



# ***FIRE & EMS NEWS***

**December 28, 2012**

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

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

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

**T**o start out with some holiday spirit, I want to share a poem that was provided to be me by a good friend of mine, Lieutenant Mike Daley with the Monroe Township #3 Fire District in New Jersey – [www.fspceducators.com](http://www.fspceducators.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Well, we tugged and we pulled until he came out,

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Then he winked with one eye, and said with a shout:

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

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

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

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**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 2013 Semester: (January through May 2013)**

Registration for the Spring 2013 semester at Chabot College has begun, many classes are already full!

The following classes are now available!

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

COURSE	DAY
<b>FT 50</b> (Fire Protection Organization) <b>Note:</b> FT 50, section EN1 is a short-term Hybrid course, with meetings on-campus, and 15 lecture hours conducted over the Internet. 12 lab hours will be conducted on campus over <b>two</b> Saturdays. Online lecture and Saturday lab schedule will be available on the first day of class. For additional information, go to <a href="http://www.chabotcollege.edu/online">http://www.chabotcollege.edu/online</a>	Monday (am)
<b>FT 50</b> (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)
<b>FT 51</b> (Fire Operations)	Thursday (am)
<b>FT 52</b> (Firefighter Safety & Survival)	Wednesday (am)
<b>FT 52</b> (Firefighter Safety & Survival) <b>Note:</b> FT 52, section, ON1 is a Hybrid course with 24 lecture hours conducted over the Internet. 12 lab hours will be conducted over two Saturdays. Online lecture and Saturday lab schedule will be available on the first day of class. For additional information go to <a href="http://www.chabotcollege.edu/online">http://www.chabotcollege.edu/online</a>	Wednesday (pm)
<b>FT 53</b> (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (pm)
<b>FT 55</b> (Fire Protection Equipment & Systems)	Thursday (pm)
<b>FT 89</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) <b>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</b> - March 6, 8, and 10 (Wed/Fri/Sun)	Mon & Wed (pm) Saturday (all day)

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<b>COURSE</b>	<b>DAY</b>
<b>FT 89</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) <b>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</b> - April 16, 18 and 20 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 90A</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 90B</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 90C</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 91A</b> (CAL FIRE Wildland Basic Training) <b>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</b> - April 30, May 2, May 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
<b>FT 91B</b> (Haz Mat 1 <sup>st</sup> Responder-Operations) <b>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</b> - April 23, 25, 27 and 28	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
<b>FT 91C</b> (I-200; Basic ICS) <b>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</b> - April 16, 18, 20 and 21	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
<b>FT 91D</b> (Firefighter Survival) <b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b> - April 9, 11 and 13	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>FT 96</b> (Work Experience Seminar) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 95**</b> <b>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</b> - January 23, 30, March 13, April 24 and May 29	Wednesday (pm)
<b>Health 61</b> (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)
<b>Health 61</b> (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)
<b>Health 81</b> (EMT) <b>**Must also be registered in Health 83**</b>	Wednesday (all day)
<b>Health 83</b> (Extrication and Triage) <b>**Must also be registered in Health 81**</b>	Saturday (one day only – TBA)
<b>Health 85</b> (EMT Refresher) <b>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</b> - April 29 through May 11, 2013	Monday & Wednesday (pm) Saturday (all day)
<b>PHED2FSC</b> (Fire Science Conditioning)	Mon & Wed (mid)
<b>PHED2FSC</b> (Fire Science Conditioning)	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 2013 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

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

**MUST LISTEN/READ FOR ALL FIRE SERVICE PERSONNEL –  
CURRENT & FUTURE:**

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

**F**rom Statter911 ([www.statter911.com](http://www.statter911.com)), a great resource for fire service news stories, comes this reality check for all of us – this 19 minute audio recording of an NPR news story on the fire service and what is facing all fire departments in the United States. The reality for us is to not be in denial and to do what it takes to survive in the long run because what we are doing right now in many communities will not go on forever:

*Fewer fires. More medical calls. Less money. Higher pension costs. Some of the factors NPR's Planet Money cites as the reasons behind citizens failing to vote for a tax increase that could have prevented Contra Costa, California from having to close four fire stations.*

*Please take a moment to listen to the report titled, "How Much Is A Firefighter Worth?". It talks a lot about the current perception the public has of firefighters and some of the reasons the firefighters failed to get the support of the community to stop the closings. Much of what you will hear is a story that firefighters all across the country can relate to. Many of you have been confronting similar situations over the last three or four years.*

*I am sure some of you won't like what you hear and you may even think the reporters have parts of it wrong. But overall this idea of citizens possibly voting against their own safety in order to keep more money in their own pockets is the reality we are living with. The economy continues to shape the image of firefighters and the amount of risk to those firefighters and to their own families that the public is willing to accept: <http://statter911.com/2012/12/19/38585/>*

**Y**ou can agree or disagree with the information – but perception is reality, and these perceptions are occurring across the country and if we do not address the perceptions in a positive way, we will probably not like the outcome. The outcomes in many areas and to many fire departments are not positive, and unless something drastic changes, the fire service as we know it will continue to change in many ways we may not want it to – but will have no choice in the matter to because we did not get involved and we did not attempt to be a part of the solution.

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**FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

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**CITY OF HAYWARD  
OPEN RECRUITMENT**

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**FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE (PARAMEDIC CERTIFIED)**

**Monthly Salary:** Firefighter Trainee: \$5,938 and Firefighter: \$6,532 - \$7,914

- ***This bulletin announces an open competitive recruitment for Firefighter Trainee.***
- ***The examination process is tentative scheduled for the week of January 28, 2013.***
- ***Applications must be received in the Human Resources Department no later than 5:00 PM on January 18, 2013.***

**THE POSITION:** The Firefighter Trainee is hired into a civilian position for the period of time they are assigned to the Fire Academy. Upon successful completion of the Training Academy, the Firefighter Trainee position transitions into the position of Firefighter and Trainees will be sworn in and appointed to the classification of Firefighter. Firefighter Trainee benefits are limited to those of a civilian employee. The position of Firefighter responds to emergency alarms, lays lines, and directs streams

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of water and other extinguishers. Carries and sets up ladders, ventilate buildings, rescues persons and animals. The Firefighter attends to victims in emergency situations using prescribed paramedic techniques; provides medical aid; administers drugs; gives injections; starts intravenous solutions; takes and monitors vital signs; takes appropriate action to preserve life as prescribed by Alameda County protocols, the Base Hospital, via direct radio or telephone contact or physician on scene. In addition a firefighter may be required to drive department ambulance and transport patients to emergency receiving facilities.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Must be at least 18 years old at the time of the initial oral interview.
- Education equivalent to completion of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade (High School Diploma or GED)
- Vision correctable to at least 20/30 in each eye.
- Possession of a Class "C" California Driver's License at time of appointment.
- Possession of **California Paramedic License prior to date of hire.**
- Possession of and the ability to maintain local accreditation certificate from Alameda County as Paramedic upon completion of the 16-week Recruit Academy.
- Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Certification. **A copy of the certificate MUST be obtained prior to the date of hire.**
- Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) or a Basic Trauma Life Support Certificate (BTLS). **A copy of the certificate MUST be obtained prior to the date of hire.**
- Possession of and ability to maintain a Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Certificate or a valid Pediatric Education for Pre-Hospital Professional (PEPP) certification. **A copy of the certificate MUST be obtained prior to the date of hire.**

Note: Candidates currently enrolled in Paramedic Programs may apply and compete for placement on the Eligibility List. However, before a candidate can be considered for the positions, the candidate must possess a valid California Paramedic License.

### EXAMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS:

- **Written Exam:** (Pass/Fail) Candidates must pass the written examination in order to participate in the physical performance test.
- **Physical Performance Test:** (Pass/Fail) All parts of the event must be passed in order to continue to the next phase of the process.
- **Oral Interview:** Candidates will be interviewed by a qualifications appraisal panel to determine ranking on the Firefighter Eligibility List. Candidates must achieve a score of 70% or better to be placed on the list.
- **Selection Interview:** Candidates will be interviewed by a qualifications appraisal panel comprised of Chief Officers. Candidates will be required to successfully climb an aerial ladder as part of this process.
- **Comprehensive Background Investigation:** Includes personal history, prior job performance and activities that may negatively affect job performance.
- **Medical Examination**

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:** The application procedure will consist of submitting a completed copy application for Firefighter Trainee to the Human Resources Department **no later than 5:00 PM, January 18, 2013.** The job application can be completed and submitted online at [www.Calopps.org](http://www.Calopps.org)

**ENTRY LEVEL FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

**Entry Level Firefighter's Workshop!!!**

We are pleased to inform you that we will be presenting the Entry Level **Firefighter Workshop** on February 24, 2013 from 8am – 5pm. This will be our 5<sup>th</sup> year producing this incredible event. We have already begun the planning and are very excited for what is about to transpire. By now some of you are “Old Pros” at this. For others, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the fold. Over the last 4 years we have assisted over 750 candidates in their quest for the coveted job of Professional Firefighter. Our grass roots campaign has had tremendous results for so many. We have received testimonials from many past attendees raving about the program we offer and how much it helped them to get The JOB. The results we have seen over these years speak for themselves. We recognize that none of this would be possible without your hard work and commitment to the program. For that we are grateful.

**Where:** Las Positas College - “Mertes Center For The Arts” (Livermore, CA)  
**Date:** Sunday February 24, 2013  
**Cost:** \$20 (Lunch & Certificate included)

**Topics will include:**

- Being the Ideal Candidate
- Chiefs Interviews
- Applications & Resumes
- Education
- Technology in the Hiring Process
- Preparation for the Job
- The Written Exam
- Discipline & Accountability
- A Chief's Address

**Register at:** [www.firefighterworkshop.com](http://www.firefighterworkshop.com)

**Selected participants will receive a practice interview given by Certified Oral Board Raters**

***Bring your resume!!***

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**FIRE OFFICER & FIRE TECHNOLOGY TWO YEAR DEGREE COURSES:**

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

*Register Early, Classes are expected to fill fast.*

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

**Core Classes (Required)**

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



Electives

- Apparatus & Equipment
- Principles of Emergency Management

CFSTES Fire Officer Classes:

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

- **CLASS FULL** - Fire Command 1A: Command Principles For Company Officers
- **CLASS FULL** - Fire Command 1B: Incident Management For Company Officers **Pre-Requisites**
- Fire Command 1C: I-Zone Firefighting for Company Officers-**Pre-Requisites**
- Fire Management 1: Management" Supervision for Company Officers
- **CLASS FULL** - Fire Prevention 1A: Introduction To The California Fire Code, Part 1- **Entirely On-line**
- **CLASS FULL** - Fire Prevention 1B: Introduction To The California Fire Code, Part 2- **Entirely On-line**

**If a class is full try getting on the "Wait List"**

General Education classes are also offered on-line. For information on how to enroll as a student and register for classes or if you want additional information on the Fire Technology Program, contact Dan Coffman at [dcoffman@hancockcollege.edu](mailto:dcoffman@hancockcollege.edu)

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**



**THE FUTURE FIREFIGHTER EXPERIENCE**

Firehouse is offering this unique package to all students who are going through the steps to become a firefighter.

For additional information go to:

[http://firehouseworld.com/future\\_firefighters.php?t=events&update=1](http://firehouseworld.com/future_firefighters.php?t=events&update=1)

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Redeem your **FREE** admission pass today in three easy steps to gain **FREE** access to education and to hundreds of exhibitors and state-of-the-art equipment:

- 1 | Visit [FirehouseWorld.com](http://FirehouseWorld.com)
- 2 | Click the Register Today button
- 3 | Enter Promo Code: STD11

This program is intended to give future firefighters an upper-hand in hiring process for the position of firefighter. Sessions on hiring and testing are coupled with networking opportunities and the chance to get hands-on with the latest equipment available to firefighters.

#### **Getting Hired as a Firefighter in 2013: How to be the Best You Can Be - 90 minutes**

Attendees will be exposed to 21 key points that will assist them with being the best firefighter candidate they can be during their next firefighter examination. Veteran fire service instructor Steve Prziborowski will also cover the top 25 reasons that a fire department want to hire you as a firefighter and 25 reasons why they don't want to hire you as a firefighter. Learn from the mistakes of others, including myself, to ensure you are the best you can be on your next firefighter exam!

#### **How to Master the Fire Service Testing Process - 90 minutes**

Becoming a firefighter is not easy and if it was, everyone would be successful at getting hired. Unfortunately for every one firefighter who is hired, there are hundreds, if not thousands that are never hired. Instead of placing blame on others or being bitter, it is critical that the future firefighter takes responsibility for their career and takes control of their own destiny. Attendees will walk away with a better understanding of locating firefighter exams and the character traits that fire departments are looking for. He will share the common mistakes that you can avoid during the hiring process. Attendees will also be exposed to the most common phases of the Firefighter hiring process, including what to expect in each of the phases, key points for success, and how to best prepare for each phase.

#### **About the Instructor**

Both sessions will be led by Steve Prziborowski, a deputy chief with the Santa Clara County Fire Department in Los Gatos, CA. Steve began his fire service career in 1991 as a fire explorer in Alameda and then participated in a student ride-along program through Chabot College with the Oakland Fire Department. He served as a paid-call firefighter/paramedic with the Elk Grove Fire Department prior to getting hired in Santa Clara County. He is an instructor for Chabot College's Fire Technology Program and a national speaker and author. He has served as a mentor and coach for entry level and promotional level candidates.

#### **Plus:**

All access-pass to the exhibit hall to see the latest technology and tools available to the fire service.

- Access to Wednesday morning's two keynote addresses. One firefighter will talk about adversity after he was seriously injured during his military career and had to overcome a number of challenges before joining the Long Beach, CA, Fire Department.
- Networking opportunities with firefighters and fire officers from around the country.

Visit [www.FirehouseWorld.com](http://www.FirehouseWorld.com) for details and to register.

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

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

### **Regional Wildland Fire Risk Analysis Reports Now Available**

#### ***Stakeholder Engagement Encouraged in Final Phase of the Cohesive Strategy***

EMMITSBURG, Md. – The three Regional Strategy Committees (RSC) of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy) have recently completed Risk Analysis Reports identifying strategies for addressing wildland fire management risk in their respective regions.

The Risk Analysis Reports contain key elements that can be integrated into strategies for addressing the shared goals of the **National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy** (<http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/index.shtml>): resilient landscapes, fire-adapted communities and response to wildland fire. Each RSC is comprised of representatives from federal, state, local and tribal governments and non-governmental organizations with interests in wildland fire management.

Across the nation, **Regional Risk Analysis Reports** (<http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/rsc.shtml#riskanalysis>) have been designed as practical decision support tools for wildland fire management agencies, non-governmental organizations and local communities. The Risk Analysis Reports suggest how key options can be integrated into a strategy, and includes examples of how to “braid” federal, state, local and private interests; ideas on how projects and funds can be better aligned and leveraged; and profiles of success that have blended experience to build stronger collaborations. The three RSCs will continue to build on this foundational work and momentum with fellow stakeholders and partners to construct Regional Action Plans. Action Plans will define and document the actions intended for implementation over the course of the next five years.

Learn more about the Regional Risk Analysis reports and the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy at [www.forestsandrangelands.gov](http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov), or contact Patti Blankenship, DHS/FEMA/USFA representative to the Cohesive Strategy, at [patricia.blankenship@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:patricia.blankenship@fema.dhs.gov) or any of the RSCs:

Northeast Regional Strategy Committee: Brad Simpkins, Chair; at [northeastrsc@gmail.com](mailto:northeastrsc@gmail.com)  
Southeast Regional Strategy Committee: Mike Zupko, Chair, at [mike@zup-co-inc.com](mailto:mike@zup-co-inc.com)  
Western Regional Strategy Committee: Doug MacDonald, Chair; at [westerncohesivestrategy@gmail.com](mailto:westerncohesivestrategy@gmail.com)

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The Cohesive Strategy is a collaborative process with active involvement of all levels of government and non-governmental organizations, as well as the public, to seek national, all-lands solutions to wildland fire management issues. Information available online at <http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/index.shtml>

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

## **NFPA and the US Fire Administration Team Up to Put a Freeze on Winter Fires**

12/06/2012 10:24 AM EST

While a warm home and a hot meal on a cold winter's day may conjure up thoughts of safety and security, the unfortunate reality is that winter is the leading time of year for home fires in the United States. Through a jointly sponsored initiative - Put a Freeze on Winter Fires - NFPA and USFA are working collaboratively to tell the public about ways to stay fire-safe this winter. The effort targets home heating and cooking, which represent the two leading causes of U.S. home fires. Both types of fires peak in the winter months.

For more information, go to: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/media/press/2012releases/120612.shtm>

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**



**T**he San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District is currently establishing an eligibility list for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic. This is an entry level Firefighter position with the District and an outstanding opportunity for a dynamic professional to become a valued member of an innovative, progressive, internationally accredited fire district. The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District is an independent Special District in Contra Costa County responsible for providing a high level of emergency and non-emergency services to the communities it serves. The District's service area encompasses approximately 155 square miles, serving the communities of Alamo, Blackhawk, Danville, Diablo, San Ramon, the southern boundary of Morgan Territory, and the Tassajara Valley. The communities are primarily residential, commercial, office park, and controlled manufacturing protected by 10 stations and 175 employees.

### **COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS**

**Compensation:** Starting salary is \$7,415/month which includes a holiday differential as well as a 12.5% Paramedic differential. Differentials to be applied when serving in a paramedic/shift assignment after successful completion of recruit academy. Top step salary including differentials is \$8,645/month.

**Hours:** 48 x 96 shift schedule.

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**Vacation:** Accumulation rate increases with length of service. The initial rate is 14 hours per month.

**Sick Leave:** Accumulated at the rate of 12 hours per month indefinitely during tenure of career.

**Insurance:** The District contributes 100% of monthly premium for employee and dependents' medical, dental, vision, and EAP insurance as well as life insurance for the employee.

**Retirement:** The District and its employees are members of the Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association. Firefighter/Paramedics are classified as Safety Members and receive a 2.7% at age 57 retirement benefit.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Must be a California resident.
- Must possess a high school diploma or GED. College degree from an accredited university preferred.
- Must possess a valid California driver's license.
- Must possess California FF1 or FF1 Academy certificate.
- Must possess a valid State of California Paramedic license with ACLS certification. ACLS certification
- Must be equivalent to AHA ACLS standards and include a hands-on skills demonstration sign off consistent with standard ACLS protocol.
- A Health Care Provider CPR certificate/card consistent with AHA, including a skills component, is also required.
- PHTLS/ITLS/ATT, PALS/PEPP are recommended.
- Must possess a valid Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT), issued after March 2012, by time of conditional offer.
- Must not be a current participant in a government retirement system and must not be eligible for reciprocity with CCCERA.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested individuals should download an application and Adverse Conduct Information form from the District website at [www.firedepartment.org/employment](http://www.firedepartment.org/employment)

A completed application, in addition to a resume and copies of all required diplomas and completed advanced degrees, front and back of all licenses (including California Driver's License), and certifications must be received at the District's Administration Office, **no later than 5:00 p.m., January 11, 2013.** *Incomplete and/or late applications will not be processed. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.*

#### MAIL TO:

San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District  
Attention: Human Resources  
1500 Bollinger Canyon Road  
San Ramon, CA 94583

If you are delivering the application in person, please note that the District's Administrative Office is located on the corner of Bollinger Canyon and Crow Canyon Road in San Ramon. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Selected candidates will participate in an EMS Paramedic skills assessment the weeks of February 4 or February 11, 2013. Successful candidates will be invited to an interview and a Firefighter skills assessment the weeks of February 11 or February 18, 2013. A Chief's interview will be conducted on February 28, 2013 for successful candidates.

Candidates considered for employment will be required to undergo an extensive background investigation, a psychological evaluation, a thorough medical examination and a pre-employment drug screening.

*NOTE:* The District and IAFF Local 3546 are currently conducting contract negotiations. Salary and benefits presented are subject to change based upon those negotiations.

The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District**

1500 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583

Phone (925) 838-5150 | Fax (925) 406-0843

[www.firedepartment.org](http://www.firedepartment.org)

[hr@srvfire.ca.gov](mailto:hr@srvfire.ca.gov)

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

## **Application Procedures Announced for the Harvard Fire Executive Fellowship Program**

Application procedures have been announced for the 2013 Harvard Fire Executive Fellowship Program. Senior fire executives who are selected will be awarded fellowships to attend Harvard's annual Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. The three-week program is conducted on the Harvard campus in Cambridge, Mass. Selected fellows are assigned to attend one of the two session dates: June 3-23, 2013 or July 8-26, 2013.

For more information, go to: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/media/press/2012releases/121012.shtm>

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

## **U.S. Fire Administration Announces Changes to the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program Selection Criteria**

EMMITSBURG, Md. – U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell today announced changes to the selection criteria for senior fire executives and other qualified officers applying to the National Fire Academy's (NFA) Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP). These changes will be implemented over the next two years.

### **Background**

In the past, the NFA only allowed students with bachelor's degrees from regionally accredited colleges and universities to be considered for acceptance into the EFOP. The primary reason for the policy was to assist in selecting students with a high probability of success in a demanding  
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curriculum, and to maintain high standards in the EFOP. A number of graduates from nationally accredited schools have applied for, and been denied, entrance consideration. A review of the current policy was initiated by Administrator Mitchell in 2012. The primary focus of the review was a comparison of regional and national accreditation and their respective relevance to, and impact upon, quality of education.

**Action**

Based on numerous findings, research, U.S. Department of Education input and recommendations from the U.S. Government Accountability Office, changes to the policy and process for student evaluation for acceptance into EFOP were made.

- EFOP candidates seeking enrollment in FY 2014 must submit their application packages by June 15, 2013. Applicants are required to enclose a copy of their baccalaureate degree diploma certificate from an institution whose accreditation and status is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Other selection criteria (e.g., rank, position, responsibilities, etc.) remain in effect.
- For EFOP candidates seeking enrollment after June 15, 2013 (participation in EFOP commencing in FY 2015 and beyond), the process will change to a transcript-based system requiring the submission of an official transcript in addition to the required rank, position and responsibilities. A copy of the diploma will not be accepted.

The NFA will provide a review of the selection process and criteria to the Board of Visitors (BOV) at the end of each year. Based on that review, the BOV may recommend additional changes. The specific requirements and standards associated with the changes are available on the USFA's website at [www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/efop/selection.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/efop/selection.shtm)

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

**Firehouse World** – *San Diego, CA* - February 17 through 21, 2013

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

**Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC)** – *Indianapolis, IN* – April 22 through 27, 2013.

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

**Firehouse Expo** – *Baltimore, MD* – July 2013

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

**Fire Rescue International** – *Chicago, IL* - August 13 through 17, 2013

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

**Fire Shows Reno** – *Reno, NV* - October 2013

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

**California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium** – *Fresno, CA* - November 11 through 15, 2013 - Go to <http://register.calchiefs.org/> for more information.

