



FIRE & EMS NEWS

November 23, 2012

This 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 a Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy Holiday Season!

CHABOT COLLEGE 2012 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

COURSE	DAY
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization) Note: 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 two Saturdays. Online lecture and Saturday lab schedule will be available on the first day of class, January 23. For additional information, go to http://www.chabotcollege.edu/online	Monday (am)
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)
FT 51 (Fire Operations)	Thursday (am)
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival)	Wednesday (am)
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival) Note: 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, January 23. For additional information go to http://www.chabotcollege.edu/online	Wednesday (pm)
FT 53 (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (pm)
FT 55 (Fire Protection Equipment & Systems)	Thursday (pm)

COURSE	DAY
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - March 6, 8, and 10 (Wed/Fri/Sun)	Mon & Wed (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - April 16, 18 and 20 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 91A (CAL FIRE Wildland Basic Training) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - April 30, May 2, May 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - April 23, 25, 27 and 28	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - April 16, 18, 20 and 21	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)
FT 91D (Firefighter Survival) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - April 9, 11 and 13	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95** Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - January 23, 30, March 13, April 24 and May 29	Wednesday (pm)
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)
Health 81 (EMT) **Must also be registered in Health 83**	Wednesday (all day)
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) **Must also be registered in Health 81**	Saturday (one day only – TBA)
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - April 29 through May 11, 2013	Monday & Wednesday (pm) Saturday (all day)
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Mon & Wed (mid)
PHED2FSC (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

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

FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE IAFC:



IAFC

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

4025 Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax, VA 22033 | www.iafc.org | 703-273-0911 | Forward to a Friend

IAFC Member Alert

Contact: IAFC Strategic Services Department

[703-273-0911](tel:703-273-0911) | www.iafc.org

Near-Miss Reporting System Back on Track

Fairfax, Va., Nov. 8, 2012- Today, the board of directors of the International Association of Fire Chiefs - www.iafc.org - approved a management plan to keep the National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System - <http://www.firefighternearmiss.com> online and operational through September 30, 2013. The plan was presented by the Near-Miss Sustainability Task Force, which was organized when the popular program was denied federal grant funding in September.

The Near-Miss Program Gap Plan addresses basic program functions of reporting, data collection and search capabilities, reducing costs to minimum levels until additional funding is secured. This program-management approach is supported by IFSTA/Fire Protection Publications, a division of Oklahoma State University, through an in-kind donation of database and application-hosting services, and IAFC funding of staffing and operational needs.

"To see the IAFC family rally around this program is a tremendous testament to how strongly the whole organization believes in the life-saving capability of the Near-Miss Reporting System," said Chief Bill Metcalf, IAFC first vice president and chair of the Near-Miss Sustainability Task Force.

To date, the IAFC's EMS; Volunteer and Combination Officers; and Safety, Health & Survival Sections and the Great Lakes Division have each stepped forward to commit funds to support this plan, with additional funding provided through the IAFC operational budget. Members of the Safety, Health and Survival Section will also contribute volunteer hours to help create educational and training materials.

"We still have a way to go to solidify the future of this program, but this plan sets us on the right path," said Chief Hank Clemmensen, IAFC president and chairman of the board. "I want to say thank you to all of the IAFC members and many others in our industry who are stepping forward to support this program."

Maintaining Critical Capabilities

The task force identified several low-cost, core capabilities of the program that will be maintained as part of the program plan:

- Website operation, including the ability to submit and search reports and to access the resources page
- Regular publication articles
- Customized search requests, as needed
- **Near-Miss Matters** electronic newsletter, to be distributed monthly in place of the Report of the Week

Deliverables not currently supported by the gap plan, such as data analysis, the annual training calendar and the development of training resources, are postponed until further funding can be identified. All previously planned technology and database enhancements are also postponed.

The Near-Miss Sustainability Task Force will continue to explore several long-term funding opportunities in 2013, including pursuing federal funding opportunities.

FIRE SERVICE EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITY:

To whom it may concern,

The Samoa Peninsula Fire District located near Eureka, CA is seeking applicants for a "resident firefighter" position available to students interested in a fire service career. The position is part of a unique program in which students live and work at our fire station while continuing their education. Our district provides a quick commute to either Humboldt State University or College of the Redwoods where resident firefighters typically study forestry/fire Management, fire technology, or attend an EMT-B/P program. For students seeking a fire service career, this program provides student firefighters with an excellent balance of training, experience, and education.

Immediately available is one resident firefighter position with another opening at the end of the semester. Students interested are encouraged to apply immediately in order to be considered for both openings. Attached is an application, informational flyer, and brief PowerPoint presentation with further information regarding our program. Please feel free to pass this information along to students that may be interested. Questions regarding our program are welcomed and can be directed to myself at the contact information provided below. Students wishing to apply should send a completed application and current resume to myself at this email address. Thank you for assistance and enjoy your holiday.

Nick Bollier - Engineer, Samoa Peninsula FPD
1982 Gass St. (Fairhaven) Samoa, CA 95564
Station: [\(707\) 443-9042](tel:7074439042) Cell: [\(661\) 809-5708](tel:6618095708) Email: samoafire@gmail.com

For more information, go to the Chabot College Fire Technology Program website – specifically the JOBS page at <http://www.chabotfire.com/Jobs.htm> - the information will be under the heading CURRENT FIRE SERVICE JOB OPPORTUNITIES. Apply soon – the spots will fill quickly!

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS FROM DAN COFFMAN:

Dear Fire Service Professional & Friends;

My message today is sent to provide some ideas for your Christmas and other gift giving that is unique and supports a couple of good causes.

SUPPORT THE CALIFORNIA STATE FIREFIGHTERS' STEAMER TEAM PROJECT:

<http://hubiepictures.com/>

Dave & Barbara Hubert & the "Steamer Team" of retired firefighters donate their time by participating in statewide community and charity events, representing the California State Firefighters' Association (CSFA) in the interest of public safety and fire prevention education.

- **Give the Gift of Laughter: HUBIE & the Fire Service Book - Discounted \$49.99** HUBIE and the Fire Service is a humorous cartoon book that looks inside the Fire Service profession by a real insider...Dave "HUBIE" Hubert, a 30 year artist & Firefighter. <http://hubiepictures.com/>
- **Give the Gift of History: The Steamer - An American Icon DVD - Discounted \$19.99** This colorful documentary is about the discovery, resurrection and restoration of a 1902 American Steam Fire Engine. Since it's restoration, the Steamer has traveled throughout California and throughout the United States for parades and other special fire service and community events. <http://hubiepictures.com/>

SUPPORT THE CA FIRE MUSEUM & SAFETY LEARNING CENTER: <http://www.cafiremuseum.org/>

- The California Fire Museum has been established at the Great Park, at the former El Toro Marine Base, in Orange County, to preserve and display the history of the California Fire Service and a Safety Learning Center for providing information and education on fire and life safety and fire prevention measures to the public.
- **Become a Member of the California Fire Museum:** <http://www.cafiremuseum.org/membership.html> Membership to the California **Fire** Museum is open to anyone who wishes to join. Your membership helps fund the museum, exhibits and its construction.
- **Give a Gift to Preserve our Fire Service History:** Make a "Tax Deductable" Donation to the California Fire Museum. Send your checks to: CFM President Don Croucher 34681 Calle Fortuna, Capistrano Beach, CA 92624
- **WHILE THEY LAST! Buy a numbered Tribute Coin:** The California State Firefighters' Association (CSFA) and the California FIRE Museum (CFM) have put together a Tribute Coin to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of September 11, 2001 tragedy. Only 343 Coins were minted & very few are left. <http://www.cafiremuseum.org/>
- **Donate Your Fire Service Artifacts, Documents & Other Memorabilia:** While the facilities are yet built to house the CFM, our history is fleeting with the passing of many firefighters every year. If you have items to donate, or have a recorded history (documents, recorded audio and video accounts, etc.) contact CFM President Don Croucher at: crowncoach@aol.com

The Fire Education Company and Proprietors Dan Coffman (Los Angeles County FD Retired) & Susan Raja is committed to the professional development of the fire service by providing education and training opportunities principally on the Internet. We support these organizations and causes because they benefit the fire service and the public we serve. While dollars are always needed, these causes are always looking for helpers. If you want to donate time and effort, these are most welcome and appreciated. Our Best; Dan Coffman & Susan Raja - The Fire Education Company, Inc.

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

Fire-Safe Cooking

Many families gather in the kitchen to spend time together, but it can be one of the most hazardous rooms in the home if you don't practice safe cooking behaviors. Cooking equipment, most often a range or stovetop, is the leading cause of reported home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Cooking equipment is also the leading cause of unreported fires and associated injuries. It's a recipe for serious injury or even death to wear loose clothing (especially hanging sleeves), walk away from a cooking pot on the stove, or leave items that can catch fire, such as potholders or paper towels, around the stove. Whether you are cooking the family holiday dinner or a snack for the children, practicing safe cooking behaviors will help keep you and your family safe.

Watch What You Heat!

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.
- More Fire-Safe Cooking Tips »
http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/home_fire_prev/cooking.shtm

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

Public Assistance Grants for Fire Departments Impacted by Hurricane Sandy

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) would like to encourage the fire departments and fire service leadership in the areas affected by Hurricane Sandy to be aware that there may be additional financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to assist with the recovery efforts of all fire departments. The Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program has been approved for most areas impacted by the storm. The focus of FEMA's PA Grant Program is to assist with the recovery efforts involving critical infrastructures. Fire station damage, lost equipment and vehicles may be covered by this FEMA program. The USFA encourages all fire service leaders in the impacted areas of Hurricane Sandy to ensure your department damages and losses are brought to the attention of county and state emergency management officials. By notifying county and state emergency management officials, the PA Grant Program eligibility review is started.

During a recent trip by U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell to the impacted areas of Hurricane Sandy, the Administrator was struck by the significant damage done to fire departments, their equipment and stations. The Administrator wants to ensure all fire department leaders are aware of FEMA's PA Grant Program and are in contact with local and state emergency management officials to begin a review of department needs.

For more information regarding the PA Grant Program, visit <http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>

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



FEMA Cautions Residents about the Dangers of Hurricane Sandy

WASHINGTON – At the direction of President Obama, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) continues to coordinate federal emergency response efforts and bring all available resources to bear to support state and local efforts. Today, officials are warning residents in states along the East Coast in hurricane-impacted areas about the deadly dangers that continue as Hurricane Sandy moves inland and will remain after the storm passes.

Last night, the President declared major disasters for New York and New Jersey, making disaster assistance available to those in the heaviest hit areas affected by the storm. Residents and business owners who sustained losses in the designated counties within New York and New Jersey can begin applying for assistance by registering online at <http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov> or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA(3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired.

Federal, state, tribal and local partners continue to work around the clock, focusing on life saving activities such as rescue operations, assessing damage and restoring electric power. The U.S. Coast Guard and nine federal urban search and rescue task forces have been staged along the East Coast and are deploying into affected areas as needed, and requested by impacted states. An additional six federal urban search and rescue task forces have been placed on alert for potential activation if required. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also has personnel deployed in support of state response efforts, including two 50-person Disaster Medical Assistance Teams providing triage and basic care in shelters in New Jersey. Additional medical teams are on alert. HHS also has personnel supporting 350 ambulances in New York. These medical providers will help ensure the shelter can meet the needs of residents seeking refuge there.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with those in the Mid-Atlantic states who've been affected by this storm. We strongly encourage all of those in affected areas to stay indoors, in a safe location and to continue to monitor conditions,” said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. “As the federal government continues to support the life-saving efforts of state, tribal and local officials, individuals need to do their part and remain out of harm’s way. Do not try to return home until local officials give the all clear.”

Evacuees who attempt to return home prematurely will be turned back as many roads are still impassable from storm surge, detoured roads, inland flooding, downed power lines and trees and other storm debris. Some neighborhoods are still flooded from high storm water and many areas have no water, sewage or other essential services. States, localities and the Red Cross continue to operate emergency shelters along the East Coast. To find a shelter, individuals can download the Red Cross Hurricane app, visit the Red Cross web site, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767), or check local media outlets. They should also register on the Red Cross Safe and Well website, a secure and easy-to-use online tool that helps families connect during emergencies. To register, visit www.redcross.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767). This site also connects with the Twitter and Facebook accounts of users.

The Department of Energy continues to work with states and local partners as the electric industry begins the process of pre-mobilizing storm and field personnel to assist in power restoration efforts. For those without power, use caution when using portable generators to power lights, keep food cold. The Consumer Product Safety Commission and U.S. Fire Administration warn consumers never to use portable generators indoors on in garages, basements, or sheds. The exhaust from generators contain high levels of carbon monoxide.

For those who are clear to return home, drive only when necessary and avoid washed out roads and bridges. Be aware of falling objects such as branches and tree limbs, downed electrical wires and phone and cable wires. Stay away from any buildings where you smell gas, where flood waters remain around the building or in your home, if your home was damaged by fire or if officials have not declared it safe.

In addition, last night, the President declared federal emergencies for Virginia and West Virginia, adding to the emergencies already declared, at the request of governors, in advance of the storm for Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. These emergency declarations allow the federal government to provide direct support to state, tribal and local governments in activities intended to save lives and protect property.

As the storm continues to move inland, we encourage those who have not yet been affected by the storm to continue to monitor its progress. For those who have already begun experiencing the effects of the storm should continue to monitor NOAA Weather Radio and their local news for severe weather updates, warnings and watches and follow instructions of local officials. State and local officials make determinations and announcements about evacuations. We urge the public to listen to the instructions of officials, and if told to shelter in place, do so. If told to evacuate – evacuate.

Those in inland areas where the storm is producing snow or expected to produce snow should also have supplies in their emergency kits such as rock salt or environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways, snow shovels, adequate clothing and blankets to keep warm and heating fuel like dry, seasoned wood for the fireplace or wood-burning stove. Both hurricanes and winter storms often cause power outages, take steps now to ensure you can sustain yourself for at least 72 hours if needed. The FEMA smartphone app provides further safety tips and displays open shelter information at www.fema.gov/smartphone-app.

Returning Home Safety Tips

Utility checks: Check for downed or loose power lines and gas leaks. Gas leaks will smell like rotten eggs. Call the utility company immediately if you suspect you have a gas leak. If you see a downed power line, move away from the line and from anything touching it and contact your utility company.

Do not try to move either the downed power line or anything in contact with it by using another object such as a branch, stick or broom. Do not drive over a downed line.

Look for external damage: Examine the foundation, roof and chimney for cracks or other damage. Inspect porch roofs and overhangs. If you find obvious damage or have serious doubts about safety, contact a building inspector before you go inside.

Enter the building slowly and carefully: If the door sticks at the top as it opens, it could mean the ceiling is ready to cave in. If you force the door open, stand outside to avoid being hit by falling debris. If in doubt about the safety of a building, do not enter. If the ceiling is sagging, or there are other signs the building is in a weakened condition or about to collapse, leave the building immediately.

Protective clothing: Wear protective clothing and make sure your hands, arms, feet and legs are covered. If you have cuts on your hands or other body parts, protect them from contact with water or debris. You will want to protect yourself from inhaling harmful odors or fumes while cleaning up. Even people with no known risk factors for mold should wear filtering face masks and gloves if they plan to do anything more than look around.

Safety Tips: After Entering a Building

Double check and re-check for gas leaks: To be safe, assume there **COULD** be a gas leak in the house. Return to your home during daylight to avoid turning on lights. Do not light candles, cigarettes or operate electrical switches in the house until it has been inspected and is safe.

If you smell gas or hear a hissing or blowing sound, open a window and leave immediately. Turn off the main gas valve from the outside, if you can. Call the gas company from a neighbor's residence or from a cell phone away from the building.

Be careful around electricity: If possible, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If the situation is unsafe, leave the building and call for help. If you are wet, standing in water, or are unsure of your safety, do not check the electrical system. You may want to have an electrician inspect your wiring. Do not turn on the lights until you are sure they're safe to use.

Once the electrical power is turned off, unplug all appliances: Clean them out and let them dry. Then have them checked by a professional before using them again.

Check water and sewage systems: If pipes are damaged, turn off the main water valve. Check with local authorities to make sure the water is not contaminated.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

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

U.S. Fire
Administration



FEMA

CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7501 - USFA Media Contact: (301) 447-1853

Survival Tips After The Storm

CPSC, FEMA and USFA Warn About Deadly Dangers After Hurricane Sandy Passes

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Hurricane Sandy is a massive, slow moving storm that has left millions of Americans along the East Coast without electricity. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) are warning residents in hurricane-impacted areas about the deadly dangers that still remain as Hurricane Sandy tracks north. Consumers need to use great caution during a loss of electrical power, as the risk of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from portable generators, fire from candles, and electrical shock from downed power lines increases.

In order to power lights, keep food cold or cook, consumers often use gas-powered generators. CPSC, FEMA, and USFA warn consumers never to use portable generators indoors, in basements, garages, or close to a home. The exhaust from generators contains high levels of carbon monoxide (CO), greater than that of multiple cars running in a garage, which can quickly incapacitate and kill. "Our goal is to save lives and prevent further disasters in the aftermath of Sandy," said CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum. "Never run a generator in or right next to a home. Carbon monoxide is an invisible killer. CO is odorless and colorless and it can kill you and your family in minutes."

"Our thoughts and prayers are with those in the Mid-Atlantic states who've been affected by this storm. We strongly encourage all of those in affected areas to stay indoors, in a safe location and to continue to monitor conditions," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "As the federal government continues to support the life-saving efforts of state, tribal and local officials, individuals need to do their part and remain out of harm's way. Do not try to return home until local officials give the all clear." "We know from experience as victims try to recover from disasters, they will take unnecessary risks with candles, cooking and generators. These risks often result in additional and tragic life safety consequences," said U.S. Fire Administrator Ernie Mitchell. "When you consider the challenges faced by firefighters and their departments to also recover from the same disasters, it is important that all of us remember even the simplest of fire safety behaviors following disasters of any type."

Deaths involving portable generators have been on the rise since 1999 when generators became widely available to consumers. There have been at least 755 CO deaths involving generators from 1999 through 2011. While reporting of incidents for 2011 is ongoing, there were at least 73 CO related deaths involving generators last year. The majority of the deaths occurred as a result of using a generator inside a home's living space, in the basement or in the garage.

