's blood alcohol level was measured at 0.13 percent, above the legal limit for driving of 0.08 percent, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the police investigation is continuing. The Fire Department has a zero-tolerance policy for drinking on duty.

Quinn, a 23-year veteran of the department, is on unpaid leave. Fire Department supervisors have accused him of 13 counts of misconduct, including unsafe operation of a vehicle, disobeying an order, drunkenness and entering a bar on duty. Police have sought phone records and text messages related to Quinn as part of the investigation.

FINAL NOTE:

54 year old Las Vegas (NV) FF/Engineer John Thomas DeLucchi, a 23-year veteran, has died after a battle with brain cancer. He passed away on Saturday. Our condolences to all affected as another Firefighter dies from the # 1 cause of Firefighter death. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

The Secret List 10-29-13 / 2053 Hours

AND:

PA FF LODD-MEDICAL

A Fox Township (Elk County, PA) Firefighter died in the Line of Duty earlier [today](#) while removing a patient from a motor vehicle crash. The Firefighter was assisting a two vehicle crash victim with transport to an ambulance when he experienced cardiac arrest. He was immediately treated and was transported to Elk Regional Health Center - where he passed away. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List [11-2-13](#) / 1400 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Plattekill (Ulster County, NY) fire apparatus overturned last night injuring all 5 firefighters on board. The rig was responding to a traffic crash on the New York State Thruway at about 2100 hours, when it swerved to avoid a car going west that crossed the double yellow line on the rain-slicked road. The apparatus (photo on our home page) went out of control, struck a guardrail, flipped on its side, rolled and came to rest on its roof. Three of the firefighters were transported to St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie, and two were transported to the Newburgh campus of St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital. Fortunately, the injuries are not considered life threatening. Four of the firefighters are men and one a woman. Cops said they had no further information or description of the westbound vehicle that crossed the line.

AGAINST ALL ODDS.

Here is a cool story about a Firefighter-critically injured in a train vs fire apparatus crash-who lived far

beyond what doctors predicted...."He had two open fractures in his skull, a crushed back, all his ribs were broken but one and they'd punctured his lungs, he had a bruised heart, a busted spleen- everything that can be wrong, was wrong with him,"

MORE HERE: http://blog.al.com/live/2013/11/firefighter_paralyzed_in_accid.html

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

Welcome to the world Vada Lillian!

BillyG

The Secret List 11-3-13 / 2145 Hours

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

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

Budget Related Items:

Two Oakdale (CA) firefighters will lose their jobs as of Jan. 1. The City Council voted 4-1 Monday night to trim the Oakdale Fire Department staff to 12 to deal with a worsening budget outlook. Councilman Farrell Jackson dissented. The council had preserved the jobs in the initial budget approved in June for the fiscal year that started July 1. The reversal came after City Manager Bryan Whitemyer noted the budget problems, including rising pension costs for city employees and likely increases in health costs. The city also faces \$10.7million in long-term debt in the general fund and the March 2015 expiration of a half-percentage-point increase in the sales tax over three years:

<http://www.modbee.com/2013/10/08/2965165/oakdale-votes-to-lay-off-two-firefighters.html>

The number of firefighters and paramedics staffing the Moraga-Orinda (CA) Fire District on a daily basis will shrink in an attempt to address a budget deficit. Directors voted unanimously to trim on-duty daily minimum staffing from 19 firefighters, captains and engineers to 17 after a public workshop Wednesday in Orinda. Staffing on "red flag" or high fire danger days would also be reduced, but the number of chief officers on duty would not be affected. None of the district's 59 firefighting and emergency staffers will be laid off, but the district could still save up to \$73,000 a month: http://www.contracostatimes.com/ci_24338282/moraga-orinda-fire-district-approves-staffing-reduction?IADID=Search-www.contracostatimes.com-www.contracostatimes.com

Jersey City (NJ) is restructuring its Fire Department once again, eliminating an entire battalion in an effort the city says will save up to \$1 million. Reducing from four to three battalions will place more firefighters on duty and free up fire captains who had been acting as safety officers, the city says. The move, which comes one month after the city combined the Fire and Police departments into one Public Safety agency, will help reduce skyrocketing overtime costs in the Fire Department, according to the administration. Ten months into 2013, the Fire Department has used its entire \$2.6 million overtime budget, which the city blames on "inefficient staffing, particularly at the captain rank."