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**



**F D N Y F O U N D A T I O N**

9 Metrotech Center Tel. 718 999 0779  
Brooklyn, New York 11201 Fax: 718-999-7124

October 19, 2012

Dear Friend of the FDNY:

The New York City Fire Department in partnership with the FDNY Foundation is offering a two day Symposium on March 14th & March 15th 2013.

FDNY leaders will provide presentations to include: Terrorism- Fire as a Weapon, FDNY Rescue Company Operations, Recent FDNY Safety Initiatives, New FDNY Training Techniques and Commercial Building management collaborating with first responders.

Space is limited so please Register now & save \$75!

For more information please call # 718-999-0779 or email Dave at [salemd@fdny.nyc.gov](mailto:salemd@fdny.nyc.gov). You can register on line at [www.fdneyfoundation.org](http://www.fdneyfoundation.org)

All proceeds from the Symposium benefit the FDNY Foundation.

The FDNY Foundation is the official not-for-profit organization of the New York City Fire Department. The mission of the Foundation is to assist the FDNY and EMS in educating, informing and involving the public in protecting life and property, and support the Department's operational enhancements. We look forward to seeing you in March!

**Register Now** = <http://www.fdneyfoundation.org/2012/10/19/2013-fdney-symposium/>

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**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/training\\_classschedule.php](http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/training_classschedule.php)



**PARAMEDIC PROGRAM INFORMATION:**



# Paramedic Academy

**LEARN BY  
OBSERVING THE  
PROFESSIONALS AT:**

- Paramedics Plus - Ride-along
- Berkeley Fire - Ride-along
- Eden ED, ICU, Trauma Rounds
- Sutter Respiratory
- St. Francis Burn Center
- ALCO Juvenile Hall
- ALCO Coroners' Bureau
- Touro University Cadaver Lab

**Application  
deadline,  
January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013.  
Sign up  
now!**

**GUARANTEED  
INTERNSHIP:**

- Paramedics Plus
- Eden Medical Center
- Kaiser Hospitals

**TRAINING RESOURCES:**

- Simulation Lab w/high-fidelity ALS manikin
- Ambulance simulator
- iPads with iPCR provided
- NREMT-P test prep

**Are you are interested in attending a Paramedic Academy to become a critical-thinking Paramedic who delivers compassionate patient care?**

**Fast Response School of Health Care Education Paramedic Academy provides extraordinary Paramedic Instructors in a supportive learning environment, using cutting-edge ALS equipment and guarantees an immediate clinical and field internship in the local 911 system and regional Trauma Centers.**

**510-849-4009**  
[www.fastresponse.org](http://www.fastresponse.org)  
2075 Allston Way Berkeley, CA 94704

## **FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES BY ANDONI KASTROS:**



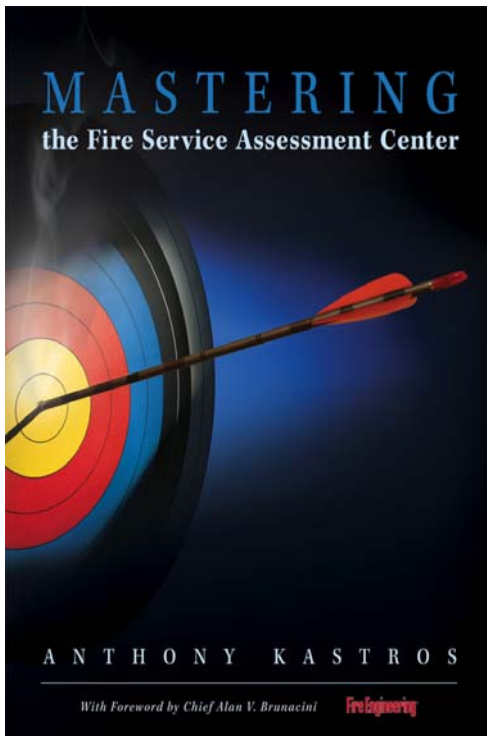
### **MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER**

4-DAY WORKSHOP

INSTRUCTOR: ANTHONY KASTROS, AUTHOR OF

**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*

**Anthony Kastros is a 25-year veteran of the fire service. He is a Battalion Chief with the Sacramento (CA) Metro Fire District. He is author of the Fire Engineering DVD series "Mastering Fireground Command - Calm the Chaos!" and author of the Fire Engineering book and video series, "Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center", that focuses on strategy, tactics, leadership and management. Chief Kastros is an FDIC instructor, teaching fireground tactics and leadership/team building for fire departments throughout the United States. He spent 4 seasons on a Type 1 incident management team, and 10 years as a FEMA USAR Task Force Manager, deploying to New York on 9/11. Anthony is the program director for the Sacramento Metro Fire Command Training Center and is currently a line battalion chief supervising 12 companies.**

FEBRUARY 11 - 14, 2013 – MONTEREY, CA - \$595.00\*  
FEBRUARY 25 - 28, 2013 – DALLAS, TX - \$595.00\*  
MARCH 25 - 28, 2013 – EL DORADO HILLS, CA - \$595.00\*

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

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**



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

**COURSE:**

**DATES:**

S-231 (Engine Boss)	January 7 and 9, 2013
Fire Management 2B	January 14 – 18, 2013
Training Instructor 1A	January 28 – February 1, 2013
S-290 (Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior)	February 11 – 15, 2013
Training Instructor 1B	February 25 – March 1, 2013
Fire Management 2D	March 18 – 22, 2013
Training Instructor 1C	April 8 – 12, 2013
S-390 (Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations)	April 15 – 18, 2013
Fire Management 1	May 6 – 10, 2013
Fire Management 2E	May 13 – 17, 2013

**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.*

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

**To Register:** Please see below for registration form.

**More Info:** Contact Steve Prziborowski at [steve.prziborowski@cnt.sccgov.org](mailto:steve.prziborowski@cnt.sccgov.org) or 408-341-4412.

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**REGISTRATION FORM**

<b><u>COURSE:</u></b>	<b><u>DATES:</u></b>	<b><u>COST:</u></b>	<b><u>QUANTITY:</u></b>
Engine Boss	January 7 & 9, 2013	\$80.00	_____
Fire Management 2B	January 14 – 18, 2013	\$295.00	_____
Training Instructor 1A	January 28 – February 1, 2013	\$265.00	_____
S-290	February 11 – 15, 2013	\$225.00	_____
Training Instructor 1B	February 25 – March 1, 2013	\$265.00	_____
Fire Management 2D	March 18 – 22, 2013	\$295.00	_____
Training Instructor 1C	April 8 – 12, 2013	\$265.00	_____
S-390	April 15 – 18, 2013	\$300.00	_____
Fire Management 1	May 6 – 10, 2013	\$265.00	_____
Fire Management 2E	May 13 – 17, 2013	\$295.00	_____
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	_____

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

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

***For these classes, the only form of payment will be checks.***

- **Please make your check payable to:** Santa Clara County Fire Department.
- **Please mail or deliver your check 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 each class at 1500 hours. If a class begins on Monday, then the refund deadline is 1500 hours two Mondays prior. If a refund is requested within 14 calendar days before the first day of the class, the student may be given credit for a future course, but not a full refund. No refunds will be provided if the student does not attend the class, or if they begin the class but do not complete the class.



**FIRE SERVICE INFO FROM THE L.A.F.D.**

Dear Friend of the LAFD,

As severe weather on Christmas Day in the U.S. southeast has shown, danger never takes a holiday. With that thought in mind, we want to share \*four ways\* you can prevent seasonal tragedy at home.

- Holiday Candles: More Deadly Than You Think

<http://lafd.blogspot.com/2012/12/holiday-candles-more-dangerous-than-you.html>

- Remove and Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

<http://lafd.blogspot.com/2012/12/remove-and-recycle-your-christmas-tree.html>

- Firefighters: Don't Burn Holiday Wrappings in the Fireplace

[http://lafd.blogspot.com/2012/12/firefighters-dont-burn-holiday\\_25.html](http://lafd.blogspot.com/2012/12/firefighters-dont-burn-holiday_25.html)

- 5 Deaths Could Have Been Prevented by 2 Simple Habits!

<http://lafd.blogspot.com/2011/12/could-5-deaths-have-been-prevented-by-2.html>

In these first days Winter, we kindly ask you to review + share the attached flyer, and join us in embracing the LAFD-held belief that "[Fire is Everyone's Fight!](#)"

###

Attachment: *Top10WinterFreezeTips.pdf*

Respectfully Yours in Safety and Service,


Brian Humphrey  
Firefighter/Specialist - Public Service Officer  
Emergency Public Information (EPI) Center  
Los Angeles Fire Department

*"Serving with Courage, Integrity and Pride"*

Brian Humphrey Status & Location: <http://bit.ly/BrianLAFD>

LAFD Home Page: [LAFD.ORG](http://LAFD.ORG)

**Do You Follow LAFD on Social Media?**

 [@LAFD](#) (breaking news)

 [@LAFDtalk](#) (conversation & casual inquiries)

 [@LAFDFireChief](#) (the Fire Chief's personal thoughts)

 <https://www.facebook.com/LosAngelesFireDepartment>

## **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

Below you will find the California Region 5 (R-5) Recruitment Bulletins for the Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program (WFAP) and the Temporary positions. Since we no longer use Avue Digital Services you will notice some changes. The Vacancy Announcements now cover the entire Forest Service – all Regions – all locations across the nation. These are not just R-5 announcements on the USAJobs site. Apply as soon as possible.

You will see many permanent positions at the "GS-462-4/5": OCRP-462-HLTKSRFF-4/5 DP; OCRP-462-IHC/HCREW-4/5 DP; OCRP-462-ENGSRFF-4/5DP; NGTOPS-HLTKSRFF-4/5 DP. It is important to understand that R-5 will not be hiring from these announcements because ALL GS-462-4/5 Fire positions are filled through the WFAP - Apprentices. I found this out after I sent the message about the Helitack position at Lancaster. For now- other Regions *may* be using referral lists for the GS-462-4/5 permanent position - not R-5.

It has never been more important to do your research to find where the actual vacancies are. Call the supervisors, visit the stations, ask a ton of questions. Establish a network and apply as soon as possible – it will serve you for the rest of your career. Historically the Apprenticeship announcement has been open for a few months. This round will only last a few weeks. Take some extra time to read all the instructions for the new system. Apply as soon as you can. Some locations anticipate requesting referral lists as soon as January 3, 2013 for the temporary (seasonal) opportunities. Be ready! Best of luck to all of you.

Rita Yates, Wildland Firefighter Recruitment Liaison Specialist  
Region 5, Regional Office, Civil Rights Staff  
Virtual Location: Eldorado National Forest  
Placerville, Ca  
Office/Voice : 530-621-5288  
Fax: 530-642-5135  
Cell: 707-334-1394  
Email: [ryates@fs.fed.us](mailto:ryates@fs.fed.us)

**U.S. FOREST SERVICE – Region 5 (California)**  
Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program - (WFAP)  
Application Period: December 18, 2012 through January 13, 2013

For additional information, go to: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/334070400>

The Wildland Firefighter Apprentice Program (WFAP) is an educational program designed to enhance and develop future Fire and Aviation Managers. The intent of the Program is to take an entry level firefighter and provide education, training and paid work experience over a 12 to 48 month period, depending on experience. This is a 3,000 hour on-the-job learning program including two month-long residential firefighting academies at the Wildland Fire Training Center in McClellan, California. Initial appointments are permanent seasonal: guaranteed 13 pay periods (6 months) plus 2 pay periods as needed. Upon completion of program requirements, Apprentices are eligible for noncompetitive promotions to the GS-462-5 Forestry Technician "Firefighter Type 1" without further competition and will be reassigned to a Permanent Full Time (PFT) position on a specific Module/Crew. Some positions may require a Commercial Driver's license. Apprentices may be subject to random drug testing. Pay and locality scales are available on this web site <http://www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexGS.asp> Availability of government provided housing will vary by locations. Selectees must be able to meet the arduous fitness level and complete a Work

December 28, 2012 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com) 20



**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Capacity Test consisting of a 3 mile hike within 45 minutes carrying a 45 pound pack. Applicants must be at least 18 and under 37 years of age. An age waiver may be granted to eligible Veterans who can meet the arduous physical standards of the position. US Citizenship and a High School graduate or GED are required. Selectees are required to maintain a valid State Driver's License. Males born after 12/31/59 must be registered with the Selective Service. For more information on the Apprenticeship program go to [www.wfap.net](http://www.wfap.net)

**Duties:** Serves as an apprentice firefighter on a wildland fire crew performing fire suppression and/or fuels management duties under the most adverse conditions of climate, fuels, and terrain. Performs various aspects of wildland and prescribed fire operations including preparation, ignition, monitoring, holding, and mop-up, driving engines to fire locations, frequently over unimproved roads. Starting pump engine, priming pump, adjusting engine speed and pump valves, laying hose, and using appropriate nozzles and nozzle adjustment in effective use of water and additives, loading helicopter personnel and cargo considering methods, weight distribution, necessity for securing, total weight, etc. and completes manifests of personnel and equipment being transported to the fire or other work site. Performs Forestry Technician duties with a variety of hand tools such as an axe, Pulaski, shovel, McLeod and chain saws. Wildland Firefighter Crews often travel throughout California and across the country performing fire suppression and support to other all-risk incidents.

**Vacancy Announcement – 13(1)-WFAP-462-3/4/5DP**

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/334070400> will be open **December 18, 2012**

**through January 13, 2013 for opportunities in California (R-5).** This Demo (DP) announcement will be open to temporary government employees (summer firefighters), Veterans, members of the general public and current Federal employees. This is the national announcement number for the WFAP. To apply for the WFAP GS-462-3/4/5 at California locations you must submit the on line application **no later than January 13, 2013**, to be considered for these positions. This announcement will close at 11:59 EST – 8:59 P.M. (or 20:59 hours) Pacific Time. Apply as soon as possible to avoid last minute errors with the new application process.

**NEW APPLICATION PROCESS:** Applicants must access the vacancy announcements through USAJobs – <http://usajobs.gov/>. Applicants must establish a profile and build or upload a resume in the USAJobs site.

For assistance in navigating USAJobs: [https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Main\\_Page](https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Main_Page) Once you have established your Profile and Resume, that data will be used in all future applications without the need to reenter. Applicants are still required to recertify their application every 60 days. Applicants will need to attach any required supporting documents (IQCS Master Record, DD-214 to claim Veterans Preference, Transcripts, etc.) for each job applied to – they are not automatically added to your application from your profile. If your application documents are too large (more than 3MB) to upload into USAJobs, you can convert your documents into a Portable Document Format (PDF) file to reduce the file size. Please read the entire Vacancy Announcement carefully. Applicants respond to a series of questions to determine Core Eligibility, Minimum Qualification and Assessment Questions. Your responses will be evaluated by subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and Human Resources to confirm supporting documentation and experience from your resume and past Supervisor's reference checks. **Any level of Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Competencies (KSACs) claimed in the Assessment statements must be supported and documented in your resume and attachments.**

**Veterans** are encouraged to apply on the USAJobs web site under the Demo Authority (DP) where Veterans Preference is applied to eligible applicants. Veterans **MUST** submit a DD-214 if you are claiming Veteran's Preference. Veteran applicants *may* qualify for funding under the GI Bill as the WFAP education/training is recognized by the Veterans Administration.

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Specific duty locations have been consolidated under the National Forest Headquarter location. The nature of the WFAP may require a selectee to move to different duty locations across the Forest to gain expertise and complete program requirements.

**Apply to any and all locations that you would accept a job offer.**  
**Applicants are no longer limited to 9 locations.**

**Selections for Apprentice positions are scheduled to be made by March 29, 2013**

**To receive additional assistance in understanding the hiring process, contact the California Region 5, Fire Recruiter, Rita Yates at Cell (707) 334-1394 , (530) 621-5288, or Email [ryates@fs.fed.us](mailto:ryates@fs.fed.us)**

**FOREST Consolidated Duty Locations and Local Contact Information:**

**Angeles National Forest** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/angeles/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **ARCADIA** in USAJobs: Arcadia, Glendora, Lancaster, San Fernando, Saugus/Acton, and Valyermo. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Tana Moreland 626-574-5222. [tmoreland@fs.fed.us](mailto:tmoreland@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Tracy McGuff 818-899-4516

**Cleveland National Forest** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/cleveland/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **SAN DIEGO** in USAJobs: Alpine, Corona, El Cajon, Ramona and San Diego. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Nidia Contreras 909-382-2668. [ncontreras@fs.fed.us](mailto:ncontreras@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Lisa Bilz 619-557-5262

**Eldorado National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **PLACERVILLE** in USAJobs: Georgetown, Grizzly Flats, Kyburz, Pine Grove, Pioneer, Placerville, and Pollock Pines. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Thomas Nichols 530-621-5203. [tnichols@fs.fed.us](mailto:tnichols@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Cara Scott 530-621-5209.

**Inyo National Forest** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/inyo/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **BISHOP** in USAJobs: Bishop, Independence, June Lake, Lee Vining, Lone Pine, Mammoth Lakes, and Tom's Place. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Chris Moore (760) 873-2477 [christophermoore@fs.fed.us](mailto:christophermoore@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Dan O'Keefe 760-873-2574

**Klamath National Forest** <http://fs.usda.gov/klamath> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **YREKA** in USAJobs: Callahan, Fort Jones, Happy Camp, Klamath River, Mount Hebron, Macdoel, Sawers Bar Scott Bar, Seiad Valley, and Yreka. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Vacant. Fire Point of Contact – Curt Lindstrand 530-841-4511

**Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/ltbmu/> To be considered for the following Duty Location, select **SOUTH LAKE TAHOE** in USAJobs: South Lake Tahoe. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Adrian Escobedo 530-543-2758. [Aescobedo02@fs.fed.us](mailto:Aescobedo02@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Mike Simmons 775-749-1802

**Lassen National Forest** <http://fs.usda.gov/lassen> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **SUSANVILLE** in USAJobs: Chester, Fall River Mills, Forest Ranch, Hat Creek, December 28, 2012 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Manzanita Lake, Mineral, Old Station, and Susanville. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Michael A Green 530-525-6603. [magreen@fs.fed.us](mailto:magreen@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Walter Malena 530-257-5575

**Los Padres National Forest** <http://fs.usda.gov/lpnf> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **GOLETA** in USAJobs: Arroyo Grande, Big Sur, Carpinteria, Fillmore, Frazier Park/ Fillmore, Goleta, Greenfield, Jolon, King City, Los Olivos, New Cuyama, Ojai, Piru, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Santa Margarita, and Santa Ynez. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer vacant –805-961-5748. Fire Point of Contact – Sheryl Woods 805--455-5917 or 805-605-4995

**Mendocino National Forest** <http://fs.usda.gov/mendocino> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **WILLOWS** in USAJobs: Covelo, Elk Creek, Paskenta, Stonyford, Upper Lake, and Willows. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Barbara Leach 530-934-1103. [bleach@fs.fed.us](mailto:bleach@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Jesse Roach 530-934-1142

**Modoc National Forest** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/modoc/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **ALTURAS** in USAJobs: Adin, Alturas, Canby, Cedarville, and Tulelake. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Vacant – Tyler Otterson 530-640-0442

**Plumas National Forest** <http://fs.usda.gov/plumas> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **QUINCY** in USAJobs: Beckworth, Belden, Berry Creek, Blairsden, Challenge, Chilcoot, Doyle, Greenville, Oroville, Quincy, Strawberry Valley. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer (Vacant) – Michael Green (Acting) (530) 252-6603 [magreen@fs.fed.us](mailto:magreen@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contacts – Pete Duncan 530-283-7831 or Kris Levitoff 530-283-7845

**San Bernardino National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sanbernardino/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **SAN BERNARDINO** in USAJobs: Big Bear City, Fawnskin, Idyllwild, Lytle Creek, Mentone, Skyforest. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Nidia Contreras 909-382-2668. [ncontreras@fs.fed.us](mailto:ncontreras@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Eric Sweetman 909-382-2894

**Sequoia National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **PORTERVILLE** in USAJobs: Bakersfield, Blackrock, California Hot Springs, Dunlap, Glenville, Havilah, Hume, Johnsondale, Kernville, , Lake Isabella, Mirimonte, Pinehurst, Porterville, Springville, Wofford Heights. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Paulla Stephens 559-784-1500. [pstephens@fs.fed.us](mailto:pstephens@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Maribel Moreno (559) 782-3120 Ext 716

**Shasta-Trinity National Forest** <http://fs.usda.gov/stnf> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **REDDING** in USAJobs: Big Bar, Burnt Ranch, Hayfork, Hyampom, Junction City, Lake Head, Lewiston, McCloud, Mount Shasta, Mountain Gate, Platina, Redding, Trinity Center, Weaverville. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Vacant. Fire Point of Contact – John Wood 530-226-2375

**Sierra National Forest** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **CLOVIS** in USAJobs: Big Creek, Dinky Creek, Fish Camp, Fresno, Mariposa, North Fork, Oakhurst, Prather, Tollhouse, Trimmer, Clovis. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Mary McDonough 559- 297-0706 Ext

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4880. [mmcdonough@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmcdonough@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contacts – Theresa Rendon 559-297-0706 Ext 4905 or Pedro Martinez

**Six Rivers National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sixrivers/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **EUREKA** in USAJobs: Eureka, Fortuna, Gasquet, Mad River, Orleans, Ruth, Salyer, Willow Creek, Zenia. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Kathy Allen 707-441-3557. [kmallen@fs.fed.us](mailto:kmallen@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Jesse Knox 707-441-3514, [jknox02@fs-fed.us](mailto:jknox02@fs-fed.us)

**Stanislaus National Forest** <http://fs.usda.gov/stanislaus> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **SONORA** in USAJobs: Groveland, Hathaway Pines, Mi-Wuk Village, Pinecrest, Sonora. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Michael Perez 209-532-3671 Ext 425. Fire Point of Contact – Tracy Stelman 209-532-3671 Ext 272

**Tahoe National Forest** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/tahoe/> To be considered for the following Duty Locations, select **NEVADA CITY** in USAJobs: Camptonville, Downieville, Forest Hill, Loyalton, Nevada City, Sierraville, Soda Springs, Truckee. Contacts for specific information regarding current vacancies: Forest Civil Rights Officer – Mike Cruz 530-414-1644. [macruz@fs.fed.us](mailto:macruz@fs.fed.us) Fire Point of Contact – Donn Thane 530-478-6270

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, status as a parent (in education and training programs and activities), because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or retaliation. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs or activities.) If you require this information in alternative format (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), contact the USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (Voice or TDD). If you require information about this program, activity, or facility in a language other than English, contact the agency office responsible for the program or activity, or any USDA office. To file a complaint alleging discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call Toll free, (866) 632-9992 (Voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice users). The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**U.S. FOREST SERVICE – Region 5 (California)  
Forestry Aid and Forestry Technicians  
Temporary Wildland Firefighter  
2013 Fire Season**

**Apply Now – Contact Captains ASAP –  
Job Offers may be made in January and February  
Information current as of December 17, 2012**

Wildland firefighters work in a variety of specialized positions, including fire engine crews, fuels management, hand crews, helitack, interagency hotshot crews, patrol and prevention technicians and fire lookout positions. Crews often travel throughout California and other areas across the country performing fire suppression and other incident activities. The actual job title for wildland firefighter positions are "Forestry Aid and Forestry Technician".

