



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

**July 15, 2012**

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

- Let me also start off by saying **thank you** to everyone who actually cares enough to take the time to read and/or subscribe to the Chabot College Fire & EMS News. There are presently over 5,000 people who are on the email distribution list, and the list is growing weekly.
- This issue marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News, as the first issue was published on July 1, 2002. Time flies fast, doesn't it?

Thank you for your continued support of the Chabot College Fire Technology Program and the Chabot College Fire & EMS News!

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### **CHABOT COLLEGE 2012 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE:**

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

### **FALL 2012 Semester: (August through December 2012)**

**R**egistration for the Fall 2012 semester at Chabot College will be as follows:

- EOPS, DSPS, Aspire, Foster Youth and Veterans: April 26th and 27th
- Continuing students by priority: begins Apr 30th
- Early Admission students: May 12th
- New and Former students: begins May 21st
- Summer Concurrent Enrollment: May 29th
- Fall Concurrent Enrollment: July 2<sup>nd</sup>

The following classes are now available!

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

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
<b>FT 50</b> (Fire Protection Organization) <b>Note:</b> This section (Monday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 20 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.	Monday (am)	0800 – 1150 hours
<b>FT 50</b> (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
<b>FT 51</b> (Fire Service Operations)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
<b>FT 52</b> (Firefighter Safety & Survival)	Wednesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
<b>FT 52</b> (Firefighter Safety & Survival) <b>Note:</b> This section (Wednesday afternoon) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 24 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
<b>FT 53</b> (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
<b>FT 54</b> (Fire Prevention Technology)	Thursday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
<b>FT 56</b> (Building Construction for Fire Protection)	Wednesday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
<b>FT 89</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) <b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b> - October 17, 19 and 21 (Wed/Fri/Sun) - November 6, 8 and 10 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) <b>or</b> Mon & Wed (pm) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours  1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
<b>FT 90A</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
<b>FT 90B</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
<b>FT 90C</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**</b>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
<b>FT 91A</b> (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course) <b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b> - November 29 through December 18	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
<b>FT 91B</b> (Haz Mat 1 <sup>st</sup> Responder-Operations) <b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b> - November 13, 15, 17, and 18	Tue (pm) Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1800 – 2215 hours 1700 – 2115 hours 0800 – 1730 hours 0800 – 1730 hours
<b>FT 91C</b> (I-200; Basic ICS) <b>Note: Class only meets the following dates:</b> - November 6, 8, 10 and 11	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2115 hours 0800 – 1730 hours 0800 – 1730 hours
<b>FT 91D</b> (Firefighter Survival) <b>Note: Class only meets the following dates:</b> - October 30, November 1 and 3	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
<b>FT 95</b> (Work Experience ) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 96**</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>FT 96</b> (Work Experience Seminar) <b>**Must also be registered in FT 95**</b>	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
<b>Health 61</b> (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)	1400 – 1750 hours
<b>Health 61</b> (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
<b>Health 81</b> (EMT) <b>**Must also be registered in Health 83**</b>	Wednesday (all day)	0830 – 1845 hours

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) <b>**Must also be registered in Health 81**</b>	Saturday (one day only – November 6)	0830 – 1620 hours
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) <b>Note: Class only meets the following dates:</b> - November 27 through December 8	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1550 hours
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Mon & Wed (mid)	1300 – 1415 hours
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours

**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 2012 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

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

## **FIRE OFFICER & DEGREE COURSES:**

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

Priority Registration starts 6"26, Open Registration starts 7"1 at Hancock College

***Drastic Cuts are Expected in Spring 2013  
Register Early, Classes are Expected to Fill Fast.***

#### **Fire Technology Classes:**

These classes are completely on-line

#### **Core Classes (Required)**

- Fire Protection Organization
- Fire Prevention Technology
- Fire Protection Equipment & Systems
- Building Construction for Fire Protection
- Fire Behavior & Combustion

#### **Electives**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire Hydraulics</li> <li>• Apparatus &amp; Equipment</li> <li>• Wildland Fire Behavior</li> <li>• Wild Fire Safety &amp; Survival</li> <li>• Principles of Emergency Management</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency Response to Terrorism</li> <li>• Ambulance Strike Team Provider</li> <li>• EMT 1 Basic Refresher</li> <li>• Environmental Technology - FRO Refresher</li> </ul> |
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**CFSTES Fire Officer Classes:** Except for Fire Prevention 1A & 1B, the CFSTES Fire Officer classes are offered in a Hybrid (On-Line/In-Class) fashion requiring students to attend an in-class session in Santa Maria, CA.

- Fire Command 1A: Command Principles For Company Officers
- Fire Command 1B: Incident Management For Company Officers **Pre-Requisite:** Command 1A
- Fire Command 1C: I-Zone Firefighting for Company Officers-**Pre-Requisites:** I-200, Command 1A
- Fire Management 1: Management" Supervision for Company Officers
- **Fire Prevention 1A: Introduction To The California Fire Code, Part 1- Entirely On-line**
- **Fire Prevention 1B: Introduction To The California Fire Code, Part 2- Entirely On-line**

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

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

### **USFA Releases *Smoking-Related Fires in Residential Buildings Report***

**Contact USFA Press Office: (301) 447-1853 - July 9, 2012**

EMMITSBURG, MD – The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) issued a special report today examining the **characteristics of smoking-related fires** in residential buildings. The report, *Smoking-Related Fires in Residential Buildings (2008-2010)* - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v13i6.pdf> (PDF, 330 Kb), was developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center. The report is part of the Topical Fire Report Series and is based on 2008 to 2010 data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).

According to the report, an estimated **7,600 smoking-related fires in residential buildings occur annually** in the United States, resulting in an estimated average of **365 deaths, 925 injuries, and \$326 million in property loss**. While smoking-related fires account for only 2 percent of all residential building fires, they are **a leading cause of fire deaths**, accounting for 14 percent of fire deaths in residential buildings. In addition, **cigarettes are, by far, the leading type of smoking material involved** in residential smoking fires and account for 86 percent of these fires. Finally, residential building smoking-related fires **occur most often in the afternoon and evening hours**, peaking from 2 to 3 p.m. Forty-two percent of smoking-related fires in residential buildings occur from noon to 8 p.m., however, the smoking-related fires that occur in the **late evening and early morning tend to be the most deadly**. The complete *Smoking-Related Fires in Residential Buildings (2008-2010)* topical report is available at: [www.usfa.fema.gov/statistics/](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/statistics/).

Topical reports are designed to explore the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS. The reports highlight important findings from the data and may suggest other resources to consider for further information. For information regarding other topical reports or any programs and training available at USFA, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)

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## **FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE LAFD:**

Dear Friend of the LAFD,

The Los Angeles Fire Department – [www.lafd.org](http://www.lafd.org) and City of Los Angeles Personnel Department - <http://per.lacity.org/> are pleased to announce a revamped on-line resource to help aspiring Los Angeles Firefighters "Get LAFD Ready!"



With the possibility of a City of Los Angeles – [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org) examination for the position of Firefighter being held in the Fall of 2012, the Fire and Personnel Departments have jointly unveiled a revamped recruitment and preparedness website at [www.joinlafd.org](http://www.joinlafd.org), as well as a new Twitter account [@JoinLAFD](https://twitter.com/JoinLAFD)

Serving as the official gateway to LAFD Firefighter employment, the new website provides all of the information necessary for men and women interested in making the Los Angeles Fire Department their life's work. Learn more now by visiting: [www.joinLAFD.org](http://www.joinLAFD.org)

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## **2012 COLORADO FIRE STORM PICTURES & WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION:**

### **2012 Colorado Fire Pictures Link & Commentary below shared by Pat Shreffler**

The site below has many good shots of what happens to structures in wildland fires with no defensive space and no green belts etc. Most of the homes built today - "new construction" includes current codes, stucco, dual pane windows, tile roofs etc. Construction is no substitute for Hazard Reduction (HR) and fuel modification.

- When viewing the pictures, note the topography in much of the area, with hazard reduction most of those homes would have been fairly defensible with 100 foot and probably even 30 foot of brush clearance.

When our Type 1 team was at Hayman Fire in Colorado in the same area in 2000, new subdivisions were going up in the brush and hazard reduction laws were being debated. Many of our team, including myself, did TV & newspaper interviews about HR and fuels reduction. We showed where we saved homes with HR and stopped fire in areas that had fuels modification done by logging or prescribed fire.

We also showed them the areas that did not have fuels modification or HR where we tried but could not stop the fire or loss of homes. Some meetings included local politicians, congressmen and congresswomen and state legislatures. They must not have listened. Also talking to some local folks there was mistakes in fire behavior expectations the first days of the fire and its potential was greatly underestimated.

- Remember you have to make accurate predictions to "Base all Actions on Current and predicted Fire Behavior". If you cannot do that, all of your planning and safety is a wild guess.

To view the 79 photos, go to:

<http://blogs.denverpost.com/captured/2012/06/27/colorado-wildfires-waldocanyon-fire-colorado-springs/5732/#more-5732>

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

### **USFA, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory Release Report on Home Smoke Alarm Technology**

Contact: USFA Press Office, (301) 447-1853 - June 20, 2012

EMMITSBURG, MD – The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), in partnership with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, released a report today: Home Smoke Alarms — A Technology Roadmap - [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/research/dsn/home\\_smoke\\_alarms.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/research/dsn/home_smoke_alarms.shtm)

This report details the findings of the first phase of a collaborative research project looking into technologies that could be used in home smoke alarms that provide earlier warning and fewer nuisance alarms. This focus of this work centers on three distinct elements to improve smoke alarm performance: different types of sensors that may be used in home smoke alarms; development of new signal processing techniques; and a review of improved technologies.

"Smoke alarms are a vital part of home fire safety. Fires in homes today grow faster, burn hotter, and release more smoke than at any time in recent history. Smoke alarms that provide an earlier and more reliable warning are more important than ever," said U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), one-third of home fire deaths occur in homes without smoke alarms and 24% of fire deaths occur in homes where a smoke alarm was present but did not operate. CPSC estimates there was an average of 386,300 unintentional residential fires attended by the fire service resulting in nearly 2,400 deaths per year between 2006 and 2008.

"Our goal is to reduce fire deaths," said CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum. "Better science will result in better smoke alarms. This will save lives." "Oak Ridge National Laboratory is proud to work with USFA and CPSC on this much needed research initiative," said Richard Stouder, Director of Technology Development and Deployment at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Further information on USFA's fire detection, suppression, and notification research initiatives may be found on the USFA website - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/research/dsn/index.shtm>

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

### **USFA and the Office of Health Affairs Release *Operational Templates and Guidance for EMS Mass Care Incident Deployment***

Contact: USFA Press Office - (301) 447-1853 - EMMITSBURG, MD

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), supported by the DHS Office of Health Affairs (OHA) and the National Emergency Medical Services Management Association (NEMSMA), announces the release of a new guide for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers:

- **Operational Templates and Guidance for EMS Mass Care Incident Deployment:** [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/templates\\_guidance\\_ems\\_mass\\_incident\\_deployment.pdf](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/templates_guidance_ems_mass_incident_deployment.pdf) (PDF, 1.5 Mb).

"This guide provides important information on preparing for events that can impact EMS preparedness and response in local departments," said U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell. "The model policies and practices referenced in the guide will lead to a better prepared EMS deployment to mass care incidents." The guide is intended to provide information to local-level EMS and fire departments on the development and enhancement of the organization and preparedness for mass care incidents, including natural and man-made disasters, large gathering and pandemic events, and other emergencies potentially resulting in large numbers of patients.

"OHA is pleased to provide guidance on this important topic," said Dr. Alexander G. Garza, DHS Assistant Secretary for OHA and Chief Medical Officer. "This project supports EMS to better integrate their emergency preparedness and response activities into similar processes occurring at the federal, tribal, state, local, and regional levels." The goal of this project was to develop a foundation for further development of EMS-specific policies and templates that improve readiness to manage the full spectrum of hazards that face communities. "NEMSMA was proud to work with USFA and OHA on this study," said Skip Kirkwood, NEMSMA President. "Effective planning and preparedness is key for events and incidents requiring EMS mass care."

For information on USFA's EMS research initiatives, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).

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## **FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION:**

### **Focus on Fire Safety: Hotels and Motels**

Every year there are an estimated **3,900 hotel and motel fires** reported to U.S. fire departments, resulting in **15 deaths, 150 injuries, and \$76 million in property loss**. When staying at a hotel or motel, it is important to **become familiar with your surroundings**. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) would like you to review the following **safety tips** to assist you in preparing for traveling.

## ***Plan Ahead***

- When making your reservations, ask if the hotel or motel has smoke alarms and an automatic fire sprinkler system.
- When traveling, take a flashlight with you.
- Read the fire evacuation plan carefully. If one is not posted in your room, request one from the front desk.
- Locate the two exits nearest your room.
- Count the number of doors between your room and the exits. This will assist you in the need of an emergency evacuation.
- Locate the fire alarms on your floor.

## ***Life Safety Steps***

- Never smoke in bed.
- If the fire is in your room, get out quickly. Close the door, sound the alarm and notify the front desk.
- Always use a stairwell, never an elevator. The elevator could stop at the floor of the fire.
- If the fire is not in your room, leave if it is safe to do so. Be sure to take your room key with you in case fire blocks your escape and you need to re-enter your room.
- To check the hallway for fire, touch the door with the back of your hand to test the temperature. If the door is cool, get low to the floor, brace your shoulder against the door and open it slowly. Be ready to close it quickly if there are flames on the other side. Crawl low in the smoke to the nearest exit; the freshest air is near the floor.
- If your room door is hot, do not open it. Instead, seal the door with wet towels or sheets. Turn off the fan, heater, and air conditioner. Call the fire department to give your location. Signal from your window.

## ***Hotel and Motel Fire Safety List***

The Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990 was enacted by Congress to save lives and protect property by promoting fire and life safety in hotels, motels and other places of public accommodation. The law mandates that USFA maintain a list of hotels and motels that adhere to the life safety requirements in the legislation and in which Federal employees on travel must stay. The requirements are:

- hard-wired, single-station smoke alarms in each guestroom in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard 72; and
- an automatic fire sprinkler system, with a sprinkler head in each guest room in compliance with NFPA standard 13 or 13R. Properties four stories or higher must have an automatic fire sprinkler system.

**The Hotel-Motel List isn't just for Federal employees!** USFA encourages the traveling public to use the list when making reservations for lodging accommodations, be they for business or pleasure.

**Search the List »** <http://apps.usfa.fema.gov/hotel/>

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## **FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION:**

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### **NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION**

Honoring and Remembering



America's Fallen Firefighters

**Foundation E-News Alert** - July 12, 2012 - If taking the stairs in your office or apartment building is just part of your daily routine and rubbing elbows with local firefighters is right up your alley, then consider doing both at the 2nd Annual Firehouse Expo 9-11 Memorial Stair Climb on Thursday, July 19 at the Hilton Baltimore. The climb is one in a series sponsored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to honor and remember the 343 FDNY firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001. Proceeds will benefit the FDNY Counseling Services Unit which provides assistance and support to survivors of the fallen. Participants will climb the stairwell of the Hilton Baltimore multiple times for a total of 110 stories, representing the number of floors in the Twin Towers. Everyone will receive a photo of one of the fallen heroes of September 11th. Registration is limited, but still available for anyone interested in this important event. Check-in will begin at 11:00 a.m. and the climb will begin at 12:00 p.m. "The 9-11 Memorial Stair Climbs are a meaningful way to honor those heroes of September 11 and to show their survivors that their loved ones will never be forgotten," said Chief Ronald J. Siarnicki, executive director of the NFFF. "We are very pleased to work with Firehouse Expo to bring the climb back for a second year." On September 11, 2011, the Foundation sponsored 35 climbs across the nation, raising more than \$150,000 for the FDNY survivors. That effort helped the FDNY maintain critical programs of its Counseling Services Unit that were threatened by budget cuts. For more information about this and other 9-11 Memorial Stair Climbs, go to [http://www.firehero.org/news/2012/firehousestairclimb\\_071212.html](http://www.firehero.org/news/2012/firehousestairclimb_071212.html)

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## **FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE L.A.F.D.:**

Dear Friend of the LAFD,

With the arrival of peak Summer temperatures in Southern California, the Los Angeles Fire Department – [www.lafd.org](http://www.lafd.org) suggests that you:

- Minimize the risks of hot weather.
- Prepare your household, pets and workplace.
- Plan to get relief from and avoid the effects of heat.

Plan to wear loose, lightweight and light-colored clothing that covers as much of your skin as practical, and a well-ventilated hat with a wide brim - or carry an umbrella. Wear plenty of sunblock and stay in the shade whenever possible. **Adjust your attire and activities to limit heat exposure and exertion!** Water is normally the best drink during hot weather, and you'll need more than you think. If you have a medical condition or are under a doctor's care, consult with a physician. Drinks with alcohol or caffeine can make the heat's effect on your body much worse. Avoid salt tablets unless directed by a doctor, and plan on eating light, healthy meals.

**Key Rules: Drink plenty of water before you become thirsty and rest in the shade before you become tired!**

July 15, 2012

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

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If you feel ill, tell someone immediately. Symptoms of dehydration and **heat illness** - <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/extremeheat/warning.html> may include dizziness, fatigue, faintness, nausea, muscle cramps, headache and vomiting. Many heat emergencies occur to people **exercising** - <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/extremeheat/athletes.html>, **working** - <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/extremeheat/workers.html> or staying alone. Use a buddy system and check on **elderly** - <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/elderlyheat.asp>, disabled or at-risk neighbors on a regular basis. If you suspect someone is experiencing a medical emergency from extreme heat exposure, call 9-1-1.

**If your home does not have air conditioning, consider a cool place to visit or stay during the hottest part of the day.**

Schools, libraries, theaters, shopping malls and community facilities such as senior centers and parks may offer an air-conditioned refuge. *If activated by officials during peak temperatures*, designated cooling centers in the Greater Los Angeles area can be found by calling **2-1-1**. Pets, horses, and livestock are also susceptible to hot weather. See that the special needs of your animals are met, including copious shade and plenty of cool water. Never leave children, pets or dependent adults alone in a hot car. Even with the windows down, the temperature inside a parked vehicle can quickly rise to lethal levels.