http://www.nj.com/jjournal-news/index.ssf/2013/10/jersey_city_to_restructure_fir.html

The resource-depleted Pinole (CA) Fire Department cannot perform all the functions of a healthy fire organization and should take a fresh look at alternative service models in collaboration with neighboring districts, according to a report from City Manager Belinda Espinosa and interim fire Chief Carlos Rodriguez to be delivered to the City Council on

Tuesday. The recommendation comes as the city ponders how to implement a \$1.24 million federal firefighting grant, spread over two years, which will cover the cost of hiring four firefighters. The current roster is 13, not counting the fire chief and a battalion chief; another firefighter is supposed to be hired by January to fill a vacancy. A report, available at <http://bit.ly/HkJxBZ> says Pinole's fire department, which has a \$3.2 million budget for fiscal 2013-2014, can only act reactively, with the help of a "handshake agreement" with the Contra Costa County and Rodeo-Hercules fire districts. The three agencies form the four-station Battalion 7, down from six stations just over two years ago; the Pinole Valley and Rodeo stations have since closed. A healthy fire organization needs administrative, operations, safety and training, and emergency preparedness and public education divisions, in addition to a bureau of fire prevention and building and code enforcement, a lineup today's Pinole Fire Department cannot muster. "The Pinole Fire Department as it exists today is fundamentally not capable of performing all of these duties and responsibilities with the staffing complement and the service model that exists today," the report says:

http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_24390409/pinole-revisit-alternative-fire-service-models

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

A popular captain with the Weber (UT) Fire District is on paid leave pending the outcome of a DUI investigation. Weber Fire District Capt. Joseph Gannon, 45, was arrested Aug. 21 for investigation of causing an injury accident while driving impaired. Gannon was driving on Wall Avenue when the car in front of him stopped in heavy traffic. He was unable to stop in time and rear-ended the vehicle in front of him, according to a police affidavit filed in 2nd District Court. The occupants of the vehicle he allegedly hit sustained minor injuries, the affidavit states. A passenger in Gannon's vehicle sustained "moderate" injuries after striking the windshield. Gannon failed a field sobriety test and told the responding officer he had had six or seven beers, according to the affidavit. Weber Fire District Chief David Austin said Gannon was placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of an investigation. He also said Gannon's driver's license was suspended:

http://www.ksl.com/?sid=26986693&nid=148&title=weber-county-fire-captain-arrested-for-alleged-2nd-dui&fm=home_page&s_cid=queue-11

SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA, FIRE Lieutenant Thomas "TJ" Rhoades notified the department on October 16 that he would be retiring on October 25 (today). The 16th was also the day an investigation was opened by the county sheriff department into funds missing from the Firefighters Benevolent Fund, a charitable organization that Rhoades had been serving as treasurer: <http://firegeezzer.com/2013/10/25/promotional-opportunities-in-florida-2/>

A Cal Fire (CA) battalion chief in North Auburn was caught up in an under-cover drug sting Sept. 30 in Roseville. Battalion Chief Ronald Ray Wright was arrested in the 200 block of Harding Boulevard by Roseville police on suspicion of drug transportation. He has been a chief with Cal Fire since 2006 and is based out of Placer County Fire. Roseville police spokeswoman DeeDee Gunther said that he was arrested as part of regular operations conducted by Roseville police to reduce criminal activity:

<http://www.auburnjournal.com/article/north-auburn-cal-fire-chief-arrested-roseville>

A Carol Stream (IL) Fire Protection District battalion chief says his bosses want to fire him because he refused to participate in a cover-up of possible negligence by a paramedic that may have contributed to a choking woman's death — a claim department officials insist is not true: <http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20131012/news/710129910/>

Three Sodus Point (NY) firemen were arrested while attending the 47th Annual Drill School, hosted by the Old Forge Fire Department in Old Forge, New York on Saturday (9/14). According to Town of Webb Police, Eric Frisbie and Jacob Williams, members of the Sodus Point Fire Department, were charged with Burglary, Criminal Mischief and Petit Larceny. Frisbie was additionally charged with False Impersonation. Two of the men allegedly broke into the Enchanted Forest Water Safari. Food and prize items were stolen, a door kicked in, machines turned over and an arcade game smashed inside one of the park buildings, according to police. One of the men defecated on the floor inside of the building, according to the report. The men were staying at the Old Forge Campgrounds, adjacent to the water park, and a warranted search of their accommodations revealed stolen food and prize items, according to police: <http://statter911.com/2013/09/25/firefighters-charged-with-vandalizing-ny-amusement-park-were-attending-training-session/>