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Pay scales and availability of government provided housing will vary by geographic locations. Firefighters are paid an hourly rate and can earn overtime at 1.5 (time and a half) of their normal pay rate and hazardous duty pay at an extra 25% in some circumstances. Housing/Barracks *may* be available at a nominal cost to employees. Firefighters provide their own subsistence while at their home duty locations. The Forest Service pays living expenses when on a fire assignment or project assignments away from home duty locations. Tour of Duty is generally a 5 day work week of 40 base hours, with 2 days off. Scheduled days off are often cancelled due to emergency assignments. Selectees must be able to meet the arduous fitness level and complete a Work Capacity Test consisting of a 3 mile hike within 45 minutes carrying a 45 pound pack as a condition of hire. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

Duties: Serves as a member of fire crew assigned to suppress the full range of wildland fires independently performing recurring fire suppression duties. Performs assignments as a wildland firefighter in developing a working knowledge of fire suppression and fuels management techniques, practices and terminology. This consists of fireline construction, use of pumps and engines, hose lays using appropriate nozzles and nozzle adjustments in the effective use of water and additives, working in and around aircraft such as helicopters, safety rules, and basic fire behavior. Searches out and extinguishes burning materials by moving dirt, applying water by hose or backpack pump, etc. Chops brush, fells small trees, and moves dirt to construct fireline using various hand tools such as axes, shovels, Pulaskis, McLeods, and may use power tools including chainsaws and portable pumps to control spreading of wildland fire and/or to prepare control lines prior to burning. Patrols fireline to locate and extinguish embers, flareups, and hotspot fires that may threaten developed firelines. Cleans, reconditions, and stores fire tools and equipment.

**NEW APPLICATION PROCESS:** Applicants must access the vacancy announcements through USAJobs – <http://usajobs.gov/> . Applicants must establish a profile and build or upload a resume in the USAJobs site.

For assistance in navigating USAJobs: [https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Main\\_Page](https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Main_Page) Once you have established your Profile and Resume, that data will be used in all future applications without the need to reenter. Applicants are still required to recertify their application every 60 days. Applicants will need to attach any required supporting documents (IQCS Master Record, DD-214 to claim Veterans Preference, Transcripts, etc.) for each job applied to – they are not automatically added to your application from your profile. If your application documents are too large (more than 3MB) to upload into USAJOBS, you can convert your documents into a Portable Document Format (PDF) file to reduce the file size. Please read the entire Vacancy Announcement carefully. Applicants respond to a series of questions to determine Core Eligibility, Minimum Qualification and Assessment Questions. Your responses will be evaluated by subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and Human Resources to confirm supporting documentation and experience from your resume and past Supervisor's reference checks. **Any level of Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Competencies (KSACs) claimed in the Assessment statements must be supported and documented in your resume and attachments.**

**Veterans** are encouraged to apply on the USAJobs web site under the Demo Authority (DP) where Veterans Preference is applied to eligible applicants. Veterans **MUST** submit a DD-214 if you are claiming Veteran's Preference. Veteran applicants *may* qualify for funding under the GI Bill as the WFAP is recognized by the Veterans Administration.

Forestry Aid (Fire) (Entry Level Firefighter) GS-462-3      **TEMPOCR-0462-03-FIRE-DT**  
<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/330555300>

Forestry Technician (Fire Engine Operator) GS-462-4      **TEMPOCR-0462-4-ENGINE-DT**  
<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331772400>



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Forestry Technician (Fire Engine Operator)	GS-462-5	<b>TEMPOCR-0462-05-ENGINE-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/332102500">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/332102500</a>		
Forestry Technician (Hotshot)	GS-462-4	<b>TEMPOCR-0462-04-HOTSHOT-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331940600">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331940600</a>		
Forestry Technician (Hotshot)	GS-462-5	<b>TEMPOCR-0462-05-HOTSHOT-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331934200">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331934200</a>		
Forestry Technician (Handcrew)	GS-462-4	<b>TEMPOCR-462-4-HANDCREW-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331936900">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331936900</a>		
Forestry Technician (Handcrew)	GS-462-5	<b>TEMPOCR-0462-5-HANDCREW-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331922200">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331922200</a>		
Forestry Technician (Helitack)	GS-462-4	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Helitack)	GS-462-5	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Fire Prevention)	GS-462-4	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Fire Prevention)	GS-462-5	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Fuels)	GS-462-4	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Fuels)	GS-462-5	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Lookout)	GS-462-4	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Logistics Dispatcher)	GS-2151-4	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Logistics Dispatcher)	GS-2151-5	To be announced
Forestry Technician (Dispatcher*)	GS-462-5	<b>TEMPOCR-462-5-FIRE DISP-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/332658500">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/332658500</a>		
*Wildland Firefighting experience required		
Forestry Technician (Smokejumper)	GS-462-5	<b>TEMPOCR-0462-05-SMKJMPR-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331131600">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331131600</a>		
Forestry Technician (Smokejumper)	GS-462-6	<b>TEMPOCR-0462-6-SMKJMPR-DT</b>
<a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331130300">https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331130300</a>		

Applicants select duty locations that you would be willing to accept a job offer. There may not be a second offer at a more desirable location. Applicants are strongly encouraged to make personal contacts with Fire staff at desired locations. Speak directly with Module Leaders/Captains when possible. Confirm that vacancies actually exist at your desired duty stations and confirm the proper USAJobs location.

**Referral Lists may be requested as early January 3, 2013**



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For additional assistance in understanding the hiring process, you may contact the Region 5, Fire Recruiter, Rita Yates at Cell (707) 334-1394, Office (530) 621-5288, or Email [ryates@fs.fed.us](mailto:ryates@fs.fed.us)

**Duty Locations – USAJobs Locations and Local Contact Information: Contact the Module Leader or Captains and confirm there are vacant positions and the correct USAJobs location to apply to.**

**New USAJobs Duty Locations and Local Contact Information for Additional Assistance:**

**Angeles National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Arcadia (626) 574-5200, Glendora (626) 335-1251, Lancaster (661) 723-2715, San Fernando (818) 899-1900, Saugus/Acton (661) 269-2808, Valyermo (661) 296-9710. Forest Civil Rights Officer Tana Moreland (626) 574-5222 [tmoreland@fs.fed.us](mailto:tmoreland@fs.fed.us)

**Cleveland National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Alpine (619) 445-6235, Corona (951) 736-1811, El Cajon (619) 557-5262, Ramona (760) 788-0250, San Diego (858) 674- 2901. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Nidia Contreras (909) 382-2668 [ncontreras@fs.fed.us](mailto:ncontreras@fs.fed.us)

**Eldorado National Forest** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado> USAJobs Duty Locations: Camino (ECC (530) 642-5170) and (530) 647-5339. Georgetown (530) 333-5571, Grizzly Flats (530) 647-5342, Kyburz (530) 647-5318, Pine Grove (209-295-1289). Pioneer (209) 295-5970, Placerville (530) 647-5339, Pollock Pines (530) 647-5465. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Thomas Nichols (530) 621-5203 [tnichols@fs.fed.us](mailto:tnichols@fs.fed.us)

**Inyo National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Bishop (760) 873-2508, Independence (Helitack) (760) 878-2200, June Lake (760) 648-7346. Lee Vining (760) 647 3044, Lone Pine (760) 876-6236, Mammoth Lakes (760) 924-5500, Tom's Place (760) 873-2567. Forest Civil Rights Officer– Christopher (Chris) Moore (760) 873-2477 [christophermoore@fs.fed.us](mailto:christophermoore@fs.fed.us)

**Klamath National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/klamath/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Callahan (530) 467-3365, Fort Jones (530) 468-1267, Happy Camp (530) 493-1790 or (530) 493-1791 or (530) 493-1745, Klamath River (530) 465-1502 or (530) 465-1515 or (530) 465-1505, Macdoel (530) 398-4689 or (530) 398-4148 or (530) 398-4430 or (530) 398-4608 or (530) 398-4607, Mount Hebron (530) 841-4600, Sawyers Bar (530) 468-1322 or (530) 468-1258, Scott Bar (530) 468-1235, Seiad Valley (530) 496-3353, Yreka (ECC (530) 398-4391 and (530) 842-6131. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Vacant

**Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/ltbmu/> USAJobs Duty Location: South Lake Tahoe (530) 543-2784. Forest Civil Rights/Outreach Officer – Adrian Escobedo (530) 543-2758 [aescobedo02@fs.fed.us](mailto:aescobedo02@fs.fed.us)

**Lassen National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lassen/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Chester, Almanor Ranger District (530) 258-2141, Chester, Helitack (530) 258-5135 and Air Base (530) 258-5150, Fall River Mills (530) 336-5521, Forest Ranch (530) 873-0580, Hat Creek (530) 336-5521, Mineral (530) 595-3506, Old Station (530) 335-7424, Susanville (530) 257-4188. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Michael Green (530) 252-6603 [magreen@fs.fed.us](mailto:magreen@fs.fed.us)

**Los Padres National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Arroyo Grande (805) 925-9538, Big Sur (831) 385-5434, Carpinteria (805) 967-3481, Fillmore (805) 646-4348 (Frazier Park select Fillmore), Goleta (805) 967-3481, Greenfield (831) 385-5434, Jolon (831) 385-5434, King City (831) 385-5434. Los Olivos (805) 925-9538, Ojai (805) 646-  
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4348, Piru (805) 646-4348, Santa Barbara (805) 967-3481, Santa Margarita (805) 925- 9538, Santa Maria (805) 925-9538, Santa Ynez (805) 967-3481, Forest Civil Rights Officer – Vacant.

**Mendocino National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/mendocino/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Covelo (707) 983-8513 or (707) 775-1406, Elk Creek (530) 934-1270 or (530) 963-1311, Paskenta (530) 934-1270 or (530) 833-5214, Stonyford (530) 934-1270 or (530) 963-1311, Upper Lake (707) 275-1406 or (707) 775-1441, Willows (530) 934-1155. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Barbara Leach (530) 934-1103 [bleach@fs.fed.us](mailto:bleach@fs.fed.us)

**Modoc National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/modoc/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Adin (530) 299-3215, Alturas (530) 233-5811, Canby (530) 233-7960, Cedarville (530) 279-6116, Tulelake (530) 667-2246. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Vacant

**Plumas National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Beckworth (530) 836-2575, Belden (530) 284-7126, Berry Creek (530)-283-0555, Blairsden (530) 836-2575, Challenge (530) 534-6500, Chilcoot (530) 836-2575, Doyle (530) 836-2575, Greenville (530) 283-0555, Oroville (530) 534-6500. Quincy (530) 283-0555. Forest Civil Rights Officer (Vacant) – Michael Green (Acting) (530) 252-6603 [magreen@fs.fed.us](mailto:magreen@fs.fed.us)

**San Bernardino National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sanbernardino/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Big Bear City (909) 382-2772, Fawnskin (909) 382-2772, Idyllwild (909) 382-2943, Lytle Creek (951) 236-1925, Manzanita Lake Mentone (951) 236-1925, San Bernardino (909) 382-2600, Skyforest (909) 382-2772. Forest Civil Rights Officer –Nidia Contreras (909) 382-2668 [ncontreras@fs.fed.us](mailto:ncontreras@fs.fed.us)

**Sequoia National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia/> USAJobs Duty Locations: California Hot Springs (661) 548-6503, Dunlap (559) 335-2550, Glennville (661) 536-8311, Havilah (661) 867-2753, Hume (760) 376-2171, Kernville (760) 376-3781, Lake Isabella (760) 379-5646. Miramonte, Pinehurst (559) 336-2551, Porterville (559) 784-1500, Springville (559) 539-2607, Wofford Heights. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Paulla Stephens (559) 784-1500 ext 1193 [pstephens@fs.fed.us](mailto:pstephens@fs.fed.us)

**Shasta-Trinity National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Big Bar (530) 623-1870, Burnt Ranch (530) 623-1870, Hayfork (530) 628-1240, Hyampom (530)275-1587, Junction City (530) 623-1870, Lakehead (530) 242-5522, Lewiston (530) 286-2255, McCloud (530) 964-3740 Mount Shasta (530) 964-3740, Mountain Gate (530) 242-5522, Platina (530) 628-1240, Redding (530) 242-5522, Shasta Lake, Trinity Center (530) 623-1741, Weaverville (530) 623-1741 Forest Civil Rights Officer – Vacant. Forest Fire Planner – Billy Gardunio (530) 226-2392 [bgardunio@fs.fed.us](mailto:bgardunio@fs.fed.us)

**Sierra National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sierra/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Big Creek (559) 893-3419, Dinky Creek, Fresno, Mariposa (209) 966-2477, North Fork (559) 877-2218, Oakhurst, Prather (559) 855-5355, Trimmer, Clovis (559) 297-0706. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Mary McDonough (559) 297-0706 Ext 4880 [mmcdonough@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmcdonough@fs.fed.us)

**Six River National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sixrivers/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Eureka (707) 441-3548, Fortuna (707) 441-3548, Gasquet (707) 457-3131, Mad River (707) 574-6233, Orleans (530) 627-3291, Ruth (707) 574-6233, Salyer (530) 629-2188, Willow Creek (530) 629-2188. Zenia (707) 574-6233. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Kathy Allen (707) 441-3557 [kmallen@fs.fed.us](mailto:kmallen@fs.fed.us)

**Stanislaus National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/stanislaus/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Groveland (209) 962-7825, Hathaway Pines/Camp Connell (209) 795-1381, Mi-Wuk Village (209) December 28, 2012 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com) 28

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586-3234, Pinecrest (209) 965-3434. Sonora (209) 532-3671. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Michael Perez (209) 532-3671 Ext 425 [mperez02@fs.fed.us](mailto:mperez02@fs.fed.us)

**Tahoe National Forest** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/tahoe/> USAJobs Duty Locations: Camptonville, Forest Hill (Foresthill) (530) 478-6254, Grass Valley (530) 477-7237, Nevada City (530) 478-6253, Sierraville (530) 994-3401, Soda Springs (530) 587-3558, Truckee (530) 587-3558. Forest Civil Rights Officer – Mike Cruz (530) 478-6178 [macruz@fs.fed.us](mailto:macruz@fs.fed.us)

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## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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- 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

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**FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY –**  
**CAL FIRE:**

**CAL FIRE**, (formerly known as **California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection or CDF**) is now accepting applications for **Firefighter I**. Applications will be accepted **until January 31, 2013** for the 2013 fire season, which generally starts in the end of May and generally goes through October. If you are interested in applying you must complete a Firefighter I application (CAL FIRE Form 215) and mail it or deliver it in person to the North Coast Region I and Cascade Region II units (see below for locations). Applications will be accepted on a file in person basis only for the units in Southern California Region III and Central Sierra Region IV. Applications must be filed at each unit in which you wish to be considered for appointment.

- To view more information about Seasonal Firefighter Hiring process and positions, go to: [http://www.fire.ca.gov/about/about\\_careers\\_fireprotection\\_seasonal.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/about/about_careers_fireprotection_seasonal.php)

There are 21 units through-out the state and they are divided between two regions, North Region, and South Region. In the Northern Region you can mail the completed application to each unit that you are interested in applying for. In the Southern Region they must be hand delivered. A list of the units can be found at the end of this announcement.

**What you can expect working as a firefighter for CAL FIRE:**

A firefighter 1 is a temporary position. You work a 72-hour workweek, four days on and three days off. You work the same four days in a week. Your responsibilities will include responding to vegetation fires, vehicle fires, structure fires, vehicle accidents, medical aides, public assist calls, or any other emergency. You are responsible for maintaining equipment and tools, following oral and written directions, cooking and cleaning around the station and other duties as assigned. At some stations you may get only one call per shift and others may get as many as four or five calls on a busy day.

Because CAL FIRE is a statewide fire department, you can get sent to any area within the state on a strike team assignment. You may only be gone one or two days or as many as fourteen days depending on the needs throughout the state. You may be assigned to an incident, usually a large fire, or may be assigned to cover behind other engines on an out-of-county assignment. In addition to being assigned to working on an engine, a firefighter 1 may be assigned to work at an Air Attack Base refueling aircraft, and reloading tankers with retardant. Another opportunity that is available to firefighter I is to work as a helitack firefighter assigned to one of nine helicopters throughout the state.

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There is the opportunity to work as a fire fighter assigned to a Schedule A Contract. This is where a city, county, or fire protection district makes a contract with CAL FIRE to provide fire protection for the community. For example in the Santa Clara Unit, the South County Fire Protection District has contracted with CAL FIRE to provide the personnel to operate their fire department. As a result CAL FIRE personnel operate very much like any other municipal department with firefighter, engineers, captains, and chiefs, operating type I engines, and providing advanced life support medical care.

### **The hiring process:**

After submitting an application, it is reviewed and given a preliminary score based on your education, training and experience. The more boxes you can check the more points you can get. By mid-March you should receive a letter indicating whether you passed the preliminary evaluation. If a passing score is given you may then be invited to an interview. The interview is 100 percent of your score. Because each unit must follow the same guidelines for hiring you can expect to hear the same, or close to the same questions at each interview. This can be a big help when trying to improve your interviewing skills. So the more units that you apply to the better chance you have to interview and improve.

Typically an interview panel is made up of an engineer and a captain. In some cases at the completion of your interview you are given your score, in other cases it is mailed to you. Your score is based from 0 to 100 points. Typically you need to get a score in the upper 90's to be considered for employment. By mid-May you should have received a letter indicating whether or not you are being considered for employment. From here one of a number of things can happen, you could get a letter stating that you will not be considered for future employment, or you can be contacted and offered a job, or you could be contacted and offered a slot in an academy but not a job.

The presumption is that a position may open up in the future and you would already be trained to take it. Typically a new hire academy is scheduled for the first or second week in June and consists of learning basic skills needed to work as a fire fighter. The end result is that by attending the class you can obtain the CAL FIRE 67 hour Certification. What generally happens around August or September is some firefighters quit and go back to school opening up positions to hire more firefighters. So this provides some people second chance to get hired. If you stay in contact with the hiring coordinator in each unit and are willing to start later in the season you might get picked up as a late hire. After you get hired with CAL FIRE and work three months you have automatic rehire rights. Meaning you don't have to go through the same process to get hired the next season.

### **What CAL FIRE can offer you?**

CAL FIRE is an all risk fire department. They respond to an average of 6,400 wildland fires annually and more than 275,000 non-wildfire emergencies each year. As a firefighter I you will gain experience in working on an engine as part of an engine company. You will get experience working at emergencies under stressful situations. You will learn what station life is like and how to work with people of different backgrounds in that environment. You will have the opportunity to earn additional certifications including Incident Command Systems, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Haz Mat Operations, Swift Water Rescue, Auto Extrication, and many other classes. You will gain experience working with the ICS system as part of an engine company at small and large incidents. Just like anything else you can get out of CAL FIRE what you put in. Because of the number of people retiring you have a very good opportunity to gain a permanent position if you put the effort into it. It is now up to you to make the first step.



**NORTHERN REGION**

**File-in-person OR mail-in applications accepted at the units listed below:**

- **Amador-El Dorado Unit**, 2840 Mt. Danaher Road, Camino, CA 95709, (530) 644-2345
- **Butte Unit**, 176 Nelson Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965, (530) 538-7111
- **Humboldt-Del Norte Unit**, 118 S. Fortuna Blvd., Fortuna, CA 95540, (707) 725-4413
- **Lassen-Modoc Unit**, 697-345 Highway 36, Susanville, CA 96130, (530) 257-4171
- **Mendocino Unit**, 17501 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490, (707) 459-7414
- **Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit**, 13760 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603, (530) 823-4904
- **San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit**, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018, (831) 335-5353
- **Santa Clara Unit**, 15670 Monterey Street, Morgan Hill, CA 95037, (408) 779-2121
- **Shasta-Trinity Unit**, 875 Cypress Avenue, Redding, CA 96001, (530) 225-2418
- **Siskiyou Unit**, 1809 Fair Lane Road, Yreka, CA 96097, (530) 842-3516
- **Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit**, 1199 Big Tree Road, St. Helena, CA 94574, (707) 967-1400
- **Tehama-Glenn Unit**, 604 Antelope Blvd., Red Bluff, CA 96080, (530) 529-8548

**SOUTHERN REGION**

**Applications accepted on a FILE-IN-PERSON basis ONLY at the units listed below.  
Each applicant must appear in person Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

- **Fresno-Kings Unit**, 210 S. Academy Avenue, Sanger, CA 93657, (559) 485-7500
- **Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit**, 5366 Highway 49 North, Mariposa, CA 95338, (209) 966-3622
- **Riverside Unit**, 210 W. San Jacinto, Perris, CA 92570, (909) 940-6900
- **San Benito-Monterey Unit**, 2221 Garden Road, Monterey, CA 93940-5385, (831) 647-6208
- **San Bernardino Unit**, 3800 Sierra Way, San Bernardino, CA 92405, (909) 881-6900
- **San Diego Unit**, 2249 Jamacha Road, El Cajon, CA 92019, (619) 590-3100
- **San Luis Obispo Unit**, 635 N. Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405, (805) 543-4244
- **Tulare Unit**, 1968 S. Lovers Lane, Visalia, CA 93277, (559) 732-5954
- **Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit**, 785 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, CA 95249, (209) 754-3831

To view the job flyer and download an application, go to the CAL FIRE Careers website at: [www.fire.ca.gov/about/about\\_careers\\_fireprotection\\_seasonal.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/about/about_careers_fireprotection_seasonal.php)

For more information about CAL FIRE and their extensive operations throughout the State of California, visit their website at: [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)

**Minimum Qualifications for Seasonal Firefighter positions:**

- Must be 18 years of age by time of appointment to a firefighter 1 position.

**NOTE:** A special thank you to Andrew Hunter, former Chabot College Fire Technology student for providing me with this information. Andrew works for the Modesto Fire Department and used to be a Firefighter with CDF. I appreciate your time and assistance!

**For additional information, contact:**

North Coast Headquarters: (707) 576-2275  
Human Resources Office: (916) 445-7801  
Southern Region Headquarters: (559) 243-4100

**FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:**

**The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has received notice of the following firefighter fatalities:**

Name: Chris Good  
Rank: Captain  
Age: 36  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 10+  
Date of Incident: 11/21/2012  
Time of Incident: Pending  
Date of Death: 11/22/2012  
Fire Department: Good Will Fire Company  
Address: 552 E. Union Street, West Chester, PA 19382  
Fire Department Chief: Dale McClure

**Incident Description:** Captain Good died of possible cardiac arrest within 24 hours of working an active house fire in West Goshen Township.