Do not put your family at risk. Follow these important safety tips from CPSC, FEMA, and USFA in the aftermath of the storm.

Portable Generators

Never use a generator inside a home, basement, shed or garage even if doors and windows are open. Keep generators outside and far away from windows, doors and vents. Read both the label on your generator and the owner's manual and follow the instructions. Any electrical cables you use with the generator should be free of damage and suitable for outdoor use.

Charcoal Grills and Camp Stoves

Never use charcoal grills or camp stoves indoors. Deaths have occurred when consumers burned charcoal or used camp stoves in enclosed spaces, which produced lethal levels of carbon monoxide.

CO Alarms

Install carbon monoxide alarms immediately outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home to protect against CO poisoning. Change the alarms' batteries every year.

Electrical and Gas Safety

Stay away from any downed wires, including cable TV feeds. They may be live with deadly voltage. If you are standing in water, do not handle or operate electrical appliances. Electrical components, including circuit breakers, wiring in the walls and outlets that have been under water should not be turned on. They should be replaced unless properly inspected and tested by a qualified electrician.

Natural gas or propane valves that have been under water should be replaced. Smell and listen for leaky gas connections. If you believe there is a gas leak, immediately leave the house, leave the door(s) open, and call 911. Never strike a match. Any size flame can spark an explosion. Before turning the gas back on, have the gas system checked by a professional.

Candles

Use caution with candles. If possible, use flashlights instead. If you must use candles, do not burn them on or near anything that can catch fire. Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish candles when you leave the room.

Consumers, fire departments and state and local health and safety agencies can download CPSC's generator safety posters, door hangers and CO safety publications at CPSC's CO Information Center or order free copies by contacting CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772.

Download FEMA and USFA's lifesaving information on disasters at www.Ready.gov and www.usfa.fema.gov

To see this press release on CPSC's web site, please go to:
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml13/13021.html>

FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM KAPLAN UNIVERSITY:

Below is a recent press release with everyone about the articulation of California State Fire Marshal's Certifications for College credit from Kaplan University.

Press Release

New Partnership Bridges the gap between a college degree and Californian Fire Fighters

Kaplan University is pleased to announce a program which evaluated 29 of the California State Fire Marshals training certifications. The program is designed to help the states firefighting professionals gain college credit for their training and providing them an efficient path to a bachelor's degree. In many cases, the program combined with their community college studies makes it possible to obtain a bachelor's degree in Fire Science in less than one additional year of school. Kaplan University offers over 170 online degree and certificate programs including Fire Science and Emergency Management programs through their school of Public Safety.

"We are very excited about this 'win-win' solution, which benefits firefighters who have earned certifications through the California State Fire Marshall system," said Mike Brackin, Dean of the College of Public Service at KU. "The articulation of this training is a fantastic way to promote education and the crucial need for firefighters in the local community. By awarding credit towards our degrees where the course outcomes are in alignment with our curriculum, we are able to potentially decrease the total time to degree completion which saves potential students time and money." Kaplan University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). Kaplan University provides, undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education, in a wide range of disciplines. Kaplan University is a part of Kaplan Higher Education Corporation.

To learn more about visit www.Kaplanuniversity.edu or to learn more about this new partnership visit www.cc.kaplan.edu/CADFFF

- **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Sacramento, California, October 18, 2012—

Kaplan University, a leader in higher education innovation, today announced an articulation of the California State Fire Marshal's training certifications, allowing the state's firefighters to convert their training into college credits toward a degree in Fire Science. After closely evaluating 29 of the state's training certifications, Kaplan's College of Public Service will apply articulated credit to the associate's and bachelor's degree programs in Fire Science and Emergency Management through its School of Public Safety. The articulated fire training certifications include Fire Fighter I and II, Fire Officer, Fire Instructor I, II, and III, Public Education Officer I and others.

"We are very excited about this win-win solution, which benefits firefighters who have earned certifications through the California State Fire Marshal system," said Mike Brackin, dean of the School of Public Safety at Kaplan University. "By awarding credit towards our degrees where the course outcomes are in alignment with our curriculum, we are able to potentially decrease the total time for degree completion which saves students time and money." As the first and only one its kind in California, the new fire training articulation was implemented to help provide the state's firefighting professionals with a more efficient and cost-effective path to earning a degree. Once enrolled, eligible

firefighters can satisfy up to 50 percent of required coursework with previously completed training and, when combined with existing college studies, earn a bachelor's degree in Fire Science through Kaplan within one to two years.

About Kaplan University - Kaplan University offers a different school of thought for higher education. It strives to help adult students unlock their talent by providing a practical, student-centered education that prepares them for careers in some of the fastest-growing industries. The University, which has its main campus in Davenport, Iowa, and its headquarters in Chicago, is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (www.ncahlc.org) and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Kaplan University serves nearly 50,000 online and campus-based students. The University has 11 campuses in Iowa, Nebraska, Maryland and Maine, and Kaplan University Learning Center in Maryland, Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri and Florida. Kaplan University is one of Kaplan, Inc.'s higher education institutions, which serve more than 75,000 students online and through more than 70 campus-based schools across the United States. Kaplan's higher education schools offer a spectrum of academic opportunities, from certificates and diplomas to graduate and professional degrees, including a juris doctor degree. Kaplan, Inc. is a leading international provider of educational and career services for individuals, schools and businesses. It is a subsidiary of The Washington Post Company (NYSE: WPO), and its largest division.

For more information, visit <http://www.kaplanuniversity.edu> today. Please feel free to contact me with questions or feedback!

Thank you,
Collene Bauer
cbauer@kaplan.edu
916-740-0859

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 for more information.

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

to www.fdic.com for more information.

Firehouse Expo – *Baltimore, MD* – July 2013

Go to www.firehouseexpo.com for more information.

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

Go to www.iafc.org/fri for more information.

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

Go to 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.

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. You can register on line at www.fdnymfoundation.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.fdnymfoundation.org/2012/10/19/2013-fdny-symposium/>

PARAMEDIC PROGRAM INFORMATION:

November 23, 2012

www.chabotfire.com

14



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 14th, 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
2075 Allston Way Berkeley, CA 94704

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

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:



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

<u>COURSE:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>
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.

To Register: Please see below for registration form.

More Info: Contact Steve Prziborowski at steve.prziborowski@cnt.sccgov.org or 408-341-4412.

REGISTRATION FORM

COURSE:	DATES:	COST:	QUANTITY:
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	_____
		TOTAL:	_____

=====

Name: _____

Rank: _____

Department: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

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

- **Please make your check payable to:** Santa Clara County Fire Department.
- **Please mail or deliver your check to:**

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

- **Cancellation Policy:**

Full refunds will be provided if requested 14 calendar days in advance 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 PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES BY ANDONI KASTROS:

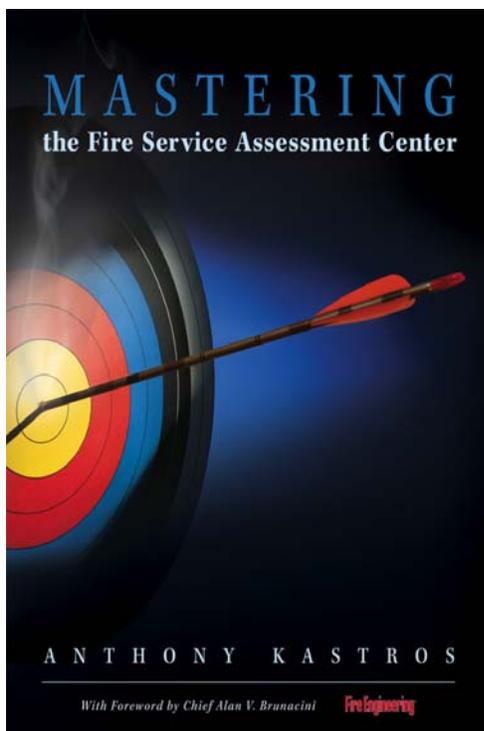


MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER

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*
MARCH 25 - 28, 2013 – EL DORADO HILLS, CA - \$595.00*

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

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

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

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

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

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

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

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

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

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

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California:

626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Northern California

526 Commerce Way
Livermore, CA 94551

Sacramento Area:

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

**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

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

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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.

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 a 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

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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

For more information about CAL FIRE and their extensive operations throughout the State of California, visit their website at: 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: Rob Van Wormer
Rank: Battalion Chief
Age: 47
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 24
Date of Incident: 10/27/2012
Time of Incident: 1900hrs
Date of Death: 10/27/2012
Fire Department: Cal Fire Santa Clara Unit
Address: 15670 Monterey Street, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
Fire Department Chief: Steve Woodill

Incident Description: Chief Van Wormer passed away from a cause still to be determined while on a work assignment in a neighboring jurisdiction.

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Battalion Chief Rob Van Wormer at
<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 63 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

AND:

Name: Don Felton
Rank: Fire Chief
Age: 71
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 5
Date of Incident: 10/27/2012
Time of Incident: 1115hrs

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Date of Death: 10/27/2012
Fire Department: Southern Park County Fire Protection District
Address: PO Box 11, Guffey, CO 80820-0011
Fire Department Chief: (Acting) Major Larry LePage and former district Fire Chief Gene Stanley

Incident Description: Fire Chief Felton died of an apparent heart attack while at work in his fire department office.

Incident Location: 1745 County Road 102, Guffey, CO 80820 (USNG: 13S DC 5478 8967)

Funeral Arrangements: Thursday, November 1, 2012 at 4 p.m. The memorial will be held at Station No. 1, 1745 Park County Road 102 in Guffey.

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

To date, 64 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

AND:

Name: Russell Neary
Rank: Lieutenant
Age: 55
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 13
Date of Incident: 10/29/2012
Time of Incident: 2030hrs
Date of Death: 10/29/2012
Fire Department: Easton Volunteer Fire Company No. 1
Address: 1 Center RD, Easton, CT 06612-1640
Fire Department Chief: James Girardi

Incident Description: Lieutenant Neary responded with his fire company to a structure fire alarm. While returning to the station, firefighters were removing part of a tree blown into the roadway by Hurricane Sandy when several other trees suddenly fell striking and killing Neary.

Incident Location: Near Judd Road (USNG: 18T XL 42 75)

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Lieutenant Russell Neary at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 65 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

AND:

Name: Herbert "Herbie" T. Johnson
Rank: Captain
Age: 54
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 32

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Date of Incident: 11/02/2012
Time of Incident: 1731hrs
Date of Death: 11/02/2012
Fire Department: Chicago Fire Department
Address: 3510 South Michigan Avenue, Floor 2, Chicago, IL 60653
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner José A. Santiago

Incident Description: Captain Johnson died from inhalation injuries sustained while operating at a structure fire. Media reports said that "Johnson died after saving several families--including many with small children--from a burning South Side home." Investigation of the fatal fire incident continues.

Incident Location: 2315 W. 50th Place, Chicago, IL (USNG: 16T DM 4330 2799)

Funeral Arrangements: Thursday, November 8, 2012, Saint Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7740 S. Western Ave., Chicago, IL

Tribute is being paid to Captain Herbert "Herbie" T. Johnson at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 66 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

AND:

Name: David Mitchell Tatum
Rank: Lieutenant
Age: 55
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 6
Date of Incident: 11/04/2012
Time of Incident: 0045hrs
Date of Death: 11/05/2012
Fire Department: White Oak Fire Department
Address: PO Box 130, 10838 NC 53, White Oak, NC 28399
Fire Department Chief: Tim Tatum

Incident Description: Lieutenant Tatum became sick at the scene of an emergency response but did not request treatment at that time. Later in the day, he began having trouble breathing and became unconscious. Tatum was treated and transported to Bladen County Hospital and then transferred to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville where he passed away from a cause still to be determined.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation, 11/09/2012 from 1800-2000hrs - Bladen Funeral Home, Elizabethtown, NC. Services, 1300hrs on 11/10/2012 at the White Oak Baptist Church, White Oak, NC.

Tribute is being paid to Lieutenant David Mitchell Tatum at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 67 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

AND:

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Name: Walter Patmon, Jr.
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 61
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 18
Date of Incident: 11/11/2012
Time of Incident: 2200hrs
Date of Death: 11/11/2012
Fire Department: Chicago Fire Department
Address: 3510 South Michigan Avenue, Floor 2, Chicago, IL 60653
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner José A. Santiago

Incident Description: Upon returning to quarters after helping to put out a small kitchen fire in the South Side Beverly neighborhood of Chicago, Firefighter Patmon fell ill while cleaning equipment. Patmon was treated by fellow first responders and transported to the hospital where he passed away from an apparent heart attack.

Incident Location: 1500 block of West 99th Street (USNG: 16T DM 4510 1824)

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Walter Patmon, Jr., at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 68 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

AND:

Name: Mark Haudenschild II
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 26
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 5
Date of Incident: 11/11/2012
Time of Incident: 2024hrs
Date of Death: 11/11/2012
Fire Department: Washington Township Volunteer Fire Department
Address: 1834 W Wallen RD, Fort Wayne, IN 46818
Fire Department Chief: Brian Gillett

Incident Description: Firefighter Haudenschild died from injuries sustained when the fire apparatus he was operating crashed as he was responding to a reported grass fire. Haudenschild was reportedly not wearing seat restraints and passed away at the scene of blunt force trauma due to the motor vehicle crash.

Incident Location: Grass fire: 4300-block of Butler Road (USNG: 16T FL 5082 5169); MVA: Hillegas and Butler Roads (USNG: 16T FL 5181 5175)

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Mark Haudenschild II at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

To date, 69 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

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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 listserve 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) 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 \[www.firefighterclosecalls.com\]\(http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com\)](#)

All,

Yet another horrible day in Nassau County, Long Island (NY) where a Police Officer was gunned down---and that Officer was also a Volunteer Firefighter/EMT. So while we don't normally cover police LODD's, when the loss is related either in service or in circumstances, we try to pass it on. Cops hunted down the cold-blooded killer this evening - after he gunned down the Officer this morning -- and he then slayed a random stranger in a highway carjacking. Hundreds of detectives, cops, FBI and related officers from Nassau County and the NYPD pursued fugitive ex-con Darrell Fuller after the carnage - and the wounded suspect was busted this evening in his St. Albans neighborhood.

Nassau County Police Officer Arthur Lopez, 29, of the elite NCPD Emergency Services Unit, was shot and killed in the Line of Duty this morning not far from the Belmont Park racetrack after a short car chase that followed a separate hit-and-run crash...very close to the NYC line.

The driver of the fleeing silver Honda - which was running on its rims - drove onto the Cross Island Parkway before exiting on Jamaica Ave. Officer Lopez and his partner turned on the lights on their ESU vehicle at about 1100 hours as the car turned onto 241st St. The car pulled over and Officer Lopez approached the car and had a brief conversation with suspect Fuller, 33, before the gunman fatally shot the officer in the chest and sped off. **"The officer's just walking up to the car," eyewitness Paul Walcott said. "They just pulled out (a gun) and shot. He went right down ... He went straight down."** The officer was not wearing a bulletproof vest. The eight-year veteran died at North Shore Long Island Jewish Hospital. **"He leaves grieving parents ... you should hear the screams of his mother,"** said Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano. **"He lost his life to a cold-blooded murderer."**

As the dying officer's partner tried to save him, the armed suspect drove back onto the Cross Island Parkway and forced another vehicle off the road. That driver had been speaking with his daughter on the phone when Fuller approached and shot him once in the head from point-blank range. The man was killed....shot by suspect Darrell Fuller on the Cross Island Parkway and Jamaica Avenue. The victim was driving a Honda when the suspect allegedly pulled him over and shot him after fatally shooting the Nassau County police officer. "(The victim) was

talking to his daughter on the phone," said Flynn Brown, who lent the victim her car. "He said, 'Someone is chasing me,' and that's the last thing she heard."

The double-murder dirtbag then jumped into the dead man's car and sped off, only to abandon it a short distance away and take off on foot. Fuller, of Queens, shed a grey hoodie as he sprinted away from the stolen vehicle. The double-murder suspect did five years for a 2004 attempted murder conviction, and was later arrested for violating his parole. His most recent arrest was in March 2010 for criminal possession of a controlled substance in Nassau County. Cops and FBI agents spread across a Queens neighborhood in search of Darrell Fuller, the gunman in the killing of police officer Arthur Lopez and the random motorist. Fuller had a gunshot wound when he was hunted down and arrested on 111th Ave. It was unclear if the bullet wound was self-inflicted or had been fired by Lopez. It was the second Line of Duty death of an on-duty Nassau cop in a week. NCPD Highway Patrolman Joseph Olivieri was killed last Thursday during a traffic accident allegedly caused by a drunken driver. **Officer Lopez started as a patrol officer in the 1st Precinct eight years ago and was promoted to the Emergency Service Unit in January 2010. He was also previously a Firefighter/EMT with the Dix Hills Fire Department in nearby Suffolk County. He is survived by his sister, father and mother. RIP.**

LINKS:

MEDIA REPORTS/PHOTOS/VIDEO:

<http://tinyurl.com/8q7dxmj>

<http://tinyurl.com/9nyldzw>

<http://tinyurl.com/925thcb>

<http://tinyurl.com/8ungpis>

NASSAU COUNTY PD / UNION: (PBA)

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

<http://www.police.co.nassau.ny.us/>

DIX HILLS FD:

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

=APPARATUS vs APPARATUS CRASH

This evening in Chester County, PA, 2 responding fire apparatus collided with one another while responding to a report of an outside gas odor. Apparatus from the Upper Chichester Ogden Fire Company E-55 and Reliance Fire Company E-61 crashed and the officer of E-55 was reportedly trapped in the crash - but thankfully the injuries are now reported to be non-life threatening. We'll post more later. **Fire companies websites:**

<http://www.reliance61.com/>

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

=CHARGES: NO COMMAND, CONTROL OR ACCOUNTABILITY: Florida Chief Officer Suspended

While it happens more than anyone would care to admit, rarely is action taken when the issues of command, control and accountability are not strictly lead. In this case, an Estero fire officer (Lee County, Florida) is off the job, accused of breaking protocol and putting lives in danger. Battalion Chief Jeannine Horton is accused of forgetting about a crew inside a major brush fire that shut down Interstate 75 in July. "We have to know where everybody is at at any moment in the event that something happens," Estero Assistant Fire Chief Mark Wahlig said. 9-year Estero Fire veteran Jeannine Horton was in charge of her own employees, as well as crews from other agencies. "It's an incredibly big responsibility. They are the sole responsible figure for the district in the absence of any other chief officer," Wahlig said. According to the investigative report, Battalion Chief Horton left the scene before accounting for all resources, leaving a San Carlos Fire crew stuck in the woods without

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

any backup. Chief Horton admitted to taking a media member to get a closer look at the damage. "That's horrible. That's horrible for us. It's one thing, accidents can always happen, but accountability, when it comes to a brush fire, structure fire, it's of utmost importance," Wahlig said.