Learn more about hot weather safety at: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/>

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*"Serving with Courage, Integrity and Pride"*

Public Service Officer  
Emergency Public Information (EPI) Center  
Los Angeles Fire Department  
500 East Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
[213.576.8938](tel:213.576.8938)

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## **FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE L.A.F.D.:**



During hot weather - and throughout the year, the Los Angeles Fire Department – [www.lafd.org](http://www.lafd.org) asks you to consider some important safety tips for vehicles and children.

**We need your help to make sure that no child dies needlessly by being left alone in a hot vehicle.**

- Always put something you'll need - such as your phone, handbag, a sunshade, lunch or briefcase on the floor in the back seat. This will make you open the back door of your vehicle every time you reach a destination. This way, making sure no child is left behind becomes a habit. Safety experts call this the '**Look Before You Lock**' campaign.
- Keep a large teddy bear in the child's car seat when it's not occupied. When the child is placed in the seat, put the teddy bear in the front passenger seat. It's a great visual reminder that anytime the teddy bear is up front, a child is secured in a child safety seat behind you!
- Make arrangements with your child's day care center or babysitter that you will always call them when your child will not be there on a particular day as scheduled. This is not only common courtesy, but makes sure everyone involved in the care of your child is informed of their whereabouts. Ask these caregivers to always phone you if your child doesn't show up when expected.
- If you see a child (dependent adult or pet) alone in a hot vehicle, get involved. If they are hot or seem sick, get them out as quickly and safely as possible. Call **9-1-1** or your local emergency number for assistance as necessary.
- Never leave your car keys where children can access them, and always make sure your car is locked so that children cannot get in without adult supervision.
- Do not underestimate a child's capabilities. Teach your children about the dangers of a car, especially the car trunk. Most children can differentiate between a tool and a toy. Make certain they know that a car is not a toy!

For additional information about child and hot weather vehicle safety:

- [safercar.gov/heatstroke](http://www.safercar.gov/heatstroke) - <http://www.safercar.gov/parents/heatstroke.htm>
- [kidsandcars.org](http://www.kidsandcars.org) - <http://www.kidsandcars.org/>
- [safekids.org](http://safekids.org) - <http://safekids.org/>
- <http://ggweather.com/heat/> - <http://ggweather.com/heat/>
- CDC Hot Weather Safety Information - <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/>

*"Serving with Courage, Integrity and Pride"*

Public Service Officer  
 Emergency Public Information (EPI) Center  
 Los Angeles Fire Department  
 500 East Temple Street  
 Los Angeles, CA 90012  
[213.576.8938](tel:213.576.8938)

Home Page: [LAFD.org](http://LAFD.org) - News & Info: [LAFD.org/blog](http://LAFD.org/blog)

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

-  [@LAFD](https://twitter.com/LAFD) (breaking news)
-  [@LAFDtalk](https://twitter.com/LAFDtalk) (conversation & casual inquiries)
-  [@LAFDFireChief](https://twitter.com/LAFDFireChief) (the Fire Chief's personal thoughts)
-  <https://www.facebook.com/LosAngelesFireDepartment>

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# **FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE IAFC:**

**IAFC**

## **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS**

**4025 Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax, VA 22033**

**IAFC Member Alert** - Ann Davison, CAE, Strategic Information Manager  
703-273-0911 | [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org)

### **An Appeal to Engage with the Cohesive Strategy A personal message from the IAFC President**

Dear Colleague,

Local fire departments are taking on an increasing role in wildland fire preparedness and response. From Maine to California, trends are continuing toward wildland fires that are more frequent, bigger, more dangerous, more expensive, more damaging and harder to fight. With our men and women on the front lines, I want to make a personal appeal to get our leadership on the front lines as well by engaging with the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy). Fortunately, while wildland fires have been growing worse, our profession has regularly improved strategies to deal with them. These strategies will only work if fire chiefs make it a priority to learn about the problem and how to implement the strategies.

The Cohesive Strategy is the latest in the series of advancements in wildland fire strategy, but it also marks a significant change in how we approach wildland fire management. Unlike earlier national wildland fire management strategies, the Cohesive Strategy has been developed by all the stakeholders—federal, state, tribal and, yes, local fire departments. The IAFC – [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org) has been heavily involved with the Cohesive Strategy from the outset to represent you, America's local fire service leaders.

#### **A Stake in the Fight**

Collaboration among stakeholders at the national and regional levels is at the core of the Cohesive Strategy. Three regional committees have been established to coordinate implementation efforts: Northeast, Southern and Western. Wildland fires and cultures are more homogenous within each of the regions than they are across the country as a whole, so preferred and effective fire-management approaches are likely to be different from region to region.

With the leadership of the IAFC Wildland Fire Policy Committee – [http://www.iafc.org/wildland?utm\\_source=Informz&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=IAFC+Home+page](http://www.iafc.org/wildland?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=IAFC+Home+page), the IAFC has representatives on all three committees as well as on the national-level Wildland Fire Executive Council and the Wildland Fire Leadership Council, representing your interests. Continuing and expanding collaboration will result in successful and sustained implementation.

#### **Straight Talk: Why Should I Care?**

Too often I hear from chiefs, "It won't happen to me." In every region of the U.S., human communities are at-risk from wildland fire. Homes, businesses and people in close proximity to or mixed with

flammable wildland vegetation are vulnerable. I understand that with so many priorities competing for your limited time and resources, it's hard to justify the effort and expense if you have never seen a 30-foot-high, five-mile-long wall of fire descending on your town.

So here's why you should care:

**Once it starts, you're too late** – Wildland fire is fast moving, highly unpredictable and unlike any structure fire your personnel are used to. Furthermore, it's not something you can handle safely alone; a well-coordinated response with other agencies is critical to success. Fire departments need to prepare now, not when the fire is at their doorstep

**You can't afford not to** – Expense is often cited as a reason for not preparing for wildland fire, but the cost of wildland fire in the U.S. over the past decade has averaged at or near \$1 billion annually. Putting out fires quickly and preventing them from starting in the first place are effective ways to avoid fire costs and losses. The small number of ignitions that become large fires account for the large majority of increasing fire costs-plus-losses. Research shows that fire adapted communities - <http://www.fireadapted.org/> (communities that put resources into wildland-fire management and education efforts) are very attractive for living alongside the natural environment. They can also react more quickly to wildland fire and they show a faster ecological, social and economic recovery after a fire.

**If you don't care, they won't care** – Every day, we see the result of people—both the public and our own members—who fall victim to the idea that, “it won't happen to me.” What signal do we send to those we protect if we don't take an active role wildland fire strategy? As our communities grow and our environment changes, it's imperative that the local fire department remains on the front lines as active and vocal proponents of fire and life safety in all its forms.

**It's hell** – Trust me when I say that the pictures you see on TV don't do wildland fire justice. It's both awesome and terrifying. Even those who love to fight in the thick of it will tell you it's no place to be alone, untrained and unprepared. Afterward, it's devastating and demoralizing: whole communities turned to rubble, homes gone, crops and jobs lost, the beauty of nature turned to a barren and charred wasteland.

## What You Can Do

We can live alongside nature and the fire that is a part of it. The Cohesive Strategy identifies three major areas where the greatest wildland fire management problems and opportunities are found: fire adapted communities, fire resilient landscapes and fire response. No agency—federal, state, tribal or local—can accomplish any of these alone. We must bring together the different authorities, knowledge and resources needed or none of us will succeed. Collaboration is the only solution if wildland fire is to be managed well enough that individuals, neighborhoods and the nation can come to live safely with wildland fire. As both the IAFC president and a chief who has experienced wildland fire first-hand, I ask that you visit the Cohesive Strategy webpage - <http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/> make an effort to understand these issues and take an active role in organizing community stakeholders around these efforts. If you're already engaged, please encourage other people and organizations with interests affected by wildland fire to engage as well.

Sincerely,

Chief Al H. Gillespie, EFO, CFO, MiFireE  
President and Chairman of the Board

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## **FIRE SERVICE ORAL BOARD PREPARATION:**

# **Fire Dept. Oral Board Preparation** **Seminar and Individual Coaching**

### **Success Is No Accident!**

Group Seminar: Wednesday August 1 - 6:00 p.m.

Location:

110 Ryan Industrial Ct. #15 - San Ramon CA, 94583 - Cost: \$40

Course Outline:

**Pre-Interview Preparation:**

You will learn how to prepare for success prior to entering your oral board

**Success During The Interview:**

With our proven techniques and obtained skills, you will be prepared and take confidence into your oral board.

**Post Interview:**

Put the final touches on your interview.

Don't delay register now!

To Get The Badge You Must Be Prepared.

For most fire department candidates, the oral board interview is the most challenging. Most oral boards are weighted 100% of the total score. That means in order to get the job you must score at the top of the list. Our proven skills and techniques will provide you with the understanding of what the oral board is looking for and how to separate yourself from the hundreds of other candidates. Attendees of the Group Seminar will be part of a dynamic and interactive presentation focusing on how the candidate can prepare and distinguish themselves with the oral board panel. The seminar will cover all aspects of the oral board process including how to prepare and how to perform. Types of questions that are asked and how to "Know Yourself" are emphasized during the seminar. Following the group seminar, candidates can hone their interview skills by attending a separate individual coaching session with mock oral board, full resume review, and complete feedback to take your interview to the next level.

**About the Presenter:** Captain Sean Burrows is a 17 year veteran of the fire service. He has coached countless candidates improving their performance and providing tried and true techniques to set them apart from the other candidates.

To register for our seminar or inquire for individual coaching please visit:

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

Email: [oralboardsuccess@gmail.com](mailto:oralboardsuccess@gmail.com) - Phone: 209.200.3257

July 15, 2012

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



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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

**Firehouse Expo** – *Baltimore, MD* - July 17 through 21, 2012

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

**Fire Rescue International** – *Denver, CO* - August 1 through 4, 2012

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

**Fire Shows Reno** – *Reno, NV* - October 23 through 25, 2012

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

**California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium** – *Fresno, CA* - November 12 through 16, 2012 - Go to <http://register.calchiefs.org/> for more information

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

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

**Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC)** – *Indianapolis, IN* – April 22 through 27, 2013. Go to [www.fdic.com](http://www.fdic.com) for more information.

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

Go to: [http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/training\\_classschedule.php](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:

<b>COURSE:</b>	<b>DATES:</b>	<b>COST:</b>
• Fire Management 2A	August 20 – 24, 2012	\$295.00
• Fire Management 2C	September 10 – 14, 2012	\$295.00
• Ethical Leadership In The Classroom	November 28, 2012	\$100.00
• S-230 (Crew Boss)	December 11, 13 & 15, 2012	\$100.00
• S-231 (Engine Boss)	January 7 and 9, 2013	\$80.00
• Fire Management 2B	January 14 – 18, 2013	\$295.00
• Training Instructor 1A	January 28 – February 1, 2013	\$265.00
• S-290	February 11 – 15, 2013	\$225.00
• Training Instructor 1B	February 25 – March 1, 2013	\$265.00
• Fire Management 2D	March 18 – 22, 2013	\$295.00
• Training Instructor 1C	April 8 – 12, 2013	\$265.00
• S-390	April 15 – 18, 2013	\$300.00
• Fire Management 1	May 6 – 10, 2013	\$265.00
• Fire Management 2E	May 13 – 17, 2013	\$295.00

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**Course Location:** 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 next page for registration form.

**More Info:** Contact Stephanie Morrison at 408-341-4410 or [info@cnt.sccgov.org](mailto:info@cnt.sccgov.org)

## REGISTRATION FORM

<u>COURSE:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>COST:</u>	<u>QUANTITY:</u>
Fire Management 2A	August 20 – 24, 2012	\$295.00	_____
Fire Management 2C	September 10 – 14, 2012	\$295.00	_____
Ethical Leadership In The Classroom	November 28, 2012	\$100.00	_____
S-230 (Crew Boss)	December 11, 13 and 15, 2012	\$100.00	_____
S-231 (Engine Boss)	January 7 and 9, 2013	\$80.00	_____
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S-390	April 15 – 18, 2013	\$300.00	_____
Fire Management 1	May 6 – 10, 2013	\$265.00	_____
Fire Management 2E	May 13 – 17, 2013	\$295.00	_____
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	_____

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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 Morrison  
14700 Winchester Blvd.  
Los Gatos, CA 95032-1818

- **Cancellation Policy:**

To request a refund, students must contact Stephanie Morrison. 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.

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## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:**

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

**Northern California**  
526 Commerce Way  
Livermore, CA 94551

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

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**FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:**

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

Name: George Davis  
Rank: Fire Chief  
Age: 62  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 42  
Date of Incident: 06/23/2012  
Time of Incident: 0100hrs  
Date of Death: 03/23/2012  
Fire Department: Hollis Fire Department  
Address: PO Box 9, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, ME 04042  
Fire Department Chief: Deputy Fire Chief Jason Johnson

**Incident Description:** Shortly after he returned from a fire call, family members found Fire Chief Davis deceased from an apparent heart attack outside of his home.

**Incident Location:** Pending

**Funeral Arrangements:** Visitation, 3 to 8 p.m. (Fire and Rescue personal are encouraged to visit from 6 to 7:30 p.m.) Tuesday June 26, 2012 at the Conroy-Tully Crawford South Portland Chapel, 1024 Broadway, South Portland. A 10 a.m. Wednesday. Mass of Christian Burial, Holy Cross Church, corner of Broadway and Cottage Roads, South Portland.

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

To date, 39 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

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

**AND:**

Name: Rocky E. Dunkin  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 24  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: Pending  
Date of Incident: 07/01/2012  
Time of Incident: 0230hrs  
Date of Death: 07/01/2012  
Fire Department: Nile Township Volunteer Fire Department  
Address: PO Box 41, 15 Third ST RT 52 674, Friendship, OH 45630  
Fire Department Chief: Barry Davis

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

**Incident Description:** Firefighter Dunkin was found unconscious at the scene of a motor vehicle accident where he had been assisting medical personnel with crash victims. Dunkin was transported to South Ohio Medical Center but passed away from a cause still to be determined.

**Incident Location:** U.S. 52 near Friendship, Ohio

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

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

To date, 41 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

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

**AND:**

Name: Ronald Keddie  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 64  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 41  
Date of Incident: 06/27/2012  
Time of Incident: 1300hrs  
Date of Death: 06/27/2012  
Fire Department: Sheridan Fire Department  
Address: 2800 Route 20, PO Box 122, Sheridan, NY 14135  
Fire Department Chief: Aaron Brinkman

**Incident Description:** While preparing to respond to a motor vehicle accident, Firefighter Keddie was found unresponsive in the firehouse. A cause of death is still pending further investigation.

**Incident Location:** 2800 Route 20, Sheridan, NY 14135

**Funeral Arrangements:** Visitation: 07/02/12 – 1400hrs-1600hrs and 1900hrs-2100hrs, Mackowiak Funeral Home, 56 E Doughty ST, Dunkirk, NY. Funeral will be held on 07/03/12 at 1100hrs at the Sheridan Fire Station.

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter and former Fire Chief Ronald Keddie at

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

To date, 40 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

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

**AND:**

Name: John L. Echternach, Jr.  
Rank: Lieutenant/EMT  
Age: 54  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 19  
Date of Incident: 06/29/2012  
Time of Incident: Pending  
Date of Death: 06/29/2012

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Fire Department: Boones Mill Volunteer Fire Department  
Address: 25355 Virgil H Goode HWY, Boones Mill, VA 24065  
Fire Department Chief: Division Chief Billy Ferguson

**Incident Description:** Lieutenant Echternach was en route to the fire station in response to an outbreak of severe weather in the area when he stopped to help another driver whose car, according to media reports, was hit by a tree. While assisting, Echternach was struck by another tree and severely injured. Firefighter Echternach succumbed to his injuries several days later while being treated in the hospital.

**Incident Location:** Vicinity of Boones Mill, VA, along U.S. 220.

**Funeral Arrangements:** A memorial service will begin at 1000hrs Saturday, July 7, 2012 in the Franklin Heights Baptist Church Sanctuary, 110 Hilltop Drive, Rocky Mount, VA 24151.

**Tribute** is being paid to Lieutenant/EMT John L. Echternach, Jr. at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 42 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Paul K. Mikeal  
Rank: Lieutenant Colonel/Evaluator Pilot  
Age: 42  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: 20

Name: Joseph M. McCormick  
Rank: Major/Instructor Pilot  
Age: 36  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: Pending

Name: Ryan S. David  
Rank: Major/Navigator  
Age: 35  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: Pending

Name: Robert S. Cannon  
Rank: Senior Master Sergeant/Flight Engineer  
Age: 50  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: 29

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Date of Incident: 07/01/2012  
Time of Incident: 1830hrs  
Date of Death: 07/01/2012  
Fire Department: 145th Airlift Wing  
Address: 4930 Minuteman Way, Charlotte, NC 28208  
Fire Department Chief: BG Tony McMillan

**Incident Description:** Four members of the North Carolina Air National Guard, members of 145th Airlift Wing, were killed and two seriously injured while working a fire attack mission in South Dakota on the White Draw fire near Edgemont. The firefighting crew of the Air Force C-130H3, carrying a U.S. Forest Service Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System (MAFFS), had been battling wildfires in the days leading up to the crash, including those around Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**Incident Location:** White Draw fire (near Edgemont, SD - USNG: 13T EJ 99 04)

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Lieutenant Colonel Paul K. Mikeal, Major Joseph M. McCormick, Major Ryan S. David, and Senior Master Sergeant Robert S. Cannon at

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

To date, 46 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

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

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*Firefighter fatalities in USFA reports are summarized by date/year-of-incident. Initial notices posted online at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/> and distributed via USFA 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](http://www.firehero.org)) for names added each subsequent year to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD, they are the beginning of a research process for each firefighter fatality reported so that such determinations can be made.*

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

(REMINDER-This Week: <http://safetyandhealthweek.org>)

Hey,

Fathers Day is typically a day of family and fun---celebrating Dads. In the fire service, it has additional meanings. On or around Fathers Day over several years, there have been notable LINE OF DUTY DEATHS, that have left many kids Dad-less. Firefighting Fathers who have given their lives in the Line of Duty. The Boston Hotel Vendome fire was the worst firefighting tragedy in Boston history. Nine firefighters were killed when part of the building collapsed, June 17, 1972. The fire was brought largely under control by 4:30pm. Several crews, including Boston Fire Department Ladder 13 and Engines 22 and 32, remained on scene performing overhaul and cleanup. At 5:28pm, abruptly and without warning, all five floors of a 40 by 45 foot section at the southeast corner of the building collapsed, burying a ladder truck and 17 firefighters beneath a two-story pile of debris.