**Incident Location:** Pending

**Funeral Arrangements:** Relatives and Friends are invited to his visitation 4-8 pm Monday November 26, 2012 at the DellaVecchia, Reilly, Smith & Boyd Funeral Home, Inc. 410 N. Church St. West Chester, 610-696-1181 <http://www.DellaFH.com> Funeral Services will be 10:30 am Tuesday November 27, 2012 at the Good Will Fire Company 552 East Union Street West Chester. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers anyone wishing to make a tax deductible donation to the family can do so via the Chester County Hero Fund, C/O Chris Good, 820 Heatherstone Drive, Berwyn Pa 19312. Information for the fund can be found at <http://www.chestercountyherofund.com>

**Tribute** is being paid to Captain Chris Good at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 73 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: David M. Mowbray  
Rank: Captain  
Age: 52  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: 25  
Date of Incident: 02/05/2012  
Time of Incident: Pending  
Date of Death: 11/24/2012  
Fire Department: North Kingstown Fire Department  
Address: 8150 Post RD, North Kingstown, RI 02852  
Fire Department Chief: Fenwick Gardiner

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

**Incident Description:** Captain Mowbray passed away at home after being taken to the hospital and treated for a broken back injury suffered while he was at the scene of an emergency medical call earlier in the year.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Visiting hours will be 11/26/2012 from 1600-2000hrs at the Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home (2435 Warwick Ave. in Warwick). The funeral service is scheduled for 11/27/2012 at 1100hrs, Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home.

**Tribute** is being paid to Captain David M. Mowbray at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 74 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Jalen Smith  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 20  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: Pending  
Date of Incident: 11/30/2012  
Time of Incident: 2200hrs  
Date of Death: 12/03/2012  
Fire Department: Jackson Heights Volunteer Fire Department  
Address: PO Box 130338, 2874 County Road 24, Tyler, TX 75705  
Fire Department Chief: M. Terence Thompson

**Incident Description:** Enroute to the firehouse in response to a tractor accident in the area, Firefighter Smith was riding in a personally owned vehicle that according to preliminary reports was forced to take evasive action and crashed. Three members of Jackson Heights Fire Department were involved in the single vehicle rollover and all were taken to the hospital. Smith passed away from injuries sustained during the rollover; he was reported to have been ejected from the vehicle. The other two firefighters were treated and released the night of the accident.

**Incident Location:** Vicinity of FM 2767 and County Road 387, Tyler, TX 75705

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter Jalen Smith at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 76 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Timothy P. Jansen  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 45  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 15  
Date of Incident: 12/02/2012  
Time of Incident: 1930hrs

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Date of Death: 12/02/2012  
Fire Department: Santa Fe Fire Protection District  
Address: 408 Caryle RD, Bartelso, IL 62218  
Fire Department Chief: Adam Maue

**Incident Description:** Firefighter Jansen was struck and killed by a fire truck at the scene of a house fire. Jansen was on the first fire apparatus to arrive at scene and was standing outside the vehicle when he was hit. Firefighter Jansen was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital in Breese, where he passed away from his injuries.

**Incident Location:** 9750 River Road

**Funeral Arrangements:** 12/06/2012 @ 1130hrs, St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Bartelso, IL

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter Timothy P. Jansen at

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 75 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Eddy Meador  
Rank: Fire Chief  
Age: 54  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 35  
Date of Incident: 12/08/2012  
Time of Incident: 0030hrs  
Date of Death: 12/08/2012  
Fire Department: Pattonsburg Fire & Rescue Protection District  
Address: PO Box 211, 100 2ND AVE, Pattonsburg, MO 64670  
Fire Department Chief: Pending

**Incident Description:** Shortly after working several emergency incidents including a car fire followed by a hazmat call on a nearby Interstate Highway, Fire Chief Meador fell ill and passed away from a cause still to be determined.

**Incident Location:** Pending

**Funeral Arrangements:** Visitation will be held 1800-2000hrs 12/12/2012 at the Roberson Funeral Home, 1016 Main Street, Pattonsburg. Funeral services will be held at 1400hrs, 12/13/2012 at First Baptist Church, Pattonsburg.

**Tribute** is being paid to Fire Chief Eddy Meador at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 78 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Mike J. Chiapperini  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 43

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 27

Name: Tomasz Marian Kaczowka  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 19  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 1

Date of Incident: 12/24/2012  
Time of Incident: 0536hrs  
Date of Death: 12/24/2012  
Fire Department: West Webster Fire District  
Address: 1051 Gravel RD, Webster, NY 14580-1743  
Fire Department Chief: James Deisenroth

**Incident Description:** Firefighter Chiapperini and Firefighter Kaczowka were shot and killed at the scene of a house fire that had been intentionally set in order to draw the firefighters into an ambush. Two other firefighters were also shot at the scene and are recovering in guarded condition at Strong Memorial Hospital. Investigation into the incident continues by local, state, and federal authorities.

**Incident Location:** 191 Lake Road, Webster, NY

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter and past Fire Chief Mike Chiapperini and Firefighter Tomasz Marian Kaczowka at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 83 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Philip A. Mortensen  
Rank: Fire Chief  
Age: 67  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 42  
Date of Incident: 12/22/2012  
Time of Incident: Pending  
Date of Death: 12/22/2012  
Fire Department: Brooklyn Fire & EMS Protection District  
Address: 401 W. Main St, Brooklyn, WI 53521  
Fire Department Chief: Assistant Chief Leif Spilde

**Incident Description:** Shortly after returning to his auto shop from an emergency call, Fire Chief Mortensen fell ill and was discovered on the ground outside of the building. Brooklyn Fire and EMS crews responded and began CPR. Chief Mortensen was flown to the hospital due to poor road conditions but despite all efforts succumbed to what is thought to have been a cardiac related injury.

**Incident Location:** 104 S Rutland AVE, Brooklyn, WI 53521

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

December 28, 2012

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



**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

**Tribute** is being paid to Fire Chief Philip A. Mortensen at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 81 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

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*Firefighter fatalities in USFA reports are summarized by date/year-of-incident. Initial notices posted online at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/> and distributed via USFA listserv do not represent the final on-duty firefighter fatality determination by USFA for such reports, nor LODD determination made by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation ([www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org)) for names added each subsequent year to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD, they are the beginning of a research process for each firefighter fatality reported so that such determinations can be made.*

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

**SOUTH AFRICA FIREFIGHTER LODD FOLLOWING A RESCUE-** We regret to advise you that a 32 year old Firefighter operating at the Ports Authority Durban died in the Line of Duty Tuesday following a confined space rescue. The men had been issued with a confined-space permit to carry out painting. It is reported that seven contractors were working in the area, that three had exited the confined space and that four were unconscious.

Firefighters responded with rescue and breathing equipment. The contractors were suffering from breathing difficulties and received supplemental oxygen and treatment before being taken hospital. After the rescue, fire and emergency crews were checked and accounted for. At 0450 on Tuesday, when the crews reported to the duty office to change shifts, it became apparent that one of the Firefighters was sick. 10 year veteran FF Samuel Ngomane was taken to King Edward VIII Hospital and admitted to the trauma unit. The 32-year-old died soon after being admitted. His cause of death is not yet known. Our condolences to all those affected.

**PA FIRE CAPTAIN LODD UPDATE:**

**Captain Chris Good, of the Good Will Fire Company, West Chester (Chester County) PA** died in the Line of Duty on Wednesday. Captain Good had been operating at that working house fire late Tuesday afternoon in West Goshen. The next morning while at home, his wife found him down and in cardiac arrest. CPR was started and EMS responded but their efforts were unsuccessful. Captain Good was looking forward to this weekend especially, as he and other Firefighters were heading to New York to assist fire companies there who are still dealing with the storm damages. Our condolences to his family, wife Jessica Good and his 3 kids, a daughter Ryenn, 8, son Ethan 3 and a daughter Catherin 1 along with his company and department. Captain Good was very well known and beloved in the county and PA, and was a friend of FFCC and TSL. RIP. **FUNERAL DETAILS:**

Funeral Arrangements: Relatives and Friends are invited to his visitation 4-8 pm Monday November 26, 2012 at the DellaVecchia, Reilly, Smith & Boyd Funeral Home, Inc. 410 N. Church St. West Chester, [610-696-1181http://www.DellaFH.com](http://www.DellaFH.com) Funeral Services will be 10:30 am Tuesday November 27, 2012 at the Good Will Fire Company 552 East Union Street West Chester. Interment Private. **FULL DETAILS ON THE GOOD WILL FIRE CO WEBSITE:** <http://www.goodwillfireco.org>

**FIREFIGHTER INJURED AFTER FALL FROM LADDER:**

An L.A. City Firefighter was seriously injured yesterday after falling about 16 feet from his ladder while fighting a fire at a commercial building. The FF was among 62 firefighters who responded to the fire at a multi-unit commercial building on Canoga Avenue about 0200. He was taken to a hospital and listed in fair condition. GWS.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 11-23-12 / 0832 Hours

**AND:**

**RHODE ISLAND FIRE CAPTAIN DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

We regret to advise you this update---North Kingston Fire Captain David Mowbry who had originally been reported as having a minor heart attack, has now died in the Line of Duty. He originally suffered the heart attack while operating at that early-morning fire that destroyed a home in North Kingstown yesterday. Firefighters from North Kingstown and several surrounding communities responded to a call around 0045 hours Friday for a fire in a very large single-family mansion-with heavy fire on arrival. Captain Mowbray was originally believed to have suffered a minor heart attack and was treated and taken to Rhode Island Hospital. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. **THE HOUSE WITH A PAST** - Records show the home is owned by AMZ Consulting Inc--and--Gary Anusavice is listed as the firm's president. **Mr. Anusavice was arrested in May on charges relating to what authorities call a \$20 million Medicaid fraud scheme involving dentists' offices in Connecticut.**

**MASSACHUSETTS EXPLOSION UPDATE** - We have posted radio traffic and video of the explosion as it happened, on our home page. The massive gas explosion destroyed a downtown Springfield bar, sent glass and bricks flying down Worthington Street, and injured several people, including nine Springfield firefighters and two police officers. All those injured are expected to survive. Home Page [www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com](http://www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com) and scroll down.

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-24-12 / 1845 Hours

**AND:**

All,

While no less sad, the earlier LODD we reported was **not related** to the recent fire in North Kingstown. To be clear, North Kingstown Fire Rescue Captain David Mowbray tragically died from an unrelated (to the fire) medical situation. The initial report sent to us, while well intended, did not provide accurate information. Another Firefighter suffered the heart attack and has survived while operating at that early-morning fire that destroyed a home in North Kingstown yesterday. Firefighters from North Kingstown and several surrounding communities responded to a call around 0045 hours Friday for a fire in a very large single-family mansion-with heavy fire on arrival. **Additional details on the sad passing of Captain Mowbray HERE:** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/North-Kingstown-Firefighters/42914272675>

**Our condolences to all affected and our apologies for any confusion. RIP.**

**IT IS NEVER A "ROUTINE" GAS LEAK-BE SURE TO LISTEN**

**BE SURE TO LISTEN** to the posted Springfield (MA) radio traffic and video of the explosion as it happened, on our home page.

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

**AND LISTEN to how THEY DID take it very seriously** ....and treated it as if it could explode-and then it did. None of the 21 injured suffered life-threatening wounds, but acting Fire Commissioner Joseph Conant said 11 firefighters were hospitalized - some with facial burns. All had been released from the hospital by this afternoon. "They'll heal from the physical injuries soon enough but the emotional injuries will be there for a while," Conant said. **"These firefighters thought they lost themselves and their fellow firefighters."**

**When you LISTEN:** to the radio traffic-you will understand why.

GO TO our Home Page [www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com](http://www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com) and scroll down.

**OR CLICK HERE:** <http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/175674>

**MORE INFORMATION ON GAS LEAK RESPONSES AND PREVIOUS TRAGIC AND NEAR TRAGIC RESULTS:**

RESPONDING TO GAS LEAKS ARTICLE:<http://tinyurl.com/bmikcho>

COMPANY DRILL ON GAS LEAKS:<http://tinyurl.com/86qby4c>

**CASE STUDIES ON GAS LEAKS:**

WEST HAVERSTRAW NY (Video and Related Links)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=YEkZIToM0XY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=YEkZIToM0XY) (Radio Traffic)

<http://tinyurl.com/78behw>

<http://www.nybuff.org/2012/01/gas-leak-blows-up-house.html?m=1>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUcSKtBvLt8>

<http://yorktown.patch.com/articles/firefighers-battle-apparent-gas-explosion-in-west-haverstraw>

**POLAND, OHIO**

ARTICLE: Poland Ohio Firefighters Injured As House Explodes After Arrival At Gas Leak Run

=VIDEO & INTERVIEW WITH Chief Chip Comstock: <http://www.vindy.com/videos/2010/feb/13/1154/>

Articles:

<http://tinyurl.com/7lp2msb>

<http://tinyurl.com/7kbxl2n>

<http://tinyurl.com/764mz8j>

**=ARTICLE: BUFFALO NY FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN GAS EXPLOSION** - On the evening of December 27, 1983 a warehouse was the scene of the worst disaster and Firefighter LODD loss of life in the history of the Buffalo NYFD. The warehouse had contained an illegal 500 gallon propane tank whose valve was broken off while it was moved and the building was in the process of being evacuated. The propane gas started to leak, eventually reaching an open flame. The tank exploded, killing all 5 firefighters assigned to Ladder 5 and 2 civilians; it also damaged a dozen city blocks and caused millions of dollars of damage in fire equipment. BFD members Mike Austin, Mickey Catanzaro, Red Lickfeld, Tony Waszkielewicz, and Matty Colpoys were killed in the line of Duty instantly. The 3 engines, 2 trucks, rescue and 3rd Battalion were responding to that report of the large propane tank leaking in the building. Engine 32 arrived and reported nothing showing, but they were talking to some workmen from the four-story, heavy-timber warehouse (approx. 50' x 100'). Truck 5, Engine 1 and BC Harvey Supple (who was critically injured) arrived right behind E-32. 37 seconds after the chief announced his arrival, there was a tremendous explosion. It completely leveled the 4 story building and it demolished many buildings on four different blocks. It seriously damaged buildings that were over a half a mile away. The ensuing fireball started buildings burning on a number of streets. A large gothic church on the next block had a huge section ripped out of it. **For**

an excellent article on this tragic fire by then new firefighter-and now former BFD Fire Commissioner, Chief Mike Lombardo, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/7xtlw8j>

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-24-12 / 2034 Hours

**AND:**

**PARAMEDIC DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY, SEIZURE RELATED CRASH: WEST VIRGINIA.**

We regret to advise you that Paramedic Chris Staggs, 35, of Lenore, from STAT EMS stationed in Williamson in Mingo County died in the Line of Duty on Saturday. Paramedic Staggs had a seizure and crashed his ambulance. Staggs hit a wall along 4th Avenue, then went up on a sidewalk, collided with the steps of a church and then crashed into an awning of a business and finally ended up smashing into home on 5th Avenue. Paramedic Staggs was taken to the hospital but later died from his injuries. **Our condolences to all affected. RIP.**

APPARATUS SAFETY & SURVIVAL UPDATE:

**OHIO FIREFIGHTER FILES SUIT FOLLOWING CRUSHING ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF HIS LEGS----LACK OF TRAINING CLAIMED.**

Washington Township (Ohio) Firefighter Josef Tadijanac has filed a civil suit against Jefferson Township-Bellville Fire Department and 3 of its personnel for injuries he sustained while operating at a June 24 fire **when he was pinned between fire apparatus.** The suit was filed against the JTbfd and it's Chief Craig Roberts and Firefighters Scott Gerhart and Isaiah Finley. **Here are the details:**

FF Tadijanac arrived at the fire in Troy Township, where he was instructed to assist in pumping/tanker ops. FF Tadijanac positioned himself at the rear of Tanker 145, owned by the Troy Township FD. The vehicle owned by the defendant, Jefferson Township-Bellville Fire Department Tanker 121, was positioned directly behind Tanker 145. The intent was to transfer water from Tanker 121 to Tanker 145. Tanker 121 was being operated by defendants Gerhart and Finley when, according to court documents, **it suddenly moved forward, pinning FF Tadijanac him between the two vehicles.**

The lawsuit states FF Gerhart was the driver of Tanker 121 and was operating the pumping system on Tanker 121 when it began to move forward. Finley was assisting him. The lawsuit claims failure to properly operate and control Tanker 121 and failure to properly maintain and inspect Tanker 121, and claims the plaintiff's injuries were the direct result of acts and omissions of the Jefferson Township-Bellville Fire Department. **The complaint claims the firefighters were not properly trained.**

As you may remember, FF Tadijanac suffered above-the-knee amputations, organ system failures, vision loss and cognitive dysfunction, the suit alleges. He has required multiple surgeries and ongoing medical care, and has endured suffering, emotional distress and anxiety, all of which have rendered him disabled and unable to perform customary activities. We'll keep you advised on this case.

**==DRIVER REMINDERS: Do a walk around...make sure the wheels are chocked...make sure the truck in the correct gear position....brake secure?**

**==CHIEF REMINDERS: What training exists for new drivers? Who certifies it? What are the annual driver training requirements? Who are the SOP's related to apparatus?**

**DRIVER TRAINING RESOURCES:**

**SAFE OPERATIONS OF FIRE TANKERS:**

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

**EMERGENCY VEHICLE SAFETY:**

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/firefighter\\_health\\_safety/safety/vehicle\\_safety/index.shtm#a](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/firefighter_health_safety/safety/vehicle_safety/index.shtm#a)

**EMERGENCY VEHICLE PROGRAM & POWERPOINT SLIDES:**

<https://www.iaff.org/hs/evsp/home.html>

**TRAINING PROGRAMS/SERVICES:**

<http://www.emergencyvehicleresponse.com>

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

**MARYLAND FIREFIGHTERS HURT-SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING FIRE (AUDIO & VIDEO)**

Yesterday at 1625 hours, Firefighters from Bay District, PAX River, Hollywood, and Valley Lee were alerted to a report of a house fire in the 21000 block of Garfield Street in Great Mills. Companies arrived on scene to discover a single story, single family home with fire and heavy smoke showing. One Firefighter was taken by MSP (Helicopter) Trooper 7 to an area trauma center for smoke inhalation. Another firefighter was treated and released at the scene for leg injuries after falling through the floor and then having to evacuate through a window. All personnel are NLT injuries.

**The bail out through a window (behind the tree to the right of the front porch) occurs at about 4:50 in the video. Click through the series of still pictures at**

**<http://smnewsnet.com/archives/35576> (MORE LINKS BELOW)**

**The mayday is announced at 7:13 on the audio recording below.**

**FIRE SCENE VIDEO:** <http://www.youtube.com/embed/I2keAM-AniE>

**RADIO AUDIO TRAFFIC:** <http://smnewsnet.com/archives/35576>

**LINKS COURTESY OF:** <http://scanmd.org/>

**MORE From DaveS:** <http://tinyurl.com/cbv4pb>

**FINAL WORD:**

**Another active duty Firefighter has passed away from cancer.** Eaton's Neck (Suffolk Co, Long Island, NY) FD Assistant Chief Kevin Brandon, 52, passed away on Nov. 13 after a year-long battle with cancer. Chief Brandon, 52, was a dedicated member who quickly moved up the officers ranks becoming second assistant chief two years ago. He also previously served as a Firefighter with the Merrick FD in Nassau County. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 11-26-12 / 1416 HOURS

**AND:**

**NEW YORK EMS TECH (ALSO A FF) KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-CRASH/MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

We regret to advise you that Champlain (Clinton Co, NY) EMS Driver Eric Monty suffered cardiac arrest behind the wheel causing the ambulance crash on Route 190 early yesterday. At 0017 hours, NY State Police received a call that an ambulance had crashed. Monty, 45, was driving southeast on Route 190 when the vehicle went off the road via the west shoulder, struck a drainage ditch, a guywire and an embankment and stopped. Injured were EMT Susan M. Roberts, 52, is listed in stable condition for injuries sustained in the accident. EMT Peter A. Coulombe, 26 was transported and stabilized and then transported to Fletcher Allen Health Care Center in Burlington, Vt. and is listed in critical condition with a traumatic head injury. Gary G. Lamarche, 55, of Altona was the original patient being transported and is listed in stable condition for injuries sustained in the crash.

The ambulance, stationed at Mooers VFD, was providing mutual aid to the Altona FD. Monty was a member of the Mooers VFD. His wife, Norma Jean Monty, died in October 2010. He leaves a daughter, McKayla A. Monty. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**VEHICLE FIRE? WATCH THIS BUS FIRE:**



### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Below is a video link that every Firefighter really needs to see...it is a fire in a CNG - powered bus, which was occupied and in service at the time. The driver and passengers discovered the fire and bailed. Good decision. This happened a few weeks ago in Wassenaar, the Netherlands. The CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) buses have their tanks on the roof. Thanks to BillN for the heads up.

**TRUST US**-We haven't lead you wrong yet: you need to watch, share and review the video, from the start. **THINK ABOUT:** Training on these vehicles, size up prior, alarm response, size up on arrival, apparatus positioning, risk vs benefit. And try to imagine this happening in a tunnel. **WATCH THE VIDEO HERE:** <http://www.regio15.nl/actueel/lijt-weergave/20-branden/13972-aardgasbus-in-brand-wittenburgerweg>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qc5F4Mr61Co>

RELATED TRAINING MATERIALS:

OUTSTANDING CNG PPT From The Seattle Fire Department:

<http://www.seattle.gov/fire/publications/cng/CNGAutoFire.ppt>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 11-27-12 / 1431 hours

**AND:**

All.

**A new report has been issued following the bowstring roof collapse at that theatre fire in Wisconsin. We have also added video and related links for you, below. The fire in the Abby Theater took the life of Lt. Jamison Kampmeyer of the Colby Fire Department. Lt. Kampmeyer was also a Deputy Sheriff in Marathon County.**

On March 4, 2012, a 34-year-old Lt. Jamison Kampmeyer lost his life in the Line of Duty at a theatre fire after the roof collapsed, trapping him within the theatre. At approximately 1215 hours, an on-duty patrol officer (also chief of the victim's fire department) radioed dispatch for a structure fire (flames visible). The 1st due fire department arrived on scene, set up operations on the A-side of the structure, and directed the incoming mutual aid department (victim's department) to the rear of the structure. No fire was visible from the rear. Both departments attacked the theatre fire from opposite sides (A-side and C-side) of the structure establishing their own incident commander/officer in charge, fireground operations, and accountability systems. The 1st due fire department initially fought the fire defensively from the A-side, while the victim and two additional fire fighters (FF1 and FF2) entered through the C-side, advancing a hoseline until they met A-side fire fighters near the theatre's lobby (area of origin). The 1st due fire department eventually placed an elevated master stream into operation, directing it into the lobby and then onto the roof while fire fighters were operating inside. Roof conditions deteriorated until the roof collapsed into the structure trapping the victim, FF1, and FF2. FF1 and FF2 recalled speaking with the victim immediately following the collapse, but nothing was heard from the victim following the activation of a personal alert safety system device (PASS). All three were eventually located, removed from the structure, and transported to a local hospital, but the victim had already succumbed to his injuries.