=FIREFIGHTER CLOSE CALL VIDEO:

And in northern Florida, Jacksonville companies were called to multiple homes on fire around 0200 hours. As Firefighters were attempting to fight the fire, a burst hoseline reportedly allowed the fire to roll over and behind the crew....the Firefighters bailed out of the dwelling and narrowly escaped this close call. **An excellent "what would you do" (before, during and after) video for review...**

WATCH THE VIDEO HERE:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6T6Wk9K_7_c&feature=player_embedded

To see more, go to www.FDCam.com

. Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 10-23-12 / 2147 Hours

AND:

FIRE CHIEF KILLED IN EMS CRASH-PORTUGAL

An EMS unit of Aguda Fire Department, in Portugal, crashed on highway A29, causing the Line of Duty death of 49-year-old Fire Chief Fernando Reis, a twenty-year veteran. Another FF, Diogo Matos, 22 years old, is in intensive care at S. João Hospital, in the city of Porto. The woman that was being transported in the ambulance is also at the hospital, but her condition is unknown. This crash happened on Monday of this week. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

HERE are related links/video:

<http://www.cmjornal.xl.pt/detalhe/noticias/nacional/portugal/era-um-heroi-deu-tanto-pelos-outros>

<http://www.cmjornal.xl.pt/detalhe/noticias/nacional/portugal/meu-pai-nao-vas-embora-por-favor-com-video>

FIREFIGHTERS CRITICALLY BURNED-AN UPDATE - "AFTER" PHOTOS OF THEIR APPARATUS:

An investigation into that brush fire left an Australian Firefighter with life-threatening burns is set to begin within a week. The fire at Two Peoples Bay began on October 12 and was fully extinguished five days later. **A 45-year-old firefighter was badly hurt in the blaze, suffering burns to 60 per cent of her body, and was in a critical condition for several days. She is now in a critical but stable condition. Another firefighter, a 24-year-old woman, received burns to 40 per cent of her body and remains in a stable condition. PHOTOS:** Go to our home page and scroll down to see photos of their apparatus aftermath-the apparatus they were operating on when the fire turned on them.

CPR AND RACE?

People who collapse from cardiac arrest in poor black neighborhoods are half as likely to get CPR from family members at home or bystanders on the street as those in better-off white neighborhoods, according to a study that found the reasons go beyond race. So if this is true-don't we need more firehouses and EMS units than less (due to budget cuts) to compensate for the bystander care-less people who won't help? **Just say'n...**

HERE are more details: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=163574612>

LODD FUNERAL INFORMATION Several have requested this information, here you go:
Nassau County (NY) Emergency Services Unit Police Officer Arthur Lopez

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

(Past Firefighter EMT with the Dix Hills Fire Department) Funeral details on the Line of Duty death of Police Officer Arthur Lopez, who was killed in the Line of Duty on October 23, 2012, are as follows: Personnel may pay their respects at the Merrick Fire Department, Empire Hose Company No.3, 2300 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, New York, on the following dates and times: TODAY: Thursday, October 25, 2012 1900 – 2100 - TOMORROW: Friday, October 26, 2012 1400 - 1600, 1900 - 2100 SERVICES: Departmental Police Benevolent Association Services shall be held on Friday, October 26, 2012, at 2000 hours, at the Merrick Fire Department, Empire Hose Company No.3, 2300 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, New York. Funeral services for the late Police Officer Arthur Lopez will be held at St. Christopher's Church, 11 Gale Avenue (cross street Merrick Road), Baldwin, New York, on Saturday, October 27, 2012, at 1200 hours. RIP. <http://www.nassaupba.org/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 10-25-12 / 1442 Hours

AND:

CALIFORNIA FIRE CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-Medical Emergency

Cal Fire Santa Clara Unit Battalion Chief Rob Van Wormer lost consciousness and died in the Line of Duty last night while on assignment. The cause and circumstances of Chief Van Wormer's death isn't immediately known. He fell ill, was treated and was transported to Dominican Hospital, where he was pronounced dead around 2000 hours. Chief Van Wormer, 47, had served with Cal Fire for 24 years and served as both Fire Chief and a Fire Investigator. His brother, Kirk, is a Cal Fire Battalion Chief in the Sonoma Lake-Napa Unit. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

=FIREFIGHTER DOWN AT DWELLING FIRE:

An **Elk Creek, Colorado Firefighter** was hospitalized after an early morning fire in Jefferson County this morning. Companies responded to the fire at 0530 hours near Pine, Colo. Elk Creek Fire Chief Bill McLaughlin said a Firefighter collapsed due to smoke inhalation after he was trying to knock the house fire. He was airlifted to St. Anthony's Hospital from the North Fork Fire Station. However, he is expected to be released from the hospital soon.

=AMERICA STILL BURNING?

Next year marks the 40th anniversary of the landmark report, America Burning Bill Webb, Executive Director of the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) has written a piece **worthy of 5 minutes of your time.**

40 YEARS AGO...wow.....obviously, members of Congress back then recognized that America Burning was more than just another federal report; this one had traction. It presented a strong, justifiable case for creating a new federal agency for our nation's fire and emergency services. While Congress did its part establishing USFA, it never provided the financial resources for the agency to fulfill its core missions. **America Burning called for \$153 million in annual funding. That was forty years ago. So it's safe to say that it would far exceed the \$44 million USFA received in Fiscal Year 2012.** As we look ahead at the future of USFA, we need to realize that "our federal agency" cannot deliver on its mission if its funding level continues on a downward path. **READ Bill's entire piece...and the action he is "squeaking" for:**

<http://firechief.com/blog/america-burning-anniversary-reminder-what-still-needs-be-done>

STORM GETS READY TO SLAM THE EASTERN USA:

Here are some sites you can use to follow the storm activities:

<http://www.noaa.gov/stormcentral/> (NOAA STORM CENTRAL)

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/alert.php> (ACTIVE WORKING FIRE INCIDENTS POSTED HERE 24/7)

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<http://www.noaawatch.gov/> (NOAA)

<http://www.weather.gov/> (NATIONAL WEATHER)

http://mema.maryland.gov/Pages/homeEmergency_hurricane.aspx (MARYLAND EMA)

<http://dema.delaware.gov/> (DELAWARE EMA)

<http://readynj.posterous.com/> (NJ OEM)

http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/OEM/Docs/PDF/nys_storm_surge_zones.pdf (Long Island Storm Surge Zones)

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/home/home.shtml> (NYC OEM)

<http://www.ct.gov/demhs/site/default.asp> (CT OEM)

<http://alertpage.net/> (SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE FIRE/EMS WORKING INCIDENTS)

<http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/> (LISTEN to live fire/EMS/PD Radio Traffic)

REMINDER: It seems that nearly ever large storm such as this results in the critical injury or death of firefighters. Please use EXTREME caution in water, response, rescues, wires and related storm extreme emergencies. Size Up and Think.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 10-28-12 / 2122 Hours

AND:

AUSTRALIAN FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY FROM BURNS SUSTAINED AT WILDLAND FIRE LAST MONTH

1 of the 2 Firefighters critically injured in that wildland fire in Western Australia last month has died in Royal Perth Hospital. The mother of three, Firefighter Wendy Bearfoot suffered burns to 60 % of her body while fighting that fire at Two Peoples Bay last month. The 45-year-old Firefighter was flown to Perth and treated at Royal Perth Hospital Intensive Care Unit, but tragically died this evening after a lengthy and courageous fight. Firefighter Bearfoot is survived by her husband Garry and sons Steve, Geoffrey and Josh. She and another woman, 24, had been fighting that fire at a pine plantation when their fire apparatus was engulfed by the quick moving fire on Friday October 12. The 24-year-old Firefighter, who suffered burns to 40 per cent of her body, is still recovering in the hospital. The women had both been fighting the fire with about 20 other Firefighters. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care-Be Careful.

BillyG.

The Secret List 11-1-12 / 0200 Hours

AND:

CT FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

According to multiple sources, we regret to advise you that a Firefighter with the Easton Volunteer Fire Company (CT) was killed in the Line of Duty after a tree fall. Initial reports are that the tree fell on or near the fire apparatus in Easton on Judd Road. Area companies have sent mutual aid to assist Easton, including a task force from the Hartford area that came to Southwestern Connecticut to provide pre-support. Easton is located in Fairfield County. We will post more as it become available.

Please use EXTREME caution when operating in this storm...

As stated by the FDNY Queens Borough Commander to one of his units, on the air, a few minutes ago:

"....the structures are NOT your concern...your concern are the residents and your firefighters....."

RELATED LINKS:

===East Coast Working Fire Alert Notifications/Scrolling:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/alert.php>

===Live FDNY Fire Radio: <http://www.thebravest.com/>

===Current FDNY Incident Scrolling: <http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?ctid=1855>

===Live Fire Radio/selectable areas: <http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/>

===NOAA Storm Central: <http://www.noaa.gov/stormcentral/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-29-12 / 2135 Hours

AND:

All,

The fallen Firefighter from Easton (CT) Volunteer Fire Company, Lt. Russell Neary, is the brother of their Fire Marshal, Peter Neary. The two men come from a family that has long been active in Easton government and civic affairs. Storm related weather yesterday knocked a tree limb on top of the Lieutenant, fatally injuring him, as he and two career Firefighters attempted to remove a log that had fallen on Judd Road as they returned from a fire call around 1930 hours. A tree landed on top of the fire truck, trapping it beneath. The 2 Career Firefighters were not injured and called the EMS, which took the fallen firefighter to St. Vincent's Medical Center, where he was pronounced. Our sincere condolences to the family, department and friends of Lt. Neary. RIP.

PHOTO: We have a photo of the scene on our home page.

FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH FROM CANCER-IN CANADA

We regret to advise you that District Chief Chuck Shinnars has passed away from Lung/Thyroid Cancer. Chuck was a 30 year, retired veteran of the Toronto Fire Services. The Funeral for Chuck Shinnars is scheduled for Friday, November 2nd at 10:30 AM at St. Bernard's Catholic Church with the Graveside Service to follow at the Mountain View Cemetery. RIP.

DRUNK DRIVER SLAMS INTO FIRE APPARATUS

Two paramedics had to be extricated from a St. Petersburg (Florida) Fire Rescue truck early today after it was struck by a drunk driver and overturned. The truck had its emergency equipment activated and was going through an intersection with a green light. A red Hyundai sedan ran a red light and the car struck the right rear of the rescue truck and caused it to overturn onto its left side. The Fire-Medics were freed and taken to a local hospital, where they were treated and released. Terry Robert McFarland, 26, who was driving the Hyundai, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence, driving on a suspended license, and running a red light. McFarland was not injured, but a passenger in his car was taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

DeKALB COUNTY (GA) FIREFIGHTERS SCBA'S REPLACED

Through a series of investigative reports in the last two and a half years, firefighters told local media their Draeger brand air packs repeatedly failed on them in burning buildings, forcing them to run out. **A Draeger representative said the equipment was fine but not cleaned properly, and earlier this year, a NIOSH investigation agreed with the company.** In spite of that, 3 months ago, county leaders decided to buy new equipment and today they picked up the new Scott brand air packs. Scott air packs are widely used in the metro Atlanta area. This is the second time DeKalb firefighters have used Scott equipment. "They are relieved. I'm excited we actually have a piece of equipment we can operate safely," said DeKalb Fire Chief Norman Augustin. Despite the

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

NIOSH findings, several firefighters made it clear that they needed new equipment and now feel confident in their gear. **MORE w/VIDEO HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/9xhyslv>

DCFD - FEMS CHIEF GUILTY OF RETALIATION: ARBITRATOR

D.C. Fire Chief Kenneth Ellerbe unlawfully retaliated against the President of DCFD's union by transferring him from his work assignment and seeking to manufacture a justification for the move, an arbitrator has ruled. **HERE is more:** <http://tinyurl.com/9hnle7z>

FDNY TWEET-ER

As Sandy slammed the Northeast yesterday, one woman from the FDNY monitored Twitter through the night to help people in need. Emily Rahimi, a seven-year veteran at the FDNY, kept New Yorkers updated on developments from a storm that flooded many parts of the city Monday night through the official department Twitter feed. In more than 100 tweets, Rahimi, who was still working at her desk on Tuesday morning, replied to cries for help sent out on the social media service, passed along updates from Mayor Michael Bloomberg and followed up when New Yorkers posted tweets of thanks. **Pretty cool. Check it out HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/8fssshh>

HERE is the link to FFCC Twitter Alerts: <https://twitter.com/TheSecretList>

And lastly...YOUR NEW FIRE APPARATUS HAS ARRIVED:

Budgets have been cut to the bone, so here is what "they" have in mind:

<http://www.mnn.com/green-tech/transportation/stories/paris-firefighters-will-test-renault-twizy>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 10-30-12 / 2100 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Some of the only pieces of fire apparatus **outside of FDNY** with "Firefighter usable and wearable" enhanced seat belts **designed for Firefighters** are in Prince George's County, Maryland. The College Park Fire/EMS Station Co. 812 has recently retrofitted an engine and ladder truck with ReadyReach seat belt systems. **The identical seat belt system is now on board the entire fleet of FDNY apparatus, manufactured by IMMI.**

One of the advantages to the new seat belt system is the ease of use by firefighters to buckle up while wearing their bunker gear. The buckle and d-loop are positioned for the ease of use by firefighters to easily apply. With its longer buckle length and bright orange belts, your seat belt is ready to reach at a moment's notice." Prince George's County Deputy Fire Chief Ben M. Barksdale visited the College Park station to inspect the seat belts and made these observations, "While it is not an excuse but many firefighters do not wear the current seat belts because they are very restrictive and uncomfortable. The newly designed belt is not restrictive and provides added comfort. I like the florescent orange color which easily identifies personnel wearing the belt by the driver and officer."

Chief Bill Corrigan, College Park's Volunteer Chief, stated, "We have been using the ReadyReach belts for about a month and have not heard any complaints or problems. Everyone is using the seat belts and describes the ease of buckling up and that they are less restrictive and comfortable to wear. I believe the biggest difference from other seat belts is the extender arm that places the seat belt D-loop closer in a easy to reach location."

Why Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department and more specifically the College Park Volunteer Fire Department? It's simple, FDNY's Lt. Mike Wilbur. Lt. Mike Wilbur, an FDNY FF for over 30 years and a volunteer Firefighter for over 37 years.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Lt Wilbur is nationally recognized as the expert in emergency vehicle operations, apparatus placement, and apparatus purchasing. He is the driving force behind all FDNY fire apparatus being retrofitted with Ready Reach and all new FDNY apparatus are now ordered with the new style belts already installed. Wilbur's son, Nick, attends the University of Maryland in College Park and is a volunteer Firefighter at the College Park Fire/EMS Station. **PHOTOS AND DETAILS FROM PGFD HERE:** <http://pgfdpio.blogspot.com/2012/11/seat-belts-designed-for-firefighter.html>

REMINDER: TO HELP MID-ATLANTIC/EAST COAST FIREFIGHTERS, DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES:

CONTACT THE TERRY FARRELL FUND TO DONATE EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, SUPPLIES AND CASH TO ALL NEEDY DEPARTMENTS AND FF'S: Phone Direct: 516-783-1996, 516-840-8839 - E-mail: terryfund@terryfund.org and Terryfund@verizon.net (copy both due to e-mail/internet service outages in NY) - CASH DONATIONS/SHIRT PURCHASES HERE: <http://www.terryfund.org/donation.htm> HOME PAGE: <http://www.terryfund.org/>

CONTACT THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND TO SUPPORT IAFF FF's AND THEIR FAMILIES IN FDNY, NJ, NY AND ALL RELATED AFFECTED AREAS: DONATE TO THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND: <http://tinyurl.com/ab4s6d5> (select the DISASTER RELIEF FUND)
Take Care-BE CAREFUL,
BillyG
The Secret List 11-2-12 / 1245 Hours

AND:

All,
There are currently two very well established and 100% reputable ways that we are currently aware of directly related to how you can help East Coast Firefighters and Departments in need related to Hurricane Sandy. As you know, numerous FD's and firehouses were damaged and some were destroyed in areas such as Long Island, NYC and New Jersey. Additionally, numerous Firefighters, EMT's and their families have personally suffered major losses. The below two groups are 100% legit organizations where we assure you that if you help and give, **your donations WILL directly** benefit those Firefighters, their families and fire/EMS departments in immediate and urgent need.

THE TERRY FARRELL FUND:

The Terry Farrell Firefighters Fund was established in memory of Terry Farrell, a decorated member of FDNY Rescue 4 and Chief of the Dix Hills (Long Island) VFD. Terry, along with 342 of his brothers, perished on September 11, 2001 in the World Trade Center attack. **"The Fund"** assists firefighters and their families with educational, medical and equipment needs in time of need.... The Terry Farrell Fund **DIRECTLY** supports Firefighters who serve their communities and "The Fund" has a stellar reputation. "The Fund" also provides donated **usable fire equipment, apparatus and related items to help departments in urgent need - so they can get back to serving their communities.** The Terry Farrell Fund is operated predominately by Firefighters along with friends of the Fund and operate on a volunteer basis in order to give back to the firefighting community.