Occurring one day prior to the Father's Day holiday, 8 Firefighters were injured, and 9 Firefighters lost

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

their lives in the worst firefighting disaster in Boston history. The men who were killed were: Fire Fighter Thomas W. Beckwith, Fire Fighter Joseph E. Boucher, Lieutenant Thomas J. Carroll, Fire Fighter Charles E. Dolan, Lieutenant John E. Hanbury, Jr., Fire Fighter John E. Jameson, Fire Fighter Richard B. Magee, Fire Fighter Paul J. Murphy and Fire Fighter Joseph P. Saniuk.

**A RELATED Father & Son story from the Boston FD:**

**HERE** is a related FATHERS DAY Firefighter story about a Father-and Son, in the BFD:

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2012/06/17/a\\_fathers\\_sacrifice\\_a\\_sons\\_calling/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2012/06/17/a_fathers_sacrifice_a_sons_calling/)

More recently, younger Firefighters (hopefully) know of the **FATHERS DAY FIRE in the FDNY** - The 2001 Fathers Day Fire in the Queens. 3 Firefighters were killed after an explosion trapped them in a collapse. They were FF Brian Fahey, FF Harry Ford, and FF John Downing. NIOSH REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200123.html>

And there are NO Firefighters that are not aware of the horrific loss-and so many lessons learned from **CHARLESTON, SC**---where 9 Charleston Firefighters were killed at the infamous Sofa Super Store Fire. They are Captain Louis Mulkey, Captain Mike Benke, FF Melvin Champaign, Captain Billy Hutchingson, Engineer Brad Baity, FF Earl Drayton, Engineer Mark Kelsey, Engineer Michael French, and FF Brandon Thompson. NIOSH REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200718.html>

Last year, **MUNCIE, IN**: FF Scott Davis of Muncie, IN was killed in 2011 on June 15th in that collapse during a church fire. NIOSH REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201114.html>

Additionally, we remember:

**MEMPHIS, TN** - Father's Day Fire 2003. Lt. Trent Clark and Private Charles Zachary lost their lives in the Family Dollar Store fire. NIOSH REPORT: [www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200318.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200318.html)

**DU QUOIN, IL**: FF Corey Shaw was killed on June 17th in a collapse of a heavily involved commercial building. NIOSH REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201115.html>

**ANGELINA COUNTY, TEXAS**: FF David Goins died from burns received in a wildland fire. PREVIOUS INFO: <http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/138517>

**LAST MINUTE REMINDER: THIS WEEK**, JUNE 17-23 is Int'l FIRE/EMS SAFETY WEEK-What are your FD's Plans? It's another chance to honor those Firefighters who have been killed in the Line of Duty. <http://safetyandhealthweek.org>

Take Care-**Happy Fathers Day To The Wonderful Dad's Out There! RIP SamG.**

The Secret List 6-17-12 - 0930 Hours

**AND:**

**26 year old PA EMT LODD-Medical The Secret List**

We regret to advise you that a 26-year old member of the Morrisville Ambulance Squad (Bucks County) died in the Line of Duty early this morning after suffering an apparent heart attack inside the squad building. The name of the EMT was not immediately released by the ambulance company. The squad said it is still trying to reach and notify all members of the EMT's family. The emergency happened during a shift change inside the squad quarters located on Washington Street in Morrisville. Morrisville is right across the river from Trenton, N.J. The EMT was treated and taken to Aria Health

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Bucks County Campus in Falls Township shortly after 7:30 hours where he was pronounced. Our condolences to all affected. RIP  
Take Care-Be Careful.  
BillyG.  
The Secret List 6-18-12 / 1340 hours

**AND:**

**GREEK FF LODD-MEDICAL**

A Greek Firefighter has died in the Line of Duty while operating at a wildfire burning inside an air force base just west of Athens. The Firefighter, in his 20's, felt sick and was taken to a nearby hospital where he succumbed. Fires often rage through Greece during summer months, and in recent days there have been several. 40 fire companies, 7 water-dropping aircraft, 1 helicopter and 160 fire fighters are battling the fire. The air base is primarily used by fire-fighting and transport planes and no armed military strike aircraft are stationed there. RIP.

**CAN YOU HELP THE FDNY PIPES & DRUMS BAGPIPE BAND?**

In 2012 the FDNY Pipes & Drum Bagpipe Band will be turning 50 years old. To help celebrate this milestone, they are creating a documentary film, which will highlight the rich and incredible history of this organization. **I would guess that not one of us, either in person, or via the Internet or TV have not benefited by the efforts of the FDNY pipes and drummers. Now they need our help.** For the past 50 years the band has played all over the world and has become an integral part of the FDNY. That was never more evident than after September 11, 2001 **when the band played at every memorial service and funeral for the 343 Firefighters that were killed in the Line of Duty that day.** The band has attended numerous **NON-FDNY LODD funerals** as well-including Charleston, S.C. ...as just one example. The members of the band perform on a voluntary basis and receive no compensation for playing their instruments. The band is a nonprofit organization that relies on fund raising and charitable donations. This documentary is being written and produced by one of our very own band members. There is very little budget for this documentary, so it is being created through people's charitable donations. All proceeds will go towards research, music rights, and mastering the final project. **HERE IS THE VIDEO TRAILER---PLEASE CLICK HERE:**  
<http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1139469356/through-triumph-and-tragedy-50-years-of-the-fdny-p>  
(Personal note-the minimum donation is \$1.00 - one buck - everyone of us can afford at least a few bucks...)

THANKS!

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-20-12 / 2146 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Recently some phenomenal videos have been produced by the Chicago FD and FDNY related to firefighter survival, in coordination with the **NFFF**. Those videos clearly show Firefighters, Paramedics, EMTS's and Officers who have "been there" passing along their "no nonsense" thoughts about the job. **But it's not just FDNY & Chicago FD.**

There are many departments, Firefighters, Officers and Chiefs who have-by the "magic" of YouTube etc, produced some very cool videos and slide programs related to firefighter survival...all of them really good with local, direct messages...messages that apply to everyone of us. With this week being "Int'l Fire-EMS Safety Week" these videos are of great value to use at your company or department.

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

A long time friend of ours, Chief Tommy Owens, the Director of Fire Rescue in Frederick County, Maryland - produced the below outstanding video that he sent out to all of his personnel this week. Take a look-it is well worth five minutes-and absolutely worth passing it along to your troops, your e-mail groups etc. Sometimes, when (in this case) a Chief "gets it"-they get creative, get motivated and produce a low or no cost video-a video that is equal in effectiveness to the "big" ones!

**CHECK OUT THIS VIDEO:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PzFcz9TFK8>

Note also who he dedicated the video to---Washington DCFD Battalion Fire Chief "Big Al" Dutton-a friend to so many, who died from cancer. Al was a FF, Fire Officer and Man who was well known, loved and deeply respected in the metro DC fire service area. While not tall, "BIG" described Al in so many positive ways. RIP Big Al. We've also posted Chief Owens message to his personnel below, for those that are interested in passing it on.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**IF YOU OR YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT** has produced related videos-and you want them passed along, sent the link and related info to us and we'll do just that via The Secret List and FFCC.

#### **FIREFIGHTERS BURNED DURING LIVE FIRE TRAINING IN ARIZONA (LINKS BELOW)**

The training began uneventfully last Saturday - but soon became ugly as Thatcher (Arizona) Firefighters were caught inside the acquired structure (single family dwelling) live burn - with an inoperable hose line, when it burned thru.

According to Thatcher Fire Chief Mike Payne, a crew entered into the structure through the rear with the intent of putting out a room that was on fire....but their hose had burned and became useless when they attempted to hit the fire. **The crew became separated as they attempted to leave the residence due to low visibility caused by the thick black smoke. Captain Rob Casillas, 40, of Thatcher was unaware the other men had followed the hose line through the back door, and he returned to the burning room to see if the rest of his crew was still there. When he couldn't locate them, he began to make his exit when the room experienced a flashover, and Casillas suffered second-degree burns to his hands, head and back, according to Payne.**

As the Firefighters made their way out of the building on their hands and knees, two of them suffered blistering on their knees.

Payne said Casillas' clear thinking kept an unfortunate incident from becoming a tragic one. "He kept his head and did what he was trained to do and was able to find his way out," Payne said. "He didn't panic. He kept his cool . . . There was a lot of stuff he could have done that could have got him in more trouble . . . When that room flashes over, there's not very many firefighters who survive it, so we feel like he was real fortunate in that (regard.)"

**Payne said the men were dressed appropriately for the training, but even bunker gear breaks down when faced with temperatures of 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit. He added that while backup safety hose lines were available, the whole incident took less than a minute, and by the time they realized there was a problem, a backup hose was of no use. In instances where a firefighter is injured during a training exercise, it is common practice to halt the exercise immediately and preserve the scene. Payne said by the time they realized firefighters had been injured, they called a Mayday and had everyone exit the structure and be accounted for.** After they re-engaged the fire, it had spread to the attic, and firefighters did their best stay in control and keep it from spreading. Even with the suppression efforts from the department's ladder truck, some fire managed to escape and burn a neighbor's trees. Payne said by the time the fire was under control, the structure was deemed unsafe for further training, and the decision was made to continue to burn the house.

And JUST in case it's needed, here are some articles & reference info on NFPA 1403, Live Fire Training: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/wp-solutions/2005-102/>  
(Preventing Deaths and Injuries to FF's during Live-Fire Training in Acquired Structures-NIOSH)

<http://tinyurl.com/4ypy3tn> (Fire Engineering)

<http://tinyurl.com/434wfza> (Firehouse)

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/36756> (Case Study)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-20-12 / 1035 Hours

### **MESSAGE RELATED TO THE ABOVE VIDEO FROM FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND ALL HANDS**

While we should follow safe work practices every day, this week is the "official" week that fire and emergency medical personnel are asked to provide an extra focus on how we operate to ensure our safety, the safety of those we serve with and for those we serve. The theme for this years' focus is "Rules You Can Live By". "Safety Rules" grow out of real world experiences that have taken the lives or seriously injured fellow firefighters around the world. While it's easy for us to say "Everyone Goes Home", as an industry we continue to struggle to keep the safety rules in play on a daily basis. Although we are improving, we still lose nearly 100 firefighters a year...so.....there is still a lot of work to do. Below is a link to a video message I created to kick off our local focus on safety and health.

Overall, my message is simple....YOU are the person most directly responsible for your safety and your death or serious injury will have tragic consequences for your loved ones and this organization.

So much of the safety problem in our industry centers on our personal attitudes about risk-taking. While this is a business that has inherent risks, we often make our work more risky than it needs to be. My video message will provide many examples of individual actions or omissions that lead to firefighter injury and death and in every example the root cause of the problem is OUR behavior.....we must change our culture of unnecessary risk taking. If our industry is to continue to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries....it has to start with each of us upholding our individual responsibility to operate safely by following the rules of safety.....our policies, procedures, rules and regulations.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PzFcz9TFK8>

Thanks for all you do everyday.....stay safe. Chief O.

### **AND:**

### **MAINE FIRE CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY RETURNING FROM A RUN**

We regret to advise you that Chief George S Davis, 62, has died in the Line of Duty. Chief Davis, Hollis Fire Department, Hollis Maine died at approximately 0100 on Saturday June 23, 2012 of an apparent heart attack. Chief Davis was found outside of his home by family members shortly after returning from a fire call. Appointed Fire Chief on April 1, 2005 for the Town of Hollis, Chief Davis had been a firefighter since his days in high school as a Junior Firefighter and previously served 20+ with the Goodwins Mills Fire Department, Deputy Chief from August of 1998 until June of 2004. Visitation, 3 to 8 p.m. (Fire and Rescue personal are encouraged to visit from 6 to 7:30 p.m.) Tuesday June 26, 2012 at the Conroy-Tully Crawford South Portland Chapel, 1024 Broadway, South Portland. A 10 a.m. Wednesday. Mass of Christian Burial, Holy Cross Church, corner of Broadway and Cottage Roads, South Portland. RIP.

### **GEORGIA FIREFIGHTER KILLED TRYING TO STOP A ROBBERY**

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

A search continues for a suspect after a 21-year-old firefighter dies trying to stop an early-morning armed robbery. The assistant fire chief of the Isle of Hope Fire Dept. said Wesley Franklin died from a gunshot wound he received while disrupting an attempted robbery outside a local pub. A couple patrons at the bar came walking outside on a smoke break and they were approached by a black male with a gun who demanded money, when they hesitated, he fired a shot ....then another patron of the bar, FF Franklin came out and said something to the man ...and a shot rang out and he was was shot in the chest. Franklin was taken to Memorial University Medical Center, but he died while in surgery. Hours later outside of the Isle of Hope firehouse, which is a mile from where a fatal shooting happened, a flag waves at half staff for a fallen brother. "Wesley and Bo were coming out the door and they witnessed two people being mugged the next thing they knew, Wesley was shot and everything rolled down hill from there," said Jason Thompson. "He was young 21 years old. He had an aspiring career. He has been with the fire service since he was 14 years old. He has been with Isle of Hope since 2011." RIP. **The suspect is still at large.**

#### **MORE BAD NEWS FROM GEORGIA: FIREHOUSE COLLAPSES AS APPARATUS TURNS OUT**

Firefighters on their way to a call just before 1000 this morning had to stop when part of the fire station collapsed on the fire apparatus. Augusta Fire Chief Chris James said it appeared some part of the engine at Station 9 hit the center column between the garage doors, causing much of the front of the building to collapse. Although the collapse stopped the rig, James said it did not affect the response to the fire call. Another engine company turned out and responded immediately.

**VIDEO HERE:** <http://chronicle.augusta.com/latest-news/2012-06-25/fire-station-collapses-firetruck?v=1340662092>

#### **RIP FDNY CHIEF DISPATCHER, FIRE CHIEF & FIRE PHOTOGRAPHER HARRY DOYLE**

If you ever listened to FDNY "Brooklyn" in the 70's and 80's, you heard some amazing dispatchers. They invented multi-tasking. One of those was Harry Doyle, an old friend of ours and TSL member who very sadly passed away this morning. Harry was a member of the Malverne VFD in Nassau County and an ex-chief of the Broad Channel FD in NYC/Queens. Harry was also a photographer with 1st Responder Newspaper, LI Fire News, WNYF and many others for years. Harry was originally with the New York Fire Patrol, then an FDNY fire alarm dispatcher and a supervising fire alarm dispatcher. He was then promoted to the position of Chief Dispatcher in charge of Manhattan communications. In addition, he was a dispatcher for the Long Beach FD and currently for the Syosset FD in Nassau County. Harry was also a freelance photographer and a member of the International Fire Photographers Association, the National Press Photographers Association and the Boston Sparks Association. But probably and most obvious thing about Harry is that he LOVED being a firefighter-LOVED it. Harry never met a stranger and you knew it because after 5 minutes he was bust'n your chops-in a good way-that always made people smile-because Harry always made sure that everyone was having fun. RIP Harry Doyle.

**Here is a video, "Brothers In Battle"**- done by the Late FDNY B/C Brian Hickey, killed on 9/11--also a former Long Island Volunteer FF...you've probably seen the video done by him and his Brother Ray in 1992, but may not have known that it was Harry Doyle's voice on the radio around a minute into the film: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIH7bGHQe90>

#### **MORE BAD NEWS FROM DETROIT**

Following a night (Sunday night) with over a dozen working fires, and right now, several more working fires at this time, the DFD is looking at layoffs-**about 160 FIREFIGHTER LAYOFFS**. While they are hardly the only career Firefighters in the USA going thru that, they may very well be the most affected-unless a SAFER Grant comes thru.

**HERE is more:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120625/METRO01/206250395/>

**FOLLOW** the fire activity this evening in Detroit, and other areas on our home page (scrolling working incidents) from AlertPage.

Take Car-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-25-12 / 2327 Hours

**AND:**

**Hey,**

A Washington Township Firefighter was seriously injured Sunday afternoon when he was pinned between two fire tanker trucks while operating at a fire in Troy Township/Richland County. Firefighter Josef Tadijanac, 45, was immediately treated and transported to Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus. FF Tadijanac's left leg was crushed and he has undergone two surgeries to restore circulation from the knee down. The fire was a garage fire that spread throughout the single family dwelling. We'll keep you up to date on his progress and further details. **HERE** is brief information related to survival during tanker & apparatus ops:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/pdfs/face201007.pdf> (LODD-Pinned between apparatus)

[http://www.iafc.org/files/downloads/VEHICLE\\_SAFETY/VehclSafety\\_USFA\\_SafeOpOfFireTankers.pdf](http://www.iafc.org/files/downloads/VEHICLE_SAFETY/VehclSafety_USFA_SafeOpOfFireTankers.pdf) (Tanker Ops-USFA)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-26-12 / 0919 Hours

**AND:**

**Hey,**

A Toronto Firefighter was taken to the hospital this evening with severe burns while operating at a 3-alarm fire in an apartment building in Scarborough. TFD Firefighters responded to the fire around 1845 hours- the fire started on 8th floor balcony which later spread to the 9th floor. The Firefighter suffered burns to his mid-section with second- and third-degree burns around his waist and stomach. The fire is now knocked and we'll post updates as they become available related to the FF's condition. Also, watch <http://www.firehall.com/> for updates as well as:

<http://www.torontofirefighters.org/OSS/>

<http://www.toronto.ca/fire/>

## **WORKING FIRE WITH PEOPLE TRAPPED IN CHICAGO....(Listen To The Radio Traffic) 2 EXAMPLES IN ONE:**

**Example 1-NEW SIZE-UP RADIO STANDARD:** "HOLY SHIT" (Pretty much sums it up when you arrive and have multiple issues to deal with)

**Example 2-Simultaneous urgent TASKS** on the fireground require **FIREFIGHTERS. Less staffing=Less tasks get done in the needed time. Simple math.**

Below is the audio\* from this morning's 3-11 (3rd alarm) and EMS Plan 1 (5 ambulances) at 714 E. 82nd in Chicago. The fire was reported at 0521 hours - BUT be sure to listen at 4:55 into the audio\* as Engine 82 arrives on the scene seeing a working fire with jumpers and rescues. When firefighters pulled up, fire was blowing from third and fourth floor windows. Firefighters quickly raised ladders to rescue residents....the fire was struck out shortly before 0700 hours. IF you have not had a chance to listen to the audio\* from this morning's fire in Chicago, here is the link from DaveS:

<http://tinyurl.com/cy4h7ba>

**\*NOTE-the audio is not just the CFD-it's audio from scanning suburban FD radios as well. If your computer has "stereo" speakers, the CFD should be on your right side speaker. Either way - just listen to it - well worth it. Also note the responding CHIEF OFFICER assignments by the dispatcher to support the IC and the companies operating. Multiple well staffed companies with multiple Chiefs going in on a reported fire. What a concept - a concept that no one should allow to become historic.**

**AND SPEAKING OF STAFFING:**

Two months after the Palm Beach County (FL) Fire Chief assured the public that moving from three-person to two-person trucks wouldn't put residents lives in danger, **TODAY their County Commissioners demanded that the Fire Chief immediately return to its previous staffing levels, even if it will cost \$7.5 million a year and increase overtime costs. HERE** is more:

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

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-26-12 / 2113 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

3 Macon-Bibb County (Georgia) Firefighters and a tractor-trailer driver were taken to The Medical Center of Central Georgia Wednesday after the tractor-trailer truck rear-ended the fire truck on Interstate 16. The firefighters, David Mahone, 31, Marcus Lamb, 42, and Keith Carter, 33, are all conscious and alert and their injuries don't appear to be life-threatening. State troopers were working two traffic crashes in the area about 50 yards apart when the crash occurred. The Firefighters had responded to the scene of one of the crashes on I-16 eastbound near Coliseum Drive. They were in front of the truck and packing up their equipment when two tractor-trailers collided, with one striking the back of the apparatus at about 1430 hours....the rig then struck the Firefighters and pushed them into a guardrail. MORE here:

<http://www.macon.com/2012/06/27/2075935/traffic-delays-on-i-16-eastbound.html#storylink=cpy>

**UNINSURED AND FIGHTING FIRES**

We doubt that anyone is **unaware** of the massive fires in Colorado-burning right now. More than 30,000 have been displaced by the most recent Colorado Springs fire, including thousands who rapidly packed up belongings last night after the fire rolled into neighborhoods in the foothills west and north of Colorado's second-largest city. **However**, we also doubt that many folks **are aware** that the thousands of Federal Firefighters operating at the fires, risking their lives, do not have health insurance... **HERE** is much more: <http://tinyurl.com/7u77ojx>

**CHIEF HARRY DOYLE MEMORIAL& FUNERAL DETAILS**

As we advised yesterday, we mourn the passing of FDNY Chief Dispatcher Harold Doyle (ret.) of Manhattan Operations - which occurred on June 24th 2012. Harry was also Ex-Chief of the Broad Channel VFD in Queens, NYC <http://www.broadchannelvfd.org> as well as the Malverne FD in Nassau County. He was also a dispatcher for the Long Beach and Syosset FD's-in Nassau County. Wake to be held:

Thursday June 28th from 3-5 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.