**VIDEO OF THE FIRE:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKbx7s7deKI>

**REPORT:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201208.html>

### **BROOKLYN MAYDAY - 5 FFs INJURED**

A heavy Brooklyn fire left five firefighters injured after the two-alarm blaze ripped through a building, officials said. The fire broke out on 57th Street between First and Second avenues in Sunset Park around 6:00 p.m., fire officials said. The blaze took nearly an hour to get under control after 106 firefighters responded to the scene. Three firefighters were sent to Lutheran Hospital in stable condition and two others were treated at the scene, fire officials said.

**Fire Scene Audio:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WKTLPCT3Eoo&feature=youtu.be>

**More from Dave S:** <http://statter911.com/2012/11/28/raw-video-fireground-audio-maydays-at-two-alarm-basement-fire-in-brooklyn-warehouse-five-firefighters-hurt/>

**NOVEMBER 28th....**

A BAD DAY for the fire service..... THE WELL KNOWN COCOANUT GROVE FIRE: 492 PEOPLE KILLED The Cocanut Grove was Boston's premier nightclub during the post-Prohibition 1930s and 1940s. On November 28, 1942, this club was the scene of the deadliest nightclub fire in US history, killing 492 people (**which was 32 more than the building's authorized capacity**) and injuring hundreds more. It was also the second-worst single-building fire in American history; only the 1903 Iroquois Theatre fire in Chicago had a higher death toll, of 602. The enormity of the tragedy shocked the nation and briefly replaced the events of World War II in newspaper headlines. In both fires, most of those who lost their lives would have survived had the existing safety codes been fully enforced. The tragedy led to a reform of safety standards and codes across the country, and major changes in the treatment and rehabilitation of burn victims.

**READ MORE HERE:** <http://bostonfirehistory.org/firestory11281942.html>

**BUT DID YOU KNOW....**

**....AND LESSER KNOWN FIRE HAPPENED WITH MULTIPLE FIREFIGHTERS KILLED:**

November 28 has not been a good one....November 28, 1889, again, in Boston, MA.

Hoseman John J. Brooks Jr., 29 Hose 7

Hoseman Michael Murnan, 34 Hose 7

Hoseman Edward E. Whiting Ex-member of department (1876-1881)

Ladderman Daniel J. Buckley, 31 Ladder 3

Ladderman Frank P. Loker, 33 Ladder 3

They were all killed in the Line of Duty by falling walls of the Ames Building, corner of Kingston and Bedford Streets during this massive fire. This was the General Alarm Fire for which Box 52 was sounded at 0800 hours (Bedford & Lincoln Streets) and was also known as the "Thanksgiving Day Fire," the Steamer of Engine Co.26, Aerial truck of Ladder Co. 13 and the Water Tower also destroyed, and the Steamer of Engine Co. 22 was badly damaged.

Hoseman Murnan had 9 years, Ladderman Loker had 4 years, Hoseman Brooks had 13 months and Ladderman Buckley had 10 months of service. The only man identified positively was Ladderman Buckley who was identified by his name being sewed inside of his underwear. Mr. Whiting was found a day or so later pretty well intact. Other remains were found in January but the parts could not be identified.

**Captain John Grady of Ladder Co. 3 would not believe two members were missing, he worked to near exhausting in the ruins attempting to locate the two men. Eventually he had to believe two of his men were gone....John Grady later became Chief of Department for one week and Fire Commissioner for 4 years (1914--1919). He is a person you would love to have known...as they say "A fireman's FIREMAN" RIP.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-28-12 / 1135 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

2 Firefighters were seriously hurt this morning when their fire engine, Bedford (Virginia) Engine 1 overturned in Bedford. The crew was responding to a brush fire when the crash happened. A total of 4

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

firefighters were hurt - 2 seriously injured and 2 suffered minor injuries. Firefighters on the rig immediately called for assistance and started treating one another at the crash which was on Peaks Street in the City of Bedford. 2 Firefighters were taken to Lynchburg General Hospital, 1 was taken to Bedford Memorial Hospital and 1 was airlifted to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. Keep'm in your prayers. We'll post updates.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG.

The Secret List 12-1-12 1510 hours

#### **AND:**

**QUICK REMINDER: YOUR SCBA facepiece lenses may fail while you are operating in a fire. SCROLL DOWN FOR DETAILS.**

Hey,

Last night, the Senate unanimously accepted the amendment to reauthorize the FIRE and SAFER grant programs and maintain the United State Fire Administration through FY 2017. The amendment was added to S. 3254, the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. This legislation is considered "must pass," so we should be in a good position to get these provisions signed into law.

This amendment follows the compromise agreement. There was one notable exception: Senator Coburn insisted on a five-year sunset for the FIRE and SAFER grant programs. This puts the sunset date at December 2017. That time will allow the fire organizations to work with the congressional supporters to address the sunset provision before it goes into effect. The amendment includes a number of major reforms, such as:

=Ensuring a larger percentage of funding for fire prevention and safety

=Increasing award sizes for larger jurisdictions

=Establishing economic hardship waivers for beleaguered communities that need to maintain their response capabilities, but cannot meet the required local match

Be sure to follow [www.CFSI.org](http://www.CFSI.org) as well as [www.IAFC.org](http://www.IAFC.org), [www.IAFF.org](http://www.IAFF.org), [www.NVFC.org](http://www.NVFC.org) and your local and state associations for updates.

#### **FIRE BRIGADE TRAINING DEATH IN PA:**

OSHA is investigating the death of a man after first responder training Tuesday at the Public Safety Training Institute at Luzerne County Community College in Nanticoke, an agency spokesman said Wednesday. An autopsy determined the man, an employee of PPL Utilities, died of natural causes. PPL officials say the man was a full-time "handyman" at the PPL nuclear power plant in Salem Township and was part of the company's on-site fire brigade, which is required to take first-responder training classes. RIP.

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO SLASH FIRE/RESCUE/EMS SERVICES-AND 2013 ISN'T LOOKING MUCH BETTER**

Two of the latest examples are Wilkes-Barre (PA) and Hamilton (Ohio).

11 WB Firefighters found out yesterday they will be out of work by week's end as part of what their Mayor Tom Leighton said might be only the first round of layoffs aimed at reducing a multimillion-dollar deficit the city is facing. IAFF Local 104 President Mike Bilski notified his union members of the layoffs in an emotional email. "Having to write this e-mail makes me want to (expletive) puke," Bilski wrote. "I apologize to everyone affected by this. I (expletive) up thinking we could make a deal to save jobs and I (expletive) up telling some of you guys you were safe." A month ago, Bilski said roughly 16 firefighters worked per shift. But the cuts will reduce that number to 12, he said. Bilski said he was "definitely" concerned about the safety of his department and of residents following the latest rounds

of reductions. In 1995, a consulting agency determined 17 firefighters to be the safest minimum number on duty during a shift. The city now requires a minimum of 11 firefighters on duty after reducing the number from 12 in October. The minimum was also reduced in March 2010 from 14 to 12. Asked if the study's finding were still relevant, Bilski said, "Has the city shrunk? Obviously not."

The fire department has shrunk over the last decade. There were 88 firefighters in 2001 and 69 at the beginning of 2012. The city of York, population 43,718, employs 67 firefighters, and the city of Altoona, 46,320, employs 66. These figures were taken from each city's 2012 budget. Wilkes-Barre, with 41,498 residents, will employ 53 after the layoffs go into effect.

#### **AND IN OHIO.....**

18 Firefighter jobs on the line as the Hamilton City Council meets to hear budget recommendations from its city manager. Those recommendations also include closing a firehouse. Hamilton is one of many cities grappling with a loss of funding from the state and a loss in funding from estate taxes. The city's budget has a projected deficit of \$2.3 million and that could mean 20 percent of the fire department could be cut. A study released earlier this month had recommended closing two firehouses-that won't happen now. Firefighters say residents will see a reduction in service. Deputy Chief Mark Mercer says it will hurt the community. "The obvious impact is they will have one less engine in that area when a fire call comes in. It also impacts emergency medical response. The responses will be made from units that are farther away." People who attended the meeting say they're concerned. James Johns lives in Hamilton "To be perfectly honest with you, I'm not against laying off firefighters but I definitely am against closing firehouses. I was a medic in the service and when you're talking about medical emergency you're talking seconds not minutes." Eric Abney, IAFF Local 20 President said all budgets are a work in progress and he understands the city has money problems but he called laying off 18 firefighters drastically over the top.

#### **BUT.....HOW DOES THIS IMPACT YOU?**

It is likely that city fiscal conditions will remain weakened in 2013 across North America as city revenue collections lag economic transitions. Cities continue to face the prolonged effects of the economic downturn according to the most recent report by the National League of Cities (NLC). The 27th annual City Fiscal Conditions report (below) shows that for the sixth straight year city revenues continue to fall as financial pressures such as infrastructure, health care and pension costs combine with cuts in state and federal aid to weigh heavily on cities' bottom lines. In a survey of city finance officers, the report shows that as a result of these pressures, cities are making personnel cuts, delaying or canceling infrastructure projects and cutting local services. The report also projects that 2013 will continue to present challenges to city budgets due to stagnant housing markets, high unemployment, and looming federal budget cuts. **HERE** is the report: <http://tinyurl.com/cjqkltu>

#### **CHARGES IN THE DEATH OF A CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTER----FIREPLACE MADE OUT OF....WOOD. WTF?!**

A German architect charged with involuntary manslaughter in connection with the death of a veteran firefighter last year. Gerhard Becker negligently installed outdoor fireplaces at his Hollywood Hills home, a decision they say ultimately led to the Line of Duty death of Firefighter Glenn Allen. "He acted recklessly," Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Michael A. Tynan said at the closing of Becker's preliminary hearing Wednesday. Mr. Becker seemed to be more worried about ensuring that the luxury home sparkled for an upcoming filming of "Germany's Next Top Model" than guaranteeing that the mansion he designed -- with sweeping views and an infinity pool -- was safe to occupy. The fireplaces lacked required firebreaks to stop flames from spreading out and consisted of fireboxes "constructed of wood framing and lined with [combustible] drywall in back, top and bottom," according to a search warrant affidavit. "No reasonable person would build a fireplace out of wood," Deputy Dist. Atty. Sean Carney told the court. More than 80 firefighters operated the night of Feb. 16, 2011. 19 became temporarily trapped as the fire spread. The fire erupted from a third-floor fireplace, shooting

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upward as flames ate away at wood framing and supports holding up the ceiling. When the ceiling collapsed, several hundred pounds of plaster and lumber crashed onto Firefighter Glenn Allen, a nearly 40-year veteran of the Los Angeles Fire Department. FF Allen died two days later. He had talked about retirement and was awaiting the birth of his first grandchild. Building inspectors said Becker informed them he had no plans to include fireplaces inside the mansion, and none were found during a final inspection, court records say. But after the fire, investigators discovered Becker had installed four outdoor fireplaces at the home, violating city building codes.

**But Becker's defense attorney, Donald M. Re, said Becker had installed the fireplaces prior to the house's final inspection, and he relied on the city's final approval of the home to judge its safety. Re told the court that Becker and his fiancée were asleep in the house at the time the 2011 fire broke out, showing his lack of knowledge over any potential danger the fireplaces posed.**

**URGENT REMINDER: YOUR SCBA facepiece lenses may fail while you are operating in a fire.**

Please DOWNLOAD, READ, POST and SHARE THESE CRITICAL DETAILS:

**FIREFIGHTER ALERT:** <http://tinyurl.com/ceulslv>

**FACTUAL DETAILS:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/pdfs/NFPAThermalresletter.pdf>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 11-30-12 / 1100 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

An East Texas volunteer Firefighter is critical after being involved in a one-vehicle accident Friday night. 3 members of the Jackson Heights Volunteer Fire department, were involved in a one vehicle rollover Friday night as they were responding to the call of an accident in the area. They were on their way to their firehouse in a personal vehicle when the accident happened. 20-year-old Jalen Smith, 21-year-old Cornelius Redwine, and 18-year-old Gary Robinson, all of Tyler, were in the vehicle when it rolled over multiple times off of FM 2767 near County Road 387. The preliminary investigation reveals that the driver had to take evasive action and the car then rolled several times. All three men were taken to ETMC Tyler Friday night. Cornelius Redwine and Gary Robinson were treated and released Friday night, and Jalen Smith was last listed in critical condition. We'll keep you updated-keep'm in your prayers.

**DECEMBER AND FIREFIGHTERS:**

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

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

**OUR LADY OF ANGELS FIRE VIDEO:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YLhO25vBT5c>

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

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

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

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



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

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

#### **NINETEEN NINETY NINE:**

In December of 1999, there were also 2 other very significant multiple Firefighter Line of Duty Death fires that we must remember. The first is the Worcester Cold Storage fire that occurred on December 3, 1999. The second, discussed below, is the loss of 3 Firefighters in Keokuk, Iowa.

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

We all remember wonderful but also (and sadly), tragic events that have occurred in our lives as well. On December 3rd of 1999, I was attending a community Christmas celebration in our town when beepers started to beep providing initial details about missing Firefighters in Worcester (MA)-and then more details-and then even more info and the final incredible details came out. The Worcester Fire Department responded at 1813 hours that night to Box Alarm 1438 for a fire at 266 Franklin Street.(NOTE: 266 Franklin Street is now the the address and location of WFD's E-6, E-12, L-1, R-1 and Scuba-1 quarters) 2 members of Rescue 1, Firefighter Paul Brotherton and Firefighter Jerry Lucey, entered the building searching for occupants. Fire conditions worsened in the building at a rapid and unexpected rate. FF's Brotherton and Lucey, on the fifth floor, became disoriented in the smoke-filled building. Lost, and running low on air, they called for help. Several crews began searching for the lost Firefighters. Two crews reaching the fifth floor also found themselves disoriented in the smoke and trapped by the maze of interior walls: Lieutenant Tom Spencer and Firefighter Tim Jackson from Ladder 2, and Firefighter Jay Lyons and Firefighter Joe McGuirk from Engine 3 were now trapped.

**Though many more highly heroic Worcester Firefighters attempted to locate their missing brothers, their efforts proved futile. Be sure to read the link below, entitled "A Chiefs Perspective" about WFD District (Ret) Chief Mike McNamee, who made the beyond difficult decision to end search operations for the missing members-and saved more lives by doing so.**

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

#### **WORCESTER REPORTS & LINKS:**

**HERE** is the USFA report as well as the "must read" Esquire Magazine/Sean Flynn article: [http://www.esquire.com/features/perfect-fire-0700?click=main\\_sr](http://www.esquire.com/features/perfect-fire-0700?click=main_sr) (Esquire Magazine)  
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr-134.pdf> (USFA Report on the fire)

**HERE** are links that we hope will be of value and interest to you and YOUR members:  
Excellent Collection of Stories, Photos, Audio: <http://www.telegram.com/static/fire/>  
A Chiefs Perspective: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20091129/NEWS/911290432/1052>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

There are several excellent reports out on the Keokuk fire:

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

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

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

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

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

-so younger Firefighters understand our history.

-so we all are reminded of the losses.

-so we learn from the lessons learned.

-and so we can honor all of the above members who gave their lives in the Line of Duty.

### **EMS GETS THE BOOT**

The Quicky's convenience store in Mid-City New Orleans (LA) takes its parking lot rules seriously. Very seriously. *Or very stupidly.* About 1600 hours Friday, New Orleans Paramedics rushed inside the

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store for a man with a life-threatening medical issue. They worked on the patient with chest pain, put him inside the vehicle, then started to speed off. The paramedics "heard a loud noise," and the vehicle came to a screeching halt, and the medics stepped out and found a boot on their ambulance. Convenience store employees allegedly put a restrictive parking boot on the ambulance. And now it was stuck. The Paramedics were perplexed. Ya think.

ENJOY THIS VIDEO: <http://www.kens5.com/news/New-Orleans-ambulance-gets-booted-while-paramedics-tend-to-emergency-181679781.html>

Take Care-Be Careful,

Billy G

The Secret List 12-2-12 1809 hours

**AND:**

**ILLINOIS FIREFIGHTER STRUCK AND KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY - BY FIRE APPARATUS**

We regret to advise you that 15-year veteran Firefighter Timothy Jansen was killed while working to contain a structure fire last night in Bartelso, Illinois. Bartelso is in Clinton County, east of St. Louis, MO. Sante Fe Fire Protection District FF Timothy P Jansen, 45, died in the Line of Duty while operating at the scene of a residential structure fire. The initial run came out as a wildland/brush fire at 1930 but as crews arrived on scene, they learned the fire had spread to a nearby residential structure. Initial reports are that as FF Jansen was operating at the scene of the fire, he was struck by fire apparatus. He was rushed to an area hospital where he later died from his injuries. We'll post updates as soon as they become available. Our sincere condolences to all affected. RIP.

take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-3-12 / 0151 Hours

**AND:**

**MICHIGAN MEDIC-FIREFIGHTER DIES WHILE IN NEW YORK**

We regret to advise you that a Fire Captain with the City of Otsego, in Allegan County, (MI) who was a Paramedic with AMR has died while operating in NY on Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. Captain Steve Stevenson passed away yesterday in Manhasset, NY. While in NY he suffered a medical emergency and was diagnosed with an aortic aneurysm. Captain Stevenson was at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset (Nassau County-Long Island) New York. Stevenson was going to be sedated for two or three days, that his heart and kidneys were functioning well, and that the surgeon expected to keep him in the hospital for at least two weeks, followed by three to four weeks of rehab ...but he was unable to survive. As stated: "Otsego Fire lost a great Officer, Friend, Father and Mentor this evening. Captain Steve Stevenson passed away in New York while working relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy. He was due to come home today. After 13 hours in surgery he succumbed to the toll that was placed on him. He leaves behind a wonderful daughter, wife, mother, father and siblings as well. Those that knew Cap'n Stevenson can attest that he was a brilliant Officer, a great Instructor, a genius of a Paramedic and the best friend anyone could ask for. He will be greatly missed." Stevenson, a paramedic, was working for his employer, American Medical Response, in New York when he was stricken with a spontaneous medical issue. He leaves behind his daughter, wife, mother, father and siblings as well. Our sincere condolences to all affected. **RIP. HERE ARE MORE DETAILS:**

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Otsego-Fire-Department/332319183520733?ref=ts&fref=ts>

**PORTUGAL DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF LODD-EMS CRASH FOLLOWING MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

A Portuguese Fire/EMS unit overturned last Friday in Espinheira, Penacova, Portugal. Deputy Chief Sérgio Hilário, 36, a FF since 1996 was taken to the University of Coimbra Hospital in critical condition

but passed away. The patient and a relative that were also in the unit were uninjured. The possibility that the crash was caused because he may have suffered a medical emergency.

<http://www.cmjornal.xl.pt/detalhe/noticias/nacional/portugal/bombeiro-sofre-avc-e-despista-se-no-ip3>

**UPDATE ON LAST NIGHTS LODD IN ILLINOIS RE: FIREFIGHTER STRUCK**

As you know, FF Timothy P. Jansen, 45, who had been a volunteer Firefighter with the Santa Fe FPD in western Illinois for about 15 years, was pronounced dead at a hospital following being struck by apparatus last night..

**WHAT HAPPENED:**

FF Jansen was on the first apparatus that arrived at the scene of that small cottage, and began pulling off hose lines. Somehow he slipped and the truck backed over him. The Firefighter driving the truck didn't know Jansen had fallen, and thought it was OK to move the truck. Once it was discovered, members started treatment immediately, paramedics arrived and transported Jansen to St. Joseph's Hospital in Breese, where he was pronounced dead. Bartelso is a village of nearly 600 residents in Clinton County, about 50 miles east of St. Louis, MO. Jansen used to manage the small town's bowling alley, but more recently owned its restaurant. His survivors include a wife and two young daughters-1st grade and 8th grade. The names of his daughters were used to form the name of the restaurant: MacJenna's. MacJenna's is directly across Illinois 161 from the fire station. More to follow. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-3-12 / 1042 Hours

**AND:**

**TEXAS FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-RESPONDING CRASH**

Jackson Heights (Texas) volunteer Firefighter Jalen Smith has died in the Line of Duty this evening at East Texas Medical Center. The 20-year-old was on life support, in a coma, after suffering a major head injury and a broken back on Friday. Jalen was in the car last Friday evening, responding on a call, with 2 other Firefighters, when the crash happened. The 3 members of the Jackson Heights VFD were involved in that one vehicle rollover Friday night as they were responding to the call of an accident in the area. They were on their way to their firehouse in a personal vehicle when the accident happened. 20-year-old Jalen Smith, 21-year-old Cornelius Redwine, and 18-year-old Gary Robinson, all of Tyler, were in the vehicle when it rolled over multiple times off of FM 2767 near County Road 387. The preliminary investigation reveals that the driver had to take evasive action and the car then rolled several times. All three men were taken to ETMC Tyler Friday night. Cornelius Redwine and Gary Robinson were treated and released Friday night, and Jalen Smith died this evening. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**FIREFIGHTERS STRUCK & SERIOUSLY INJURED IN CALIFORNIA-CAUGHT ON TAPE**

3 Firefighters struck and injured yesterday while operating at a crash remain in serious but stable condition, and their injuries are not considered life threatening. Moraga-Orinda Fire District Capt. Michael Rattary; nine-year MOFD veteran FF Kelly Morris and four-year veteran FF Stephen Rogness -- were injured when that vehicle traveling east lost control just east of the Wilder Road exit, struck a fire engine and rolled into the three members. The crash happened about 0925 hours yesterday. In the initial crash, that happened prior, Firefighters were evaluating the driver from that crash when a Chevy Tahoe spun out of control and hit a car, which overturned and collided with the 3 Firefighters. FF Rogness will need surgery to repair a foot that was crushed in the wreck and a knee that also was injured, FF Morris fractured a kneecap and suffered ligament damage to her knee, and she also

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broke a fibula and foot. Whether she will need surgery was still being determined and FF Rattery suffered a "significant concussion," and cuts on the back of his head and on his legs.

HERE IS THE VIDEO OF THE CRASH:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=3DcISJaCi4s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=3DcISJaCi4s)

**DaveS has more media coverage HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/cgjex9n>

TRAINING RESOURCES:

====ROADWAYS ARE "DEATHWAYS"-WE NEED TO ACT AS IF MOTORISTS "WANT" TO CAUSE US HARM...Now Operate That Way.

HERE are several links with priceless information on survival when operating on roadways:

<http://tinyurl.com/cbog9m> This link is to EVERY NIOSH REPORT Involving Firefighters Struck and Killed.

<http://www.respondersafety.com> Responder Safety. THE SOURCE For Our Roadway Survival.

<http://www.iaff.org/hs/evsp/PowerPoint%20Presentation%20in%20PDF.pdf> Emergency Vehicle and Roadway Scene Safety-IAFF.

<http://www.iaff.org/hs/evsp/USFA%20Emergency%20Vehicle%20Safety%20Initiative.pdf> Improving Apparatus Response & Roadway Safety-USFA.

<https://www.iaff.org/hs/evsp/home.html> Emergency Vehicle Safety Program-IAFF.