=CONTACT THEM IF YOU HAVE EQUIPMENT TO DONATE AT:

Phone Direct: 516-783-1996, 516-840-8839 or e-mail: terryfund@terryfund.org and Terryfund@verison.net (copy both due to e-mail/internet service outages in NY)

=CASH DONATIONS/SHIRT PURCHASES HERE: <http://www.terryfund.org/donation.htm>

HOME PAGE: <http://www.terryfund.org/>

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(The Terry Farrell Fund operates on an annual budget of 1 to 3%. They have no paid staff, and all of their members are Firefighters and family members who volunteer to make the lives of brothers & sister Firefighters better. They are a 501c3 exempt organization)

THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND:

The IAFF Disaster Relief Fund provides assistance to IAFF members in the United States and Canada who suffer financial hardship as the result of a federally declared disaster area or in cases of natural or man-made disasters, such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, fires or civil disturbances. Created in 1993 as a nonprofit, tax exempt, trust fund affiliated with the IAFF, the **IAFF Disaster Relief Fund** provides immediate cash to IAFF members in time of greatest need. The Fund was established after the IAFF assistance to its members following the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew. **DONATE TO THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND:** <http://tinyurl.com/ab4s6d5> (select the **DISASTER RELIEF FUND**) (The IAFF Disaster Relief Fund is a 501 (c)(3) Trust Fund) Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-2-12 /1100 Hours

AND:

DELAYED: FIRE CHIEF LINE OF DUTY DEATH-MEDICAL

Southern Park County Fire Protection, Guffey, CO. Fire Chief Don Felton, 71, died of a heart attack while at work in his fire department office last week. He had just become Chief last April 1...he leaves behind his wife of 49 years and their 3 daughters. Services have been conducted. Our sincere condolences on the Chief Feltons passing. RIP.

CONNECTICUT FIRE LT LINE OF DUTY DEATH UPDATE AND FUNERAL DETAILS

Fire Chief Jim Girardi regretfully informs the public of the passing of LT Russell F. Neary, 55, President of the Easton Volunteer Fire Company. As you know, LT Neary tragically died in the Line of Duty on Monday October 29, 2012, having served the department for 10 years.

INCIDENT DETAILS:

LT Neary was clearing tree debris from a roadway when another tree fell on him.

MEMORIAL DETAILS:

Memorial service: Saturday, November 3, 2012 at 11 AM at the Notre Dame church in Easton Connecticut.

Lt Neary leaves behind his loving wife Maryanne and two beautiful daughters Caitlin and Cara. He is also survived by his brother, Peter, the Fire Marshal for Easton. Donations in Russell's memory can be made to Russell Neary Memorial Trust Fund to benefit Joel Barlow High School's Girls Cross Country & Track and Field Teams and The American Red Cross. Donations may be mailed to: Russell Neary Memorial Trust Fund, 30 Far Horizon Drive, Easton, CT 06612

FUNERAL:

A service will be held at Notre Dame Church, 655 Morehouse Road, Easton CT, Saturday November 3rd at 11 am. Firefighter's who are planning to attend should park at Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road, Easton CT. Please do not bring fire apparatus to the service in order to minimize the traffic in front of the church. Please use Banks road to access Morehouse Road. Banks Road is off of CT route 59, accessible by exit 46 off of the Merritt Parkway or Route 25 in Trumbull. Banks road originates in front of the Easton EMS. Please plan on Gathering no later than 10 AM. Buses will be provided to transport guest from Samuel Staples to the Easton Country Day School directly across from the Notre Dame Church. Once at the school fire fighters will be directed by the CT Honor Guard as where to line up. After the service there will be a reception downstairs at the Easton Firehouse located at 1 Center road, Easton CT. Phone number is 203-268-2833. If Samuels

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Staples Elementary School is full overflow parking will be provided at Silverman's Farm , 451 Sport Hill Road (CT RT 59) Easton, CT

NEW YORK CITY'S VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS - A DIRECT HIT BY THE STORM:

As Hurricane Sandy turned the streets of their community into raging rivers, one company of New York City volunteer Firefighters ditched their rescue boats and sought refuge in the community center. Inside they found another bunch of volunteer Firefighters, also stranded by rising water, who asked, "**Are you here to rescue us?**"

That was **BEFORE** 70-mph winds blew embers the size of baseballs through the heart of this close-knit community on the Rockaway Peninsula in New York City's Queens borough, creating a literal conflagration.... **FULL STORY & PHOTOS:**

<http://news.mobile.msn.com/en-us/articles.aspx?aid=14842393&afid=11>

"WE NEED WATER" ...but maybe not...

Water and fire take a whole new meaning for the volunteer Firefighters of the Massapequa, Long Island, NY FD...at this working fire during hurricane Sandy:

CHECK THIS OUT: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N54N8vI2WNE&feature=youtu.be>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-1-12 / 2026 Hours

AND:

Some of you had difficulty with the link to the below story.

Try the links below, shown under the original.

Thanks-Billy G

NEW YORK CITY'S VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS - A DIRECT HIT BY THE STORM:

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<http://news.mobile.msn.com/en-us/articles.aspx?aid=14842393&afid=11>

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO THE ABOVE STORY:

<http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2012/11/01/14842393-wind-flames-our-fathers-the-inside-story-of-breezy-points-terrible-night?lite>

<http://dailyme.com/story/2012110100001422/wind-flames-our-fathers-the-inside-story-of-breezy-point-s-terrible-night>

<http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2012/11/01/14842393-wind-flames-our-fathers-the-inside-story-of-breezy-points-terrible-night?lite>

AND:

**VETERAN CHICAGO FIRE CAPTAIN KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-DWELLING FIRE.
....HE HAD ALSO SERVED ON 9/11 IN NYC.**

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

We regret to advise you that a 32-year member of the Chicago FD died in the Line of Duty last night after he and another Firefighter were injured in that 2nd alarm dwelling fire that went bad, catching crews inside. The fire reportedly was initially in the attic of the dwelling which is where he was found and removed. The dwelling is a frame home, 2-1/2 stories and about 25 feet by 40 feet. **CFD Captain Herbert Johnson**, 54, was a 33-year veteran of the department, and he was just promoted to Captain last summer. Captain "Herbie" Johnson is survived by his wife, Susan, one daughter and two sons. One son is in college and the other is U.S. Marine. In addition to his wife and 3 kids, Captain Johnson has 3 brothers who are Chicago Police officers, a sister whose a retired Chicago cop, and a brother who is a Chicago Firefighter.

NOTE: Captain Johnson's service went beyond the Chicago FD as he was among a group of Chicago Firefighters who responded to NYC immediately to assist the FDNY following the attack and murders on 9/11/01. Captain Johnson, was found by Firefighters in the home's attic and he had suffered 2nd and 3rd degree burns....he was taken to the University of Chicago Medical Center, while a second Firefighter, who was in good condition as of late last night, was taken to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn. Captain Johnson was assigned last night to Engine Co. 123 for the night, but normally floated and covered around the city.

"HERBIE IS EVERYTHING THE CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT IS ABOUT"

Tom Ryan, President of IAFF Local 2 was in tears as he addressed the media, telling reporters that "we lost a piece of our heart and our soul today." **"Herbie is everything the Chicago Fire Department is about. He's a shining example of what public service is,"** said Ryan. **"We're at a loss of words."** "He was the best, he was the best guy," said Chicago Fire Dept. Lt. Steve O'Malley, who had been relieved by Captain Johnson this morning about 0600 from Engine 123, Tower Ladder 39, on 51st Street after O'Malley had worked a 48-hour shift. "He was his usual crazy self, laughing," O'Malley said, his voice shaking. "He always had a smile on his face." O'Malley said this morning he and Johnson talked about their old stomping grounds, the St. Basil neighborhood, where they both grew up near 58th and Winchester. They knew each other since grade school. "I grew up with the whole family," said O'Malley, adding that his friend was also was an instructor at the fire academy. "He was an all around great guy and great fireman," O'Malley said. "What a big-time, huge loss to the department. He was loved by everybody." "We fight fires all the times, we had three that that day. But now it hurts. Now it hurts," O'Malley said. **We'll keep you update on The Secret List as well as on our home page regarding the tragic loss of Captain "Herbie" Johnson. Our sincere condolences go out to all those affected, the CFD, his friends and family. RIP.**

PLEASE CONSIDER ASSISTING FIREFIGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ON THE EAST COAST / MID-ATLANTIC REGION WITH THESE 3 ORGANIZATIONS:

==CONTACT THE TERRY FARRELL FUND TO DONATE EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, SUPPLIES AND CASH TO THE NEEDY DEPARTMENTS AND FF'S: Phone Direct: 516-783-1996 or 516-840-8839 anytime E-mail: terryfund@terryfund.org and Terryfund@verizon.net (copy both due to e-mail/internet service outages in NY) HELP WITH CASH DONATIONS/T-SHIRT PURCHASES HERE: <http://www.terryfund.org/donation.htm> THE HOME PAGE: <http://www.terryfund.org/>

==CONTACT THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND TO SUPPORT IAFF FF's AND THEIR FAMILIES IN FDNY, NJ, NY AND ALL RELATED AFFECTED AREAS: DONATE TO THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND: <http://tinyurl.com/ab4s6d5> (select the DISASTER RELIEF FUND)

==CONTACT THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL-STIPENDS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY TO FF's IN NEED---DONATIONS ARE WELCOME The NVFC reached out to us this evening as they have an excellent Volunteer Firefighter Support Fund to aid volunteer Firefighters in presidentially-declared disaster areas. \$250 stipends reach those in need; they do not have to be a

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

member of the NVFC but do need be a member of their Firefighters state association. The NVFC has provided nearly \$500,000 in donations to volunteer Firefighters since Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Here is a link to the application form:

<http://www.nvfc.org/about-us/support-the-nvfc/volunteer-firefighter-support-fund/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 11-3-12 / 0600 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Marshfield (MA) Firefighter was seriously injured early this morning in a mutual aid dwelling fire in the Town of Scituate. Marshfield Lt. Joe Kilinowski was trapped beneath a collapsed building and was quickly rescued by Firefighters within minutes. He was flown out by MedFlight helicopter to Massachusetts General Hospital with serious injuries. "He's being evaluated now," said Marshfield Fire Chief Kevin Robinson, who was at the scene. "It appears his most significant injuries are burns to his back." The three-alarm fire started at about 0125 hours at a home on Central Avenue. Marshfield fire responded with mutual aid, as did Duxbury and Norwell. According to Chief Robinson, the fire spread to two more homes by 2:30. Within minutes, the first home collapsed, trapping Lt. Kilinowski. Marshfield fire quickly activated its rapid intervention team and was able to rescue Kilinowski. Other Firefighters received minor injuries but were treated at the scene. We'll post updates on his condition on our home page as we get them. Keep him in your prayers.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG.

The Secret List-Election Day 2012

AND:

NEW YORK FIREFIGHTER KILLED WHILE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

3 U.S. Army Reservists from small towns in three different parts of upstate New York were killed in the Line of Duty in Afghanistan when a roadside bomb struck their vehicle. The Department of Defense identified the soldiers as **Staff Sgt. Dain Venne, 29, of Port Henry**; Spc. Ryan Jayne, 22, of Campbell, Spc. Brett E. Gorniewicz, 27, of Alden. They died of wounds suffered Saturday when enemy forces attacked their unit with an improvised explosion device in Paktia province. All three were members of the Oswego-based 444th Engineer Co. and were assigned to the 178th Engineer Battalion of the Vicksburg, Miss.-based 412th Theater Engineer Command. **They were combat engineers conducting "route-clearing" duties when an IED blasted their vehicle.**

Staff Sgt. Venne was a volunteer Firefighter in his hometown of Port Henry, NY, located on the western shore of Lake Champlain in Essex County, 95 miles north of Albany. Earlier this year, he was hailed by his fire department for his life-saving actions in rescuing several stranded residents during severe flooding in August 2011. Since his unit had already deployed to Afghanistan, his father, longtime Moriah Town Justice Brian Venne, accepted the award on his son's behalf. "We are devastated, like everyone else, over these events," Port Henry Fire Chief James Hughes told the Press-Republican of Plattsburgh. "He was an outstanding firefighter, a perfect gentleman. You couldn't ask for a better person, better son; he was an overall good and decent human being." RIP and please keep all those serving, and their families in your prayers.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

November 23, 2012

www.chabotfire.com

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The Secret List 11-5-12 / 1600 Hours

AND:

3 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OVERSEAS

A Korean Firefighter was killed while trying to extinguish a fire at a warehouse in Incheon, Saturday. Firefighter Kim Young-soo, who was killed in the Line of Duty Friday, who was operating at the fire but two hours after the operation, it was discovered that Kim was unaccounted for, prompting an immediate search that lasted for five hours. His corpse was later found in the second basement floor at about 2:52 a.m. The second basement floor was large and the smoke was very thick. He had a 40 minute SCBA but was unable to find the exit due to the maze-like structure of the warehouse and in the process suffocated to death. The 54-year-old veteran firefighter joined the service in 1988. He leaves behind his wife. RIP.

HERE IS Local Media: http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2012/11/116_123893.html

=2 Firefighters (Age 16 and 35) LODD IN FRANCE

2 Firefighters in Dignes-Le-Bains, France were killed in the Line of Duty Saturday night at a single family dwelling fire. The fire started at a wood stove and spread into the dwelling and companies were dispatched at 2010 hours and the first arriving units found fire showing. The first line into the fire was operated by FF Yann Simeone, 16, and a senior career firefighter Michael Baghioni, 35, who were both equipped with SCBA's. They were searching, looking for the 2 occupants believed to be inside when a "violent thermal event" occurred that took them down and required a RIT recovery. They were brought out with CPR in progress and taken to the hospital where life saving measures were performed without success.

16 Year Old Firefighter Simeone had been a junior Firefighter for three years, training to achieve regular Firefighter status which he reached this past June. When he hit his 16th birthday last month he became eligible for full duty as a paid-on-call Firefighter. **Saturday night's run was his first working fire.** The two residents had self-evacuated safely. The Chief says that it is too soon to determine if the event was a flashover or some other event. A full investigation was begun this morning and about 40 firefighters were eventually on the scene and had the fire out in about 2 hours.

=FIREFIGHTERS INJURED TODAY IN JERSEY CITY:

WCBS-TV in New **HERE IS VIDEO FROM THE FIRE:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FoJzRpWRjQ0>

HERE IS MORE From BIIS: <http://firegeezzer.com/2012/11/04/lodd-x-2-in-france/>

York (<http://cbsloc.al/RBI0cY>) reports that the fire started in a three-story building on Bramhall Avenue and spread to an adjoining building. At least 1 FDJC Firefighter suffered injuries after falling about one story, but further details were not immediately available. We'll post the updates on the home page.

=SHE IS THE Worlds Toughest Firefighter!

Firefighter Suzanne Enghed is celebrating after being crowned the World's Toughest Firefighter. The 33-year-old triumphed at the World Firefighter Games in Sydney, Australia - winning four gold medals and one silver. Suzanne, who works at Cheltenham West station in Gloucestershire (UK), triumphed in four events to claim her title against 5,000 firefighters from across the globe. Congrats!

MORE HERE:

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/features/4628689/british-woman-wins-worlds-toughest-firefighter.html>

A REMINDER THAT HELP IS STILL NEEDED FOR FIREFIGHTERS/EMT'S ON THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES:

HERE are organizations that we trust:

THE TERRY FARRELL FUND TO DONATE EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, SUPPLIES: Home Page: <http://www.terryfund.org/> SHIRT PURCHASES HERE: <http://www.terryfund.org/donation.htm>

THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND:
<http://tinyurl.com/ab4s6d5> (select the DISASTER RELIEF FUND)

THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL RELIEF FUND:
<http://www.nvfc.org/about-us/support-the-nvfc/volunteer-firefighter-support-fund>

NYC FF BROTHERHOOD FOUNDATION:
<http://www.facebook.com/BrotherhoodFoundation>
https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=EJPH33EWXYV8W
They are a registered 501c3 organization and are also actively coordinating direct relief efforts to those FDNY members and their families affected.
Take Care-BE CAREFUL,
BillyG
The Secret List 11-5-12 / 1514 Hours

AND:

Hey,
2 FDNY rigs responding to a fire this morning struck each other, resulting in numerous injured members. At Avenue J and East 103rd street Engine 257 and Ladder 170 collided, with a total of 10 injured members, some being serious. We'll post updates on our home page. **HERE is a photo:**
<http://tinyurl.com/buwusfr>

TWO NEW NIOSH REPORTS:
2 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED: Explosion while attempting to extinguish a fire in a coal storage silo - South Dakota. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201122.html>
FIRE INSTRUCTOR CARDIAC ARREST: during live fire training - Pennsylvania.
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201128.html>

CAN YOU HELP?

FLORIDA FIREFIGHTER HAS MASSIVE HEART ATTACK ON DUTY:
On October 17,2012 Levy County Firefighter-Paramedic Kenny Luzader suffered a massive heart attack while on duty at Levy County Medic 1. He since has had open heart surgery and after some unexpected complications he is on the road to recovery. Kenny will be unable to return to work for several months while he is recuperating. While Kenny, the sole provider of his wife Sherry and young daughter Chloe. Kenny has touched so many firefighters lives and given so much to the fire service throughout his career, and he now needs help. Please help us to help the Luzader family during this difficult time. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Thanks from Levy County IAFF Local 4069.

Christmas, Hanukah and Kwanzaa are right around the corner-this is good way to start the "giving" season.... DETAILS HERE: <https://www.everribbon.com/ribbon/view/9287>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,
BillyG
The Secret List 11-7-12 / 1042 Hours

AND:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

All,

Without question the folks on Long Island, as well as the many other areas impacted by the storm are suffering. **We (and so many of you) have fire-friends on Long Island, in FDNY and in New Jersey who have literally lost everything.** The stress is beyond belief-and another storm is on the way. **But we need to think. And look out for others who may not be at their "peak" of thinking in dealing with the devastation.**

Yesterday, on Long Island, Steven Pena, a 23 year old Freeport FD volunteer Firefighter, was arrested after he used an electric vacuum in "an attempt to illegally siphon gasoline" from a fire department vehicle -- in the process setting on fire that vehicle and his own vehicle when the electrical current contacted the gas and its fumes. 2 Freeport volunteer Firefighters were injured attempting to put out the fire, which destroyed both vehicles. It happened at about 1340 hours yesterday at the Hose Company No. 5 firehouse on Leonard Avenue. Mr. Pena took his 2000 Mitsubishi, parked it near a fire department vehicle, and began trying to siphon the gas with the vacuum cleaner. As a result of the incident, Pena was arrested and charged with fourth-degree arson. He is scheduled for arraignment today.