Friday June 29th from 3-5 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.

Hillebrand Funeral Home-1238 Cross Bay Blvd-Broad Channel N.Y 11693

Funeral service to be held:

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Saturday June 30th at 10 a.m.

St. Virgilius R.C. Church-16 Noel Road-Broad Channel N.Y. 11693

Cremation to follow at the Fresh Pond Crematory

**More Details About Harry:** <http://www.nassaufdrant.com/forum/harry-doyle-24629.html>

**Take Care-BE CAREFUL.**

HYDRATE. (GOOGLE: Firefighter Hydration for more)

**BillyG**

**The Secret List 6-27-12 / 2103 Hours**

**AND:**

**NY FIREFIGHTER (Past Chief/Commissioner-LODD-While Responding**

It is with deep regret that we advise you that Former Chief/Fire Commissioner Ronald Keddie died in the Line of Duty yesterday while responding on a run for the Sheridan (NY) FD. Chief Keddie was found unresponsive in the firehouse as he was preparing to respond on an engine. He was a past chief and commissioner of the Sheridan Fire District. Ron was also a long time fire investigator, past Deputy Fire Coordinator for Chautauqua County and a Vietnam Veteran. RIP. Arrangements are as follows: Visitation: Mackowiak Funeral Home, 56 E. Doughty Street, Dunkirk, NY 14048, Monday July 2nd 2-4 and 7-9 Funeral: Tuesday July 3rd. 11:00 am Sheridan Fire Station-(Apparatus encouraged)

**VA FIREFIGHTER DIES ENROUTE TO WORK**

We regret to also advise you that Louisa County Va.. Firefighter Charles Wilson was enroute to work his shift for Louisa County Fire-Rescue, when he was involved in a crash. FF Wilson also was a Volunteer Firefighter for the Mineral Vol. Fire Dept. also of Louisa County. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-28-12 / 1630 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

A Boones Mill (Franklin County, VA) Firefighter was critically injured last night when a tree fell on his car while responding to the firehouse in his personal vehicle---the firefighter suffered significant injuries. He was taken to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital and is in critical condition. **We'll keep you up to date on the progress.**

**CALIFORNIA FF CRITICAL**

A Beverly Hills Firefighter who was injured while operating at a Beverly Crest mansion fire was in serious but stable condition. The FF was hurt when a beam fell on his head as more than 100 Firefighters operated at the \$19-million single family dwelling. The house was formerly owned by reality television star Lisa Vanderpump and her husband Ken Todd and featured on the show "Real Housewives of Beverly Hills." Although the fire was in Los Angeles, Firefighters from the Beverly Hills Fire Department responded as well. The fire was knocked in about an hour, after burning through parts of the roof. **We'll keep you up to date on the progress.**

**FIRE APPARATUS STRUCK/CATCHES FIRE**

A Ford (Dinwiddie County, VA) Volunteer Fire Company fire apparatus was heavily damaged yesterday afternoon when it apparently caught fire and rolled into trees along U.S. 460. No injuries were reported after the empty rig somehow rolled forward toward a burning tractor-trailer, catching fire itself. Dinwiddie County Fire & EMS Chief Dennis Hale said yesterday that they were still piecing together exactly what happened. The Ford Engine Co.2 apparatus, and a tanker from the

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

same company, were first on scene to a fully engulfed big rig on 460 near the Nottoway County line. Firefighters got out of the truck and, as they prepared to tackle the blaze, their fire truck rolled forward into the fire and the continued down an embankment. The apparatus appeared heavily damaged by fire at the rear, and the front cab also appeared damaged by collision. The big rig was completely charred down to the frame and engine.

**BOSTON FIRE LT. STEVE MINEHAN-We Remember**

Some folks like being Firefighters. A few don't. However, some **LOVE** being Firefighters. Lt Steve Minehan absolutely loved being a Firefighter. LOVED IT. Steve was a Firefighter long before he was appointed to the Boston FD in October of 1974. He was the 3rd generation of Minehan Firefighters in Boston. His grandfather, Mike Minehan, was a Chief. His dad Alfred Minehan was a firefighter as well. Stephen spent much of his childhood and teen years in and out of firehouses buffing and chasing fires. So as far as Stephen was concerned, from a young age he knew when he grew up he was going to be a firefighter, and that he was for almost 20 years. A Lieutenant on the Boston Fire Department, Stephen Minehan was killed in the Line-of-Duty on June 24th, 1994. He lost his life while fighting a 9 alarm fire in the Charlestown section of Boston. Responding to the fire, Steve and his crew of Ladder 15 were immediately sent into the building for a rescue, along with other members of the department. Their goal was to find 2 other Firefighters who were missing and, at last check, had little air left in their air tanks.

Throughout the early morning, these men were found and rescued, though both were in severe need of hyperbaric chambers. As the brave crew of Ladder 15 was exiting the building, they came to the realization that Lt. Minehan had not come out with them. Somehow, instead of exiting the building, Steve found himself alone, walking further in. What happened in that crucial moment really is not clear and may never be; but that morning at 7:30 am Steve's body was recovered by the very men he was proud to lead. Steve was just a couple of months short of twenty years of service in the BFD. Along with the legacy of a grown man whose heart still jumped when he heard sirens (he even installed his own mechanical siren in the apparatus), Steve left behind a family he loved more than anything in the world. He left his wife, Kathy, of 20 years; and he was the proud father of four kids: Kelley 17, Joseph 15, Meghan 13 and Kaitlin 11. He also left behind 6 siblings, their spouses and many nieces and nephews. Please keep Steve's family in your prayers as we remember him in this week's anniversary of his death. RIP.

**Take Care-BE CAREFUL. HYDRATE.**

**BillyG**

**The Secret List 6-30-12 / 1558 hours**

**AND:**

**OHIO FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

We regret to advise you of the Line of Duty the death of a 24 year old Ohio Firefighter that occurred around 0230 hours today, while operating at the scene of a motor vehicle crash. Rocky E. Dunkin, 24, a Nile Township Volunteer Firefighter, was at the scene of a crash on U.S. 52 near Friendship, Ohio, while assisting with the crash victim. Dunkin was found unconscious at the scene by a other Firefighters, was immediately treated and was then transported to Southern Ohio Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead at approximately 0315 hours. The incident and specific cause of his death is being investigated by the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Our condolences to all affected-RIP. More details will follow.

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-1-12 / 1400 Hours

**AND:**

**MULTIPLE MILITARY PERSONNEL KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-FIREFIGHTING PLANE CRASH-There Are Reports Of Survivors**

The firefighting plane that went down last night at that South Dakota wildland fire was a C-130 tanker, (with the Modular Airborne Firefighting System that can drop 3,000 gallons of water or fire retardant in seconds) belonging to the North Carolina National Guard. It was a C-130 Hercules belonging to the 145th Airlift Wing based out of Charlotte. The 145th sent two C-130s out to Colorado over the weekend to assist in battling the wildfires. **There were 6 personnel on board at the time of the fatal crash.**

The tanker made at least two drops of fire retardant material on the White Draw fire on Sunday before crashing at about 6 p.m. "I'm afraid I have some disappointing news, some bad news today," said Lieutenant Colonel Robert Carver during a news conference on this afternoon. "The North Carolina Air National Guard and indeed the North Carolina National Guard and the Guard across the country are grieving today." **"There were casualties.** Our thoughts and prayers go out to those who lost their lives and to those of who were injured and especially to the family members of these Airmen - they are paramount on our minds."

**IMPORTANT RELATED NOTE:** A BLM ASM platform (spotter plane) was also engaged as a lead with the C130 when the crash occurred. The ASM/Lead experienced a severe downdraft while approaching the intended retardant drop zone with the C130 in trail. **This is being investigated by the USFS as a separate Incident With Potential.**

**The family of Lt. Col. Paul Mikeal of Mooresville confirmed they were notified early Monday that he had died in the C-130 crash on Sunday. The 42-year-old married father of two was a veteran of deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He was the pilot for the MAFF 7 C-130 plane. Lt Col Mikeal was recently interviewed and stated: "We have to worry about getting in and out of the mountains," he said. "The plane does not perform quite as well in the high altitudes."**

Lt. Col. Carver says there were six members of the 145th Airlift Wing in Charlotte aboard the C-130 when it crashed. All of the C130's have been grounded pending the investigation of this crash. More details to follow. RIP.

**===FDNY FATAL APPARATUS CRASH**

An FDNY truck company struck a motorcyclist in Brooklyn while responding to a reported trash fire this afternoon. The 46-year-old victim was riding on his cycle when he was fatally struck about 1620 hours by the responding rig, according to FDNY. The apparatus, Ladder 111, was one of the first due companies responding to the fire with its lights/sirens on. The members of Ladder 111 were not seriously hurt and immediately rendered help to the victim. EMS rushed the man to Woodhull Hospital, where he sadly died.

**===FDNY LIVE BURN VIDEO**

Here is some video from the today's start of the UL/NIST/FDNY tactical evaluation burns taking place on Governor's Island: <http://video.msnbc.msn.com/nightly-news/48051664/#48051664>

**===VIRGINIA LINE OF DUTY DEATH-Déjà vu**

As you know, Firefighter/EMT John Echternach Jr., 54, died in the Line of Duty today, following that incident where a tree fell on him Friday. He was a member of Boones Mill Fire-EMS and the Franklin County Department of Public Safety since June 2003. Echternach was also an academic coordinator of clinical education at Jefferson College of Health Sciences and an assistant professor in the physical therapist assistant department. **That tragic event occurred in Franklin County Virginia.** Franklin

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

County may seem familiar to you as 2 Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty in July of 2010, when a Rocky Mount fire truck on its way to a house fire crashed into an SUV, flipped several times and landed on a car. Fire Chief/Vice Mayor Posey Dillon, along with Firefighter William Daniel "Danny" Altice died in the crash. The apparatus went thru a red traffic signal and was struck-neither FF's were belted in-and were tragically ejected. RIP.

**HERE is that NIOSH REPORT:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201019.html>

**===SCBA ALERT - Not New Info --- But A "New" Sobering Reminder:**

YOUR SCBA facepiece lense may undergo thermal degradation (melt, fall apart etc) when exposed to intense heat. Exposure to high temperature environments, which Firefighters encounter during fires, can result in the melting of YOUR SCBA facepiece lens, resulting in elimination of the protection meant for FIREFIGHTERS respiratory system and exposing YOU to products of combustion and super heated air.

**WHY IS THIS NEWS NOW?**

It's not really new info-but the result of scientific data being studied to impact needed changes---so it actually is news---news similar to the reasons why FDNY is looking at tactical changes-**because FIRES have changed-and the CONDITIONS in which we operate...HAVE CHANGED.**

- =Structure fires involving modern building construction and furnishings produce significantly higher heat release rates than legacy buildings and their furnishings of earlier years, exposing firefighters to more rapid heat development and intense thermal conditions.**
- =PPE used by firefighters has evolved to provide enhanced overall thermal protection, allowing firefighters to remain in adverse conditions for longer time periods.**
- =Enhanced PPE for today's firefighters has made them less able to detect changing thermal conditions.**

YOUR SCBA facepiece lens is an integral part of SCBA and today the lens material is generally based on polycarbonate. The SCBA facepiece lens is often considered the weakest component of a firefighter's ensemble in high heat conditions, but the level of thermal performance of the facepiece lens has not been well understood. **During the investigation of SEVERAL FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATHS that occurred from 2002 to 2011, NIOSH found evidence of the failure of facepiece lenses as contributing factors.**

**HERE ARE THE ALERT DETAILS:** <http://www.nfpa.orf/scba>

NFPA is working with mfgs on some new solutions to produce a facepiece that will not be "the weakest link" - however, in the meantime,

**HERE** one of the NIOSH reports where a FIREFIGHTER WAS KILLED involving mask failure: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200531.html>

The next edition of the SCBA standard will address this issue (in 2013).

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-2-12 / 2108 Hours

**AND:**

**VA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-TREE DOWN ON CAR**

The entire family of Franklin County (VA) Public Safety is saddened to report that John L. Echternach, Jr. passed away on July 2, 2012. On Friday, June 29, 2012, Firefighter/EMT Echternach, 54, was critically injured in the line of duty as we previously advised you on TSL. Tragically,

Firefighter/EMT Echternach has now died in the Line of Duty as a result of those injuries. He was a member of the Boones Mill Fire-EMS Department and the Franklin County Department of Public Safety since June of 2003. RIP.

**FIREFIGHTING AIRCRAFT DOWN - EDGEMONT, S.D.**

Military officials have identified a firefighting plane that crashed while battling a South Dakota forest fire as a C-130 tanker based out of Peterson Air Force Base. The air tanker made at least two drops of fire retardant material on the White Draw fire on Sunday before crashing at about 1800 hours. A helicopter was able to land near the plane Sunday night and take three people to Custer to be transported by ambulance to a Rapid City hospital. The fire started by a vehicle Friday afternoon near Edgemont has grown to 4,200 acres and is about 30 percent contained. Details will follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 7-2-12 / 1102 hours

**AND:**

Hey,

In an article in yesterday's NY Times, the headline read " As Furniture Burns Quicker, Firefighters Reconsider Tactics"----this is a continuation of the outstanding work veteran urban Deputy Fire Chief (Ret) and Fire Protection Engineer **Steve "Water On The Fire" Kerber** and others are doing. Steve, the crew from UL, NIST, IAFC-SHS and others (such as FDNY in this case) are making some major impacts as they prove, without emotion-but with fact-how fires have changed in the last several years-and how some tactics should be changed to match the killer conditions. As you will read below, they are proving time and time again that often, venting doesn't always cool and often allows for conditions to get much worse. The facts prove the need for water on the fire, to be a major priority-and in some cases, the top priority in order for us to more effectively save civilian lives-and to give us a better chance to survive as well. Keep an eye on the important work that Chief Kerber (recently appointed as an Hon FDNY Battalion Chief) and the many veteran Fire Officers and Firefighters working with him are doing. **Here is more information from the article (link to entire article below) along with related links (including free training materials, as well.**

One of the first tasks for firefighters arriving at a blazing home has long been to ventilate the structure - make holes in it - so that hot gases and smoke can escape. It has been this way for generations: a so-called roof man from a ladder company opens a hatch or saws through the ceiling, while other firefighters break windows as they search inside, often before the first drop of water has hit the fire. But house fires have changed. Now, spurred on by at least one grievous injury to a firefighter last year, the FDNY is rethinking its tactics for residential fires, while trying to hold onto its culture of "aggressive interior firefighting" - charging inside burning buildings as fast as possible. As it is the largest municipal department in the country, its new course may well affect the tactics of other fire departments.

"We're an organization steeped in tradition and we've been fighting fires for many years in certain ways and they worked," the fire commissioner, Salvatore J. Cassano, said in a phone interview. "But we owe it to everybody who works for us and the people we serve to look at the way we fight fires."

Plastic fillings in sofas and mattresses burn much faster than older fillings like cotton, helping to transform the behavior of house fires in the last few decades, firefighters and engineers say. With more plastic in homes, residential fires are now likely to use up all the oxygen in a room before they consume all flammable materials. The resulting smoky, oxygen-deprived fires appear to be going

out. But they are actually waiting for an inrush of fresh air, which can come as firefighters cut through roofs and break windows. Scientists and the Fire Department will conduct an ambitious experiment beginning today on Governors Island in New York Harbor: they will burn down 20 vacant row houses stuffed with modern furniture, to gauge which techniques work best in fighting the blazes.