<http://www.iaff.org/hs/evsp/NIOSH%20Traffic%20Hazards%20to%20FF%20on%20Roadways.pdf> Traffic Hazards to Firefighters-NIOSH.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. READ THE ABOVE STUFF AND PASS IT ALONG.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-3-12 / 2109 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Westminster (MA) FD officers and Firefighters were "operating within the scope of their training" when a wall collapsed at the Columbia Hotel multi alarm building fire in Leominster, injuring two firefighters, according to the department's report on the incident. (Video links below) **Among the findings of the report on the Nov. 24 fire, released Monday and signed by Fire Chief Brenton MacAloney:**

\* The end of the building where Westminster Ladder/Tower truck was fighting the blaze had a hip roof, where the rest of the building had a flat roof. "This was not known at the time of the fire by those that participated in this review."

\* Under the hip roof was a ballroom on the third floor with no internal walls connecting the outside wall that collapsed.

\* As the fire progressed from where it originally started toward the ballroom, the side of the hip roof closest to the fire collapsed, leaving the three remaining roof sections standing,

\* With no internal walls to support the exterior wall and the weight of the roof on an angle, the brick exterior wall from the ceiling of the second floor to the roof line fell, hitting Westminster's Ladder/Tower, and injuring two Westminster firefighters working in the truck's bucket. The truck was also damaged.

\* The heavy duty design of the Ladder/Tower contributed to the safety of the firefighters as the ladder and bucket did not fail with the impact of both the wall and roof.

December 28, 2012

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

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\* Protective equipment worn by the firefighters also prevented their injuries from being more severe. The five-alarm fire heavily damaged the historic Columbia Hotel building in downtown Leominster, displacing 33 residents and nine businesses.

### HERE IS THE REPORT:

[http://extras.mnginteractive.com/live/media/site106/2012/1203/20121203\\_040808\\_firereport.pdf](http://extras.mnginteractive.com/live/media/site106/2012/1203/20121203_040808_firereport.pdf)

### HERE ARE VIDEOS OF THE FIRE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSRVH5SnB8c>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXldGF91v1o>

### DELAYED REPORT: FIREFIGHTER IN BRAZIL DROWNS DURING TRAINING

A Firefighter died in the Line of Duty during a training session last Saturday morning, in the State of Pernambuco, Brazil. Firefighter Iggor Gouveia Gomes, 21 years old, drowned while trying to cross a dam in the community of Serra dos Cavalos. Police is investigating the case. RIP.

### ILLINOIS FIREFIGHTER STRUCK BY APPARATUS-FUNERAL DETAILS

Here are the details for the funeral of fallen Firefighter Timothy P. Jansen, Santa Fe Fire Protection District, Illinois. The wake is TOMORROW, Wednesday December 5, 2012 at St. Cecilia Catholic Church from 3 pm -8 pm Firefighter walk through will take place at 7pm, assembly for the walk through will be at 6:45 pm at the Church. The funeral mass is set for THURSDAY December 6, 2012 at 11:30 am at St. Cecilia Catholic Church Firefighters are asked to assemble at the church at 11 am There will be a walking procession to the cemetery leading Firefighter Jansen to his resting place. No outside apparatus is requested due to the walking procession. St Cecilia Catholic Church -308 S. Washington, Bartelso, IL 62218 For further information please contact: Jeff Kampwerth, 618-363-3194 or at [Kampy15@hotmail.com](mailto:Kampy15@hotmail.com)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 12-4-12 / 1429 Hours

### AND:

Hey,

Two Tennessee Firefighters were injured last night, with 1 being critical, while operating at a house fire in East Nashville. The fire broke out around 2035 Hours last night at a single-story house on Airpark Drive. Everything seemed to be going routine-according to a Chief-and then one of the crews realized that they had a FF missing. They found one Firefighter on the ground, unconscious and he was rushed to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in critical condition. A second firefighter was also taken to the hospital with minor burns to his cheek and neck. MORE to follow later. Keep'm in your prayers.

### DOUBLE FATAL RESPONDING FIRE APPARATUS CRASH WILL GO TO TRIAL BY JURY

**THIS STORY IS FOR EVERY Fire/EMS officer and driver\*.** The Ohio Supreme Court ruled yesterday that a trial court should reconsider whether the city of Massillon was liable in the **2008 fire apparatus crash that killed Ronald E. Anderson, 72, and his 4-year-old stepgrandson, Javarre J. Tate.**

On May 6, 2008, the MFD Firefighters were responding to a report of a vehicle fire. **The first apparatus responded and proceeded through the intersection with no issue. The 2nd apparatus, E-211, also traveling with its lights and sirens on, struck Anderson's vehicle as he passed through the intersection killing him and his grandson. Attorneys for Cynthia Anderson, Ronald Anderson's widow, have argued that Firefighter Susan Toles (who was related to Anderson)**

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was driving the apparatus at excessive and unsafe speeds given the neighborhood and type of emergency to which they were responding. Engine 211 was later found to be operating at speeds between 49 mph and 52 mph at the point of impact.

**The city has argued that the accident was unavoidable because Anderson (who was hard of hearing) failed to yield to the oncoming fire truck at the intersection, which has a four-way stop and a flashing red light-but had stopped for the first apparatus, and then proceeded through the intersection, being struck by the 2nd.**

Common Pleas Judge Charles Brown initially ruled the city was immune from liability because there was no evidence that Toles or her supervisor, Capt. Rick Annen, acted with "a malicious purpose, in bad faith or in a wanton or reckless manner."

**The case relates to two state statutes. One law affords political subdivisions a defense from liability if a fire truck is responding to an emergency, as long as the operation of the vehicle does not constitute willful or wanton misconduct. The other statute provides immunity to public employees as long as their actions are not considered wanton or reckless.**

**HOWEVER**, the Fifth District reversed Brown's decision, stating that "reasonable minds" could find the firefighters' actions reckless because of the rate of speed at which the truck was traveling and the obstructions that interfered with a clear view of the intersection. The state Supreme Court wrote in its 18-page opinion that the standards of the terms willful, wanton and reckless are "different and distinct degrees of care and are not interchangeable" and remanded the case back to the trial court.

**\*Regardless of this outcome-there are 2 people dead with families and Firefighters (their families too) lives turned upside down. NO ONE wants to go thru this situation at any level. STOP at controlled intersections.**

**HERE IS VIDEO OF THE CRASH:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ga\\_vHeGYQ34](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ga_vHeGYQ34)

**HERE IS MORE ABOUT THIS LATEST UPDATE:** <http://tinyurl.com/c9d8ko7>

**150,000 FIRE PHOTOS SINCE 1962....FROM DETROIT:**

If tonight is like most other nights over the past 50 years, Bill Eisner will respond to at least one fire in Detroit, and he will take pictures. He first will play cards or watch TV at a fire station, usually Squad 3, a century-old red brick building near the Packard Plant. When the alert sounds, Eisner, 75, will jump on the rig and race to the scene with the firefighters, and in the midst of the flashing lights, sirens, leaping flames, black smoke and sparking wires, Eisner will calmly grab his Nikon D 200 and get to work. This is what he has done since 1962 - document the world of the Detroit Fire Department, the life inside the engine houses, the fires, the firefighters' weddings, academy graduations, promotions, funerals, memorial services, field days and retirements....

**READ THIS GREAT ARTICLE HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/d7qfkzq>

**EMS HELP?**

So many NJ EMS agencies have lost equipment, vehicles and buildings to Super Storm Sandy. As these agencies continue to rebuild, they continue to need donations of equipment and supplies. The NJ Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services has created a series of on-line questionnaires to connect those who can help with those who need help. **CAN YOU HELP?**

<http://www.state.nj.us/health/ems>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-7-12 / 1030 Hours

**AND:**

**TRIPLE FATAL EMS HELICOPTER CRASH-LODD**

We regret to advise you that a medical helicopter crashed in northern Illinois last night, killing all three people on board. The Federal Aviation Administration reports the helicopter crashed Monday night while traveling from Rockford, near the Wisconsin border, to a hospital about 60 miles south in Mendota to pick up a patient. The helicopter was registered to Rockford Health System and no patients were on board when the helicopter crashed around 2030 hours into a field in Rochelle, about midway between the two cities. The FAA says the helicopter was destroyed and all three people on board were killed. Rockford is about 80 miles northwest of Chicago. According to Rockford Health System's Facebook page, the crew members were Pilot Andy Olsen, Nurse Jim Dillow, R.N., and Flight Nurse Karen Hollis, R.N. They are having a press conference at 1030 this morning to provide more details. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

**SEASONS GREETINGS-BUT KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR SEASONS SADNESS:**

While this is the "most wonderful time of the year"-it is also a time where emotions can get ripped for some very personal reasons. Sometimes we see it-sometimes we don't. Suicide is a mystery in so many cases, leaving family and friends clueless about what happened, what was missed, what could "we" have been done. Firefighters = courage, resilience, self-sacrifice, confidence and the ability to handle the most difficult situations\*... but some may be less able to cope and may suffer from depression, isolation and other behavioral problems. And as we have all seen, some may choose suicide as the only solution.

In North Dakota last week, a Battalion Fire Chief took his own life ...and his friends wanted us to share some details with you.

Battalion Fire Chief Daniel L. Olson, 42, Bismarck, died Dec. 1, 2012. Dan died after taking his own life. He was born in 1970. Dan deeply cared for his career as a firefighter. Dan first became a volunteer Firefighter in Berthold, later served as a professional at the Minot FD from 1996-99, and became a Firefighter with the Bismarck FD in 1999. Dan was currently serving as Battalion Chief, a tremendous honor he had just received in 2012. Dan was also a part of the North Dakota National Guard. Dan proudly served his country with the North Dakota National Guard 957 MRBC in Iraq from 2003 to 2004 and in Kosovo from 2009 to 2010. Dan was currently Master Sergeant in the 164 Engineer HHC. Dan will always be remembered for his courage during difficult times, and even though he lost his battle with P.T.S.D. and took his own life, his family and friends know he is at rest and peace. He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Tanya; his daughters, Emilee, 16, and Aimee, 13; his son, Kevin, 3; his mother, Adeline; his brothers, Aaron Olson and Ron Olson; and an extended family, In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be shared with the Emilee, Aimee and Kevin Olson Memorial Fund, Bremer Bank, 710 S. Washington St., Bismarck, N.D. 58504. Friends may share condolences and memories with the family online at [www.bismarckfuneralhome.com](http://www.bismarckfuneralhome.com). **RIP.**

**DID YOU KNOW THIS?** The myth that suicides spike during the holidays is not factual. The months of November, December and January actually have the lowest number of suicides per day, according to data from CDC. ++...but that is based upon the general population, not Firefighter specific. So keep your eyes and ears open and take a sec to read the links below.

**HAVE YOU READ THIS? A FIRE CHIEF/FATHERS GRIEF:**

<http://firechief.com/health-safety/ar/fathers-grief-0209>

**FIREFIGHTERS AND SUICIDE-PLEASE CHECK OUT THESE LINKS AND PASS'em ON.**

**HERE:** <http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/personal-survival.php> (FFCC Personal Survival Section)

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HERE: <http://blog.iaff.org/post/2010/11/05/No-Fire-Fighter-Stands-Alone.aspx> (IAFF-No Firefighter Stands Alone-\*READ THESE WARNING SIGNS) \*

HERE: <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/MindMoodNews/firefighter-ptsd-suicide/story?id=14466320> (ABC News Article on Firefighter Suicide)

HERE: [http://firechief.com/health-safety/ar/firefighting\\_not\\_without\\_warning/](http://firechief.com/health-safety/ar/firefighting_not_without_warning/) (Fire Chief Magazine Article)

HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/7bbz8ev> (The Company Officers Role-article)

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

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

**FINAL WORD:** Our condolences to the family and friends of Lavern Rinehart who lost his battle with Alzheimer's December 9th 2012 in Cozad, Nebraska. He was a Firefighter for 43 years and a Nebraska Deputy State Fire Marshal in the pipeline division. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-11-12 / 1013 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

As an update, the Lexington (KY) Firefighter driving the apparatus last Saturday night that ran over and killed that woman in downtown Lexington was at fault, but probably will not face charges in what has turned out to be a horrific accident. Police had found "no information or evidence to indicate that criminal charges will be placed against the driver of the vehicle." As you will recall, 27 year old Lauren Roady from Washington DC, was crossing a street about 2205 hours Saturday when the engine company (driving routine) driven by Lexington (KY) Firefighter Chris Presley hit her. The apparatus was making a left turn from Main Street onto South Broadway. Ms. Roady was in the crosswalk and had a signal to walk and that FF Presley failed to yield the right of way. **Police also have indicated that Ms. Roady, who was 5-foot-3 and 120 pounds, was wearing dark clothing and was not visible.** Additionally, it was raining when Firefighter Presley was making that left hand turn, further hindering visibility.

**ST LOUIS LODD FUNERAL DETAILS**

Below is the City of St. Louis FD Line of Duty Death memorial details for of Firefighter Jeffery Hudson, Sr. who died December 12, 2012 while on duty, after responding to numerous runs. Visitation 4P - 8P Monday December 17, 2012, at Granberry Mortuary, 8806 Jennings Station Road, St. Louis Mo. Funeral services will be held 10AM Tuesday December 18, 2012, at Kennerly Temple, 4307 Kennerly Ave St. Louis Mo. Burial will follow at Bellefontaine Cemetery, 4947 West Florissant Ave, St. Louis Mo. Honor Guards wishing to participate should contact Aaron Buchanon at 636-262-1941 Agencies bringing apparatus for the procession should contact Capt. Sutter at [sutterd@stlouis-mo.gov](mailto:sutterd@stlouis-mo.gov) or 314-387-1591. Any updates or changes will be posted to the Firefighter Funeral Team website at [www.mofirefuneral.org](http://www.mofirefuneral.org) Please check this website for any updates.

**FIREFIGHTER STAFFING...AT FUNERALS?**

If you have followed The Secret List since we started this stuff in 1998, you know how we feel about staffing a structural fire response and the critical needs based upon the tasks-all almost always predictable and pre-plannable. Simple stuff: What do you protect? What do you want to accomplish (and how quickly) when "it" (or any of the "its" in your community) is on fire? What resources will you need to accomplish that-and when do you need those resources? Again-it is ALL predictable well

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before the fire is reported. Of course, these days, the funding needed for the resources may not be there. That's when **NUMEROUS CHOICES** and applicable decisions must be made.....made **BEFORE** the fire **AS WELL AS** when we arrive and operate at the fire. After all, we can only humanly do so much...and if you pull up on a fire needing (pre-dictable, pre-plannable) 20 Firefighters, and you only have 7, you simply **CANNOT** do what you would have with 20 in the needed time period. You will run out of building. And, the real possibility exists that the citizens inside will run out of life. All predictable.

**So what does this have to do with STAFFING AND FIREFIGHTER FUNERALS?** Check out this intriguing piece sent to us by long time Secret List member **Frank "Supreme Court" Ricci**, from CT: "Six to eight firefighters will be chosen to carry the casket of our friend. Any less we would be absurd even in ideal conditions. They will have to bear the weight of the member, endure environmental conditions and possibly negotiate stairs. It is likely that the family will select a command officer from your department to oversee the funeral. This solemn responsibility may include choosing the pallbearers. If told by the grieving widow that she only wanted two pallbearers the department liaison would not hesitate to explain the necessity of a full complement. They would advocate for what is in the best interest of the department and the family. Incredibly, At this point we are all in agreement. So why would the same command officer fail the living, fail our communities and fail our families without rebuke?" "If it takes a minimum of six to carry a casket in ideal conditions, how can our leaders justify a Rapid Intervention Team of two firefighters or only sending one company to the highway. How can they justify responding to a house fire with three floors with less than twenty-four firefighters or responding to a commercial fire with the same response as a house....." READ MUCH MORE HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/ckwvkqg>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. **THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU REALISTICALLY CAN-AND CANNOT DO WITH YOUR FIRST ALARM STAFFING. NOW WHAT?**

BillyG

The Secret List 12-13-12 / 2106 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Last evening around 2145 hours, FDNY Ladder 129 was responding first due to a dwelling fire. While responding, they were involved in a violent crash on Northern Blvd with another vehicle (reported to be a garbage truck) in an intersection. Several members were trapped and had to be extricated. Members received a range of yellow and green injuries-from serious injured (fractures) to not so serious. **We have confirmed that the Officer and Chauffeur (driver) of the apparatus were wearing their seat belts and the wearing of those seat belts, by all indications (see photos of the crash on our home page) probably saved their lives-as they were the most seriously injured.**

We will post more details later on our home page-there are some photos on the page now. Take Care-BE CAREFUL.**THE USE OF SEATBELTS BY THINKING FIREFIGHTERS WORKED. AGAIN.**

**How'bout that.**

BillyG

The Secret List

12/18/12 - 1235hrs

**AND:**

**WI FIRE CHIEF HAS HEART ATTACK AFTER MAKING A RUN**

We regret to advise you of the Line of Duty death of Brooklyn, Dane County (WI) Fire Chief Phil



**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Mortensen, 67, who passed away yesterday, December 22, 2012. He completed a call, returned to his shop where he went down in cardiac arrest. Aggressive attempts to save his life were unfortunately not successful. Chief Mortensen will forever be missed. The Brooklyn Fire Protection District and the Dane County Fire Chiefs Association will communicate funeral service arrangements as they become available. <http://www.brooklynfireems.com/> and <https://danecountyfirechiefs.org/>

Take Care-Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-23-12 / 1253 hours

**AND:**

**NY DOUBLE FIREFIGHTER SHOOTING LODDS-CHRISTMAS EVE-2012 UPDATE**

4 West Webster FD Volunteer Firefighters responding to that house fire this morning were shot, with 2 being killed in the Line of Duty, leading to a shootout between a suspect and police in suburban Rochester. The shooter is now dead.

**THE FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY ARE:**

Mike Chiapperini, Webster NY Police Lieutenant and PIO, who was off duty, serving as a WW Volunteer Firefighter. Mike had just returned from Long Island after being deployed for Super Storm Sandy.

Tomasz Kaczowka, a 9-1-1 Dispatcher who was off duty serving as a WW Volunteer Firefighter.

**BOTH INJURED FIREFIGHTERS: Theodore Scardino and Joseph Hofsetter**, are in guarded condition with very significant injuries. Hofsetter was an off duty City of Rochester Firefighter. Cops say that one or more shooters fired at the Firefighters when they arrived shortly after 0530 at the fire near the Lake Ontario shore, just east of Rochester, in the Town of Webster, West Webster Fire District. The first Webster police officer who arrived exchanged gunfire with a shooter, 2 of the Firefighters arrived on the first due apparatus and 2 arrived by car.

**INITIALLY:** The West Webster Fire District received a report of a car and house on fire on Lake Road, on a narrow peninsula where Irondequoit Bay meets Lake Ontario. The fire started in one home and spread to two others and a car.

**THIS IS THE RADIO TRAFFIC from this morning fire and shooting:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7VXwnyAvp8>

**THIS SITE** appears to have some of the better local coverage:

<http://www.13wham.com>

**THIS IS video of this mornings fire:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8umvbZ-grw>

**THIS** is the West Webster FD Homepage:

<http://westwebsterfd.org/>

**THIS SITE** is the Webster PD Homepage:

<http://ci.webster.ny.us/index.aspx?nid=86>

FACEBOOK UPDATES FROM FireFighterCloseCalls Affiliate Mike Brooks:

<https://www.facebook.com/mike.brooks.1276>

**ACTIVE SHOOTER POLICIES AND RELATED INFORMATION:**

Here are some links worth checking out for Firefighters as well as Dispatchers related to similar incidents:

<http://www.firehouse.com/article/10755387/dispatch-protocols-for-active-shooter-incidents> (FROM

FFCC's Barry Furey in Firehouse)

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo43715.pdf> (FROM Charlotte NC FD)

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[http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active\\_shooter\\_booklet.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active_shooter_booklet.pdf) (FROM DHS)  
[http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/print/volume-163/issue-4/departments/fire-service\\_ems/responding-to-active-shooter-incidents.html](http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/print/volume-163/issue-4/departments/fire-service_ems/responding-to-active-shooter-incidents.html) (Active Shooter Response)  
<http://www.jems.com/article/major-incidents/arlington-county-va-task-force> (FROM Arlington County, VA)  
<http://www.nypdshield.org/public/SiteFiles/documents/Activeshooter.pdf> (FROM NYPD)  
<http://my.firefighternation.com/forum/topics/is-the-fire-service-prepared-for-an-active-shooter-incident> (FireFighterNation Discussion)

**RELATED FIREFIGHTER SHOOTING INCIDENTS:**

**KY FIRE LT SHOT AND KILLED AT SCENE:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200411.html>

**MO FIREFIGHTER SHOT AND KILLED AT SCENE:** <http://www.fboryanhumert.org/>  
<http://www.cityofmaplewood.com/index.aspx?nid=181>

**BELLMORE NY FIREFIGHTER SHOT:**

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/130523>

**BELLMORE NY FIREFIGHTER SHOT-AUDIO:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKzI0hFAvUA>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-24-12 / 1257 Hours

**AND:**

All,

As the West Webster community of New York was about to be toned out, unknowingly, for their worst possible situation... west of NY in Wisconsin a fire service related shooting had already happened.

This morning a 30-year-old Wauwatosa (WI) Police Officer was killed by multiple gunshots while on duty. She was found in a police post which is within the main fire station-which is why we are sharing this additional fire service related tragedy on The Secret List. A homicide investigation is under way and there "are no suspects at this time." The murdered Police Officer, Jennifer Lynn Sebena, who was married, joined the police department in January 2011. She began as a solo patrol officer with Wauwatosa police in July 2012 and completed probation with the department last month.

**WHAT HAPPENED:**

Sometime this morning, between 0300-0500 she was shot numerous times and succumbed to those gunshot wounds, losing her life in the Line of Duty. Officer Sebena was believed to be wearing her safety vest at the time she was shot. The investigation is being led by the State Division of Criminal Investigations, within the Justice Department. The chain of events began in the early morning hours when Wauwatosa dispatchers attempted to contact Officer Sebena on her late shift patrol. A call had been put out by her dispatchers to send her to a call for service but she didn't respond. One of their other officers had talked to her earlier in the evening. Naturally, WPD officers were now out looking for Sebena because she "had not responded to her radio." No call for help from her was ever made and she was later found. Police tape was stretched across an area at the main WFD fire station on Underwood Ave. We have posted some details and a photo on our home page and will post more details as they become available.

**WE NORMALLY DO NOT** post Law Enforcement related LODD's as we are fire/EMS related-however, being this happened within a police substation in a firehouse, it was relevant.

**RIP Police Officer Jennifer Lynn Sebena.**

**UPDATE FROM NY: HEROIC FIREFIGHTER IS COOL, CALM ON THE RADIO WHILE LITERALLY UNDER FIRE**

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Despite a serious bullet wound, one of the Firefighters first on scene to the Lake Road fire and Firefighter murders in West Webster (Monroe County NY) remained unruffled as he called for help. He took cover behind his apparatus and described the scene to 911 dispatchers. Here are excerpts from the recording. The entire audio is linked below-same link we sent earlier.