In talking with Firefighters in those areas this morning, the "loss" and "homelessness" is very real for so many Firefighters, EMT's and Police Officers. One fire company in NJ advised that the majority of their members are now homeless-have lost everything. It's a real good time to keep an eye out for those who may not be at their best-and who are now in an environment of possibly doing things out of somewhat understandable desperation, physically, mentally etc-**keep your eyes and ears open.**

Seriously. Let someone know if you see your brothers or sisters not acting the way they normally do. Or even if you just have a feeling. Let one of the bosses know. **It couldn't hurt.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-6-12 / 1036 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Today, the board of directors of the [International Association of Fire Chiefs](#) approved a management plan to keep the [National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System](#) online and operational through **September 30, 2013**. The plan was presented by the Near-Miss Sustainability Task Force, which was organized when the popular program was denied federal grant funding in September.

The Near-Miss Program Gap Plan addresses basic program functions of reporting, data collection and search capabilities, reducing costs to minimum levels until additional funding is secured. This program-management approach is supported by IFSTA/Fire Protection Publications, a division of Oklahoma State University, through an in-kind donation of database and application-hosting services, and IAFC funding of staffing and operational needs.

"To see the IAFC family rally around this program is a tremendous testament to how strongly the whole organization believes in the life-saving capability of the Near-Miss Reporting System," said Chief Bill Metcalf, IAFC first vice president and chair of the Near-Miss Sustainability Task Force.

To date, the IAFC's EMS; Volunteer and Combination Officers (VCOS); and Safety, Health & Survival Sections (IAFC SHS) and the Great Lakes Division have each stepped forward to commit funds to support this plan, with additional funding provided through the IAFC operational budget. Members of the Safety, Health and Survival Section will also contribute volunteer hours to help create educational and training materials. "We still have a way to go to solidify the future of this program, but this plan sets us on the right path," said Chief Hank Clemmensen, IAFC president and chairman of the board.

"I want to say thank you to all of the IAFC members and many others in our industry who are stepping forward to support this program."

Maintaining Critical Capabilities

The task force identified several low-cost, core capabilities of the program that will be maintained as part of the program plan:

- Website operation, including the ability to submit and search reports and to access the resources page
- Regular publication articles
- Customized search requests, as needed
- **Near-Miss Matters** electronic newsletter, to be distributed monthly in place of the Report of the Week

Deliverables not currently supported by the gap plan, such as data analysis, the annual training calendar and the development of training resources, are postponed until further funding can be identified. All previously planned technology and database enhancements are also postponed. The Near-Miss Sustainability Task Force will continue to explore several long-term funding opportunities in 2013, including pursuing federal funding opportunities.

Good News.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-8-12 / 1600 Hours

AND:

NORTH CAROLINA FF LODD-MEDICAL EMERGENCY

We regret to advise you of the passing of White Oak FD Lieutenant David Mitchell Tatum, 55. He became sick at the scene of a vehicle fire but did not request treatment at that time. Later in the day, (Monday) he began having trouble breathing and became unconscious. Tatum was treated and transported to Bladen County Hospital and then transferred to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville where he passed away from a cause still to be determined. **FUNERAL DETAILS:** The visitation will be Friday, Nov 9, from 6-8 p.m. at Bladen Gaskins funeral home in Elizabethtown. Funeral services will be Saturday, Nov 10, at 1 p.m. at White Oak Baptist with burial following immediately at the Grimes Tatum cemetery in Dublin on Owen Hill Rd. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

FIVE FIREFIGHTERS CRITICALLY BURNED IN MALAYSIA

5 Malaysian Firefighters suffered third-degree burns when huge containers of used motor oil exploded during a fire at a factory in the Pengkalan Chepa industrial zone in Kota Baru, Kelantan. The fire quickly went out of control when two of the four containers started leaking, causing explosions. Their efforts were also hampered by a lack of water.

The five who are seriously injured as senior fire and rescue services officer Abdullah Din Mohamad, 55, senior fire and rescue services officer Nazah Napi, 43, and firemen Abdul Razak Abdullah, 45, Wan Asri Wan Yaakob, 52, and Zulkifli Mahmud, 40....who suffered burns to their faces, necks and hands. **Firefighter Shahril Yusma Mohd Yusuf's right hand was injured, but he thought nothing of it when he saw a colleague on fire. The 33-year-old jumped on his colleague, MrZulkifli Mahmud, 40, to smother the flames.** Fire and Rescue Services Superintendent Shahrin Usma Mat Yusof said he was about to enter the factory when he saw thick smoke followed by a loud explosion. "I ran in the other direction as fast as I could but my colleagues who were in the factory could not get out

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

in time. "As I turned around, I saw several of them running towards me with their uniforms on fire...screaming. I was shocked, but I helped them," he added. We wish them a successful recovery.

FIREFIGHTERS & THEIR FAMILIES STILL IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE ON THE MID-ATLANTIC COAST

**We have been asked to add some additional groups that are assisting....and here is the latest:
=THE TERRY FARRELL FUND TO DONATE EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, SUPPLIES:**

Home Page: <http://www.terryfund.org/>

Help by purchasing a shirt: <http://www.terryfund.org/donation.htm>

=THE IAFF DISASTER RELIEF FUND:

<http://tinyurl.com/ab4s6d5> (select the **DISASTER RELIEF FUND. AFFILIATE FDNY UFOA:**
www.ufoa.org and FDNY UFA www.ufanyc.org)

=THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL RELIEF FUND: (Assisting Volunteer Firefighters)

<http://www.nvfc.org/about-us/support-the-nvfc/volunteer-firefighter-support-fund>

=NYC FF BROTHERHOOD FOUNDATION:

<http://www.facebook.com/BrotherhoodFoundation>

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=EJPH33EWXYV8W

They are a registered 501c3 organization and are also actively coordinating direct relief efforts to those FDNY members and their families affected.

=FDNY FIRE FAMILY TRANSPORT FOUNDATION:

The FDNY Fire Family Transport Foundation is collecting money for Firefighters effected by Sandy. The FDNY has asked them to set up an account to receive money to be then distributed to Firefighters who where effected. CONTACT Eugene Stolowski, FDNY Rescue 3, Secretary/Operations Manager, Fire Family Transport Foundation 845-825-4114.

<http://www.firefamilytransport.org> They are a registered 501c3 organization.

=NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION:

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has been requested by the FDNY Counseling Services Unit to solicit **donations of specific items** to assist as many as 1000 FDNY families who have homes that were lost or badly damaged by Hurricane Sandy. **They have a specific list of needed items for families of Firefighters. DETAILS HERE:** <http://firehero.org/fdny>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 11-7-12 / 2113 Hours

AND:

All,

A very sad week for the North Carolina Fire Service family who lost 3 members this week in the Line of or duty related. On Wednesday, John M. Hall, a deputy Fire Marshal with Bladen County, died from complications associated with heart issues. He reportedly became ill while responding to a house fire last Saturday. Hall, 48, of Bladenboro was an active with the Bladenboro FD and a Deputy Chief with the Clarkton FD.

Kernersville Fire Rescue Chief Walt Summerville died unexpectedly from a possible heart attack at his home shortly after leaving work Wednesday November 7, 2012. Chief Summerville had responded to

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

a reported triple shooting late in the afternoon of the previous day and had not been feeling well afterwards. He participated in a town-wide United Way benefit on Wednesday afternoon prior to leaving due to not feeling well and was later found in cardiac arrest at his home.

As we previously reported, On Tuesday, David Tatum, 55, a Lieutenant with the White Oak FD, died after complaints of feeling ill while responding to a vehicle fire on Monday. He was taken to Bladen County Hospital before being transferred to another where he was put on life support and then passed away. Our condolences to all affected by these losses. RIP. **MORE DETAILS ON ALL 3 LOSSES HERE:** www.firenews.net

PA FIREFIGHTER DEATH APPARENTLY NOT LODD:

We had a report from some of you of an LODD in PA-but it appears it was not. It appears now that he was killed during an altercation with police Wednesday afternoon. 42-year-old FF Brian Williams (a member of the Lake Winola Hose Company) was killed in that altercation with police but it was not FD related as far as we have been told. Williams was first tazed, then eventually shot by police at his home. RIP. Our condolences to all affected.

"PEOPLE FIRE" FIRE FIGHTERS

In times of political sensitivity in China, security in the capital city Beijing can get pretty crazy. The government, it seems, really does not want any political disturbances during this week's Party Congress, in which the country will change leadership. This means that Beijing officials are deploying, among other things, what has got to be one of the more unsettling measures against dissent: Firefighter teams in Tiananmen Square. These Firefighters are in position to immediately extinguish any protesters that set themselves on fire. **Seriously.**

DETAILS HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/bj4nzke>

IDAHO FIRE TANKER ROLLS WHILE RESPONDING

A fire truck responding to a house fire rolled on an Interstate 84 onramp in Chubbuck when the water in the tanks shifted. The Idaho State Police says the rollover crash happened shortly before 2300 last night as members of the Chubbuck Fire Department were responding to a trailer home fire. The Firefighters were taken to a hospital in Pocatello for treatment. Slow Down. Belt in.

CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY

Only 3 days left to win a **FREE** set of Morning Pride Bunker gear. Contest details by "liking" Honeywell First Responder Products Facebook page: **CLICK HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/ajqy8wn> or here: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Honeywell-First-Responder-Products/459103845526>

ALSO-if you are aware of any **FREE and legit significant value** opportunities like this for Firefighters, please pass the details to us so we can share. Times are as certainly tough-so with the holidays coming up, we post freebies or deals such as this as well as other opportunities for Firefighters and EMT's-as we have done in years past.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-9-12 / 1626 Hours

AND:

INDIANA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-TANKER CRASH

We regret to advise you that a volunteer Firefighter with the Washington Township FD (near Fort Wayne) died in the Line of Duty last night after losing control of a fire tanker truck and crashing on his

way to a brush fire. The tanker was responding and the driver was trying to make a right turn when the truck rolled several times. The truck came to a rest on its side about 100 yards south of the northwest Fort Wayne intersection where the Animal Care & Control shelter is located. As the truck rolled, it struck three utility poles and brought down live wires. Crews were called to the scene shortly after 8:30 p.m., including Indiana Michigan Power workers who were needed to shut off the power to make the scene safe for Fire & EMS personnel. The Firefighter was alone in the apparatus. **More to follow-we have photos and video on our home page.** Our sincere condolences to all affected. RIP.

**DO YOU HAVE A TANKER/TENDER IN YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT?
PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT, DISCUSS IT, POST IT AND PASS IT ON:**

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2002-111/pdfs/2002-111.pdf>

CHICAGO SUFFERS ANOTHER LINE OF DUTY DEATH

We regret to advise you that an 18-year veteran Chicago firefighter died in the Line of Duty last night after going into cardiac arrest within hours of responding to a fire on the South Side. The 61 year old Firefighter had responded to a fire in a kitchen about 2200 hours Sunday on West 99th Street. After returning to his firehouse, the Firefighter experienced shortness of breath while cleaning equipment. He was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital, where he went into cardiac arrest and was pronounced dead at 2321 Hours This Firefighters death comes just three days after the funeral of Capt. Herbert "Herbie" Johnson, a 32-year fire department veteran who died while battling an extra-alarm blaze. Our condolences to the already reeling CFD and all those impacted. RIP.

INDIANA FIREFIGHTER DIES FROM CANCER

Firefighter David Schanz II Lost his battle with Cancer yesterday morning 11/10/2012. Dave would have been 35 years old Thursday. He was a 6 year member of Brownsburg Fire Territory, also a former member of The US Coast Guard. This is being considered an Active Duty Death at this time. Arrangements, etc will be announced at a later time.

GETTING RICH?

No public sector worker will ever become wealthy by serving the citizens....nor do we expect to. We are not the villains that caused "the system" to crash. We are just hardworking men and women looking for a decent wage, fair health benefits and a defined benefit pension. Reasonable? Read More HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/ba75wjp>

HOLIDAY REMINDER:

We try to share ideas for Firefighters-so if you have any gift ideas, especially books, please let us know. Also, any "freebie" give-aways-let us know as well.

TODAY is the last day to win a free set of bunker gear. CLICK HERE and "LIKE" the page etc.:
<http://tinyurl.com/ajgy8wn>

HERE is a new book about Volunteer Firefighters that looks to be a great gift: <http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/bl7005.shtml>

HERE is a new book called: Killer Show: The Station Nightclub Fire, America's Deadliest Rock Concert: <http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/bk5340.shtml>

FREE SUBSCRIPTION to "The Firefighters Sounding Board" - This newsletter, produced by John J. O'Donoghue, Asst.Chief (Ret.) of the Cambridge, MA FD focuses on lots of general firefighter info-

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but specifically focuses on **ELEVATOR AND ESCALATOR** rescues. Write him **HERE** to subscribe:
JOD3502@aol.com

HIS BOOK is HERE: <http://www.pennwellbooks.com/elandesre.html>

FREE FIRE TRAINING SIMULATION SOFTWARE: HERE is a Free version of SimsUshare:
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.com.simsushare.SUSMobileLite>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-12-12 / 1000 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Lieutenant in the Hempstead (Long Island, NY) FD shot in the leg at a large party at the West End firehouse early this morning, around 0200. The Firefighter suffered a wound that is not life-threatening. Hempstead Fire Chief Scott Clark said when he got on the scene, he found "a couple hundred" attendees on the street outside the firehouse for what had been billed as a baby shower by another member of the department, who had reserved the firehouse. **"Obviously, it was not a baby shower," Clark said. "This definitely would not have been approved."** The member giving the party, who has been with the department for four years, has been suspended. The lieutenant who was shot has been with the department for more than a decade, Clark estimated, and is a member in good standing. Clark said he didn't know if the victim was at the firehouse as an attendee, or if he was there in an official capacity. Clark said his department is conducting an internal investigation and planning to review its policies around such events. "One thirty in the morning, and the last thing you want to hear is one of your members has been shot, and it was on the property," he said.

FATAL EMS CRASH IN NEW JERSEY

An unidentified man was killed last night after a car that police had tried to stop collided with an ambulance in Newark. Cops have not yet determined whether the victim was a pedestrian or a passenger in the car involved in the accident. The chain of events began at about 10 p.m. when a trooper observed "multiple moving violations" by the car, a 2002 Lincoln Continental, which was traveling east on Route 280 in Newark. The driver, Alqamar Anderson, 35, of Newark, increased speed and attempted to elude the trooper before the trooper had a chance to pursue the vehicle. The Lincoln got off 280 at the First Street exit and ran a red light while traveling southbound on Norfolk Street, where it was involved in a "T-bone collision" with an ambulance going east on Central Avenue....and as a result of the collision, the Lincoln hit a utility pole. The driver of the University Hospital ambulance and his passenger were not injured. Citizen Anderson suffered minor injuries and was treated at University Hospital and was charged with possession of cocaine with intent to distribute and driving while intoxicated and is being held on \$50,000 bail with no 10 percent option..

MORE DEAD KIDS

Years ago I worked for a City Hall dweller who used to tell me to "stop bringing up dead babies" in my discussions with elected officials and during public budget hearings. He, of course, didn't want the "emotional" aspect of what we do as Firefighters to "influence" overall budget decisions. He had a problem with the fact that the community and the elected officials tended to support the fire department during budget time. Why? I will never understand why that bothered him so much. But boy did it... We absolutely GET that we have to use raw numbers, facts, various options and not just emotion when presenting budgets-especially these days when we have to be the best stewards of the taxpayers dollars. **I absolutely get it.** The fact is that there ARE emotions related to what we do. We are-in many respects-**E.R.M.'s** (Emotional Risk Managers-a new term that we'll have shoulder patches made up for you very soon. Promise) We are in the business to help minimise "screaming

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insane" emotions when it comes to those we protect. In other words, we should do as much as we can to help people have a good or better day. **Few would argue that there are very few WORSE days than those where a parent loses their children. The peak of emotions.**

The "anti fire sprinkler" gang may choose to ignore last night's fire up in Maine...the single family dwelling fire that took the lives of an Orrington man and three of his children, ages 4 to 9. Dead are Dad, 30-year-old Ben Johnson III, his sons Ben, 9, and Ryan, 4, and 8-year-old daughter, Leslie. The sole survivor of the fire was wife and Mom Christine Johnson, 31, who was rescued from the roof of the house by neighbors and firefighters. **She will physically survive from what we have been told. Physically.** The fire was reported at 0238 hours by neighbors who heard a woman screaming. The bodies of Johnson and the three children were found a short time after the Maine Firefighters entered the burning house. They may not want to know about the 3 Wisconsin kids who died in that house fire on Thursday in Racine, WI. 8 year-old Dalijah Scott and 9-year-old Dayja Scott died when their house caught fire. Their brother, 7-year-old Michael Scott, died later in the hospital. The children's 5-year-old brother, Luther Patterson, is still in the hospital. Immediately after removing the last child, Racine Fire Chief Steve Hansen had 4 of his Firefighters "literally dropped from (heat) exhaustion;" they were treated at the scene, then immediately returned to the house and continued fighting the fire. No surprise. These fires reminded us that the residential fire sprinkler battles continue. The National Association of Homebuilders and related groups keep fighting. The NFPA has analyzed statements by anti-sprinkler interests in their proposals to diminish or delete the IRC's fire sprinkler requirements. The NFPA's response is "right on the chin"... **Check it out HERE:**

http://www.ircfiresprinkler.org/docs/baltimorehearingdocs/nfpa_comments_on_RB53-RB57.pdf

They argue that installing residential sprinklers should be up to homeowners. That's like saying speed limits on highways should be up to drivers. Sometimes, just sometimes, laws have to be in place to protect folks, in spite of ourselves...or to protect those who are too little to make the decision to include residential fire sprinklers.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-11-12 / 2111 Hours

AND:

MICHIGAN FIRE CAPTAIN DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL EMERGENCY

We regret to advise you that Pentwater (Oceana County, MI) Fire Captain John Sayles has died in the Line of Duty. Fire Captain Sayles responded with his department to a working dwelling fire 2 night ago. Fewer than twenty-four hours later, Captain Sayles was at home doing work when he experienced chest pain and difficulty breathing. Emergency medical services responded and he was transported to the hospital. After being evaluated and while being transported to a second hospital for surgery to repair an aortic aneurysm, it ruptured, resulting in Captain Sayles' death today. He was 38-years-old and leaves behind his wife, Melanie, and their three young daughters. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-15-12 / 1507 Hours

AND:

TWO FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN GERMANY-APPARATUS AND RESPONDING FIREFIGHTER POV CRASH WHILE RESPONDING

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We regret to advise you that 2 Firefighters from Heinsberg County in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany have died as a result from a vehicle crash while responding to a fire call. The Firefighters from the City of Erkelenz were responding to a working structure fire when their apparatus struck oncoming traffic and flipped-see photos below. **Sadly the driver of the struck car was a 19 year old Volunteer firefighter on his way to the firehouse for the run.** He reportedly ran head on into the apparatus on a curve- and drifted over the center line directly into the path of the pumper. Both the driver of the car (a Firefighter) and the driver of the fire apparatus died on scene, the rest of the crew were severely injured and airlifted. The car was demolished by the impact and the pumper overturned. Both drivers were killed immediately and two other firefighters in the engine were seriously injured. One of them age 39 was flown by helicopter to Aachen in critical condition. The other, age 30, was transported to Erkelenz in serious condition. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

SCENE PHOTOS HERE: <http://www.wieboldtv.de/2feuerwehrmaenner-tot.html>

German Media Newspaper link:

<http://www.aachener-zeitung.de/lokales/euregio-detail-az/2908442/Feuerwehrwagen-kollidiert-mit-Auto-Zwei-Tote-ein-Schwerverletzter>

NOTE THAT IN August of 2011, the Heinsberg County F.D. lost another Firefighter in a traffic accident involving a fire truck. Thanks to Al J for the heads up and details on this tragic crash.