**"Years ago you could break a window and it took the fire several minutes to develop - or tens of minutes," a fire battalion chief in Queens, George K. Healy, said. "Now we're learning when you vent that window or the door, the fire is developing in, say, a minute with the available oxygen." Plastics, like the polyurethane foam used as filling in furniture, have drastically reduced the time it takes for a fire to heat a room above 1,100 degrees, the point at which it is likely to burst into flames, firefighters and scientists say.**

How flammable such fillings can be was shown in a catastrophic 2007 fire in a furniture showroom in Charleston, S.C., that killed nine firefighters. And last year, in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, Firefighter Robert Wiedmann was burned over nearly half his body in a brownstone fire that officials said fed quickly on home furnishings and an inrush of air through opened windows. The fire appeared to be confined to a rear bedroom, and firefighters expected it to be routine. But a front room in which Firefighter Wiedmann was searching burst into flames within seconds. A video posted on YouTube recorded the inferno, and a colleague's desperate bid to save Firefighter Wiedmann's life by slapping with gloves at his burning back.

**Ventilation is not the only basic firefighting tactic coming under scrutiny. For instance, it has long been considered a cardinal sin for firefighters to spray water on a room full of smoke with no flames. Water drives the smoke from the ceiling toward the floor, eliminating the low foot or two of visibility - and oxygen - along the floor that firefighters relied on to navigate an unfamiliar house and that survivors needed to breathe. Some chiefs within the Fire Department have come to believe, however, that quickly dousing a smoky room to cool the gases near the ceiling might be more important than preserving any smoke-free corridor along the floor.**

For weeks, department officials and scientists have stocked the 20 abandoned row houses on Governors Island, which for years had been used as Coast Guard housing, with red, purple and beige sofas and chairs, along with coffee tables and armoires - all bought from hotel liquidators. On Monday, the scientists will start burning the houses down, while studying how the slightest change in ventilation - an opened door or a broken window - affects the heat and pressure indoors. "This is a huge experiment for us," Mr. Cassano said in an interview, adding that it could lead to a number of tactical changes. In one set of controlled burns, the Fire Department will study the efficacy of its standard approach to fighting basement fires - entering the house and descending the stairs to the basement. Entering on the first floor, directly above the fire, puts firefighters in a dangerous spot but is considered necessary to protect other occupants of the building, by placing firefighters between them and the fire.

The experiments will test whether another approach, sticking a nozzle through a basement window, is more effective. The Fire Department has long been inclined to fight fires from inside residences, rather than through open windows, based on a belief that the outside method will drive the fire toward other areas of the house, where occupants might be. More generally, the experiments, which are being conducted with Underwriters Laboratories Inc. and the federal National Institute of Standards and Technology, will focus on how a change in ventilation, as from an open window, might change the behavior of a fire inside.

**"Everyone assumed that when you ventilate, things cool off, that venting equals cooling," said**

Stephen Kerber, a research engineer with Underwriters Laboratories who is helping run the experiments. "We're proving time and time again that venting doesn't cool and allows for things to get much hotter."

The lessons from the experiments will take time to discern, but Mr. Kerber and others involved said they believed that there was need for greater coordination between the roof man and the engine company. Mr. Kerber said venting was sometimes happening too early, before the engine company had a hose in place. He also suggested that the firefighter responsible for breaking open the front door should be trained to shut the door most of the way immediately after managing to break it open, and wait with the door nearly closed until the hose line was ready to go inside. Mr. Cassano, the fire commissioner, acknowledged that "ventilation may be hurting people in the fire if we don't ventilate properly."

The results of the tests may, at some level, underscore how putting out fires quickly can sometimes be at odds with the Fire Department's priority, which is to locate and rescue people. "In years past the focus has been on search and rescue, and getting water on the fire is secondary, but with how rapidly fires are developing today, the focus needs to be on getting water on the fire first and then search and rescue," Mr. Kerber said.

All of this has led to an intense debate within the department. But several fire officials insisted that no matter what, firefighters will still go in quickly if they think there might be lives to be saved. "Aggressive interior tactics, that's the best chance for saving life and saving property," said a battalion chief, James C. Kane, who has been involved in setting up the experiments. "I don't believe this is going to change our tactics drastically to the point where we will change our aggressive interior tactics; we're just looking at changing ventilation."

=ARTICLE: CAN YOU PUSH FIRE?: <http://fire.epubxp.com/i/44176/21>  
[http://www.facebook.com/note.php?note\\_id=359414417425313](http://www.facebook.com/note.php?note_id=359414417425313) (Related)

=ARTICLE: VENTILATION TO SAVE LIVES: Fire Engineering: <http://tinyurl.com/6lx93k4>

=FREE: FIREFIGHTER TRAINING FROM UL RELATED TO: Basement Fires, Impact of Horizontal Ventilation, Structural Stability of Engineered Lumber in Fire Conditions, Upholstered Furniture Flammability, Impact of Vertical Ventilation and more HERE:  
<http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/offerings/industries/buildingmaterials/fire/courses/>

=ARTICLE: BASEMENT FIRES: FF Nation: <http://www.firefighternation.com/article/firefighter-safety/ul-basement-fire-study>

#### **WISCONSIN FIREFIGHTERS INJURED PERFORMING RESCUES, 1 CIV DEAD**

One person was killed in a fire that struck apartments and businesses in downtown Oconomowoc yesterday afternoon. Four firefighters were injured, including one from the City of Oconomowoc Fire Department who was transferred to Columbia St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee for treatment for serious smoke inhalation. Firefighters believed two people were missing and presumed dead inside the apartments, but the number of fatalities was revised later. The fire started in the middle of the block and fanned out on each side. A building with a wooden roof at the end of the block was built in 1871. Fire crews were attempting to save it by pouring water on the wall shared with another building. Two City of Oconomowoc firefighters who went into the building to help ran out of air....they had to be helped from the building....they suffered smoke inhalation. Two other firefighters -- from Dousman and Ashippun -- were treated at Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital for heat exhaustion and released. The Oconomowoc firefighter who was not taken to Columbia St. Mary's Hospital was

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

treated at Oconomowoc Memorial and released. outside. The stairway at the back of the building is scorched," Beguhn said. The state fire marshal was called to the scene. A damage estimate was not available. More than 100 firefighters from several area departments operated.

**Take Care-BE CAREFUL. Get Water On The Fire.**

BillyG

The Secret List 7-2-12 / 0906 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

**FDNY Fire Marshals arrested** a 17-year-old boy whose illegal fireworks allegedly sparked a chain of events leading to the death of a motorcyclist Monday afternoon. Kevin Saunders was carelessly lighting fireworks when the building at 315 Nostrand Ave. caught fire around 1603 hours. Several worried neighbors called 911, and Ladder Company 111 was amongst the companies sent to extinguish the fire. At the same time, Reginald Brown, a motorcyclist described as a cautious driver and bike club member by those who knew him, was riding in the neighborhood. Their paths collided at an intersection where the fire apparatus struck Brown's red Kawasaki with enough force to send the 46-year-old flying into the front window of a beauty salon on the corner. He was pronounced dead at Woodhull Hospital. It is still unclear who had the green light, and FDNY officials say the truck had its lights on and sirens on at the time of the accident - and numerous witnesses clearly heard the apparatus responding. Brown was heading home to change clothes as he planned to attend a memorial for a club member who was killed in another motorcycle accident exactly one year ago.

**ILLINOIS FIRE CHIEF ACCIDENTALLY BURNS FIRE SAFETY EXPERT DURING FIREWORKS DEMO**

A Fire Chief's well intentioned demonstration of the dangers of fireworks became a "close call lessons learned" event this morning when a canister accidentally tipped over and shot fireworks into a crowd, slightly injuring the director of a fire safety group. Laura Barros of the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance, suffered a small burn on her left foot. Before heading off to the hospital, Barros said the episode illustrated how dangerous fireworks can be no matter who handles them. The incident happened during a press conference at alliance headquarters in Mount Prospect. At the tail end of the conference, Hillside Fire Chief Michael Kuryla demonstrated the power of legally purchased novelty fireworks by lighting a sparkler and then igniting two fireworks canisters placed on a wooden pallet in the parking lot. Before a crowd of media, fire officials and alliance staff members, one of the canisters accidentally tipped over and shot fireworks into the crowd. Barros suffered a small black burn on the top of her foot. The crowd immediately rushed to her aid, pouring cold water on the burn and calling for an ambulance to take her to an emergency room. An understandably and visibly shaken Chief Kuryla apologized for the "unfortunate incident." **"We did not mean to hurt anyone," he said. "But it shows that, trained or untrained, (fireworks) are very dangerous."**

**SOUTH DAKOTA WILDLAND AIR CRASH QUADRUPLE LODD UPDATE:**

Our condolences to all those affected by the LODD's of the 4 Charlotte (N.C.) based Air National Guard members who were killed in the crash of their C-130 plane Sunday night in a firefighting detail in South Dakota's Black Hills. Lt. Col. Paul Mikeal of Mooresville, Master Sgt. Robert Cannon of Charlotte, Joe McCormick of Belmont and Captain Major Select Ryan Scott David of Boone were among those who died in the Line of Duty. RIP. Josh Marlowe of Shelby was seriously injured in the crash and in a South Dakota hospital.

**DC FEMS LEADERSHIP IS BUSY.**

When one thinks of being busy in our business, making runs comes to mind---but the top leadership of DC FEMS is busy busy with numerous non-run related issues. Lots on their agenda these days

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

such as the DC FEMS POOL-WATER-GATE, ACLU Looking At DC FEMS ....nd Other Lessons Of Value: **BE SURE** to follow the latest details from **DaveS** related to the DCFD an in particular, the FEMS Leadership.

<http://tinyurl.com/cbr82ao> (Pool-Water-Gate at DC FEMS)

<http://tinyurl.com/78f7nw2> (Fire Officer Under Fire By FEMS Chief)

<http://tinyurl.com/6szrcfk> (ACLU-oscopy At DC FEMS)

**Why do we share this DC FEMS leadership stuff when our mission is FF Survival? Exactly.**

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-3-12 / 2258 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

**Please LISTEN** to this 90 second audio clip from the Detroit FD this morning.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAiGLrY2Mkw&feature=youtu.be>

Also tomorrow there will be a reported 22 companies out of service and to total of 164 firefighters on duty. Sad and dangerous times in Detroit (and many other areas) for so many reasons.

**WANT** more information about the situation in Detroit? Watch **THIS VIDEO** Trailer:

<http://detroitfirefilm.org/>

**UPDATE: OHIO FIREFIGHTER HAS LEGS AMPUTATED AFTER SCENE CRASH**

We are sad to report that Washington Township Firefighter Josef Tadijanac remains in intensive care at Riverside Methodist Hospital. As you will recall, FF Tadijanac's legs were crushed June 24 at a fire in Troy Township. Both of his legs were amputated above the knees June 28. **WHAT HAPPENED:**

A Jefferson Township-Bellville FD International 400 fire apparatus was stationary when it rolled into FF Tadijanac, pinning him against a stationary Troy Township International 7400 fire truck. According to Ohio State Patrol, normally the pumpers have to be put into park before firefighters can engage the pump. There are some fire engines, and this was one of those, that allowed the firefighters to engage the pump while still in gear, for pump and roll. In his situation, is the pumper was left in gear with the air brake on while the firefighter was engaging the pump. When you engage the pump you have to increase the RPMs to get the right PSI for the nozzle pressure. When they did that, it caused it the pumper to lurch forward because it was still in gear. The Jefferson pumper fire engine lurched forward causing a very tragic, an unintentional accident. The investigation is continuing. We wish him a very successful recovery-he should be out of ICU in the next 10 days or so.

**HAPPY 4th OF JULY-From us, to you and yours: (COMMENTARY)**

If you have been a member of The Secret List for any amount of time, (started in 1998), you understand how fiercely patriotic we are. **Patriotic**. Not extreme right. Not extreme left. **Patriotic and Loyal to our Country...and Freedom. From us to you-a couple of short but - we feel - meaningful, excellent clips:** Please take a moment to watch-and to share these-with those who may not understand, or who may need a refresher about **the history and the intent of our Declaration of Independence:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yb7MI8NQLoo> **America the Story of Us: Declaration of Independence** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYyttEu\\_NLU&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYyttEu_NLU&feature=related) **Our Declaration of Independence-Opinion by Morgan Freeman**

**Here are some clips from our absolutely favorite show related to the Birth of America:**

"1776" .... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAfjiUZEU94&feature=related> (Trailer: 1776)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3TGbKfkWGA> (Sit Down John-a/k/a: **By God I Have Had It With Congress**)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSeoi1fE25A> (**Congress: Not One Thing Do They Solve**)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJmNnEPZHW8> (The Signing of The Declaration of Independence)

**Please Take Time Now To Remember All Those Serving In Our Military As Well as Those Who Have Given Their Lives in the Line of Duty. Enjoy the above clips. God Bless America.**

Take care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List July 4th, 2012 / 2137 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

A Fayette County (PA) Firefighter suffered temporary hearing loss yesterday when an explosive device went off while he was extinguishing a dumpster fire. It's another reminder that dumpsters are amongst the ultimate "unknown" in firefighting. **(See below: FF Killed-Dumpster Fire/Explosion)**. FF Todd Fullem, 40, from Uniontown, was putting out the fire on Thursday when a large explosion occurred inside the dumpster-FF Fullem was thrown to the ground. According to police, a crowd of people cheered after Fullem was hurt. **Nice**. Firefighters responded to at least two other fires in the public housing complex overnight, including another Dumpster and a couch. Firefighters eventually doused all of the dumpsters in the complex to prevent additional fires.

**DUMPSTER FIRE KILLS FIREFIGHTER IN THE LINE OF DUTY-A REMINDER**

In December 2009, 33 year old FF Steven 'Peanut' Koeser died in the Line of Duty and 8 Firefighters, including a lieutenant and a junior fire fighter, were injured in a dumpster explosion at a foundry in Wisconsin. At 1933 hours, dispatch reported a dumpster fire at a foundry in a rural area. Eight minutes later, the initial responding crews and the incident commander (IC) arrived on scene to find a dumpster emitting approximately two-foot high bluish green flames from the open top and having a ten-inch reddish-orange glow in the middle of the dumpster's south side near the bottom. The IC used an attic ladder to examine the contents of the dumpster: aluminum shavings, foundry floor sweepings, and a 55 gallon drum. Approximately 700 gallons of water was put on the fire with no affect. Approximately 100 gallons of foam solution, starting at 1 percent and increased to 3 percent, was then put on the fire, and again there was no noticeable effect. Just over twelve minutes on scene, the contents of the dumpster started sparking then exploded sending shrapnel and barrels into the air. The explosion killed one fire fighter and injured eight other fire fighters, all from the same volunteer department.

**HERE is the NIOSH On The LODD of FF Peanut Koeser Along With Photos and Related Information:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200931.html>

**REMEMBERING FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-JULY (Excellent Links, Video, Photos etc Below):**

**2 CT FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-2010**

**2 CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-2007**

**3 NJ FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-2002**

**5 NJ FIREFIGHTERS KILLED-1988**

**While we cannot always write about every past LODD, we do our best to share many of them-especially multiple LODD's at the same location-and especially those with published reports so that we can all honor the Firefighters killed, by learning about what went right-or wrong.**

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

On July 4th, 2002 at 0136 hrs., The Gloucester City FD along with auto-mutual aid including the Mt Ephraim FD was dispatched to 200 North Broadway in Gloucester City for a dwelling fire. Responding units were advised that occupants may be trapped. First arriving units were on the scene in less than three minutes and had heavy fire, burn victims and kids trapped. While Firefighters were operating an interior attack and rescue, a partial collapse of the structure occurred. An emergency evacuation signal was sounded and while that was happening, a much more substantial collapse occurred trapping 8 Firefighters. Additional rescue resources were requested, Firefighter accountability was initiated and rescue efforts continued. Five of the eight trapped Firefighters were rescued. But 3 Firefighters (see below) died in the Line of Duty and 3 children were killed. We remember James Sylvester, Fire Chief, Mount Ephraim FD. Sylvester, 31, a 17 year veteran, was survived by his wife, who was pregnant with the couple's first child. John West Deputy Chief, Mount Ephraim FD. West, 40, a 23-year veteran, was survived by his wife and three children. Thomas G. Stewart III, Career Firefighter, Gloucester City FD. Stewart, 30, a 13 year veteran, was survived by his fiancée and their son. Stewart publicly proposed to his girlfriend, just hours before the fire while they watched the city's fireworks from high atop a fire truck ladder at Gloucester City High School.

**HERE is the NIOSH REPORT:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200232.html>

**HERE is the NJ STATE REPORT:** <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dfs/reports/gloucester.pdf>

**HERE is the DISCOVERY CHANNEL VIDEO** Report and re-creation w/Interviews of those FF's who Survived:

<http://firefighterspot.com/#Gloucester-City-New-Jersey-Fatal-Fire-Video>

#### **==BRIDGEPORT CT FIREFIGHTERS KILLED**

Two years ago, on July 24, 2 Bridgeport FF's, 40-year-old Lieutenant Steve Velazquez and 49-year-old Firefighter Michel Baik, from Ladder 11 were killed in the Line of Duty. They were found unresponsive at a residential structure fire. Valazquez and Baik and two additional crew members were tasked with conducting a primary search for civilians and fire extension on the 3rd floor of the multifamily residential structure. The fire had been extinguished on the 2nd floor upon their entry into the structure. **While pulling walls and the ceiling on the 3rd floor, smoke and heat conditions changed rapidly.**

**HERE is the NIOSH Report:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201018.html>

**HERE ARE THE DETAILS OF THE FIRE FROM IAFFTV:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRHQxJlh7OY> (GREAT VIDEO FOR A COMPANY DRILL)

**HERE IS MEDIA VIDEO** about the Fire: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DSIVAGV1c4>

#### **==THE HACKENSACK FORD FIRE KILLS 5 FIREFIGHTERS**

**Remember Hackensack (NJ) Fire Captain Williams, Lieutenant Reinhagen, and Firemen Kresja, Radumski, and Ennis were killed while fighting a fire at Hackensack Ford, on July 1, 1988.** To the younger Firefighters on The Secret List and visitors to FireFighterCloseCalls.com, please take time to study this fire and also determine if your local "fire" library (department, academy, training center etc) has access to the old AMERICAN HEAT video and story on this fire. It is a "must see" study for all firefighters. These 6 men were in the structure, a bowstring truss building, when the roof suddenly collapsed. Williams, Kresja, and Radumski were killed instantly, and Reinhagen and Ennis, despite heroic rescue attempts, were trapped and died from carbon monoxide poisoning. This fire caused significant awareness and changes in many aspects of firefighting not only in Hackensack, but all of North America.