A fifth firefighter has been fired in connection with allegations of cruelty to 2 mentally challenged men at Shreveport's (LA) Fire Station 8. Captain Chandler is accused of causing one of the victims to be stung repeatedly by fire ants, and of feeding him dog food while on duty as a fire captain. Four other firefighters have already been fired and are facing the same charge, as well as 1 count each of principal to prostitution in connection with the scandal at Fire Station 8. Fire Captain Derrick Harris, 17-year veteran and engineer Billy Glass, 11-year veteran firefighter Jason Vaughn and 4-year veteran firefighter Clint Richardson have all pleaded not guilty to the charges. The charges stem from allegations that the accused firefighters subjected two disabled adults who were regulars at Fire Station 8 to cruel pranks that included stranding them on the roof of the fire station and forcing them to drink human urine. The firefighters are also accused of chipping in to pay for a prostitute for one of the men, described as a severely mentally challenged 58-year-old man with "the mind of an 8 or 9-year-old child." According to court documents, the man was ordered to have sex with the prostitute in the restroom at Fire Station 8 while Captain Derrick Harris and four others looked on: <http://www.ksla.com/story/23568468/sfd-captain-pleads-not-guilty-to-cruelty-charge>

Nine firefighters were suspended pending an undisclosed internal investigation, according to a statement issued late Tuesday by Milwaukee (WI) Fire Chief Mark Rohlfing. Rohlfing did not describe the allegations or the reason for the suspensions beyond the brief statement. "Administration has been made aware of certain alleged actions by several of our members that are in contravention to our core values," the statement said. A Fire Department source confirms for the I-TEAM the nine suspended members were all assigned to Engine 32/Ladder 9, a firehouse located in the 1500 block of North 30th Street. Those nine firefighters were disgruntled by a recent change in command at Engine 32, and a number of the firefighters also faced possible reassignment. The source says the firefighters took out their frustration on the firehouse by shattering televisions, smashing dishes and soiling firefighting equipment with bodily fluids: <http://www.todaystmj4.com/features/iteam/226063991.html>

An investigation of a Columbus (OH) firefighter has widened in an effort to determine whether supervisors tried to cover up his two-year sexual affair with a young woman while on duty. Fire Division investigators have spent the past five months uncovering details during more than 85 interviews to determine how firefighter Marc Cain was able to violate division policy by having sex with the woman while on duty: <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/10/13/sex-probe-pulling-in-superiors.html>

A Baton Rouge (LA) firefighter accused of using a Baton Rouge firehouse to produce part of a raunchy film is trying to extinguish a controversy that has torched his 10-year career. Dewey Allen was fired this summer after officials found he violated department policy by shooting a

scene of “Mississippi Shakedown” inside a fire station on Old Hammond Highway. The firefighter’s attorney said the film was not pornographic but acknowledged “church-going America” might find it objectionable. Fire Department records show Allen had been suspended for 30 days on April 5 after failing a random drug and alcohol screen. “We as public servants are entrusted by the public to perform to the best of our abilities and not be inhibited by the use of alcohol or illegal drugs while on duty,” Baton Rouge Fire Chief Ed Smith wrote in a disciplinary letter. In a termination letter issued July 31, Smith said Allen had initially acknowledged filming portions of the movie inside the fire station and using department equipment in its production: <http://theadvocate.com/home/7337588-125/baton-rouge-fireman-loses-job>

Training & Safety Related Items:

Orange County (CA) Firefighters aboard an engine that crashed into a pine tree in March were not wearing seatbelts, authorities said, including a fire captain who crashed through the window. When investigators got a closer look at the fire engine, they also found the seat sensors and buzzer – which alerts the crew when someone is not buckled in – had been disconnected and covered with duct tape. Only minor injuries were reported in the crash. The fire crew aboard Orange County Fire Authority’s Engine 61 in Buena Park had been rushing down Crescent Ave. on March 13 with lights and siren on when the vehicle hit the tree with enough force to cut down the top 15 feet of it and cause nearly \$250,000 in damage to the truck. Within a month, the fire authority found eight more fire engines and trucks rigged by firefighters in the same way – with disconnected sensors and covered alarms to muffle the sound, officials said: <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/fire-529326-board-zimmerman.html>