REMEMBERING 6 "FORGOTTEN" BOSTON FIREFIGHTERS

Seventy years ago today, 6 Boston Firefighters lost their lives in the Line of Duty fighting a restaurant fire in East Boston. The Luongo Restaurant fire came to be known as the "forgotten fire," because just 13 days after the tragedy, the Cocanut Grove Nightclub Fire in Boston claimed almost 500 lives and became a major national news story. But today the BFD and the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center unveiled a granite memorial to the 6 Firefighters in Maverick Square, next to the site where the fire happened. The memorial features the names and pictures of the fallen Firefighters. The Firefighters who died on Nov. 15, 1942 were Edward Macomber, John Foley, Peter McMorrow, Francis Degan, Daniel McGuire and Malachi Reddington...and now will be properly remembered forever. RIP. **MORE HERE:** <http://www.wbur.org/2012/11/15/east-boston-fire-memorial>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-15-12 / 2156 Hours

AND:

Janet Haudenschild, the wife of the Washington Township (IN) Firefighter who was killed in the Line of Duty Sunday **when he was ejected when his tanker rolled over while responding to brush fire, spoke in an interview today. At about 2040 hours, he was alone responding when he tried to make a turn and the truck rolled several times and hit three utility poles. The truck came to rest on its side, about 100 yards south of the intersection.**

He leaves behind his wife and two children - a 1-year-old daughter Kyra and 3-year-old son, Mark Haudenschild III.

HERE IS THE VIDEO OF THE ENTIRE INTERVIEW:

<http://www.indianasnewscenter.com/news/local/Fallen-Firefighters-Widow-Speaks-179376571.html>

INDIANA FUNERAL DETAILS:

Funeral services for Mark Haudenschild II are set for Friday and Saturday. A viewing is scheduled for Friday from 2 P.M. to 8 P.M. at the D.O. McComb Funeral Home location at 1320 East Dupont Road. Another viewing will be held Saturday from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. at The Chapel, 2505 W. Hamilton Road

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South, with the funeral service immediately following. FF Haudenschild will be laid to rest at Riverview Cemetery in Churubusco, located at 11425 Carroll Road.

WOMAN THROWS HOT OIL ON FIREFIGHTER - WHO WAS CHECKING ON HER WELL BEING

A Wayland (MA) Firefighter is in fair condition with 2nd degree burns to his face after an elderly woman threw a frying pan full of hot oil into his face. Rita Warren, 72, was arrested at 12:20 p.m. after she threw the oil into Firefighter Dean Casali's face yesterday. Casali was among those going to Warren's apartment to check on her well-being. Casali was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital with burns to his face and eyes, where he remained as of last night. Prosecutor Jessica Hogan told Judge Robert Greco that firefighters and police officers went to Warren's apartment to check on her. "She threw a pot of hot oil at the firefighters' face," Hogan said. The reason is not known. Police arrested Warren and charged her with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and assault and battery on a public employee. The courts released Warren without bail, but ordered her to be taken to a hospital for a three-day mental evaluation and is due back in court on Nov. 20. We wish FF Casali a rapid recovery.

ILLINOIS: OUR CONDOLENCES:

Our sincere condolences to both the Bristol-Kendall and Big Rock Fire Districts in Illinois in the very tragic passing of Fire-Medic Dawn Brown. Brown, a Firefighter with Bristol-Kendall and a Paramedic with the Big Rock, was found dead in her Big Rock home Monday afternoon. While this is not an LODD, we do have more details on our home page. RIP.

CHICAGO FUNERAL DETAILS:

Visitation and funeral services have been set for Walter Patmon Jr., the Chicago Firefighter who died in the Line of Duty Sunday evening from a medical emergency. The 18-year "always smiling" veteran died Sunday night of a heart attack less than an hour after returning from a minor fire. FF Patmon, 61, was cleaning equipment when he experienced shortness of breath, he was treated and taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers, where he was pronounced dead. He leaves behind his wife and 3 daughters. FF Patmon's death came just 3 days after Capt. Herbert "Herbie" Johnson, a 32-year department veteran, was buried following an emotional funeral attended by hundreds of firefighters and friends. He died Nov. 2 while operating at a working dwelling fire.

Services for FF Patmon: visitation set for Tuesday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Leak & Sons Funeral Home, 7838 S. Cottage Grove Ave. The CFD walk-through ceremony will be at 6 p.m. Firefighters will assemble at 9 a.m. next Wednesday at the Apostolic Church of God, 6320 S. Dorchester Ave., where a wake will be held at 10 a.m. followed by an 11 a.m. funeral service. Interment will follow at Restvale Cemetery, 11700 S. Laramie St. in Alsip.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-14-12 / 2113 Hours

AND:

Hey,

While the City of New York is entirely covered by FDNY, there are still several communities-many of them in remote, waterfront/island areas, that rely on local volunteer fire and EMS companies as well. These companies, some in existence for well over 100 years, work in concert with and under the command of FDNY & FDNY-EMS ...and the volunteers are very often the "first due" first responders. Check out this outstanding and professionally produced video about one such volunteer fire & EMS company in New York City---and the impact that "Sandy" had on them: <http://youtu.be/2FPniy445fl>
Take Care-Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-16-12 / 2248 hours

AND:

NEW JERSEY EMT KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-VEHICLE CRASH-EJECTION

We regret to advise you that EMT Keith Chipepo, 30, of Grand Medical Transportation (Irvington, NJ) was killed in the Line of Duty today when the ambulance he was riding in was involved in a crash with a Chrysler Pacifica. The collision also involved a food truck driven and a county transportation bus. The circumstances of the crash are under investigation but one report is that there was a police chase and that the EMT driving was attempting to yield. **EMT Chipepo was pronounced dead at the hospital after reportedly being ejected from the back of the ambulance.** Following the crash, four people were transported to University Hospital in Newark. **The driver of the Chrysler, James Sterling, 29, was charged aggravated manslaughter, driving with a suspended license, causing death and causing bodily injury while suspended. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-19-12 / 2312 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Yesterday, a 3000 gallon fire department tanker/tender was returning to quarters when it crashed. It appears that the driver may have had a medical emergency. A South Berwick Firefighter was driving the vehicle to the scene of a chimney fire in the nearby town of Eliot. The 3,000-gallon tanker truck was cancelled while responding-and was turning the tanker around, returning to quarters when the crash happened. Firefighter Adam Leach,31 , who drives an oil tank truck for a living, was not seriously injured but was placed on unpaid sick leave following the accident with a torn finger tendon and a few bumps and bruises. "We think (the crash) might have been caused by a medical problem," said South Berwick Fire Chief George Gorman, who did not elaborate. **MORE HERE w/PHOTOS:** <http://firetruckblog.com/2012/11/19/tanker-runs-into-woods-returning-to-firehouse-in-south-berwick-maine/>

AND HERE: <http://www.pressherald.com/news/South-Berwick-fire-truck-destroyed-in-Sunday-afternoon-crash.html>

FATAL FIRE APPARATUS CRASH-Civilian Driver Strikes Backing Rig

A man speeding early Sunday morning died after slamming into a Houston FD apparatus. An HFD fire truck was returning from a call around 4 a.m., backing into the parking lot of fire station #74. A witness, who was driving east along the road, said she stopped her vehicle and watched the truck slowly back into the station's parking lot with its lights flashing. A white Mitsubishi then passed her at a high rate of speed and slammed into the fire truck. The driver made no attempt to slow down or stop before crashing into the truck. Firefighters tried to help the driver but he was pronounced dead at the scene. No one in the fire truck was injured.

THE CURRENT MIDDLE EAST WAR: FF INJURED:

As we have seen with war in Iraq and Afghanistan, Firefighters also become casualties of war. A Firefighter was seriously wounded yesterday during an artillery attack on the Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council district. The Firefighter, a man in his 20s, suffered serious head injuries while the community he was operating in was being shelled by Gaza. The Firefighter was treated at the scene by medics and then rushed to Soroka Medical Center in Be'er Sheva, Israel, where he was admitted

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

in serious condition. He had taken cover on the ground, under a firetruck, and bleeding from his head. We wish him and **all Firefighters** impacted by this current battle, the best.

A GIFT FOR YOUR FIREFIGHTERS AND A CRITICAL FUND RAISER FOR SAFETY, HEALTH & SURVIVAL:

The Safety, Health & Survival (SHS) Section of the IAFC has once again produced its popular pocket-sized safety planner/calendar as a **FUND RAISER** for the section. The IAFC SHS runs exclusively on dues and this annual fund raiser. The planner is packed full of firefighter survival information that provides useful, simple messages that firefighters and officers can apply to fire/rescue operations or in their personal lives. WE KNOW. Times are tough-real tough-but this is a real low cost way to recognize your personnel and help raise some operating bucks for the SHS.

Check it out HERE: <http://www.iafc.org/Media/PressReleaseDetail.cfm?ItemNumber=6363>

(Note-your order really matters-as stated about, the IAFC SHS raises 100% of its funding from section membership dues and fundraisers such as this. The cost is just \$1.50...please consider helping as best you can-thanks!)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 11-19-12 / 1011 Hours

AND:

PA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY FOLLOWING WORKING FIRE

We deeply regret to advise you that Captain Chris Good, of the Good Will Fire Company, West Chester (Chester County) PA died in the Line of Duty earlier today. Captain Good had been operating at a working house fire late yesterday afternoon (see below re: the fire) in West Goshen. Following the fire, he went to work at his nearby career Firefighter job. This morning he returned to West Chester to participate in some fire department pre-plan duties and then went home. While 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 NY, to assist fire companies there who are still dealing with the storm damages. Our condolences to his family, wife Jessica and his 3 kids, an 8 year old step daughter, a 3 year old son and 1 year old daughter along with his company and department. Captain Good was very well known and very much beloved in the county and PA, and was a friend of FFCC and TSL. RIP.

HERE IS MORE ABOUT CAPTAIN GOOD: <http://tinyurl.com/bbl7b6q>

HERE is the GOOD WILL FIRE CO WEBSITE: <http://www.goodwillfireco.org/>

HERE is the FIRE he was operating at yesterday:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/175519>

REMEMBERING: CAR DEALERSHIP FIRE COLLAPSE WITH 4 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

On the evening of Thursday, November 21, 1968, a fire alarm was received for the Yingling Chevrolet Company in Wichita, KS.

QUESTION:

Where was the first multiple firefighter LODD incident in our nation involving the collapse of a bowstring truss roof system at a car dealership fire?

Did you answer Hackensack, New Jersey?

If so, you'd be wrong. The answer is Yingling Chevrolet in Wichita, Kansas, on November 21, 1968.

As that fire was being fought, the roof suddenly collapsed on the Firefighters trapping them under tons of burning debris and twisted steel. Chief Tom McGaughey, Chief Fire Inspector M.O. Wells, Firefighters Dale J. Mishler and Jimmy Lee Austin were killed in the line of duty. For the previous 8

years, the department had flourished under Chief McGaughey. Through his drive, innovation, and vision, he had restored that which had nearly been lost to the department, pride, honor and dedication to the highest of professions, that of being a firefighter. When the bowstring truss roof failed six minutes after arrival, Fire Chief Tom McGaughey (on the night of his 36th wedding anniversary), Chief Inspector Merle Wells and Firefighters Dale Mishler and Jimmy Austin were killed in the Line of Duty.

MORE EXCELLENT INFO ON THE YINGLING FIRE from: By Gary Bowker

<http://www.everyonegoeshome.org/newsletter/2009/march/lightweight.html>

RELATED VIDEO OF THE YINGLING FIRE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xN-N6Ynz2g>

RELATED PHOTOS OF THE YINGLING FIRE:

<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Fire/History/11/1968Yingling.htm>

PURE STUPIDITY PART 1:

We all screw up...but hopefully most learn from it and don't repeat it. These days, it is pretty clear that if you "do it" on the Internet, you have a great opportunity for "it" to come back and byte you (get it? "byte"...sorry)so here is yet *ANOTHER* example of **SMACCS*** from Dave S

(Social Media Assisted Career Suicide Syndrome*)

<http://tinyurl.com/bkrx27a> (Video and Commentary from DaveS)

FACTS, EXAMPLES AND "BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW ...BUT "NEED" TO KNOW" INFO:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lj3iNxZ8Dww> (PLEASE Answer The Question!)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFs28KHwM_Y (WHAT Social Media is *REALLY* about!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQzsQkMFgHE> (Social Media **FACTS!**)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bveXo-BZrJQ> (Social Media **EDUCATION!**)

PURE STUPIDITY PART 2:

Bobby Eustace, an FDNY Firefighter from Ladder 27 in the Bronx, has been serving free hot food to the homeless and displaced and to relief workers and volunteers in Breezy Point. since the storm. Last Sunday, an ice blooded City food inspector issued Eustace a notice of violation for not meeting the same food-handling standards as, say, a fancy restaurant. **Amazing. The people of Rockaway had no food or water....so some Firefighters decided to do the right thing.** "People were donating canned food, but without gas or a home, you can't cook and it's like eating dog food," he says. "So I cooked some trays of food in our firehouse. Then other guys in other firehouses in Battalion 17 started cooking trays of chicken parm, sausage and peppers, pasta, big pots of chili and soup, and we took it down to Rockaway and gave it out. **People were starving.** Then we went to Breezy Point. I took down our 6-foot firehouse barbecue and cooked hot dogs and hamburgers. People lined up, starving from working all day." **And once again, stupidity reigned.**

MORE HERE: <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/hamill-emperor-bloomberg-bureaucracy-mad-article-1.1205428#ixzz2CtEfygwA>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 11-21-12 / 1500 Hours

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

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

Budget Related Items:

Contra Costa's (CA) largest fire agency will shutter four fire stations in January, close up to six more by 2015, and stop responding to low-priority incidents if voters reject a \$75 annual parcel tax on the general election ballot. "We are planning for the worst and hoping for the best, hoping we will not have to implement this service-reduction plan," Contra Costa Fire Chief Daryl Louder told the county Board of Supervisors on Tuesday. The board governs the 600,000-resident central Contra Costa County fire district. Measure Q, the fire district's seven-year parcel tax proposal, needs a steep two-thirds approval at a time when recession-weary voters face a plethora of new tax proposals from cash-starved state, school and local agencies. Ballot measure opponents have repeatedly said the fire district is holding taxpayers hostage, threatening service losses while refusing for years to reform firefighter pensions or seriously evaluate alternative ways to fight fires and respond to medical emergencies. But no matter which argument the voters ultimately endorse, the math is indisputable: Without Measure Q's roughly \$17 million a year in additional property tax proceeds, the fire district will burn through its reserves in a matter of months and must cut expenses:

http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_21839237/contra-costa-sets-out-fire-station-shutdown-plan

As Glendale (AZ) prepares for the possible repeal of a controversial sales-tax hike that could result in the loss of 102 public-safety positions, city leaders indicated no plans to scale back on union contracts approved this year that add costs to the city's bottom line. The police and fire contracts, which went into effect on July 1, include \$3.5million in additional costs to this year's general-fund operating budget. The increase mostly funds a pay-grade hike in both departments, but also covers such items as the reinstatement of annual contributions to a retiree health-savings plan for firefighters and an increase in pay for those with specialty training. No other city employees got merit pay increases, cost-of-living adjustments or bonuses this fiscal year, according to city officials. Union leaders defend the pay-grade hikes, saying they've made years of sacrifices, and officers and firefighters had been making less than the Valley average. But the increased costs come at a time when the city could face dramatic cuts. Voters on Nov. 6 will decide whether to undo a 0.7 percentage-point sales-tax hike: http://www.azcentral.com/community/glendale/articles/20120927glendale-tax-hike-repeal-could-slash-public-safety.html?nclick_check=1

Tacoma (WA) Fire Department set to close, downsize some fire stations. "We have to make the best of a bad situation," Fire Chief James Duggan said during a City Council study session this week. "Our goal is to provide the same level of service as we have been providing." The net result of the changes will mean the loss of 27 commissioned firefighters and two civilian staff positions as well as two commissioned emergency medical technicians and one support position that would bring the city's fire service from 16 engines down to 13 to cover 72 square miles of service area that has 216,438 people. The cuts translate into a savings of \$7.3 million during the next two years from the city's general fund and another \$2.9 million from the emergency medical services fund, if approved by the City Council as currently proposed. Departments around the city are making cuts of around 15 percent to avoid a projected shortfall of \$63 million during the 2013-14 budget set for adoption in early December. The department cut \$9.3 million earlier this year to cover a shortfall in the current budget. That cut meant the loss of 24 commissioned firefighter positions that were already vacant:

<http://www.tacomaweekly.com/news/view/fire-department-set-to-close-downsize-stations/>

Spokane County (WA) Fire District 8 commissioners are considering two budgets for 2013, and both have the district running a deficit:

<http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2012/nov/08/district-8-faces-budget-deficit/>