**(From the NFPA Report):**

<http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/Research/DealershipHackensack.pdf>

5 Firefighters from the Hackensack, New Jersey, FD were killed in the Line of Duty while they were

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

engaged in interior fire suppression efforts at an automobile dealership when portions of the building's wood bowstring truss roof suddenly collapsed. The incident occurred on Friday, July 1, 1988, at approximately 1500 hours., when they received the first of a series of telephone calls reporting "flames and smoke" coming from the roof of the Hackensack Ford Dealership. Two pumpers, a ladder truck, and a battalion chief responded to the first alarm assignment. The first arriving fire fighters observed a "heavy smoke condition" at the roof area of the building. Engine company crews investigated the source of the smoke inside the building while the truck company crew assessed conditions on the roof. For the next 20 minutes, the focus of the suppression effort was concentrated on these initial tactics. During this time, however, **little headway appeared to have been made by the initial suppression efforts**, and the magnitude of the fire continued to grow. The overall fire ground tactics were shifted to "defensive" and the battalion chief gave the order to "back your lines out." However, before suppression crews could exit form the interior, **a sudden partial collapse of the truss roof occurred, trapping six fire fighters. An intense fire immediately engulfed the area of the collapse.** One trapped fire fighter was able to escape through an opening in the debris. The other five died as a result of the collapse. This incident and an earlier similar incident at the Waldbaums supermarket fire in Brooklyn, New York.

<http://stevespak.com/waldbaums.html> provide good lessons to the fire service regarding wood truss roof assemblies.

**ARTICLE:** <http://tinyurl.com/339u4z9>

**RESOURCES & REPORT:** <http://tinyurl.com/2uchtog>

#### **==2 CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS KILLED:**

Two Contra Costa County firefighters lost their lives on July 21, 2007 after they were caught in flashover as they tried unsuccessfully to rescue a couple from their burning dwelling. A "seemingly routine" call for help quickly turned disastrous with four lives lost, and left the 300-member Contra Costa County Fire Protection District reeling from the first on-duty deaths in its history. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Capt. Matt Burton, 34, and Fire Engineer Scott Desmond, 37 died in the fire at the couple's ranch-style, one-story home. The firefighters had managed to pull one victim from the home and were trying to find the other person when they were caught in the flashover.

Captain Burton and FE Desmond were from the first arriving crew at 0150 hours. They made a fast attack and quickly knocked down the visible fire in the living room. They requested vertical ventilation, grabbed a thermal imaging camera, and made re-entry **without a handline** to search for the two residents known to be inside. Another crew entered **without a handline** and began a search for the two residents in the kitchen area. **A positive pressure ventilation fan** was set at the front door to increase visibility for the search teams. The crew found and was removing a civilian from the kitchen area as rollover was observed extending from the hallway into the living room. Additional crews arrived on-the-scene and started to perform various fireground activities before a battalion chief arrived and assumed command. The IC arrived at 0201 hours and asked the victims' engineer the location of his officer. The officer who assisted removing the civilian from the kitchen briefly re-entered to fight the fire. He then exited and notified the incident commander about his concern for the air supply of both victims who were still in the structure at approximately 0205 hours. Crews conducted a search for the victims and found them in a back bedroom where they had been overcome by a rapid fire event.

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

**NIOSH REPORT:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200728.html>

**MEDIA REPORT:** <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/archives/42/Montalvinfirereport1.7.19.08CCTimes.News.pdf>

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. LOADS OF GOOD LEARNING ABOVE.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-6-12 / 0840 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Philly FF Dan Crawford, an 18 yr vet from Rescue 1 is stable now after getting seriously injured in this mornings 4 alarm fire. He fractured L -2,3,4 in his back following a fall of over 10 ft from apparatus. Naturally, he will be recovering for a while. Firefighters brought the fire under control in 1 hour 36 minutes. The four-alarm fire destroyed a vacant warehouse at Front Street and Girard Avenue. The fire broke out in the 75-feet by 75-feet, four-story building around 0230 hours and escalated to four alarms within an hour. The fire was declared under control at 4:15 a.m. Its cause is under investigation. We wish him a rapid and successful recovery.

**==SHOTS FIRED AT CINCINNATI FIREFIGHTERS**

Cincinnati firefighters were sent running for cover after a dirtbag shot at them at them while operating at an apartment fire last night. It happened as companies were mopping up from the apartment fire on Montgomery Road at about 2030. Firefighters ducked behind their apparatus to hide from the flying bullets. No one was hit and cops are still searching for the shooter. The CFD Firefighters were called to the apartment a half an hour earlier.

**==SOMETHING IS ALWAYS BURNING HERE:** Here is a must read article about Detroit, the daily arson fires, the Firefighters and the history their City:

<http://www.thestar.com/news/world/article/1222546--detroit-facing-arson-rampage-as-hundreds-of-buildings-destroyed>

**RELATED DETROIT VIDEOS:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI261NDLWIM> (Detroit Fire)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDoUpXNmcZA&feature=related> (Detroit On Fire-U of Michigan Film Project)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ii3r4X5Woo&feature=related> (Time/Life: Behind Detroit Notorious Ruins)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NL\\_YdRxBhzl&feature=relmfu](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NL_YdRxBhzl&feature=relmfu) (The Red, White & Economic Blues)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6WKMNmFsxM&feature=mvst> (A Tour of Detroit Ghetto)

**==MAYOR MICHAEL SCOTT? Dunder Mifflin Management Style:**

Hopefully you are up to speed on this PA City's Mayor decision to reduce every employee, including Firefighters, to minimum wage? <http://tinyurl.com/7okbjrl>

**RELATED LEADERSHIP VIDEO (sorta):**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J47fero-JdQ&feature=related>

**==LOOKING FORWARD to seeing many of you at Firehouse Expo in Baltimore next week.**

<http://firehouseexpo.com/>

**DON'T FORGET:**

Central Maryland FOOLS and Northern Virginia FOOLS are working together to put on a great "Brotherhood Bash" this year during Firehouse Expo. It will be held on Thursday July 19th. starting at 1500. The funds raised this year will be going to two causes and they are the Anne Arrundle Professional Firefighters Burn Foundation as well as the Terry Farrell Firefighters Fund. Cya there!

**DETAILS HERE:**

[http://foolsinternational.com/events/new\\_Baltimore\\_FireHouse\\_Expo\\_BrotherHood\\_Bash.shtml](http://foolsinternational.com/events/new_Baltimore_FireHouse_Expo_BrotherHood_Bash.shtml)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

BillyG

The Secret List 7-10-12 / 0959 Hours

**AND:**

**MONTREAL FIREFIGHTER STRUCK AND KILLED BY FIRE APPARATUS**

We regret to advise you that a Montreal (Canada) Firefighter has died in the Line of Duty after he was struck by fire apparatus this afternoon. The Firefighter, reportedly, 38-years old, was part of a company operating on a building fire run in Ville St. Laurent. Initial reports are that the apparatus was backing up when the Firefighter was struck. 2 other Firefighters were treated and transported to the hospital to be treated for shock. Our sincere condolences to all affected. RIP More details will follow.

**RELATED REPORTS:**

NJ FF LODD STRUCK WHILE SPOTTING BACKING RIG:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200910.html>

CA FF LODD FALLS OFF RIG, STRUCK BY BACKING APPARATUS:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200501.html>

TX FF RUN OVER BY A BRUSH TRUCK: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200236.html>

**CHECK OUT:**

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

and

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/research/safety/vehicle-roadway.shtm>

for additional related resources.

**8 YEAR OLD CRITICAL FOLLOWING PA. APPARATUS CRASH**

A Rostraver Central (PA) Volunteer Fire Co. truck was involved in a crash that injured an 8-year-old Fellsburg boy. Jennifer Kolodychak was traveling west on Fellsburg Road at 1830 on July 4th and was about to pass through a green light at a four-way intersection when her Chevrolet Suburban collided with a ladder truck driven by Firefighter Justin Shawley. Logan Kolodychak, 8, buckled into the second-row seat on the driver's side of the Suburban, suffered major injuries. He was taken to Monongahela Valley Hospital in Carroll Township via ambulance. He was scheduled to undergo reconstructive facial surgery scheduled yesterday at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. Reports are that Jennifer Kolodychak, "never (saw) the fire truck" and "may have been talking with her kids."

According to reports, the apparatus approached the intersection "with lights and audible alarm activated" and "nearly stopped." 3 other Firefighters were in the truck, including Martin Palla, who was riding the front seat. Palla told cops he was sounding the horn and an unknown vehicle, traveling east, yielded to the fire truck. Palla reported that Shawley stopped for the unidentified vehicle, and when the intersection was clear, proceeded left onto Fellsburg Road. Palla said the truck was "halfway through the intersection" when Kolodychak collided with the truck. The report indicated that witness Julie Sabo, who had stopped for the fire truck in the east lane of Fellsburg Road, said the truck was turning left through a red light when the impact occurred. She said the truck's emergency lights were activated. We'll keep you updated as more details are released.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-13-12 / 2100 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

July 15, 2012

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

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**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

A Lynchburg (VA) judge sentenced an EMT involved a fatal crash to a \$25 fine after finding him guilty of improper driving - a three-point DMV violation in line with speeding by less than 10 miles per hour. The judge said he didn't find evidence of recklessness on the part of EMT Justin Kidd. At the time of the crash, Kidd was a Campbell County Public Safety employee. He was driving the Campbell County Rescue Squad ambulance involved in that May 3 wreck that killed retired firefighter Dean Anders. Witnesses testified Kidd ran a red light.

**HERE** is more: <http://www.wset.com/story/19012473/ambulance-driver-fined-after-fatal-crash>

**=WATCH & WAIT:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET CUTS** Budget cuts force Firefighters-and citizens they serve, to watch and wait:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/07/13/fire-department-cuts-a-thousand-cuts\\_n\\_1659671.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/07/13/fire-department-cuts-a-thousand-cuts_n_1659671.html)

**RELATED**

**JUST LIKE INSURANCE**-Fire Departments & FF's Are Only "Of Value" And Only "Pay Off" .....When Needed: Thank God For Taxes....perspective when the below writers house catches on fire:

[http://www.salon.com/2012/07/13/thank\\_god\\_for\\_taxes/?partner=skygrid](http://www.salon.com/2012/07/13/thank_god_for_taxes/?partner=skygrid)

**=TRAINING PAYS OFF AS FIREFIGHTER MAKE A RESCUE IN OHIO (VIDEO)**

Once again training pays off for Firefighters. In this case, it was a high-rise fire on Wednesday in Youngstown, Ohio. Just after 2000 hours, companies were called to a fire on Federal St., which houses Huntington Bank. A cleaning woman was on the 11th floor and could not be reached by any of the department's ladder trucks, so a crew raced up the steps and got her out of the building. HERE is more: <http://tinyurl.com/d5yzs6q>

**=OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES:**

All of you know Chief Harvey Eisner, the long time Editor in Chief of Firehouse Magazine, FDNY Hon Deputy Chief & Former Chief of the Tenafly, NJ FD.

Very sadly, Harvey's long time girlfriend, Jean Rank, died after a long and very courageous fight. Jean was often seen having a ball working the Firehouse booths at all of the conferences and trade shows. On behalf of all the members of The Secret List, our heartfelt condolences to Harvey, Jeans Family & The Firehouse Crew.

**Funeral arrangements as as follows:**

Wake for Jean Rank: Malverne Funeral Home, 330 Hempstead Ave, Malverne, NY (Nassau County, Long Island) - Saturday, July 14, 7 to 9 pm, Sunday, July 15, 2-4 pm, 7-9 pm - Funeral Mass - Monday, July 16, 9:45 am, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 65 Wright Ave, Malverne, NY

Burial at Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury, NY - In lieu of flowers donations to: Cycle For Survival Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital, 1275 York Ave, NY, NY 10065 RIP Jean.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-13-12 / 1020 Hours

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

**NOTE:**

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

**Budget Related Items:**

The city of Corvallis (OR) newest firehouse is shut down in budget-cutting move. At Fire Station 5 on Friday afternoon, Corvallis firefighter Dan Cox looked around at the furniture pushed against the walls and the pots and pans packed up in cardboard boxes as if he couldn't quite believe what was happening. "It's a weird day," he said. "We've never closed a fire station in Corvallis." But that's exactly what's happening now. As of 7 o'clock this morning, the 8-year-old firehouse just off Northwest Walnut Boulevard by Martin Luther King Park will close its doors until further notice. The closure is part of a sweeping set of cutbacks approved by the City Council this month aimed at balancing the budget. Mothballing Station 5 is expected to save more than \$470,000 over the next fiscal year. Only about \$24,000 of that is tied directly to operating costs for the building. Most of the savings will come from eliminating three vacant firefighter positions from the budget, as well as from reduced overtime costs due to having more relief firefighters available: [http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/last-call-out-for-station/article\\_953c2328-b748-11e1-8ae9-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/last-call-out-for-station/article_953c2328-b748-11e1-8ae9-0019bb2963f4.html)

Tucson (AZ) Fire says they've lost 56 positions over the past few years. At the end of this month, they're expecting another 33 staff members to retire. While they're planning to fill some of the retiree positions, it will take some time. Barrett Baker, from Tucson Fire, says emergency response time can suffer in a situation like this. He showed News 4 Tucson a color coded map of how the times have gotten slower in certain areas. "With the budget setbacks we've had over the past several years, and with losing the personnel, we've actually gotten into this stage, which is yellow. Yellow is bad." To help, Tucson Fire is shuffling their resources from less busy stations to the ones that need them most. Currently, one ladder truck and four staff members are set to be moved from Station 20. "There will be two people at Station 8 to help them with the amount of calls they're running, and then another unit that will run alpha calls will be moved to a midtown station," Baker continued. According to Tucson Fire, this will not negatively impact the citizens who rely on Station 20. They say there are enough other ladder engines and firefighters to service that area:

<http://www.kvoa.com/videos/tucson-fire-department-has-new-plan-to-tackle-budget-setbacks/>

Baltimore (MD) Fire Chief James Clack explained in detail a plan to save money by permanently closing three fire companies during a City Council public safety committee hearing Wednesday. Clack said the plan, outlined as part of Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake's pending budget, won't close any stations or cause layoffs and will help the department regroup after years of rotating closures, which he called a short-term solution to a long-term budget problem. A smaller force, shrunk through unfilled vacancies and retirements but still able to respond across the city, will save the city money in turn, he said:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/breaking/bs-md-ci-fire-hearing-20120620,0,894578.story>

The Tucson Fire Department is looking at ways to help ease the high call volume of two stations without stretching its budget. Starting in August, the department will move two EMTs, a firefighter and a paramedic from Station 20, near North First Avenue and East River Road, and create two teams that will be sent to a midtown and a north-side station, both with higher call volumes. "We're trying to get the best bang for our buck with the resources that we have, at the same time maintaining a high level of customer service ... and protection to the community," said Assistant Fire Chief Joe Gulotta: [http://azstarnet.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/fire-staff-shuffled-to-meet-demand/article\\_9d8461db-3e8d-5004-befc-0cef3d11ad54.html](http://azstarnet.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/fire-staff-shuffled-to-meet-demand/article_9d8461db-3e8d-5004-befc-0cef3d11ad54.html)

Hemet (CA) is considering laying off almost 20 percent of its Fire Department, which officials say could force a fire station to shut down, in order to help close the city's \$1.4 million budget shortfall: <http://www.pe.com/local-news/riverside-county/hemet/hemet-headlines-index/20120620-hemet-fire-department-facing-layoffs.ece>

The Cathedral City (CA) City Council has decided to cut 33 positions in order to trim an \$8 million deficit, officials said this evening. The number of police and fire department jobs jeopardized has gone down from City Manager Don Bradley's initial April budget proposal but now includes 14 positions in the police department, five in the fire division and 14 at City Hall: <http://www.mydesert.com/article/20120619/NEWS01/206190312/Cathedral-City-cut-33-positions-including-firefighters-police-officers?odyssey=nav%7Chead>

Detroit (MI) Mayor Dave Bing on Monday said 164 firefighters would be laid off by the end of July: <http://www.firefighternation.com/article/news-2/detroit-layoff-over-100-firefighters>

Should the City of Baltimore's (MD) red fire trucks be transformed into rolling billboards? After Baltimore officials made the wrenching decision to close three fire companies later this summer, the City Council initially sought to avert the cuts with a new money-raising strategy: it passed a resolution this month urging the administration to explore selling ads on the city's fire trucks. It is far from clear whether corporate logos will be painted on Baltimore's fire engines any time soon. Officials in Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake's administration have expressed doubts about whether the proposal would generate enough money to keep even one fire company open. But in exploring the option, Baltimore is joining dozens of other financially struggling cities, transit systems and school districts around the country that are trying to weather the economic downturn by selling advertisements, naming rights and sponsorships to raise money: [http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/25/us/cities-consider-selling-ads-as-economic-lifelines.html?\\_r=2&hpw](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/25/us/cities-consider-selling-ads-as-economic-lifelines.html?_r=2&hpw)

The Contra Costa (CA) Fire District will shutter a third of its 28 fire stations unless voters OK a parcel tax in November, fire officials will advise county supervisors Tuesday. But the district's April poll reveals a steep climb ahead for a tax hike in its nine central Contra Costa cities and unincorporated areas. The tax needs a two-thirds vote. Survey results showed that voters might narrowly approve \$63 a year, the lowest of four individual amounts polled. Voters told pollsters that taxes already are too high, and they fear the money will be misspent. A fire parcel tax measure on the June ballot in East Contra Costa County fell short by nearly 23 percentage points, and the district will close half of its six fire stations on July 1: [http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci\\_20936378/contra-costa-fire-set-make-its-case-fire](http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_20936378/contra-costa-fire-set-make-its-case-fire)

The City Council put Stockton (CA) on an irreversible course toward bankruptcy Tuesday night, voting on a measure that will make it the nation's largest city to seek Chapter 9 protection. Stockton's filing with a federal bankruptcy court in Sacramento will come by the week's end, City Manager Bob Deis said. The 6-1 council vote caps three months of intense, closed-door meetings where Stockton officials asked its major creditors, labor groups and retired employees to take cuts outside of a bankruptcy court. Deis told council members that mediation ended Monday with the city unable to secure deals needed to avert insolvency. They made some progress, he said, but not enough. The decision to move toward bankruptcy came at the end of a contentious five-hour council meeting. Mayor Ann Johnston said the vote was the most difficult in her career as an elected official. "We've been kicking and screaming to not be in the place we're in tonight," Mayor Ann Johnston said. "We will survive. ... It's going to be painful for all of us. But we will get through this stronger and healthier." [http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120627/A\\_NEWS/206270321](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120627/A_NEWS/206270321)