*"We are being shot at. Multiple firemen shot, I am shot. I think it's an assault rifle. We have multiple firemen down, working fire ... I'm pretty sure we have 2 DOAs in the street ... I am under cover of the fire truck which I have tried to move down the street, which has crashed. I am concerned about leaving the safe area I'm in, trying to move down the street, but I need immediate EMS ... I am struck in the lower back and lower leg, both can be deadly so I need immediate EMS ... The two victims hit have not moved since they've been struck."*

**OUTSTANDING. No doubt his actions and calm demeanor, even after being shot, saved the lives of numerous other responding Firefighters, EMTs and Police Officers.**

**HERE IS THE ENTIRE FIRE RADIO BROADCAST:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7VXwnyAvp8>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List - Christmas Eve 2012, 1938 Hours

**AND:**

All,

Cops in Webster, N.Y., say the man who lured the West Webster Firefighters to their deaths left a typewritten note saying he wanted to burn down the neighborhood and "do what I like doing best, killing people." Webster Police Chief Gerald Pickering said this morning that the man's sister hasn't been found yet. He said 62-year-old ex-convict Murderer Spengler armed himself with three weapons and set his house afire to lure first responders into a death trap.

**NEW AUDIO-HERE IS A CLIP WITH BOTH POLICE & FIRE RADIO TRAFFIC merged along with combined photos and video:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUzBTYNe3uE>

As you may know from our earlier updates, 2 of the Firefighters arrived on the apparatus and 2 in their own vehicles. After Spengler fired, one of the wounded men fled, but the other three couldn't because of flying gunfire. The police officer who exchanged gunfire with Spengler "in all likelihood saved many lives," Police Chief Gerald Pickering said. A police armored vehicle was used to recover the men, and eventually it removed 33 people from nearby homes. The Firefighters who gave their lives in the Line of Duty were identified as FF Michael Chiapperini, 43, who was also a PD LT and the Webster Police Department's PIO; and 19-year-old FF Tomasz Kaczowka, a 911 Dispatcher for Monroe County. Chief Pickering described Chiapperini as a "lifetime firefighter" with nearly 20 years in the department, and he called Kaczowka a "tremendous young man." The two wounded Firefighters, Joseph Hofstetter and Theodore Scardino, remained in guarded condition this afternoon at Strong Memorial Hospital. Both were awake and alert and are expected to recover. Hofstetter, also a full-timer with the Rochester FD, was hit once in the pelvis, and the bullet lodged in his spine. Scardino was hit in the chest and knee.

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A TOWN LOSES ITS HERO(S)**

**A LESSER KNOWN 1977 FIREFIGHTER SHOOTING:**

**You should recall Lexington, KY, Fire Lieutenant Brenda Cowan, 40, who was shot and killed in the line of duty on Friday, February 13, 2004.** As they were bending down to help a woman lying on the ground outside a home from a reported domestic, the crews came under fire from the house. Cowan and another FF (who survived) were hit, and 6 other firefighters were pinned down by the

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

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gunfire. The event became a standoff that lasted for several hours until the suspect was finally taken into custody. **In July of 2008 Maplewood (MO) Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Hummert** was shot to death as he got off the fire truck to handle a vehicle fire. He simply got off the truck and was gunned down. The Internet has really helped us learn and know about tragic events, such as the above noted ones.

**BUT YOU MAY NOT KNOW THIS FIREFIGHTER SHOOTING:**

Way before the internet was invented, Chief James Cutchall responded on July 2, 1977, to a fire alarm as he had a hundred times before, arriving on the scene first to direct incoming fire apparatus from the Fayetteville, PA Volunteer Fire Department. Within minutes, the 33-year-old Chief lay mortally wounded from a sniper's bullet, shot even as he radioed the Franklin County Communications Center with an initial report of a working fire and injured civilian. **(Thanks to Chief Crawford Wiesling for this important history)**

**READ THE STORY HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/ctuewa4>

**BELOVED FDNY FIREFIGHTER, FIRE MARSHAL AND ATHLETE DIES IN A CAR CRASH HEADING HOME ON CHRISTMAS EVE**

FDNY Fire Marshal Martin "Woody" McHale. E252, Sq252, FDNY BFI and FDNY Football O-Lineman for 20 years was tragically killed in a vehicle crash in Queens, as he was heading home to his family last evening. A recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, he was well known throughout the job for his dedication to FDNY work-and FDNY play. Our deepest condolences to his friends, family and especially his young children. RIP. MORE DETAILS HERE:

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

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. We Wish All Of You And Yours From All Of Us ...a Peaceful Christmas.

BillyG

The Secret List Christmas, 2012 / 1100 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

**3 Martin County (FL) Firefighters were injured this morning, one critically**, while operating at fire in Stuart at 0219 this morning. Companies arrived within minutes and found heavy smoke conditions and began searching for possible victims. During the search, conditions rapidly deteriorated and the firefighters were overcome by intense heat and were forced to make a "mayday" call. They were rescued by other Firefighters. One firefighter was treated and released on the scene, the second was taken to a local hospital and released this morning and the third was flown by LifeStar to Jackson Memorial Burn Unit in Miami and remains in critical condition. We will keep you updated-keep'm in your prayers.

**AMERICAN FLAGS?? WTF!?**

There is a really disturbing issue at the 9/11 memorial: the near complete absence of our American flag. As the site of America's worst terrorist attack in which we lost 343 brother firefighters and thousands of our fellow Americans, Ground Zero in NYC deserves our utmost respect and reverence. Unfortunately, our national symbol of patriotism - our American flag -is nearly absent from these most historic and hallowed grounds. An inconspicuous single American flag sits atop a mechanical building at the edge of the site, literally pushed to the edge of the 9/11 Memorial. Instead of American flags, the site is filled with a forest of trees. **It is clear that the 8 acre site, managed by a private foundation, is becoming more of an urban recreational park instead of the sacred site it actually is.**

A recent quote from one of the memorial architects puts this issue in focus: "the memorial sought not just to be a tribute to those who died but also to function as a neighborhood park, 'where  
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businessmen and women on their lunch break mix with tourists as well as with New Yorkers just enjoying the open space,'says Handel Architects." Recent news reports have also highlighted significant problems with visitor behavior at the memorial including throwing trash in the memorial pools, running around, throwing balls, and laughing. **This kind of conduct may be acceptable for a typical city park, not the most hallowed grounds in the United States.** The leadership Bergen County (NJ) Firemen's Home Association, a group of veteran Firefighters which raises funds to support the New Jersey State Firemen's Home in Boonton, has initiated an effort to bring this problem to the attention of Firefighters across New Jersey and the rest of our country. A recent newspaper article highlights their efforts:

[http://www.northjersey.com/community/history/Firefighters\\_upset\\_no\\_flag\\_rises\\_on\\_plaza\\_of\\_911\\_Memorial.html?page=all](http://www.northjersey.com/community/history/Firefighters_upset_no_flag_rises_on_plaza_of_911_Memorial.html?page=all)

**YOUR IMMEDIATE HELP IS NEEDED:**

We ask that all Firefighters, EMT's, Police officers along with all family members and friends join us in the call for the placement of a forest of permanent American flags on the site, just like the forest of trees at the site. Please consider signing the White House "We the People" petition in the link below: <https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/demand-nyc-911-memorial-be-required-install-not-just-one-hundreds-american-flags-sacred-site/TRcb2cgB>

Perhaps the presence of the American flags will bring the dignity and respect this consecrated place so desperately needs.

**INCREDIBLE VIDEO**

A video has emerged from a natural gas pipeline explosion in Mexico that killed at least 26 people, showing just quickly the inferno ripped through the plant. An accidental leak is thought to have caused the September 18 explosion at the Pemex natural gas distribution plant in Reynosa which caused a wall of three-storey high flames to rip through the distribution centre in a the blink of an eye. The footage shows trucks and workers coming into the plant on what appears to be a routine day. The plant, situated near the US border is operated by Mexico's state-owned oil company, Petroleos Mexicanos and the centre distributes gas to a processing plant next door which produces fuel. The explosion created a powerful fire at the natural gas plant. Eyewitnesses said the ground shook briefly before the pipeline exploded. These moving images show the impact of the blast which is followed by a cloud of thick black smoke and fire which engulfs the entire site in a matter of seconds.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kUC3Gk2Qkk>

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/world/cctv-footage-shows-natural-gas-plant-explosion/story-fnd134gw-1226535030467>

**UPDATE: WISCONSIN FIREHOUSE MURDER: HUSBAND ARRESTED IN SHOOTING OF WISCONSIN POLICE OFFICER**

The husband of slain Wauwatosa Police Officer Jennifer L. Sebena has been arrested and is expected to be charged with her shooting death early Christmas Eve. Benjamin Sebena was booked last night into the Milwaukee County Jail on a tentative charge of first-degree intentional homicide. Officer Jennifer Sebena, 30, was found shot to death early Monday. Investigators believe she was shot multiple times between 3 and 5 a.m. while at the Wauwatosa main fire station. Funeral services for Jennifer Sebena are scheduled for Saturday at Elmbrook Church, 777 S. Barker Road, Brookfield. Benjamin Sebena served two tours in Iraq as a Marine, earning a Purple Heart. His unit, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, had been part of the invasion force at the start of the Iraq War in 2003 and returned to Iraq in the fall of 2004, when Benjamin Sebena was sent to Ramadi. He was seriously injured in a mortar attack that killed a buddy in February 2005. In a video taped at Brookfield's Elmbrook Church, he told about how he found his future wife through social media while he was serving in Iraq. RIP Officer Sebena.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,



BillyG

The Secret List 12-27-12 1145 Hours

**AND:**

All,

Martin County (Florida) Firefighter Jahwann McIntyre was part of the crew from MCFR station 23 who were working that structure fire in a two story home early this morning when the incident occurred. He was inside with two other Firefighters conducting a primary search for trapped occupants - when something went wrong. According to MCFR- they do not know what happened and right now are focused only on our brother and his family. There are several agencies including the Florida State Fire Marshal are investigating the scene and an accurate picture of the incident will emerge in the coming days. Firefighter McIntyre was severely burned and is truly fighting for his life. Please keep the prayers coming for this young man. **YOU CAN FOLLOW** this story via the MCFF's FACEBOOK Page: <https://www.facebook.com/MCFirefighters> - Naturally, we will keep you updated as well as we all hope and pray for this Firefighters recovery.

**OPINION: WHEN SUCKER PUNCHED-EVERYONE CANNOT GO HOME.**

There have certainly been lots of discussion about the murders of the West Webster Firefighters in the media, both social and regular and blogs etc. **Look, from talking to those who were there, this was an intentionally planned assassination covered by the dark of night. A chicken sh!t murderer hiding-ready to murder once again ...with well intentioned Firefighters doing what you and I would have done... trying to do good-it could have been any Firefighter in any community** ....while so many FF Line of Duty deaths can be avoided, this one could not have been, given the circumstances. Sure, people will say this and that about the gun laws, ex-cons etc-and it's our opinion that someone who killed previously (in the manner that he did) should have not been released-but we aren't in charge of that kinda stuff.

Given the known circumstances, there was not any realistic way to prevent the horrific murders of hero Firefighters Chiapperini and Kaczowka. There was no known recent previous information or anything even on their arrival and size up to think they were doing anything other than helping a citizen save their home-little did they know they were set up. That is a rare occasion although, it does and has happened. (see the the many links below) When Firefighters arrive on any scene, we "size up" the situation. Even before a run, we take known info and apply it to pre-plan our responses. In the case of West Webster-there were absolutely no indications that these Firefighters were in any harms way-other than the accepted and known danger in fighting the fire. And they were certainly prepared for that. Anyone who knows about the WWFD will tell you they are amongst the best in training and operations. Truly unpaid Professionals. **Their reputation has always been solid.** Little did they know...with nothing seen on their arrival and size up, that there was anything to indicate they would be targeted and gunned down...nothing until the shots were fired and it was over. **It was a cowardly sucker punch in the worst possible sense. It was a set up.**

**KILLER KILLED HIMSELF**

The autopsy shows the U.S. gunman who lured the 2 West Webster Firefighters to their deaths died of a self-inflicted shot to the head and wasn't hit by return fire from a police officer. A positive identification of the body found in 62-year-old gunman's burned house hasn't been made. Police believe it was his sister. Police say autopsies Thursday show West Webster Firefighter Michael Chiapperini died of a single gunshot and Tomasz Kaczowka died of two shots. The two wounded Firefighters, Joseph Hofstetter and Theodore Scardino have been upgraded to satisfactory condition at Rochester's Strong Memorial Hospital. The hospital released a statement from the firefighters saying they're "humbled and a bit overwhelmed" by the outpouring of well wishes and support for

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

them and their families. Investigators haven't yet said how the ex-convict got the weapons. He was barred from possessing them-but that didn't stop him.

**FUNERAL/MEMORIAL REMINDER:**

Calling hours for FF's Michael Chiapperini and Tomasz Kaczowka will be held at Webster Schroeder High School from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and from noon to 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday. The funeral service for Chiapperini, who was also a lieutenant with the Webster Police Department, will be held at the high school at noon Sunday. He will be buried in West Webster Cemetery. The funeral Mass for Kaczowka will be held at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Stanislaus Church in Rochester. Burial will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Rochester.

**REMINDER-A CALL TO ACTION:**

Please take a moment to address the American Flag issue at the 9/11 memorial site in New York City:

<http://tinyurl.com/czpoppha>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-27-12 / 2012

**RELATED FIREFIGHTER SHOOTING INCIDENTS:**

BELLMORE NY FIREFIGHTER SHOT:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/130523>

BELLMORE NY FIREFIGHTER SHOT-RADIO AUDIO:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKzI0hFAvUA>

KY FIRE LT SHOT AND KILLED AT SCENE: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200411.html>

MO FIREFIGHTER SHOT AND KILLED AT SCENE: <http://www.fboryanhummert.org/>

<http://www.cityofmaplewood.com/index.aspx?nid=181>

PA FIRE CHIEF GUNNED DOWN: Chief James Cutchall responded on July 2, 1977, to a fire alarm as he had a hundred times before, arriving on the scene first to direct incoming fire apparatus from the Fayetteville, PA Volunteer Fire Department. Within minutes, the 33-year-old Chief lay mortally wounded from a sniper's bullet, shot even as he radioed the Franklin County Communications Center with an initial report of a working fire and injured civilian. READ THAT STORY HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/ctuewa4>

MORE LINKS FOR Firefighters as well as Dispatchers related to similar incidents:

<http://www.firehouse.com/article/10755387/dispatch-protocols-for-active-shooter-incidents> (FROM FFCC's Barry Furey in Firehouse)

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo43715.pdf> (FROM Charlotte NC FD)

[http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active\\_shooter\\_booklet.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active_shooter_booklet.pdf) (FROM DHS)

[http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/print/volume-163/issue-4/departments/fire-service\\_ems/responding-to-active-shooter-incidents.html](http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/print/volume-163/issue-4/departments/fire-service_ems/responding-to-active-shooter-incidents.html) (Active Shooter Response)

<http://www.iems.com/article/major-incidents/arlington-county-va-task-force> (FROM Arlington County, VA)

<http://www.nypdshield.org/public/SiteFiles/documents/Activeshooter.pdf> (FROM NYPD)

<http://my.firefighternation.com/forum/topics/is-the-fire-service-prepared-for-an-active-shooter-incident> (FireFighterNation Discussion)

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**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:**

The Placer Hills (CA) Fire District will begin rotating brownouts on Dec. 1. District officials said the situation is the result a \$150,000 budget shortfall. "It affects us because it increases our response times to the citizens of our area who we serve," said Captain Matt McCarthy of the Placer Hills Fire District. The district consists of three stations. One is volunteer, the other two are staffed. The staffed stations will now serve the community on a rotation. This means the Meadow Vista Station will stay open for a month while the Weimar station is closed, the following month the Meadow Vista Station will close while the Weimar station is open:

<http://www.kcra.com/news/Placer-Hills-Fire-District-announces-rotating-brownouts/-/11797728/17540372/-/15ul5i8z/-/index.html>

With grant money expired, El Monte (CA) left with costly bill for fire station. When the city council agreed in 2009 to reopen a fire station it had shuttered because of a severe budget deficit, they knew the decision would come at a cost, though not immediately. At the time the council accepted a federal grant to reopen Los Angeles County Fire Station 167, located at Bryant and Peck roads, for two years, it also agreed that El Monte would pay to keep the station open for a third year, once the grant ran out. That third year is here, and the council's earlier decision is now coming at a \$1.8 million cost. The city is only on the hook for \$320,000 this year due to a contract stipulation limiting the amount the County can increase the city's costs annually. But the tab isn't going away. Each year, in addition to funding the full cost of El Monte's contract with L.A. County Fire, including typical annual cost increases, El Monte has to pay off the outstanding debt stemming from operating Station 167 this year. It will result in the city's contract going up significantly in the future:

[http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci\\_22058808/grant-money-expired-el-monte-left-costly-bill](http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_22058808/grant-money-expired-el-monte-left-costly-bill)

Instead of dispatching a three-or-four person crew in a fire engine to a 911 call about someone complaining of back pain, the Vancouver (WA) Fire Department may test next year how well it works to send a firefighter-paramedic and a firefighter in a SUV. It costs approximately \$1.34 a mile to operate a SUV, compared to \$7.47 a mile for a fire engine. Sending smaller, faster vehicles to non-emergency medical calls was just one recommendation in a Fire Service Delivery Analysis, which was prepared by an 11-member community resource team that studied ways to stabilize the department's budget without gutting services. As with other local public service departments, the Vancouver Fire Department has consistently seen costs outpace revenues. If the department continues with business as usual, its projected deficit of \$1.65 million in 2013 is expected to be \$4.69 million in 2018. By then, the city's total projected deficit is \$10 million. By law, the city must have a balanced budget:

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2012/dec/07/city-looks-to-trim-fire-expenses-vancouver-may-use/>

Contra Costa County (CA) Fire and county officials on Tuesday will consider closing four fire stations, including one in Lafayette, to close a budget gap that has been growing since the recession of 2008. The move is necessary, said Fire Chief Daryl Louder, due to the failure of a proposed parcel tax increase by two-thirds of voters on the Nov. 6 ballot. In a report to the county Board of Supervisors, Louder said the 2008 recession caused deep reductions in property tax revenue, which primarily funds the fire district. Service levels were maintained until now through the spending of reserves. To make up for the loss of property tax money, the fire district proposed a \$75 per parcel tax in November. Measure Q received a majority of votes but not the two-thirds super majority it needed to pass:

<http://lamorinda.patch.com/articles/four-fire-stations-on-the-chopping-block-on-tuesday-6220b2c0>

Contra Costa County (CA) supervisors put off for another week a highly unpopular decision to shutter four fire stations, a move they say they will be forced to take after voters Nov. 6 rejected the temporary parcel tax that would have rescued the services. With no more reserves, Chief Daryl Louder proposes closing one station each in Lafayette, Martinez, Walnut Creek and Clayton and shaving \$3 million from his \$100 million budget. He said he chose these four stations based on call volume and a half-dozen other factors. The fire district has 28 facilities. County supervisors are likely to go along with the chief's suggestions but asked for more hard data to back up their final decision. "We told the voters that if this measure doesn't pass, we cannot keep all the stations open," said board Chairwoman Mary Nejedly Piepho, of Discovery Bay, who lost her community's fire station to budget woes last year. "The voters sent us back a message, 'Live within your means.' That means we have to close stations."

[http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci\\_22125788/contra-costa-fire-station-closure-vote-postponed-but](http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_22125788/contra-costa-fire-station-closure-vote-postponed-but)

Spokane's (WA) city government is shedding 92 jobs. The Spokane City Council on Monday voted 4-3 to freeze the city general fund budget, largely accepting the recommendations of Mayor David Condon. Condon proposed a \$161 million general fund, which pays for police, fire, parks, libraries and other services paid with taxes. The mayor's budget eliminates the arts, and weights and measures departments. It will fund the equivalent of 2,033 full-time jobs. It removes 19 police officer positions that were vacant. It cuts the on-duty firefighting force from 61 to 58 and removes the first-response firefighting capabilities of Fire Station 9 on the South Hill: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDVq0vWu08&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDVq0vWu08&feature=player_embedded)

Last year, the Ventura (CA) City Council accepted a \$2.3 million federal grant that allowed it to reopen Fire Station 4, an east side station off Telephone Road that was closed because of budget cuts. The grant was expected to pay for a little less than two years' worth of operating costs. In exchange, the city agreed to pay to keep it open a third year at a cost of \$1.2 million. But staffing and operating the station as cost significantly more than initially thought — \$473,000 from November 2011 to October and an additional estimated \$402,000 from November to October 2013. Those costs are attributed to overtime, utilities and equipment, items not covered by the grant: <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2012/dec/18/keeping-fire-station-4-open-costlier-than/>

The Contra Costa (CA) County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Tuesday evening to approve a plan to shutter four fire stations a month after voters rejected a parcel tax measure meant to prevent the closures. The cost-saving service reduction plan drafted by Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Chief Daryl Louder comes a month after Measure Q, a \$75 annual parcel tax designed to help close the district's \$17 million budget deficit, failed to receive a two-thirds "super majority" vote: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/news/local-govt-politics/coco-supervisors-approve-plan-shutter-four-fire-st/nTSxY/>

Glendale (AZ) residents may see fewer public-safety employees with the Police and Fire departments proposing cuts this year to reach budget goals each says were unrealistic. Unless trims are made, the departments are expected to exceed this year's budgeted spending by about \$1 million each. Increases in overtime, contract workers, mechanical work and fuel have forced each to tighten spending to get budgets in balance by the end of the fiscal year in June. The Glendale Police Department recommends not filling numerous sworn and civilian positions. On the fire side, the department recommends eliminating some vacant positions, as well as laying off five people:

[http://www.azcentral.com/community/glendale/articles/20121226glendale-police-fire-may-trim-departments-in-budget-fix.html?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.azcentral.com/community/glendale/articles/20121226glendale-police-fire-may-trim-departments-in-budget-fix.html?nclick_check=1)

As the freshly elected five-member board and its new board-appointed Fire Chief Coy Amerson brave the coming new year, the Eloy (AZ) Fire District is facing budget woes, and possible shutdown of a station if things continue to get any worse:

[http://www.trivalleycentral.com/eloy\\_enterprise/news/fiscal-troubles-ahead/article\\_57665708-4a23-11e2-9058-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.trivalleycentral.com/eloy_enterprise/news/fiscal-troubles-ahead/article_57665708-4a23-11e2-9058-001a4bcf887a.html)

Starting January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Spokane (WA) Fire Stations 11-13 and Ladder One downtown will start using smaller vehicles on medical calls as opposed the larger ladder trucks, which are aging quickly and maintaining them for all the wear and tear will start to get more expensive. "We're trying to be a more efficient and effect fire department so the public knows that we're wisely spending their dollars" says Chief Bobby Williams. Fire Stations 11-13 say that 78% of their responses are only medical related and that "The biggest complaint we get from citizens is 'why take big expensive trucks on medical calls?'"