Voters torched the Contra Costa (CA) Fire District's parcel tax Tuesday, a decision that will shutter four of 28 fire stations in January, close up to another half-dozen by 2015 and scale back responses to low-priority calls. Measure Q won a majority of the votes but fell a substantial 14 percentage points shy of the two-thirds threshold it needed to pass. Negative public sentiment about firefighter pensions, competing tax measures and the steep two-thirds voter threshold all dampened the temporary \$75-a-year parcel tax's chances at the polls. It's the second fire agency defeat in Contra Costa in less than a year. East Contra Costa Fire District voters turned down a parcel tax in June, which led to the closure of half of its six stations. The federal government later awarded the district a two-year grant, but the lengthy hiring and training process has delayed reopening the first of the three closed stations until mid-November. "Twice now, voters have looked into firefighters' eyes and checked the no box," said Contra Costa Taxpayers Association Executive Director Kris Hunt. "Many people feel they are trading pensions for service, and they resent that. This is a pretty clear case of voters being faced with a concrete decision."

http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_21951820/contra-costa-prepares-shutter-stations-wake-parcel-tax

A new contract with the Firefighters Union has the City of Spokane (WA) looking to make up a \$1 million dollars in its budget. Spokane Fire Chief Bobby Williams suggests taking Fire Engine 9 out of service. The engine serves the Manito neighborhood on Spokane's South Hill. Rescue Number 1, a two-person medic response team, would then relocate from downtown to the newly vacant Station 9: <http://www.nwcn.com/news/northwest/179887521.html>

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

Phoenix (AZ) City Council member Sal DiCiccio wants the Department of Public Safety to investigate possible criminal misconduct by the Phoenix Fire Department. The lawsuit filed in 2011 was discussed with council members earlier this month. The complaint was filed by Julie Simpson, who was hired on as a firefighter by the department in 2001. Simpson claims she worked in an environment of sexual harassment and gender discrimination. Court documents show that she was called derogatory names. She also claims that supervisors made gender discriminatory statements towards her. "What shocks me the most is how long this type of behavior was allowed to go on, and how nothing was done to stop it. No one was punished and she was moved because of the claims. You don't move the victim, you protect them," said council member Sal DiCiccio who represents District 6. Another allegation that surfaced is that a fellow firefighter broke into Simpson's room at the fire department through a vent and went through her cell phone. "When the city staff found out there were allegations of breaking and entering, why weren't the police called? When they found out there were allegations of public documents being altered, why weren't the police called? I want an outside agency to be called in to investigate. There is more to this than a sexual harassment case," said DiCiccio: http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_phoenix_metro/central_phoenix/Phoenix-City-Council-member-Sal-DiCiccio-wants-DPS-to-investigate-Phoenix-Fire-Department

West Licking (OH) Joint Fire District's board of trustees on Thursday night fired Chief David Fulmer, effective immediately. The finding of misconduct in office and/or malfeasance for violating the district's Internet and email policy pertained to Fulmer's downloading of documents from a previous employer to his district computer. Some of the documents contained sensitive information, such as Social Security numbers:

http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20121109/COMMUNITIES01/311090008?qcheck=1&nclick_heck=1

The Ohio firefighter who was driving the ambulance that was involved in a fatal crash in Madison County last month has been charged with driving without a license. The State Highway Patrol says that Todd J. Picken, 31, failed to take all the steps to get his license back following a drunken-driving conviction in July 2011. Picken has been charged in Madison County Municipal Court with no operator's license and failure to reinstate his license. He has pleaded not guilty and is due back in court Nov. 13. Picken was driving an ambulance for the Jefferson Township Fire Department out of West Jefferson on Sept. 18 when an SUV driven by 53-year-old Marcia "Jody" Frederick, crossed the center line on Rt. 142 and hit the ambulance head-on. Frederick, a West Jefferson resident and Columbus police detective who had been off work because she was battling cancer, was killed:

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2012/10/19/firefighter-license-revoked.html>

The San Luis Obispo (CA) firefighter who was tried for assault and battery after he got into a fight with another man no longer works for the city. John Ryan Mason, 35, a fire engineer and paramedic who worked for the city for about 10 years, was terminated Tuesday, according to city officials: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2012/11/07/2288335/slo-firefighter-fired-mason.html>

Hialeah (FL) fire union vice president Eric Johnson faces a two-day, unpaid suspension for posting pictures on his Facebook page that showed his children holding sealed bottles of alcohol. He says it's politically motivated:

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2012/10/18/3056448/hialeah-firefighter-suspended.html>

WXYZ-TV reporter Scott Lewis is promoting a story that is scheduled to run on Thursday at 6:00 PM that is bringing more bad publicity to the Detroit (MI) Fire Department. This time it's not the administration under scrutiny but the actions of a firefighter. The incident is almost two-years-old and it occurred outside a bar while the firefighter was off-duty. But what will make this interesting is the video of the assault and the claim from the women that police refused to take a report. The firefighter, who Lewis says denies throwing the punches, is described as a 275-pound body builder who stands more than a foot taller than the tallest of the two women: <http://statter911.com/2012/10/24/caught-on-video-a-different-kind-of-black-eye-for-detroit-fd-tv-station-looks-at-claims-off-duty-firefighter-punched-two-women-cops-went-easy-on-him/>

A female Phoenix (AZ) firefighter's accusations that she faced years of discrimination and harassment have prompted the city to request an external review of the firefighter's claims and the department's response to those claims. City officials say they want to determine whether Fire Department administrators adequately addressed the accusations, which date to 2003. City officials also demanded that department managers attend mandatory sexual-harassment training. The City Council is considering whether to pay firefighter Julie Simpson \$70,000 to settle her dispute with the city:

http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/20121023claims-vs-phoenix-fire-dept-face-inquiry.html?nclick_check=1

North Las Vegas (NV) which made major cuts toward a balanced budget, could face a \$15.6 million hit if it loses a lawsuit filed by representatives of police and firefighters. City Finance Director Al Zochowski told the Committee on Local Government Finance, that it reduced its budget by \$33 million but could not get agreement from police and firefighters to give up benefits in their contracts. The city council suspended some terms in the contracts of the public safety officers who then filed suit. Committee Chairman Marvin Leavitt asked Zochowski how much the city would owe if it lost the suit. He said it would be \$9.6 million for the current year and next year the total could be \$15.6 million:

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2012/oct/24/north-las-vegas-financial-troubles-continue/>

The last we saw Detroit's (MI) former Deputy Fire Commissioner Fred Wheeler was at the end of May. At that time he was cussing out WJBK-TV reporter Charlie LeDuff and knocking a microphone out of his hand (see the video above). Two days later, Wheeler, who had been interim commissioner before the arrival of Donald Austin, was let go by Mayor Dave Bing for his actions in front of the camera. Now, a very unusual campaign against LeDuff and Detroit's Channel 2 is underway and the press release has Wheeler's name on it. LeDuff has been on his Facebook page asking, "Anybody seen Fred Wheeler pulling around that sign?". While the reporter apparently hasn't seen it first hand yet, some viewers have and there are pictures of the movable electronic road sign in the press release below. Fred Wheeler had been the subject of many of LeDuff's stories in the past few years. Most of them involved the reporter trying to confront Wheeler over the state of the Detroit Fire Department fleet and firehouses and questions about whether Wheeler lived in the city or not. Wheeler rarely, if ever, sat still for a LeDuff interview, allowing the reporter to do these ambush style interviews, culminating in the one that left Fred Wheeler without a job:

<http://statter911.com/2012/10/25/mobile-sign-in-detroit-says-tvs-charlie-leduff-lied-former-dep-fire-commissioner-fred-wheelers-name-on-press-release-announcing-campaign-against-reporter/>

There's a big shake up at the Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department as Phoenix city leaders rush to correct what one councilman calls a five-year cover-up of a sexual harassment case. The changes are coming after a female firefighter leveled a \$70,000 lawsuit against the city. The lawsuit alleges the employee suffered years of sexual harassment including being called derogatory names and being passed up for promotions. "I'm shocked by it! And I'm even more shocked by the response of the fire department that they didn't think it was any big deal," said District 6 Phoenix City Council member Sal DiCiccio. "There are other allegations dealing with this woman's private living space being violated and broken into," said DiCiccio. DiCiccio said another fire department employee took the victim's phone to see who she was seeing. The councilman accused the fire department of having a "boy's club" mentality. "The fire department is treating some of these fire houses as a fraternity, and people have got to feel safe. Women have to feel safe," said DiCiccio:

http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_phoenix_metro/central_phoenix/70k-sexual-harassment-lawsuit-prompts-big-changes-at-the-Phoenix-Fire-Department

An audit of Cleveland's (OH) Fire Department shows firefighters received the required training to respond to fires and emergencies, Public Safety Director Martin Flask said Wednesday. But the audit of 18 months' worth of recent Fire Department training and overtime databases, payrolls and paper overtime records reveals the department has a record-keeping problem that the city will address, Flask said. Auditors didn't identify widespread problems with firefighters attending training, though some instances were identified in which firefighters were credited with participating in fire drills on days they were absent or traded shifts. Sloppy and inefficient record-keeping, lax oversight of overtime and failure to follow well-defined policies were issues:

http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/10/audit_of_cleveland_fire_depart.html

Firefighter's suit over 2010 tanker wreck describes 'party atmosphere' at PA's North Bangor VFC. Underage assistant chief was charged with drunken driving after crash:

<http://statter911.com/2012/11/09/firefighters-suit-over-2010-tanker-wreck-describes-party-atmosphere-at-pas-north-bangor-vfc-underage-assistant-chief-was-charged-with-drunken-driving-after-crash/>

A fourth Hudson (NY) city volunteer firefighter was suspended Monday from his duties and is under criminal investigation with three others after authorities found several thousand dollars missing from the accounts at C.H. Evans Ladder Company No. 3. The exact sum of missing money is unknown. Mayor Bill Hallenbeck said only that it was "substantial" and a "very serious theft." Last week, the city suspended three volunteers after money was found to be missing from a board's funds, donations and a fundraising account over the past year. The suspended firefighters cannot respond to calls and are barred from fire department headquarters: http://www.firehouse.com/news/10818953/fourth-ny-firefighter-suspended-over-missing-money?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS121018003

As promised, WXYZ-TV spent more than six-minutes of it's 6:00 newscast last night looking into the off-duty life of a Detroit (MI) firefighter. What reporter Scott Lewis found was not very pretty. It starts with two women who claimed Mike Risher hit them outside a bar almost two-years-ago. Much of that incident was caught on video. The women make the case that, despite that video and statements from witnesses, police in Hamtramck refused to investigate the case properly because it involved a firefighter. Scott Lewis says that allegation is backed up in the story of a witness the reporter tracked down. The unidentified witness related something one of the police officers told him, "I can tell you right now, not much is going to come of this because he's a Detroit fireman." In addition to the fight outside the bar, reporter Lewis shows video of what he says is another bar fight involving Risher. A couple who sued following that fight claimed Risher avoided being arrested after flashing his firefighter's badge. The couple won a \$15,000 judgment against the firefighter: <http://statter911.com/2012/10/26/tv-station-probes-violence-claims-against-detroit-firefighter-case-of-two-women-punched-reopened-commissioner-looking-at-off-duty-incidents-as-possible-conduct-unbecoming/>

New Jersey chief orders bars closed at two firehouses. Comes after member's DUI crash in parking lot. In the last year Stater911.com has run a number of stories about controversy surrounding firehouse bars. Some of those fire companies were in New Jersey. Now comes word that Chief John Mauthe of the River Edge Fire Department in River Edge, New Jersey (Bergen County) has ordered the closing of the bars at both of the borough's firehouses. According to Chris Harris at The Record, 50-year-old Joseph Cerciello, a volunteer firefighter, was arrested on a DUI charge after his vehicle had a minor wreck with a car in the parking lot of Company 1 earlier this month. River Edge Mayor Sandy Moscaritolo told Harris that Cerciello had not been drinking inside the firehouse before the arrest, but because the crash occurred on borough property, the chief gave the order to ban alcohol: <http://statter911.com/2012/10/25/new-jersey-chief-orders-bars-closed-at-two-firehouses-comes-after-members-dui-crash-in-parking-lot/>

A second California city has fallen behind on its payments to CalPERS, prompting a lawsuit by the big pension fund. Compton owes \$2.7 million to the California Public Employees' Retirement System, the pension fund said Monday. CalPERS sued the city in Sacramento Superior Court after Compton failed to make its required payments for September. Harold Duffey, the city manager, said Monday that Compton is experiencing a short-term cash-flow problem and expects to clear up the debt before the end of the year. Compton has been facing significant financial problems and publicly flirted with a bankruptcy filing over the summer. Still, Compton's troubles represent yet another challenge to CalPERS and the durability of public pensions in general, as cities cope with severe revenue shortfalls. San Bernardino, which filed for bankruptcy protection in August, is \$5.2 million behind on its payments to CalPERS:

<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/10/30/4947456/calpers-sues-compton-over-missed.html#storylink=cpy>

A fired Tempe (AZ) firefighter who was accused of assaulting an assistant fire chief and causing a fire at his home last year has withdrawn his request for an appeal hearing. Michael Keene's attorney sent a letter to Tempe withdrawing Keene's request for a hearing. His hearing was scheduled for Nov.9. "The matter is now closed," Ripley said in an e-mail. The letter does not explain why Keene withdrew his request, stating only that, "He no longer wishes to seek reinstatement to the city of Tempe," according to the letter obtained by *The Republic*. Keene's withdrawal request came after he pleaded guilty to criminal damage in August in the case stemming from a fire at his Tempe home last year that caused more than \$100,000 damage, according to Maricopa County Superior Court records. He was sentenced to one year unsupervised probation and ordered to pay \$86,527.12 in restitution. Under the plea deal, endangerment and two aggravated-assault charges were dismissed:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/tempe/articles/20121021tempe-fired-firefighter-arson-assault-controversy-appeal-bid-ends.html>

Auditors uncovered \$123,000 in questionable spending from accounts at the Garrett Area Volunteer Fire Department in Floyd County (KY), as well as 800 pornographic videos on office computers and external hard drives, according to an audit released Tuesday. The exam, conducted by State Auditor Adam Edelen's office, found a host of questionable spending by the former assistant chief, who also acted as treasurer for the fire department and the Garrett Fire District. Terry Triplett, the former department official, was reported missing in March by his family. Police have a warrant for Triplett charging him with theft of the department vehicle he allegedly left town in, said Floyd County Attorney Keith Bartley. Bartley said he believes Triplett knows of the pending charge, and is a fugitive:

<http://www.kentucky.com/2012/10/30/2390269/audit-of-kentucky-fire-department.html>

Firefighter David Lashus has been on TV and in the papers in recent days but yesterday's story will likely be the most memorable one of this week of news coverage. A TV camera was rolling as the fire chief, police chief and town lawyer in Johnston, Rhode Island showed up at Lashus' home in an attempt to hold a disciplinary hearing over his employment status. The town officials were prepared to have the meeting in Lashus' living room if needed. David Lashus and his 21-year-old son were busted earlier in the week. Police say the son received a package of marijuana from California. According to investigators, this brought the discovery of 100 marijuana plants, lots of cash and guns inside the home. What really made headlines is that Firefighter Lashus has been off work for three years with pay due to an on the job back injury:

<http://statter911.com/2012/11/17/fire-chief-police-chief-town-lawyer-show-up-at-arrested-firefighters-home-an-unusual-attempt-to-hold-a-disciplinary-hearing-in-johnston-ri/>

Another case of SMACSS – Social Media Assisted Career Suicide Syndrome. Watch video that has two Prince George's County, MD cops fighting for their jobs:

<http://statter911.com/2012/11/20/another-case-of-smacss-social-media-assisted-career-suicide-syndrome-watch-video-that-has-two-prince-georges-county-md-cops-fighting-for-their-jobs/>

The FDNY has a hot potato on its hands. A city firefighter says he's being ostracized by his fellow Bravest — because he decided to become a vegetarian. Anthony Harper, 42, an eight-year department veteran, told The Post he decided to change his diet about two years ago — and began refusing to help pay for or share in the communal meals at his Brooklyn firehouse. "It seemed that every single meal there was a meat dish. It was always chicken and red meat," Harper said. "It's a culture where you eat what everybody else eats, and if it's not what you are accustomed to — and you want to slim down and lose weight and won't eat it — well, it leads to problems."