**HEMET (CA): Firefighter layoffs approved — for now.** Hemet passes a city budget that includes firefighter cuts, but is open to compromise before a September funding cutoff:

<http://www.pe.com/local-news/riverside-county/hemet/hemet-headlines-index/20120626-hemet-firefighter-layoffs-approved-for-now.ece>

**The Rodeo-Hercules (CA) Fire District budget, which includes vacant firefighter positions, seems to indicate the closing of the Rodeo fire station. But potential changes to the territory might dictate other staffing changes. The Rodeo-Hercules Fire District board approved a budget earlier this month with staffing levels that presumed the closure of the Rodeo fire station. Seven firefighter positions are vacant, many of them as a result of recent retirements that have not been restaffed:**

<http://hercules.patch.com/articles/fire-district-eyes-staffing-levels-station-status>

**Budget cuts became reality for North Las Vegas (NV) and its employees Sunday as the city began its new fiscal year. The cuts included eliminated positions, cut hours at community centers and libraries, and the closure of the North Las Vegas Detention. It was all to fill a \$33 million budget shortfall. Officials also confirmed the North Las Vegas Fire Department had to shut down station 54 located near Camino Al Norte and Ann Road because they simply did not have enough people to staff it. The closure is not permanent and officials said it could reopen as soon as Monday, dependent on staffing levels:**

<http://www.8newsnow.com/story/18928823/budgets-become-a-reality-for-north-las-vegas-police-and-fire-departments>

**For the first time in five years, Reno's (NV) city budget doesn't call for any layoffs or elimination of programs. "It appears that the worst of the Great Recession is coming to an end," Reno City Manager Andrew Clinger said. "We've hit the bottom and will now start our slow climb back," he said in an address before the mayor and City Council on Monday night. "The city's finances are on stable ground."**

<http://www.foxreno.com/news/news/local/first-reno-budget-07-no-layoffs-cuts/nPrB5/>

**Detroit (MI) sends out order closing 15 fire companies. 200 firefighters to be demoted. In Detroit words has come down that box alarms will now consist of two engines instead of three. That's because the city will be operating with 10 fewer engine companies. Four ladder companies are also being cut. In addition the reduction in companies means 200 firefighters will be reduced in rank and 156 will face lay offs. The union president says one impact will be a significantly older firefighting force. Here are the list of companies that will be closing according to WJBK-TV – Engines 5, 8, 20, 21, 23, 31, 33, 38, 42 and 47, Ladder 1, 10, 16, 24 and TAC 2:**

<http://statter911.com/2012/07/02/detroit-sends-out-order-closing-15-fire-companies-200-firefighters-to-be-demoted/>

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

- ***Someone asked why I run these stories that tend to make the fire service look not-so-professional at times. Well, besides the fact they are public knowledge, I think it is critical for all of us in the fire service – current and future personnel – to learn from not only the good, but the not-so-good of others. Good, bad or indifferent, fire service personnel are in the public eye since we are paid by the taxpayers and they have a right to hold us accountable for our actions since they are paying for us to be here. In today's world, the key to success is building and maintaining positive working***

***relationships with the public, not to mention the elected/appointed officials, since all of them are the ones that ensure we still have jobs and that we get what the community we work for feels is appropriate, reasonable, cost-effective and efficient, in regards to staffing and the number of fire stations and resources.***

A YouTube video portraying Colorado Springs (CO) Fire Chief Rich Brown as Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler led top brass to try to find out whether it was created by an on-duty firefighter. The video, which has received more than 1,300 hits since it was posted June 4, appears to have been created by someone with inside knowledge of the fire department. "People have the right to say what they want to say if they're off-duty. We're not going to infringe on anybody's First Amendment rights," Tommy Smith, the department's deputy chief of support services, said Monday. "But as employees of the city on city time, we don't condone that kind of behavior," he said. "If we were to find out who did that and it was done on-duty, we would hold them accountable." <http://www.gazette.com/articles/fire-140452-video-hitler.html>

A nationally recognized data expert brought in by Los Angeles (CA) Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to restore confidence in the Fire Department's emergency response times is leaving after less than three months on the job. Jeffrey Godown, who was installed as interim director of statistical analysis in March amid a ballooning controversy over the accuracy of the department's performance data, is leaving Tuesday to take a job at UC San Francisco. He said he planned to continue working as a consultant with the department to improve its data analysis, which he said still suffered from fundamental problems. The department should not release any new analyses of its emergency response times "until they are 100% sure that their ... data is as accurate as it can be," Godown said. "And at this time it is not." A former Los Angeles Police Department officer, Godown was the guru behind the agency's statistical crime-tracking system known as Compstat. He was hired this year to trouble-shoot Fire Department data after officials admitted they had disseminated performance reports that made it appear that crews were getting to emergencies faster than they actually were: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-response-times-20120619,0,3191767.story>

Willcox (AZ) firefighter held on \$125,000 bond in wildland arson fires. Eighteen-year-old Evan Weaver of Willcox remains in custody, after being arrested Friday afternoon in connection with some recent wildland fires in the area. Weaver was charged with four counts of arson of property, and one count of fraudulent use of a credit card, said spokeswoman Carol Capas, with the Cochise County Sheriff's Department: <http://www.svherald.com/content/news/2012/06/20/270786>

A nationally recognized expert charged with fixing the Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department's response-time reporting problems said Tuesday the agency failed to provide him with the resources to do his job, and he called for a radical change in the way top fire officials approach data analysis. Jeffrey Godown, who was brought in by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa amid a growing controversy over the accuracy of LAFD performance reports, told the Fire Commission that the agency has not focused enough effort on correcting a problem critical to managing emergency responses. His comments provided a rare inside look at institutional problems that have bedeviled the department as it has struggled to accurately and consistently answer a fundamental question: How fast do rescuers get to victims needing medical aid? Godown's assessment underscores the challenges facing fire commissioners as they try to restore public confidence in the Fire Department's ability to provide timely service. Godown recounted being told by members of the command staff that "it's really not that big a deal" if response time figures were off by several seconds. "There has to be a complete overhaul of the mentality of the command staff of why this is in place," Godown said. "Being

partly right does not work in this business.... That data is the resource you use to make command decisions to run your department."

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-fire-response-20120620,0,6408735.story>

Lessons in handling the bad news: Efforts to keep fire at firefighter's home from reporters ends careers of chief & assistant chief. Take a moment to read this entire article from Laurie Merrill from the Arizona Republic about the forced retirement of the chief and assistant chief of the Tempe (AZ) Fire Department in Arizona. It tells of efforts to keep the story of a suspicious fire at a firefighters home out of the news media. The firefighter was also later accused of assaulting the assistant chief the night of the fire. If their goal was to keep the story a secret it obviously did not work. It has now made the news in a big way and resulted in a shakeup at the top of the department Tempe's fire chief and assistant fire chief retired from their posts last month after an independent investigation found they had committed serious errors during a suspicious fire at the home of a firefighter in their department, according to city officials and documents obtained by *The Arizona Republic*. The report ended the careers of Assistant Fire Chief Marc Scott, a 34-year veteran, and Fire Chief Mark Simmons, a 31-year veteran. They retired in May after the city manager confronted them with the findings of the investigation: <http://statter911.com/2012/06/24/lessons-in-handling-the-bad-news-efforts-to-keep-fire-at-firefighters-home-from-reporters-ends-careers-of-chief-assistant-chief/>

.....And more in depth information regarding the above career-ending story here:

<http://tucsoncitizen.com/arizona-news/2012/06/23/report-tempe-fire-officials-erred-in-case/>

The U.S. Department of Justice has reached an agreement with Davie (FL) to resolve allegations the town discriminated against its pregnant firefighters. Under the town's current policy, Davie refused to put pregnant firefighters on light duty in their first trimester, regardless of their medical or physical needs. Instead, they had to wait until their second trimester, whether they had a doctor's note or not. Meantime, Fire Chief Joe Montopoli routinely granted other firefighters' requests for light duty for non-work-related injuries. The policy is discriminatory and violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by treating pregnant firefighters differently from their male colleagues, federal officials said. "The policies and practices of the Davie Fire Department regarding the assignment of light duty for pregnant women were sexually discriminatory," said Wifredo A. Ferrer, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida. "Discrimination on the basis of sex and pregnancy is illegal." The town plans to discontinue its current policy. Ten current or former Davie firefighters filed discrimination complaints with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, prompting the federal investigation: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/broward/davie/fl-davie-fire-doj-ruling-20120622,0,7023931.story>

Texas Firefighter Charged for Restroom Photos - A Conroe (TX) man was caught in the act of trying to take improper photographs in a New Waverly restroom by his own camera device and has been charged with a felony. Christopher Alexander Clark, a former New Waverly volunteer firefighter, was indicted by a Walker County grand jury Thursday on a single count of improper photography or visual recording. If convicted of the state jail felony, he faces a sentence of up to two years in a state facility and a \$10,000 fine. According to the indictment, on March 4, Clark, 31, placed a smartphone --with an Internet application that allowed it to snap continuous photos -- on the floor near the toilet in the restroom at the New Waverly fire station:

[http://www.firehouse.com/news/10738463/texas-firefighter-charged-for-restroom-photos?cmpid=email\\_CPS120703006&utm\\_source=FH+Newsday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CPS120703006](http://www.firehouse.com/news/10738463/texas-firefighter-charged-for-restroom-photos?cmpid=email_CPS120703006&utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120703006)

The Redlands (CA) Fire Department is embroiled in a lawsuit over gender discrimination. The department's lone female firefighter, Eva Toppo, filed a lawsuit against the city in mid-June, naming Fire Chief Jeff Frazier and battalion chiefs David Graves and Jim Topoleski, as defendants. In the lawsuit Toppo alleges she was refused promotion to the position of captain because of her gender. Denying a promotion based on gender is a violation of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. Toppo, who states in the lawsuit that she was twice rejected for promotion to the position of captain, received that promotion about a month after the lawsuit was filed. The promotion didn't change things:

[http://www.sbsun.com/ci\\_20993615/female-firefighter-claims-gender-discrimination](http://www.sbsun.com/ci_20993615/female-firefighter-claims-gender-discrimination)

An FDNY fire truck collided with a motorcycle in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn on Monday, killing the motorcyclist. Fire officials say Ladder 1-11 was responding to a rubbish fire started by a 17-year-old with illegal fireworks on Nostrand Avenue Monday afternoon. On its way, the fire truck slammed into the bike driven by Reginald Brown, 46, at the intersection of Marcy and Gates Avenues: [http://queens.ny1.com/Content/Top\\_Stories/164137/fire-truck-strikes--kills-motorcyclist-in-bed-stuy?ap=1&MP4](http://queens.ny1.com/Content/Top_Stories/164137/fire-truck-strikes--kills-motorcyclist-in-bed-stuy?ap=1&MP4)

Sheriff tries to determine if fire chief should be arrested for responding to calls. Lack of state certification is the issue in Freeport, Florida: <http://statter911.com/2012/07/06/sheriff-tries-to-determine-if-fire-chief-should-be-arrested-for-responding-to-calls-lack-of-state-certification-is-the-issue-in-freeport-florida/>

Paoli (PA) Fire now admits a firefighter gave a one finger (middle finger) wave on live TV during Philly's July 4th parade. At the time we posted the video above it was brought to our attention that the Paoli Fire Company had removed a press release from its website earlier today saying a much talked about image of one of its firefighters on live TV at yesterday's Independence Day parade in Philadelphia was not an obscene gesture ([you can read the initial press release here](#)). Now the president and chief have issued a special statement saying that it was, in fact, an obscene gesture and the firefighter involved has been suspended:

<http://statter911.com/2012/07/05/you-be-the-judge-heres-the-video-of-the-firefighter-fingerwave-on-live-tv-during-phillys-july-4th-parade/>

An Illinois fire chief's demonstration of the dangers of fireworks became a teachable moment Tuesday when a canister tipped over and shot fireworks into a crowd, injuring a fire safety advocate. The incident occurred during a news conference at the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance headquarters in Mount Prospect. An ambulance took the group's assistant executive director, Laura Barros, to a hospital with a small burn on her foot

[http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-07-04/news/ct-talk-fireworks-safety-0704-20120704\\_1\\_novelty-fireworks-dangerous-fireworks-demonstration](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-07-04/news/ct-talk-fireworks-safety-0704-20120704_1_novelty-fireworks-dangerous-fireworks-demonstration)

Deputy Fire Chief Timothy J. Moran didn't have any plans to retire soon, despite serving 20 years with the Holyoke Fire Department in Massachusetts. But the veteran firefighter resigned abruptly this week, after it was reported that he improperly authorized models scantily clad in swimsuits to pose for photographs with fire trucks and other equipment on city property, *The Republican* reports. Moran had been serving a five-day suspension without pay, after city Fire Chief John Pond learned of the photo shoot, the *Republican* quotes Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse as saying. "[The incident] showed poor judgment on behalf of Deputy Chief Moran," Morse told the newspaper Thursday, adding that he stood behind the suspension decision. "I wish Mr. Moran the best of luck in his retirement and thank him for his many years of service." Before his decision to retire, Moran sought to appeal the suspension to city's fire commission, which was already investigating Moran for an incident a year earlier that resulted in criminal

charges brought against his brother and former acting chief, William Moran, the mayor said. In June 2011, the Moran brothers were eating lunch at a local restaurant when William Moran saw firefighters enter a deli next door. William Moran allegedly called in a fake report to a dispatcher, saying that a firetruck was urgently needed at a nearby mall. The call required the firefighters to scramble to the scene, officials said, resulting in a multiple-car accident after a driver of one of the cars failed to yield to the responding firetruck. The car's driver was taken to the hospital: [http://jobs.aol.com/articles/2012/07/06/bikini-models-posing-at-firehouse-help-bring-down-deputy-chief/?icid=main-grid10%7Chtmlws-main-bb%7Cd113%7Csec3\\_Ink2%26pLid%3D176648](http://jobs.aol.com/articles/2012/07/06/bikini-models-posing-at-firehouse-help-bring-down-deputy-chief/?icid=main-grid10%7Chtmlws-main-bb%7Cd113%7Csec3_Ink2%26pLid%3D176648)

The Paoli (PA) Fire Company is grappling with a PR firestorm after a volunteer firefighter made an obscene gesture during a live TV broadcast on the Fourth of July. The volunteer firefighter, riding in a rear-facing seat in the back of a Paoli Fire engine cab, flipped the TV camera - and the world- the bird in a live broadcast originally aired on Philadelphia's WPVI-TV/6ABC and then rebroadcast around the globe on CNN. The video now also lives in infamy and (most likely) perpetuity on the internet. The gesture and the way the fire company first responded touched off a flurry of bad publicity and angry comments on websites across the internet: <http://malvern.patch.com/articles/paoli-fire-co-tries-to-put-out-a-pr-wildfire>

Death threats. Timed bathroom visits — for women only. A stolen bathing suit soiled with a coworker's semen. Experts say bias in the firehouse is still commonplace, despite federal laws against harassment and discrimination. "It is 2012, but we still have a lot of issues out there," said Jeanne Pashalek, president of the International Association of Women in Fire and Emergency Services. "It ranges from verbal abuse to physical assault to rape." At least 10 firefighters who still or once worked for Davie (FL), both men and women, have filed complaints with the EEOC alleging discrimination — prompting a visit from U.S. Department of Justice officials. Two years ago, Miami Beach firefighter Marlenis Smart filed a sexual harassment lawsuit in federal court. A jury awarded her \$700,000 in March. Smart, a mother of four from Miami Shores, says her bathing suit was splattered with semen and hidden in a locker, her bra was hung in the firehouse bay and she was called "stupid bitch" to her face. "In 2012, to read this stuff is going on is unbelievable," said Mike Teslar, a California firefighter who regularly attends industry conferences and monitors hiring and harassment trends. "In Dallas a couple years ago a chief got caught ejaculating into a woman firefighter's coffee cup. It's going to cost the city money. They can either spend it training or they can spend it defending all these lawsuits." [http://southflorida.sun-sentinel.com/news/fl-women-firefighters-bias-20120709\\_0,4605901.story](http://southflorida.sun-sentinel.com/news/fl-women-firefighters-bias-20120709_0,4605901.story)

Vermont chief charged with throwing flashlight at moving car & cussing out the driver. Joseph Hayes of Bennington Rural FD wanted vehicle to slow down: <http://statter911.com/2012/07/12/vermont-chief-charged-with-throwing-flashlight-at-moving-car-cussing-out-the-driver-joseph-hayes-of-bennington-rural-fd-wanted-vehicle-to-slow-down/>

Water-Gate II, The Sequel: Washington DC firefighters fill another private swimming pool after chief tells CNN it wouldn't happen again: <http://statter911.com/2012/07/09/water-gate-ii-the-sequel-dc-firefighters-fill-another-private-swimming-pool-after-chief-tells-cnn-it-wouldnt-happen-again/>

**Positive Public Relations Items:**

Flash cards to help Knoxville (TN) firefighters communicate with Hispanic victims. Firefighters arrive at a burning home where folks are screaming and wailing as men restrain women from charging into the inferno that was their house. As the ever-growing flames consume the home, no one can tell the firefighters there are still children in the house because none of the Hispanic residents speaks English. While Knoxville firefighters haven't encountered that scenario, Knoxville Fire Department Senior Firefighter Al Ludwig is putting together a program he hopes prevents that nightmarish scene from unfolding. Ludwig last week launched his first class of volunteer firefighters to train them on the use of flash cards that can be used to communicate with the city's growing Hispanic population. In some portions of the city, firefighters encounter non-English speaking victims on 10 percent to 20 percent of their calls, Ludwig said:

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2012/jul/02/flash-cards-to-help-knoxville-firefighters-with/>

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**Training & Safety Related Items:**

Fire station cooking: Sanitation - One of the key, yet often overlooked, components of healthy eating is avoiding food-borne pathogens. It doesn't matter how good the food tastes. If it has you doubled over the toilet with flu-like symptoms, it wasn't worth eating. Just as your turnout gear will harbor nasty little organism if not properly cleaned, so too will you kitchen surfaces and food. In the third of our four-part series on fire station cooking, Chef Tom Beckman examines the cause and remedies of food-borne illnesses:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/health/articles/1302979-Fire-station-cooking-Sanitation/>

The discovery this week that some Cleveland (OH) firefighters have been credited with training they didn't receive has raised concerns that the problem could be more widespread. Mayor Frank Jackson said he believes city residents are protected because firefighters keep their skills sharp by responding to a wide variety of emergencies on a regular basis. But he has ordered a department-wide investigation into the validity of training records. A report released Tuesday, outlining a six-month investigation by retired federal prosecutor Ronald Bakeman into whether payroll abuses in the Fire Department rise to the level of criminality, also unearthed evidence that training records might have been falsified. Bakeman recommended charging five firefighters for illegally paying colleagues to work their shifts while continuing to collect salaries and benefits. And all five were credited for training sessions held during shifts they paid others to work on their behalf:

[http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/06/cleveland\\_firefighters\\_trainin.html](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/06/cleveland_firefighters_trainin.html)

The annual week to focus on responder safety is now in full swing. Crews are encouraged to step back and take a serious look at their operations, and embrace "Rules You Can Live By" during International Fire/EMS Safety & Health Week. We've been in the mindset that if a chief or officer said something, firefighters listened. What we're seeing in after-action or NIOSH reports is that someone saw something and knew something, but didn't speak up." Seeing something and speaking up just may save a life. With the number of near-misses and Maydays on the rise and the number of firefighter deaths down, he said it shows the culture is taking a turn. "We just have to make sure those wheels keep turning."