<http://www.khq.com/story/20437508/firefighter-rigs>

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

Two Salisbury (NC) firefighters were fired on Wednesday and two other firefighters were demoted because of an internal investigation in sexually inappropriate behavior at work. That investigation is still ongoing. Salisbury city leaders have repeatedly denied Eyewitness News' requests for an on-camera interview. But on Wednesday evening, city officials released the termination letters. They state that Salisbury firefighters were passing around inappropriate photos of someone they all knew. One of the firefighters who was fired Wednesday is Tim Grisham. He was fired for engaging in "sexual activity" and "inappropriate conduct" while at work. The fire chief said he also passed around an "inappropriate photo." He added that Grisham also engaged in "sexually harassing" behavior, and then lied about it:

<http://www.wsoctv.com/news/news/local/salisbury-fire-department-facing-sexual-misconduct/nTHn4/>

City officials say the Las Vegas (NV) Fire Department budget is burning a hole in taxpayers' pockets. Any day now we expect to see the results of an independent study aimed at pointing out wasteful spending. City leaders tell News 3's Mackenzie Warren the study will act as a guide on where the cuts will be. Leaders say the Las Vegas Fire Department has been living beyond their means and the results of the study will eventually save taxpayer money. One of the options: trimming a firefighters' shift from 24-hours to 12, but the union warns: that could come at a cost:

[http://www.mynews3.com/content/news/story/Study-expected-to-show-problems-in-Fire-Dept/GogYB-N0\\_kGc9\\_d\\_8DtG6Q.csp](http://www.mynews3.com/content/news/story/Study-expected-to-show-problems-in-Fire-Dept/GogYB-N0_kGc9_d_8DtG6Q.csp)

Former members of a Corona (CA) church where the pastor is accused of child abuse say a police officer, firefighter and other professionals failed to protect children from psychological and physical harm, even though those professionals are trained to report child abuse. The professionals – "mandated reporters" required by state law to report child abuse if they learn about it while working – may have failed to act because they were torn between the law and a church culture. Ex-members contend the Heart of Worship church, led by Pastor Lonny Remmers, allowed mental, emotional and physical abuse of children and discouraged anyone from questioning it: <http://www.pe.com/local-news/riverside-county/corona/corona-headlines-index/20121207-corona-professionals-ignored-abuse-at-church-ex-members-say.ece>



Once on fast track, the Los Angeles (CA) fire chief faces tough scrutiny. The City Council, frustrated by the department's slow response times and inability to produce accurate data, has summoned Brian Cummings to appear Tuesday:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/lafddata/la-me-brian-cummings-20121203.0.6427195.story>

A Florida firefighter/EMT who flagged down a police officer to report a stolen laptop was arrested after the officer found a crack pipe in the firefighter's pocket. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Firefighter Mark E. Freseman, 45, was arrested Tuesday afternoon. The arresting officer responded to Firefighter Freseman's call after he said that he was "going to hangout" with an "unknown white female" who ended up stealing his laptop case and charger. While searching Firefighter Freseman's vehicle, the officer found a bottle of alcohol and two prescription bottles. One contained a white substance later determined to be cocaine and the other reportedly had hydrocodone and muscle relaxants. Firefighter Freseman alleged that he had a prescription for the medication. When the officer gave Firefighter Freseman a pat-down, he found a crack pipe in his right front pocket. It is unclear how his arrest will affect his employment with the department: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-ems/articles/1377515-Firefighter-EMT-hails-cop-arrested-for-drug-possession/>

Poplarville's (MI) Fire Chief Michael White was arrested Wednesday for failing to pay fines associated with his guilty conviction on a disorderly conduct charge. According to Justice Court records, a warrant for White's arrest was signed by Justice Court Judge John Mark Mitchell after White failed to either file for an appeal of his guilty conviction or pay the fines associated with the conviction: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-department-management/articles/1378558-Fire-chief-arrested-for-not-paying-conviction-fines/>

A deputy fire chief for Sumter County (FL) Fire Rescue was fired Wednesday, a day after being jailed on four counts of lewd and lascivious child molestation. Cecil "Brad" Burris, 54, who has been with the department since 2003 and also serves as a fire marshal, admitted to molesting and touching the unidentified 16-year-old girl, according to an arrest affidavit:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/1378525-fla-fire-chief-admits-to-molesting-teen/>

Private parts: Sex prank at Houston (TX) fire station under investigation. HFD sources told KHOU 11 News that the incident occurred last month at Fire Station 29. According to sources, it involved a firefighter who allegedly placed his privates or a sex object on the back and neck area of another firefighter:

<http://statter911.com/2012/12/07/private-parts-sex-prank-at-houston-fire-station-under-investigation/>

The City of Laval, north of Montreal, Canada has been ordered by a judge to pay almost \$3.7 million to Factory Mutual Insurance Company because Laval firefighters made a warehouse fire eight years ago worse by starting a second fire. The original fire was in a storage room at the Dyne-a-Pak foam plant on September 25, 2004. According to SunNews, firefighters using a saw, accidentally started a second fire: <http://statter911.com/2012/12/18/judge-rules-firefighters-made-warehouse-fire-worse-orders-city-to-pay-insurance-company-3-7-million/>

A Lexington (KY) firefighter who was driving a city fire truck that hit a pedestrian who died Saturday night has been placed on paid administrative leave. Firefighter Christopher Presley will be on leave while an investigation into the incident continues, city spokeswoman Susan Straub told the Herald-Leader on Monday. The city typically has placed employees on paid leave when they have been involved in similar investigations. Police have said Presley was driving Fire Engine 9 when it struck Lauren Woodall Roady, 27, at West Main Street and South Broadway just after 10 p.m. Saturday. Roady, a Washington, D.C., attorney who was in town to

compete in a cross-country running event, was pronounced dead at the scene a few minutes later: [http://www.firehouse.com/news/10840399/ky-firefighter-on-leave-after-fatal-pedestrian-crash?utm\\_source=FH+Newsday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CPS121205005](http://www.firehouse.com/news/10840399/ky-firefighter-on-leave-after-fatal-pedestrian-crash?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS121205005)

A firefighter at the Sacramento (CA) Metropolitan Fire District has sued the district, claiming she was "involuntarily retired" without pay and, after being allowed to return to work, she was placed on light duty for no legitimate reason and subjected to retaliation when she sought help from federal officials: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/12/06/5034645/hed-here.html>

A veteran firefighter-paramedic with the Orange County (CA) Fire Authority was caught on video stealing cash from his fire captain's wallet at an Irvine fire station, police investigators allege in an arrest warrant affidavit. Irvine police detectives conducted surveillance in the case after the captain reported an "ongoing issue" of someone taking small denominations from his wallet over a period of a year to a year and a half. The incidents occurred when his wallet was in the closet of his private bedroom at the station while he exercised, the captain said: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/fire-380179-police-county.html>

Pittsburgh (PA) Controller Michael Lamb called Wednesday for an end to "out of control" overtime in the fire bureau, but city and union officials warned that it isn't so easy to balance public safety, firefighter safety and city finances. Overtime, or "premium pay," was the main concern raised in Mr. Lamb's audit of the fire bureau. In 2010, the bureau spent \$10.8 million on overtime, about \$548,000, or 5 percent, more than budgeted. Last year, the bureau spent \$11.8 million on overtime, about \$1.5 million, or 14 percent, more than budgeted. "Frankly, it's been out of control in both of the years we looked at," Mr. Lamb said, attributing much of the overtime to the minimum staffing level -- 163 firefighters on duty at all time -- required by union contract: <http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/local/neighborhoods-city/controller-pittsburgh-firefighter-overtime-out-of-control-666978/>

Dupont (PA) volunteer firefighter David C. Donnora was the first to respond to a fire last week that engulfed a Main Street home, fire officials and police say. That's because he's the one who set the blaze, state police charged Thursday. Police say the 23-year-old set a fire on a rear porch of 251 Main St. about 6:50 a.m. Dec. 10, returned home and then rushed to the fire station to put on his firefighting gear when someone called 911 to report a fast-moving fire with a person possibly trapped. He then helped fight the fire he lit, police say. Arrest papers say a state police fire marshal became suspicious of Donnora while investigating the fire because Donnora "was following him, taking interest in what he was doing." [http://www.firehouse.com/news/10845516/pa-firefighter-charged-with-setting-house-on-fire?utm\\_source=FH+Newsday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CPS121215004](http://www.firehouse.com/news/10845516/pa-firefighter-charged-with-setting-house-on-fire?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS121215004)

Firefighters caught misbehaving puts fire service in a bad light: [http://m.firechief.com/blog/firefighters-caught-misbehaving-puts-fire-service-bad-light?NL=FC-02&Issue=FC-02\\_20121206\\_FC-02\\_2&YM\\_RID=chgold151@gmail.com&YM\\_MID=1358163&sfvc4enews=42](http://m.firechief.com/blog/firefighters-caught-misbehaving-puts-fire-service-bad-light?NL=FC-02&Issue=FC-02_20121206_FC-02_2&YM_RID=chgold151@gmail.com&YM_MID=1358163&sfvc4enews=42)

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**Positive Public Relations Items:**

Off-duty Merced (CA) firefighter Kevin Buccola walked out of his gym on the morning of Nov. 13 to find a crowd of people in the parking lot gathered around an unconscious man. Over the next five minutes, Buccola took control of the situation. Finding that the man had no pulse and wasn't breathing, he performed CPR and instructed the gym's staff to retrieve their automated

external defibrillator. Fewer than 8 percent of people who experience cardiac arrest outside a hospital survive, according to the American Heart Association. Of those, roughly 383,000 people, or 1 in 3, get CPR from a bystander:

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/2012/11/26/2670390/firefighters-quick-action-saved.html>

The Clark County (NV) Fire Department and the Southern Nevada Firefighter Burn Foundation are helping put toys in the hands of thousands of local children this holiday season through the 11th annual "Fill the Fire Truck" holiday toy drive. Last year, the drive brought gifts to 18,500 children. The toys are distributed through the Boys and Girls Club of Las Vegas, the Salvation Army, Family to Family Resource Centers and the Las Vegas Urban Leagues. "We are proud to participate in this toy drive every year to help make the holidays brighter for our local kids," said Clark County Fire Chief Bertral Washington. "The firefighters you see outside stores are volunteering their off-duty time to this great cause, and the number of donations has gone up since the start of the recession thanks to our generous community."

<http://www.fox5vegas.com/story/20170887/firefighters-calling-on-public-to-fill-trucks-with-toys>

The city of Benicia (CA) has reached a tentative labor deal with firefighters that would save the city \$503,000 by June 2014. Since 2010, most city public employee bargaining groups have agreed to 10 percent salary and benefit cuts to help plug budget shortfalls caused by the economic downturn. However, last year negotiating teams for the firefighters and the city were unable to agree on contract changes, so the council imposed concessions on the union. The parties returned to the bargaining table in May, and following several months of negotiations the union agreed to continue to pay more for health care in addition to paying for more of their retirement costs. Firefighters also agreed to eliminate one personal day of leave per year and discontinue a physical fitness program, among other concessions. Since firefighters have elected to share more of their retirement costs with the city, the city has agreed to restore a previously imposed 1.46 percent salary cut as well as holiday payments and uniform pay:

[http://www.dailybreeze.com/california/ci\\_22203515/benicia-strikes-deal-firefighters-that-would-save-over](http://www.dailybreeze.com/california/ci_22203515/benicia-strikes-deal-firefighters-that-would-save-over)

Instead of complaining and feeling negative about the recent economic downturn, the Atlanta (GA) Fire Rescue Department has turned the situation into a positive situation. Too many departments focus on the negative during tough times; they focused on the positive and realized with a downturn is an opportunity. The AFD is an all hazards agency with four divisions of labor. The fiscal challenges presented by the economic downturn of 2008 saw a reduction in staff, facilities and resources for the department. They are however, now experiencing a resurgence after putting into place an "all hazards" response to the crisis, restoring capabilities and recruiting new members:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vrtjklc9Doc>

Some Carson City (NV) firefighters traded in their fireman hats for Santa caps today to help out area children in need. Earlier this morning, the Carson City Firefighters Association went on a shopping spree at Walmart to buy toys for the Salvation Army Christmas Assistance Program. The firefighters got to spend about \$3,000 they raised while playing Santa, a role they enjoy playing every year. Today's shopping spree marks the 31st year that the Firefighters Association has partnered with the Salvation Army's Christmas Program:

<http://www.mynews4.com/news/local/story/Carson-City-firefighters-help-children-in-need/4iktV5QcrE2c952fYL-u6w.cspX>

Tacoma (WA) firefighters are delivering clothing, turkeys and gifts to 120 needy children and their families today. This is the 24th year firefighters have done the Christmas Project, which was started in 1989 by firefighters Ron Ernst, Andrea Schroeder and James Lee. Firefighters, accompanied by Santa Claus, deliver the goods on a fire engine. This year, they raised \$11,000 and will donate the items to families at The Sharing House, YWCA Women's Shelter and Head Start families in the Tacoma School District:

<http://blog.thenewstribune.com/crime/2012/12/20/tacoma-firefighters-deliver-gifts-to-needy-families/>

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**Training & Safety Related Items:**

A must read for all future firefighters - Steps to first-year success; Tips and strategies on how to handle and succeed while in the academy: <http://www.firerescue1.com/Firefighter-Training/articles/1376983-New-recruit-Steps-to-first-year-success/>

Video shows firefighters battling a house blaze with two firefighters using a ground ladder to climb to the roof of the home. When the two firefighters try to access the roof for ventilation, the ladder suddenly gives way sending both firefighters to the ground. Other firefighters rush to help; the extent of their injuries is unclear:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/ladders/articles/1377362-Video-Ground-ladder-collapses-crew-falls/>

Hundreds of firefighters may have to go back to school to be promoted to top positions in Baltimore's (CA) department, as part of a broader effort to impose professionalism in a department where tenure often trumped education when rising through the ranks. The move — staggered into three phases over the next seven years to give candidates time to complete training courses and pursue college credits — elevates the fire department's educational standards above those of the city police department, where officers are only required to pass a high school equivalency test. "It's not your father's fire department anymore," said Chief James S. Clack, himself a college graduate who entered the Baltimore department at the top. "In order to prepare the next generation of leaders, they've got to get formal education in addition to their experience in the field." But local fire union leaders criticized some of the new standards as unattainable for many, including the requirement that a battalion chief hold an associate's degree and a deputy chief hold a bachelor's. Critics said the standards impose an unfair ceiling on the careers of those who don't have the time or money to invest in their education:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-city/bs-md-ci-fire-education-requirements-20121202,0,2996962.story>

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**General Fire Service Related Items:**

While Indianapolis (IN) firefighters were responding to a medical call, thieves snuck into their firehouse and stole a television. Late Tuesday night, crews left the station, and officials say they believe people were waiting for firefighters to leave so they could sneak in and steal the TV. Other personnel were in the building at the time of the theft, but were asleep. The thieves had left the firehouse before crew was able to park the truck:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/1378499-Thieves-steal-TV-from-firehouse-while-crews-on-call/>

In a Monday night review of strategies the city of North Las Vegas (NV) implemented to battle their budget crisis, the city did not mention it is still in a state of emergency. "The one thing we wanted to highlight was that because of that bold action our mayor/council took, we were able to retain all of our emergency service providers," said city of North Las Vegas City Manager Timothy Hacker. That bold action, declaring a state of emergency, allowed North Las Vegas to suspend union contracts. That meant city employees such as police and firefighters did not get scheduled pay raises. The city said it is how they avoided laying off public safety workers, but there were other pink slips. "The detention center ... we did lose upwards of 100 employees," Hacker said:

[http://www.mynews3.com/content/news/story/North-Las-Vegas-leaders-cite-victories-in-budget/m\\_8zm1silEinYtfEaXBVkg.csp](http://www.mynews3.com/content/news/story/North-Las-Vegas-leaders-cite-victories-in-budget/m_8zm1silEinYtfEaXBVkg.csp)

You've probably seen some huge fire engines out on calls on wonder why they needed a ladder truck. Now that's going to change. The Spokane (WA) Fire Department is moving toward cheaper vehicles. The department says it needs to scale back in order to save its aging engines. Assistant Chief Brian Schaeffer said the department can't afford to lose them entirely, so the plan is to keep ladder trucks parked on most medical calls. In the meantime, the department will use smaller vehicles like its 1990 Suburban, leftover from the city fleet, and a new Ford. "Times have changed. The dollars aren't there. The community support isn't there, so we're forced to adapt and overcome," Schaeffer said. Since the majority of the department's calls are medical, the department expects to cut ladder truck use by about 80 percent. The typical ladder truck costs about \$1.3 million. The department says it doesn't know when that money will be back in the department's budget:

<http://www.krem.com/news/Spokane-FD-adds-smaller-firetrucks-to-fleet-183345101.htm>

Dirty, hot and sweaty from battling blazes in the city, Detroit (MI) firefighters are returning to firehouses without enough soap, cleansers, hand towels -- or even toilet paper. Firefighters at multiple Detroit firehouses say there's a shortage of supplies, and they describe measures from saving napkins to pooling money to buy paper products and cleaning supplies. Detroit Fire Commissioner Donald Austin said the department is trying to rectify the situation by implementing a new purchasing and inventory system to get a better handle on needs at each firehouse. He said chief officers at the firehouses should be the first go-to point for firefighters in need of supplies. "It's inappropriate, and we're doing our best to understand what their needs are," Austin said. "It ain't a small issue if you're sitting on the toilet if you don't have toilet paper." <http://www.freep.com/article/2012/11/23/NEWS01/311230127/Detroit-firefighters-say-toilet-paper-cleaning-products-scarce-at-stations>

A COMMON PLEAS judge Friday rejected an attempt by the Philadelphia (PA) firefighters union to halt the involuntary transfer of senior firefighters around the city beginning early next year. Judge Leon Tucker heard five hours of testimony before ruling that the city had the managerial right to transfer the firefighters and that the transfers will not harm residents or firefighters. The transfers are slated to begin in late January or early February for 95 firefighters with 10 or more years on the job. Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers testified that the plan will free up space at the companies that get the most fire calls - which are the most popular spots - so that rookie firefighters can get experience: [http://articles.philly.com/2012-12-16/news/35852583\\_1\\_firefighters-union-rookie-firefighters-involuntary-transfer](http://articles.philly.com/2012-12-16/news/35852583_1_firefighters-union-rookie-firefighters-involuntary-transfer)

From thousands of applicants, 28 in training as Clark County (NV) firefighter recruits: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2012/dec/20/thousands-applicants-28-training-clark-county-fire/>



Las Vegas (NV) could slow spending increases and generate new revenue in the Fire Department, according to the results of a city-sponsored study. The study, conducted by the International City/County Management Association Center for Public Safety and released Tuesday, recommends changes to everything from handling ambulance transports to firefighter shift lengths: <http://www.lvrij.com/news/study-recommends-changes-to-las-vegas-fire-department-182115441.html>

Los Angeles (CA) officials are pressing for a major cost-cutting change at the Fire Department's troubled 911 call handling center despite a top commander's warning that making the move is too risky and would jeopardize public safety. The plan, backed by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, the City Council and Fire Chief Brian Cummings, would switch dispatchers from 24-hour shifts to traditional eight-hour workdays, saving an estimated \$3.2 million in overtime costs each year. The changes could reduce the number of dispatch center call takers by as much as 20% to 40% depending on the shift, according to [internal department records](#) and interviews. Although many other fire agencies hire lower-paid civilians to answer 911 calls, LAFD call takers are firefighters. They make an average of \$95,700 a year in base salary, and earn extra pay working 56-hour-a-week schedules. City officials say the proposed staffing overhaul is a response to [a court ruling last year](#) that made the city liable for \$8 million in unpaid dispatcher overtime:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/lafddata/la-me-lafd-dispatch-center-20121211.0.6927340.story>

Las Vegas (NV) Fire & Rescue has announced that recommendations on how to deliver fire and rescue services more efficiently will be formally presented to the Las Vegas City Council in January. A study, released just last week by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), yielded 23 recommendations. The recommendations addressed duplication of services between LVFR and private ambulance companies; an establishment of demand-based staffing; maintenance of appropriate staffing levels to reduce overtime; establishment of policies to better manage leave; and more. City management and staff from LVFR have been holding meetings to discuss the recommendations. The budget for LVFR has grown from \$77 million in 2004 to \$111 million, an increase of 43 percent. That growth has been determined to be unsustainable and could create a steep budget shortfall that would impact funding for other critical city services: <http://www.ktnv.com/news/local/183353001.html>

Portland (OR) firefighter [Tom Hurley](#), who became a chef while collecting disability benefits for more than a decade, returned to work for the city as a fire inspector in December 2010.

Now Hurley is asking other city employees to donate their unused vacation or sick leave to him, citing an off-duty injury that's forced him to take time off work. Hurley required surgery on his shoulder because of an injury from a bicycle accident, according to two sources familiar with Hurley's request. "There's been some rumblings around the Portland Building and City Hall -- like, 'Here's the latest episode in the Hurley saga,'" said [Commissioner Dan Saltzman](#), who [championed reforms to the city's public safety fund](#). Saltzman once called Hurley the "poster child" for prior abuses of the fund's disability system. "It's just mind-boggling to me that he keeps asking for things from the city, and now asking other city employees to donate their precious time to somebody who has already done quite well through the city coffers," Saltzman said:

[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2012/12/portland\\_firefighter\\_tom\\_hurle\\_1.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2012/12/portland_firefighter_tom_hurle_1.html)

A bedbug infestation at a Northwest Washington D.C. fire station left firefighters sleeping in their personal vehicles or in the firetrucks to avoid being bitten by the bugs in their bunkrooms, a report on the conditions at D.C. firehouses found. The 180-page report by the Office of the Inspector General details a wide swath of problematic conditions at D.C. fire

stations across the city, including a lack of working smoke detectors, leaking roofs, flooded basements, rodent infestations and inoperable heating or cooling systems. Among the findings, 19 stations had significant rodent problems with one reporting that dead mice had been found in a refrigerator, seven did not have functional heating systems in living quarters, 27 did not have fire extinguishers, and 22 reported that the monitor that displays call information either was not working or was unreliable. Complicating matters is the fact that the department has no formal policy for reporting and overseeing repairs. The report says the inspection team "is concerned that this lack of policies and procedures specific to the needs" of the department may delay repairs to the buildings. At Engine Company 31 at 4930 Connecticut Ave. NW, employees told inspectors that bedbugs had festered in the wooden floors of the bunkrooms for six months. The report, which was issued to D.C. Fire Chief Kenneth Ellerbe on Nov. 29, recommends the department invest in regular deep cleaning of facilities to decrease bedbug and other pest problems. The inspector general's office estimates that the cost of the deep cleaning would be \$100,000 annually:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/apparatus/articles/1381339-DC-firehouses-infested-with-bed-bugs-in-ill-repair/>

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

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

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

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**Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:** [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)  
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