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/tofu_fu_bravest_diet_beef_4pd0CrCuz8h7K4qEXsjkxO

A Fresno (CA) firefighter who is currently the leading vote-getter in a Tulare City Council election is suing Fresno and two Fire Department leaders, claiming they discriminated against him because he is black. Carlton Jones alleges in a suit moved to Fresno federal court this month that former chief Randy Bruegman and Don MacAlpine, who is deputy fire marshal for the city, denied him a promotion to captain and subsequently forced him out of the department. "Carlton's a really good guy," said his attorney, Roger Bonakdar. "He loves the community and loves being a public servant, and the idea that this was going to be taken from him terrified him." Jones began working for the department in 2002 and rose through the ranks to the position of engineer. But while he was in the midst of a divorce, Jones was arrested in 2009 in Tulare County on felony assault charges. (He was later acquitted.) The arrest sparked his problems with the Fire Department, the suit says:

<http://www.fresnobee.com/2012/11/17/3070634/fresno-firefighter-alleges-race.html>

The Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department which has been embroiled in a months-long controversy over response-time data, has failed to move decisively to resolve the problem, two Los Angeles City Council members said Friday. In a formal motion, council members Eric Garcetti and Mitch Englander demanded that fire officials appear before the full council as soon as possible to explain why the department has not presented specific actions that could be taken to improve response times by rescuers during life-and-death emergencies. "The department's managers are either unwilling or unable to do their job to reduce response times and make L.A. safer," said Garcetti, who is running for mayor, in a statement:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-lafd-response-20121117.0.2682372.story>

A former member of the Baltimore (MD) Fire Department wrongly collected a salary and benefits from the city for more than seven years -- to the tune of nearly a half-million dollars -- under a military leave policy that he did not qualify for, according to a report by the city's Office of Inspector General. The employee, who was not identified, has worked full time for the Maryland National Guard since 2004. He continued to collect his city salary and benefits under a military leave policy intended to provide financial security for city employees who are involuntarily deployed for temporary military assignments, according to Inspector General David N. McClintock's report, which was scheduled to be released publicly Tuesday:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/10832028/probe-ex-md-firefighter-wasnt-eligible-for-money-collected>

Federal election regulators have officially doused an elaborate and long-running campaign laundering scheme by former leaders of the Wisconsin firefighters union. In a deal recently made public, the Federal Election Commission fined the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin and 11 of its former board members a total of \$58,000 and banned them from running for leadership posts in the union for varying lengths of time for "knowingly and willfully" violating campaign laws and regulations. The union represents firefighters throughout the state, except Milwaukee, which has its own union. No Quarter first reported on the laundering scheme in late 2010, leading to the resignation of five board members. In short, union leaders submitted false claims to their own union for expenses run up at fictitious annual meetings to reimburse themselves for personal donations to FirePac, the political arm of their national affiliate. Between 2002 and 2010, the 11 then-Executive Board members pocketed \$18,263 from the false claims. They later returned the money as the scheme unraveled:

<http://www.isonline.com/watchdog/noquarter/firefighters-union-leaders-fined-in-campaignfunding-scheme-2q7mf3p-179878621.html>

Positive Public Relations Items:

When the initial projections for the 2013 Arlington (WA) city budget were being made, Arlington Fire Chief Bruce Stedman recognized the city had a problem. With property values declining again and the economy still recovering, the city's EMS system was going to be \$380,000 short in 2013. So in early July, Stedman brought all the players that make the EMS system run in Arlington together to solve the problem, including the city's EMS partners, the Arlington City Council, the full-time firefighters and the volunteer firefighters. After discussions that lasted a number of weeks, a five-prong plan was developed to address the shortfall in order to continue providing essential services to the greater Arlington community and the town of Darrington. First, the EMS Budget for 2012 and 2013 would immediately be reviewed, with an eye to reducing all city line items. Second, all of the city's EMS partners — including Fire Districts 19, 21, 24 and 25 — amended their current service contracts with the city to provide additional funding to the EMS program. Third, all fire administration personnel agreed to a 5 percent salary concession in 2012 and 2013. Fourth, all volunteer firefighters also agreed to a 5 percent concession of the daily stipend they receive for volunteering their time to protect the community and provide aid when needed. Fifth, the full-time firefighters agreed to a 6.5 percent salary concession. All of these elements combined resulted in eliminating the \$380,000 projected deficit and Arlington's EMS program will operate in the black in 2013. "I am extremely proud of the level of commitment each of these groups showed in helping balancing our 2013 EMS budget, while limiting any negative impact on the service level to our communities," Stedman said: <http://www.arlingtontimes.com/news/176371331.html>

Arlington (WA) City firefighters have offered to cut their pay by 6.5 percent in order to help Arlington balance its budget. "It's phenomenal," Mayor Barbara Tolbert said. "You don't often hear about such concessions. It shows the commitment of the fire department to the safety of its citizens." <http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20121107/NEWS01/711079953/0/COMM01>

A smaller-than-expected increase in the City of Tacoma's (WA) costs for providing employees with medical coverage could free up to \$11.3 million over the next two years. Nearly a third of that money would be used to restore funding to city services targeted for budget cuts or pay for other unfunded programs, City Manager T.C. Broadnax told the City Council Tuesday.

The savings also would allow the city to set aside about \$2 million to help pay for unfunded police officers and firefighters down the road, when nearly \$13 million in federal grants that now cover more than 40 public safety jobs expire, Broadnax said. "Those are revenues that we do not have today — except for by those grants — to provide and preserve our services," Broadnax said. "So, we want to begin to help put those dollars away ... to get to at least keeping our staffing levels where they are today." Most of the savings come from an expected 5.1 percent reduction to the city's cost of providing employee health care coverage in 2013, Broadnax said. Tacoma had been projecting a 12 percent increase in the costs of providing health care coverage, but has been able to negotiate a 6.9 percent increase with health care insurers. The city also anticipates — as part of a separate, tentative deal with Tacoma Joint Labor — phasing out a \$30 per month contribution that employees can use to help pay health care premiums or fund flexible spending accounts. The proposal involves paying each employee a lump sum of \$360 in 2013, but ending the contribution by 2014. That would save about \$1.3 million, Broadnax said:

<http://blog.thenewtribune.com/politics/2012/11/20/tacoma-health-care-savings-could-free-up-11-3-million-for-targeted-city-services-next-year-deal-with-unions-could-save-another-1-3-million-in-2014/>

Training & Safety Related Items:

Operational weaknesses revealed during the Waldo Canyon fire included poor communications between agencies, vague evacuation policies and a lack of staff disaster training, according to an initial after-action report released Tuesday by the City of Colorado Springs. But the city's first public critique of its actions during the fire provides few specific recommendations, and when questioned during a Tuesday news conference city officials did not elaborate. A full review is expected in March. The report focused only on the city's emergency operations. Still, officials say the ongoing review is important for the city's disaster preparedness: <http://www.gazette.com/articles/report-146313-city-fire.html>

Earlier this year, the fire chief of the Bel Air (MD) Volunteer Fire Company in Harford County, Md. suspended three firefighters and demoted a fourth over posts made on a member's Facebook page. Dave Statter, a former TV news reporter in the Washington, D.C. area who now runs a blog focused on fire service issues, said Tuesday that Fire Chief Eddie Hopkins did the right thing by choosing to act quickly. "The fire chief recognized instantly that there was a problem out there," he said during an IAFC webcast hosted by himself and fire service lawyer Curt Varone. "He handled it extremely well from a press standpoint and tried to mitigate some of the issues that were raised." Statter and Varone said that incidents like this one highlight the need for fire departments to take a closer look at how they handle actions by their members on social media websites. The initial Facebook post by the BVFC member on May 30 was rather tame: *"Even when myself and a full engine crew are in turnout gear at Sonic for lunch, the manager still says only police and military get discounts. Cool, thanks we appreciate the support."* It was the responses to the post that got the department's members in hot water. One member commented: "Let's make sure they don't get a response," while another suggested they "go set the Dumpster on fire."

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/10818879/experts-social-media-policies-training-needed-for-fds>

One fire engine collided with another FDNY truck in Brooklyn this morning, smashing through a resident's brick wall and injuring 11 firefighters, authorities said. The collision happened around 7:45 a.m. at the intersection of Avenue J and East 103rd Street in Canarsie, officials said. Four firefighters suffered serious injuries, while seven were listed with minor wounds, according to an FDNY spokesman:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/brooklyn/fire_engines_collide_in_klyn_injured_usKsFC0qLVb80Z0btVV6NM

General Fire Service Related Items:

Portland (OR) voters approved a set of reforms to the Portland Fire and Police Disability and Retirement Fund, 75 percent to 25 percent, in Tuesday's election, according to 10:30 p.m. returns: http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2012/11/portland_policefire_pension_fu.html

Responding to tightening budgets, the Jacksonville (FL) Fire and Rescue Department is considering plans to combine some fire suppression and rescue operations in a way that could make rescue more efficient but might slightly slow fire response times. The move, focused on outlying areas, is opposed by the firefighters' union, which says it will decrease both public safety and firefighter safety. The new approach would add ambulances to some fire stations that may now only have fire apparatus, with personnel jumping on whichever equipment was needed depending on the type of call. About a third of stations don't have rescue units in them now: When calls come into those stations, engines with life-support equipment respond immediately, with ambulances arriving later:

<http://jacksonville.com/news/metro/2012-10-21/story/jacksonville-fire-department-looking-changes-hoped-add-efficiency>

The city of Largo (FL) is searching for an arbitrator to decide if what five firefighters did to prepare for a test was cheating, after an assistant city manager reduced most of their suspensions but did not exonerate them. The five men were suspended from eight to 40 hours after an April internal affairs investigation found they shared an old copy of a test they were preparing to take to become certified as squad drivers. The men said studying old tests is common practice at Largo Fire Rescue. Fire Chief Mike Wallace disagreed. Assistant City Manager Henry Schubert reduced some, but not all of the suspensions, which cost the firefighters between \$100 and \$700, depending on their length of service and pay rate: <http://www.tampabay.com/news/localgovernment/arbitrator-will-resolve-largo-firefighter-dispute-over-cheating/1260208>

Michael Keefe will be the fire chief in three California cities now as both the Foster City and San Mateo city councils unanimously approved an agreement Monday night to provide services for the city of Belmont. Fire Chief Keefe will take over administrative duties for the Belmont Fire Protection District starting Jan. 13. The cities agreed to an 18-month term and Belmont will pay \$420,000 to share Keefe and other management positions. Under the deal, Belmont will have its own deputy fire chief that will serve under Keefe and answer to Belmont City Manager Greg Scoles and the City Council, which acts as the fire district's board. The deal provides Belmont with a fire chief, administrative battalion chief and operational battalion chief. In Belmont, the number of fire personnel will shrink from 25 to 22. The deal, could ultimately save the Belmont about \$500,000 a year, according to a staff report. San Mateo and Foster City have been sharing a fire chief and other positions for about two years now and has saved the cities about \$1.5 million: http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=1758542&title=Fire%20chief%20to%20watch%20over%20three%20cities

Paramedics, the most elite medical responders in the city's fire department, are leaving the District's Fire and EMS agency at such high rate due to overwork and stress that the department is now facing a critical shortage, multiple department sources told FOX 5 News. Call volume in the city has been rising over the past three years as a result of increased population, but the department's emergency medical system, especially its staffing of paramedic units, has fallen short, FOX 5 has learned. For example, FOX 5 has learned that on many days, the department is unable to fill all its 14 paramedic-staffed ambulances that are supposed to be in service around the clock every day to respond to the most critical life-threatening calls, because it is short as many as 100 paramedics to fill the slots: <http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/20010431/fox-5-investigates-dc-paramedic-shortage>

Los Angeles (CA) city and county lawmakers are calling for reviews of 911 dispatching procedures following a [Times investigation that found significant delays](#) in how long it takes rescuers to respond to emergencies near city borders. On Tuesday, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors ordered county fire officials to report back on how their agency works with other departments in the region to dispatch rescuers to emergencies. At the same time, City Councilman Mitchell Englander said he plans to introduce a similar motion at City Hall that calls for examining ways to improve cooperation between the two fire departments. Englander, who chairs the council's Public Safety Committee, said technological upgrades and clearer agreements may be needed to ensure that when someone dials 911, the closest rescue unit is sent. "In this modern day of technology and being able to graphically map out not just where the city resources are but where the county resources are, it's shocking that those

systems are not in place," Englander said. "We border a lot of cities. We've got to work seamlessly together."

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-lafd-dispatch-20121024,0,6239686.story>

A high-ranking Estero (FL) firefighter (a Battalion Chief) is off the job, accused of breaking protocol and putting lives in danger. Jeannine Horton is accused of forgetting about a crew inside a major brush fire that shut down Interstate 75 in July. "We have to know where everybody is at at any moment in the event that something happens," Estero Assistant Fire Chief Mark Wahlig said. 9-year Estero Fire veteran Jeannine Horton was in charge of her own employees, as well as crews from other agencies. "It's an incredibly big responsibility. They are the sole responsible figure for the district in the absence of any other chief officer," Wahlig said. According to an investigative report, Battalion Chief Horton left the scene before accounting for all resources, leaving a San Carlos Fire crew stuck in the woods without any backup: <http://www.nbc-2.com/story/19883197/estero-fire-official-off-the-job>

Testifying at City Council budget hearings, Chicago (IL) Fire Commissioner Jose Santiago disclosed the impending wave of retirements as he defended a proposed \$504.9 million Fire Department budget that includes a 50 percent increase in overtime spending — from \$13.5 million this year to \$20 million in 2013. "Between the month of November and the month of December, we anticipate close to 600 people retiring," Santiago said. "As we get classes, we can't effectively attack that overtime until they graduate. When we hire them, they're not doing anything for us. They're actually costing us until they graduate." In 2012, the Fire Department budgeted \$13.5 million for overtime, but that was nowhere near enough. Actual overtime spending will be \$24 million, much of it stemming from the NATO Summit in May. The Fire Department has 234 vacancies across all ranks. In 2013, Santiago hopes to hold Chicago's first firefighters entrance exam since 2006: <http://www.suntimes.com/news/cityhall/15909221-418/nearly-600-veteran-firefighters-and-paramedics-may-retire-by-end-of-year.html>

The Baltimore Fire Department has implemented a strict new social media policy outlining what firefighters can post on Twitter, Facebook and personal blogs — drawing criticism that the department is trampling on First Amendment rights. Under the policy, department personnel can be reprimanded for anything they write online about their jobs that doesn't adhere to conduct rules, which require "good judgment" and "courtesy and respect to the public and to fellow employees." The policy also restricts them from sharing information about fire scenes. Fire Chief James S. Clack said the department crafted the policy to protect firefighters from getting into trouble for sharing sensitive information:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-city/bs-md-ci-fire-social-media-20121101,0,194165.story>

Firefighters and paramedics in Winnipeg (Canada) are no longer allowed to use their personal cellphones on the job. The city confirms that it implemented its "electronics and camera use in the workplace" policy on Oct. 25, banning emergency personnel from using their personal phones while they are working. "The purpose of this policy is to ensure that legislation such as The Highway Traffic Act and the Personal Health Information Act are adhered to by all employees of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service," a spokesperson told CBC News in an email Thursday. "The policy serves to prevent distractions in the workplace and help ensure the safety and privacy of all personnel, the public, and patients." Chris Broughton, the head of the Winnipeg Paramedics Union, said his union supports the new rules, but not everyone likes the idea of a cellphone ban: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/1362153-canadian-firefighters-no-longer-allowed-to-use-personal-cell-phones/>

Twentynine Palms (CA) could lose the service of one fire station when the county takes over the service, Fire Chief Jim Thompson told directors of the water district at their meeting Wednesday night, Oct. 24. "I've received staffing scenarios from the county and the costs associated with each," Thompson said. "If we have no fund balance to transfer to the county because of a state Public Employees Retirement Systems liability and they have to operate on just the \$1.2 million from the special tax, the staffing level they'll be able to support is three people, one engine company, one station." Thompson said the San Bernardino County Fire District expects a surplus of \$40,000 in the first year of operations with that scenario. However, it projects a \$100,000 deficit if an attempt is made to staff two stations with two firefighters each as originally proposed by County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig at the joint city/water district/county meeting in July:

http://www.hidesertstar.com/the_desert_trail/news/article_2939474e-23a1-11e2-97ef-0019bb2963f4.html

Orange County supervisors on Tuesday authorized the potential privatization of aircraft rescue firefighting services at John Wayne Airport, which now are provided by the Orange County Fire Authority. Federal Aviation Administration regulations mandate a minimum level of aircraft firefighting services in addition to the coverage for the airport terminal by a local Irvine fire station, part of the county's contract with the fire authority for fire protection in unincorporated areas. With the \$5-million annual contract for aircraft firefighting services slated to expire at the end of December, Board of Supervisors Chairman John Moorlach successfully moved to allow the airport to request statements of qualifications from companies interested in bidding on the contract:

http://voiceofoc.org/countywide/county_government/article_15a6d7fa-243c-11e2-b356-0019bb2963f4.html

Bright and early on Saturday morning, young men and women dressed in collared shirts and slacks streamed into the L.A. (CA) Fire Department's training academy in Elysian Park to learn what it takes to be a firefighter. Almost all of the approximately 80 people in attendance are black – a turnout the department was hoping for. "I want to make sure our department represents the communities we serve," said Fire Chief Brian Cummings as he addressed the room at the Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center. This informational session is part of a minority recruitment effort by the LAFD to increase the diversity of their work force. They're aiming to hire 350 new firefighters over the next two years, and hope an increasing number of those recruits will be black, Latino, Asian or female. Of the 3,306 firefighters in the LAFD, more than 47 percent are white, 31 percent are Latino and about 11 percent are black. About 3 percent of the firefighters are female. "Diversity in the fire service is a national issue that all departments throughout the nation are trying to improve and increase their diversity within the work force," said Steve Hissong, an LAFD Battalion Chief:

<http://www.scpr.org/news/2012/10/27/34762/lafd-ramps-minority-recruitment-efforts-will-hire/>

Last Friday, La Cienega Fire Department (Santa Fe County, NM) firefighter Samantha Nottke was with another firefighter talking to students at Santo Nino Regional Catholic School about fire safety and prevention. After meeting with the 4th to 6th graders the firefighter noticed her wallet was gone. Apparently in her mind that meant the kids must have taken it. After telling school officials of her concern, principal Teri Vaisa brought the kid to the cafeteria for a meeting with the firefighter. According to reporter Alex Goldsmith at KRQE-TV, Nottke, who also works at the county jail, became upset when a few kids giggled during the meeting: "[She] started yelling at our kids, telling them they're stealing from taxpayers," said 4th grade parent Amy Ortiz. "That she keeps thieves like them locked up." An official fire department

memo cites the comment as: "We lock up bad kids!" But the wallet wasn't with the kids or even at the school. A couple of hours later it was found back at the fire station:

<http://statter911.com/2012/10/31/new-mexico-firefighter-let-go-after-accusing-kids-of-stealing-her-wallet-at-school-fire-safety-talk-guess-where-the-wallet-was/>

According to the Baltimore Sun's Kevin Rector a new policy covering social media and the Internet for Baltimore City (CA) firefighters bans websites like the one above, for Engine 8 and Truck 10. But, so far, that's not the part of the policy that is proving controversial: Under the policy, department personnel can be reprimanded for anything they write online about their jobs that doesn't adhere to conduct rules, which require "good judgment" and "courtesy and respect to the public and to fellow employees." The policy also restricts them from sharing information about fire scenes. Fire Chief James S. Clack said the department crafted the policy to protect firefighters from getting into trouble for sharing sensitive information:

<http://statter911.com/2012/11/02/firehouse-websites-banned-under-new-baltimore-social-media-policy-critics-also-concerned-about-free-speech-issues/>

A N.Y. lieutenant was shot in the leg at a large firehouse party Sunday morning. The unidentified Hempstead Fire Department Lt. was taken to the hospital after being shot, but his injury is described as non-life threatening, according to Newsday. Fire Chief Scott Clark said that there were a couple hundred people outside the firehouse when he arrived at the scene. The party had been called a "baby shower" by a department member who reserved the firehouse. "Obviously, it was not a baby shower," Chief Clark said. "This definitely would not have been approved. "The four-year veteran who reserved the firehouse has been suspended:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-department-management/articles/1367277-Firefighter-shot-at-firehouse-party/>

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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