Two harrowing incidents in three months — including a firefighter’s death and a wreck in which a fire truck ran a red light and smashed into an SUV — have prompted Phoenix (AZ) Fire Chief Bob Khan to renew efforts to bring a “culture change” to an agency that prides itself on its nationwide reputation as a standard-bearer in firefighting. Phoenix fire administrators earlier this year said the death of Firefighter Brad Harper, who was crushed between two trucks at a mulch fire last spring, would be in vain if the department did not take steps to correct the errors that led to the fatality. Three months later, a fire engine slammed into an SUV, injuring four firefighters and the SUV’s driver. The engine in the accident had run a red light, Khan said Tuesday. The department was fined \$95,000 for violations of state law that contributed to Harper’s death, according to reports released Tuesday, and a committee recommended changes in policies, training and equipment to ensure the mistakes that led to Harper’s death aren’t repeated. Khan said many of the recommendations that stemmed from Harper’s death have been implemented, but the red-light-running engine solidifies the need to emphasize agency protocols and hold accountable those who violate policy. “It’s unacceptable that we lost one firefighter and that we put people’s lives in jeopardy,” Khan said: http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/20131022fire-chief-redoubles-reform-push.html?nclick_check=1

General Fire Service Related Items:

San Antonio (TX) Fire Chief Charles Hood said he wrestled with the decision to terminate a veteran firefighter who admitted to drinking to the point of intoxication while on duty in May. Firefighter John “Dan” Stevens was suspended indefinitely August 28. According to suspension paperwork obtained by the I-TEAM through an Open Records Request, Stevens admitted to drinking while on duty May 30 at Fire Station 23. Hood said taking any course of

action other than firing Stevens would have sent the wrong message to the public and his department of nearly 1,900 people. "That's why this step, as far as being so severe, so drastic, letting someone go, it had to be done," added Chief Hood. Stevens was administered fluids at the fire station and was eventually taken to a bunk to "sleep it off." He told supervisors he would seek outside counseling. Chief Hood has ordered a review of how the incident was handled, after a second allegation Stevens may have been drinking on duty sometime in 2012 recently came to light: <http://www.kens5.com/news/lt-had-to-be-done-SAFD-terminates-firefighter-who-admitted-to-being-drunk-at-work-225870871.html>

Cold air. Then heat. Then terror. Two volunteer firefighters nearly die in Prince George's County when a vacant house becomes an inferno. He didn't hide his scars. That part of the healing had finally begun. Nearly half of Kevin O'Toole's body had been burned the night a [vacant house turned into a firetrap](#), injuring seven Prince George's County firefighters. O'Toole had gotten the worst of an arsonist's malevolence, and surgeons had operated on him 13 times since – at first to save his life; more recently to reconstruct his hands, which were so badly damaged that doctors feared that he'd never regain use of the right and that they'd have to amputate the left. "The scars will always be there," O'Toole said. "They may fade, but they're not going away. It's part of who I am now. If you can't talk about it, you can't heal yourself."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/local/2013/10/12/cold-air-then-heat-then-terror/?hpid=z1>

The first court-ordered class of FDNY trainees — the oldest and most diverse in history — is flaming out. Halfway through the 18-week Fire Academy course, the dropout rate has hit a sky-high 15 percent and could climb to a third of the 318 who started on July 29, according to insiders. So far, 48 have dropped out. They include 23 of 123 court-ordered "priority hires," mainly blacks and Latinos in their 30s and early 40s who took the FDNY entrance exam in 1999 or 2000 but were passed over. The dropouts also include 23 of 176 FDNY paramedics seeking promotion and two of 20 "open competitive" candidates. Four of eight women have also bailed. The eight were hailed as the most in an academy class since 1982, when a lawsuit forced the FDNY to bring on the first female firefighters. In addition, an alarming number of "probies" have been injured — suffering sprains, fractures and other ailments — and put on medical leave, insiders say. Others teeter on the cusp of flunking out because they can't handle the physical or academic demands: <http://nypost.com/2013/10/13/fdnys-court-mandated-class-flaming-out/>

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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