[http://www.firehouse.com/news/10730982/fire-ems-safety-and-health-week-in-full-swing?cmpid=email\\_CPS120612002&utm\\_source=FH+Newsday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CPS120612002](http://www.firehouse.com/news/10730982/fire-ems-safety-and-health-week-in-full-swing?cmpid=email_CPS120612002&utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120612002)

A must read: FDNY begins tests that could change tactics. Ventilation & basement fires are among things to be studied in burning of rowhomes on Governors Island:

<http://statter911.com/2012/07/01/a-must-read-fdny-begins-tests-that-could-change-tactics-ventilation-basement-fires-are-among-things-to-be-studied-in-burning-of-rowhomes-on-governors-island/>

Washington Township (OH) firefighter Josef Tadijanac remains in intensive care at Riverside Methodist Hospital while his friends, neighbors and fellow firefighters are working for him behind the scenes. Tadijanac's legs were crushed June 24 at a fire on St. James Road in Troy Township. Both of his legs were amputated above the knees June 28. The Ohio Highway Patrol's Mansfield post reported a Jefferson Township-Bellville Fire Department International 400 fire truck was stationary on St. James Road when it rolled into Tadijanac, pinning him against a stationary Troy Township International 7400 fire truck:

<http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2012207040307>

A federal agency has put the blame on DeKalb County (GA) for air pack malfunctions that have plagued firefighters since 2009. The report from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health concludes that lack of proper maintenance, not a design flaw, is the reason air repeatedly cut off on the devices that serve as firefighters' lifelines in blazes. NIOSH released the report Friday after testing two problem regulators and facemasks at the county's request. Both pieces were dirty and needed to be cleaned to pass national standards tests. Users "must pay close attention to the instructions for proper care and maintenance issued by the (device) manufacturer," the report states:

<http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/federal-agency-dekalb-at-1473105.html>

Sacramento (CA) Fire Department personnel responded to a home in the 2600 block of Traction Avenue in the Noralto neighborhood about 9:45 p.m. Sunday for a call about a person who had stopped breathing. Once firefighters arrived, a hostile group of 7 to 10 people greeted them and prevented paramedics from getting into the apartment to render aid, according to a police activity log. At one point, a children's scooter was tossed at fire personnel. Firefighters summoned police but arriving officers were initially blocked from the apartment when a wrought iron fence door was locked. Officers were forced to scale the fence to provide protective cover for fire personnel, according to the police log. The patient was eventually transported to the hospital:

<http://blogs.sacbee.com/crime/archives/2012/07/sacramento-police-aid-firefighters-allegedly-thwarted-by-group.html>

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**General Fire Service Related Items:**

The city's human resource director wants the state to decertify Stamford's (CT) professional fire union for attempting to derail the mayor's plan to reorganize four of the city's volunteer fire departments, according to a complaint filed last month with the state Board of Labor Relations. The request for decertification, a rare request under which the Stamford fire union could lose its collective bargaining rights, arises from a series of labor board complaints that the city and Stamford Fire Fighters Local 786 traded last month as months of contentious contract negotiations drag on. The union, a staunch critic of Mayor Michael Pavia's plan to reorganize four of the city's five volunteer fire departments, filed a labor complaint in March asking the state to block transfers of 50 union firefighters in volunteer districts to downtown fire departments, a requirement under the mayor's plan:

<http://www.newstimes.com/news/article/City-wants-fire-union-decertified-3640403.php>

Is it ethical for firefighters & police officers to accept freebies? The Bel Air (MD) FD Facebook incident has reporters checking policies region wide. Some tips from Dave Statter. In the past, STATter911.com has warned about trends in news stories that end up becoming issues for fire departments across the country. Most of these have been about budget concerns like claims of excessive overtime, sick leave and shift swapping. There have been clear patterns in how those stories evolved in multiple jurisdictions across the country. Often they've hurt the image of firefighters (even when there has been no wrongdoing). Here's my latest warning. Is a free cup of coffee the next one to bring unwanted scrutiny to your department? It's happening around Baltimore, Maryland right now. The Baltimore Sun is asking questions about policies for public safety employees accepting free food and drink. This began with the story we brought you from Harford County, Maryland where the Bel Air VFC took strong disciplinary action against some of its members who complained on Facebook that the local Sonic provided discounted meals for police officers and the military but not firefighters:

<http://statter911.com/2012/06/19/is-it-ethical-for-firefighters-police-officers-to-accept-freebies-the-bel-air-fd-facebook-incident-has-reporters-checking-policies-regionwide-some-tips-from-dave/>

A Knox County (TN) sheriff's deputy cited the driver of a Rural/Metro firetruck after the firefighter allegedly wouldn't move his engine out of a lane of traffic at a crash scene on Interstate 75. Administrators of both agencies contend the incident is isolated, rare and doesn't reflect the kind of relationship that has developed between its members. Knox County Sheriff's Office Patrolman Terry Wright cited Rural/Metro employee Matthew Clift on Tuesday on a charge of failure to obey a lawful order. The disagreement between the men occurred on the southbound lanes of I-75 near the 113 mile marker, which is north of the Emory Road interchange. Both men were at the scene because of a traffic crash involving injuries. Clift, 26, apparently had his fire engine, which was serving as a first responder to tend to injuries, situated so it was blocking southbound traffic, according to the citation that was issued about 11 a.m. "The defendant was asked to move the vehicle 4x so that traffic could resume to travel southbound," Wright wrote on the citation. "The vehicle was causing a traffic hazard for other traffic traveling southbound." <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2012/jun/20/knox-officer-cites-ruralmetro-fire-truck-driver/?partner=RSS>

Call it compassionate, even political. But ... scientific? Several experts say there's no hard evidence to support the federal government's declaration this month that 50 kinds of cancer could be caused by exposure to World Trade Center dust. The decision could help hundreds of people get payouts from a multibillion-dollar World Trade Center health fund to repay those ailing after they breathed in toxic dust created by the collapsing twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001. But scientists say there is little research to prove that exposure to the toxic dust plume caused even one kind of cancer. And many acknowledge the payouts to cancer patients could take money away from those suffering from illnesses more definitively linked to Sept. 11, like asthma and some types of lung disease. "To imagine that there is strong evidence about any cancer resulting from 9/11 is naive in the extreme," said Donald Berry, a biostatistics professor at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston:

<http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Experts-say-science-lacking-on-9-11-and-cancer-3646798.php>

NFL player arrested for pulling fire alarm - Eagles running back Dion Lewis apologizes for causing agencies' response to his hotel; brother also faces same charges:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-prevention/articles/1312936-NFL-player-arrested-for-pulling-fire-alarm/>

The Coastside (CA) Fire Protection District board of directors set broad parameters for pay and benefits on Monday and asked a consultant to come back with the cost of firefighter compensation should the district choose to start a new fire department in the weeks to come. For months, district directors have been considering ditching their 3-year-old contract with the state's fire agency. As a result, CalFire indicated earlier this year that it was prepared to leave day-to-day fire management by June 30, 2013. In the meantime, a divided board of directors has been investigating the cost of going it alone:

[http://www.hmbreview.com/news/fire-board-studies-cost-of-new-department/article\\_0f036122-bbee-11e1-a3f9-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.hmbreview.com/news/fire-board-studies-cost-of-new-department/article_0f036122-bbee-11e1-a3f9-001a4bcf887a.html)

Debate over paramedic, firefighters' services in Riverside County (CA). Public safety officials say the dual sets of paramedics are an important part of the county's emergency response system. But as government budgets are stretched to their limit and more fire chiefs consider plans to charge patients when their engines show up for 911 calls, some say the system needs an overhaul. California's 58 counties provide emergency medical response in a number of different ways, with some fire departments operating their own ambulances, and others letting private ambulance companies handle advanced medical care. How Riverside County operates emergency medical services has been in the spotlight as county supervisors considered a contract that makes American Medical Response the exclusive 911 ambulance provider for most of the county. Earlier this month, supervisors voted to extend AMR's contract for three more years. The debate was highly politicized, in part because the contract has never been competitively bid. To answer public concerns, supervisors said that before AMR's contract expires they'll embark on a top-to-bottom review of the county's emergency medical response system: <http://www.pe.com/local-news/riverside-county/murrieta/murrieta-headlines-index/20120624-region-debate-on-over-paramedic-firefighters-services.ece>

For months, Chicago (IL Mayor Rahm Emanuel has left the door open to closing fire stations as he tries to cut Chicago Fire Department costs during negotiations on a new union contract. It looks like the new mayor's real target, however, is firefighters' wallets. The administration has taken aim at a slew of pay bumps that add thousands of dollars to firefighters' salaries but also cost the city tens of millions a year. The extras are things like special holiday pay, a uniform allowance, a bonus for staying in shape and being available to come in on off days:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/ct-met-fire-department-contract-talks-0622-20120624.0,3928506.story>

On July 1, the North Las Vegas (NV) Fire Department will face devastation and decimation. Or not. It all depends on who is talking. Sunday is the first day the city of North Las Vegas will impose its budget cuts on the fire department as part of the city's effort to close a budget gap surpassing \$30 million. City Manager Tim Hacker considers it a retooling of the department; the moves, he said, will make the department more cost efficient, yet just as effective. North Las Vegas Firefighters Association President Jeff Hurley thinks it will be catastrophic. "I don't see a best-case scenario," Hurley said. "I don't see a positive out of this. The cuts are getting so large. These cuts are getting down so low it's not even safe for firefighters." While the impact is uncertain, the cuts are known. One of the biggest to the department, slashing the budget for most overtime pay, is designed to save \$2.1 million. It's based on a recommendation from Fire Chief Al Gillespie, who could not be reached for comment. Some of the department's response vehicles and even entire stations also would be subject to temporary closing if a daily staffing level of 36 or more firefighters can't be maintained:

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2012/jun/29/city-officials-union-odds-over-effects-cuts-north/>

Austin (TX) Fire Department Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr has fired a firefighter who she said was unable to competently and safely perform her duties, according to a disciplinary memo released this week. Long-serving firefighter Andrea Mote-Yale was fired Tuesday, a few months after she met with Division Chief Dawn Clopton to set up a plan to improve her performance, the memo said. Previous deficiencies included being removed from calls due to poor fitness, becoming flustered and shutting down during incidents, improperly treating patients on three occasions, and requiring “constant supervision” despite her training, the memo said. Other firefighters refused to trade shifts with her due to safety concerns, the memo said. Mote-Yale failed several physical and life-saving technique tests, and Kerr said in the memo that she refused to take responsibility for those failures and claimed that guidance was not given when it was. The memo also said Mote-Yale’s commanding officers had no faith in her abilities. “This is not a decision I made easily or without thoughtful consideration,” Kerr wrote. “But I simply cannot, and will not, put firefighters’ or citizens’ lives at risk.”

[http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/blotter/entries/2012/06/28/chief\\_fires\\_firefighter\\_for\\_in.html](http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/blotter/entries/2012/06/28/chief_fires_firefighter_for_in.html)

So folks have been storming the gates to grab jobs at the Orange County (CA) Fire Authority for quite some time now, with thousands regularly vying for just a handful of positions. Why? It surely doesn’t hurt that OCFA pays a bundle, [according to a recent grand jury report](#). Since the firefighting powerhouse was born in 1995, its labor costs have grown about 10 times faster than its staff has grown — and about 3.5 times faster than the rate of inflation, the grand jury found. To wit: The average salary increase at OCFA was 6 percent each year since 1995; while the annual Consumer Price Index-Urban (CPI-U) rose just 2.3 percent a year since 1995. “Labor agreements for the firefighters that do not appear to reflect the overall economy and finances of the taxpayers and cities they serve may show a deficiency of civic duty of the Directors in making the tough choices and balancing the needs of the citizens that they serve,” the grand jury wrote. “Prior to entering into or negotiating any labor agreements, the OCFA Board of Directors should ensure that the law of supply and demand or the overall economic health of the communities that they serve is reflected in the salaries and benefits packages.” The 2011-12 grand jury is wrapping up its work this week, and the citizen watchdog has had rather sharp words for modern firefighting. One of its probes found that [fewer than 2 percent of emergency calls involve fires these days](#) — but that [fire departments still behave as if it’s 1955 and staff accordingly](#): <http://taxdollars.ocregister.com/2012/06/28/steep-firefighter-pay-violates-law-of-supply-and-demand-grand-jury-says/158004/>

The Vallejo (CA) Fire Department celebrated the reopening of Station 25 in north Vallejo with an open house Monday morning. The station, located at 595 Mini Drive, closed in July 2010, along with Station 26 on Fulton Avenue in Glen Cove, while the Vallejo was going through bankruptcy proceedings. Vallejo received a two-year Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, or SAFER, grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency on July 1 of last year. That allowed the city to hire 10 firefighters and purchase two new fire engines, Vallejo Fire Department engineer and spokesman Mark Libby said. The 10 firefighters began training on Feb. 27, and Station 25 became fully staffed again on June 26, Libby said. At one time, only four of Vallejo’s eight fire stations were in operation, but now there are six open stations, Libby said: <http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2012/07/02/vallejo-fire-department-reopens-station-after-city-bankruptcy/>

A firefighter’s shift is typically 24 hours long. San Diego (CA) Fire and Rescue Chief Javier Mainar said when the firefighters get off around 8 in the morning they’re sometimes asked to work additional shifts. If no one volunteers, Mainar said supervisors go down a list and force firefighters to stay on the job, sometimes for an additional day or two. He said the department

is short about 100 people right now but still has the same staffing demands. "Firefighters typically volunteer to work overtime, but we've reached a point where we're kind of overworking them and we're actually having to force hire them," he said. "And that not only makes life more difficult on them and their families, but when they refuse they're subject to disciplinary action as well." Mainar said the department hasn't had a fire academy in the last three years because of budget cuts. As a result it hasn't hired anyone. At the same time older employees have been leaving because of changes to retirement and compensation benefits:

<http://www.kpbs.org/news/2012/jul/03/san-diego-firefighters-being-forced-work/>

The Green Valley (AZ) Fire District is giving up its effort to put a fire station on La Cañada Drive near Twin Buttes Road after the town denied zoning for the station on Monday, citing overwhelming objections from neighbors. The Sahuarita Town Planning and Zoning Commission voted 4-0 to deny a Conditional Use Permit request after the town staff recommended denial, a turnaround from the staff's June recommendation for approval. Neighbors said they feared noise and traffic congestion would disrupt the rural feel of their community if a fire station were located at 17151 S. La Cañada Drive, between Camino Antigua and Twin Buttes Road:

[http://www.gvnews.com/news/local/gvfd-station-voted-down/article\\_8d58dd70-c57d-11e1-afea-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.gvnews.com/news/local/gvfd-station-voted-down/article_8d58dd70-c57d-11e1-afea-001a4bcf887a.html)

The Coastside (CA) Fire Protection District board voted 3-2 Tuesday night to hire a new fire chief and start the process of re-establishing a locally controlled municipal fire department on the coast. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection currently provides the service on the coast but the contract expires in June 2013. Board members Doug Mackintosh, Mike Alifano and Gary Riddell voted for a series of resolutions that will start the process of putting a new fire department together while Gary Burke and Ginny McShane voted against the proposals. The board voted to approve a salaries and benefits resolution for a stand-alone Coastside Fire Department and gave direction to legal counsel to start the process of hiring a fire chief at the six-hour Tuesday night meeting. "We are finally to the point where we can move forward on starting a brand-new fire department. Once we hire a fire chief he/she can then work at the pleasure of the CFPD fire board to create a transition plan to move from Cal Fire to a new fire department," Alifano wrote the Daily Journal in an email:

[http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article\\_preview.php?type=news&title=Fire%20district%20seeks%20stand-alone%20department&id=1750647](http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?type=news&title=Fire%20district%20seeks%20stand-alone%20department&id=1750647)

When the Contra Costa (CA) Fire District shut down its Station 16 in Lafayette last month, citing a possible mold contamination resulting from rodent infestation, it left the city with two fire stations instead of three. Another question is how Contra Costa Fire will finance repairs to the temporary structure that has housed fire crews since the original building was damaged in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. The cash-strapped district will have to close 10 of its 28 stations if a \$75-per-parcel tax is struck down by voters in November:

[http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci\\_21038983/lafayette-fire-station-16-still-closed-officials-mull](http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_21038983/lafayette-fire-station-16-still-closed-officials-mull)

Fearing a neighboring fire district's fiscal crisis will sap its own thin firefighting ranks, the Contra Costa (CA) Fire District placed a cap on the engines and manpower it will dispatch outside its own territory. The rare move means the far larger Central Contra Costa fire district will send only up to three units to the East Contra Costa Fire District, whose officials on July 1 shut down half of their six fire stations after voters rejected a parcel tax in June. Contra Costa Fire is already limiting the number of units it sends under automatic aid to Pinole, Rodeo and Crockett after the three communities closed two stations earlier this year:

[http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci\\_21047517/contra-costa-fire-district-caps-its-aid-east](http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_21047517/contra-costa-fire-district-caps-its-aid-east)

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

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

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

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**Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:**

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

**Chabot College web site:**

[www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

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- If you want to take your name off of the mailing list, just send me an email at [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) and in the subject heading, and type in "unsubscribe from mailing list" and I will remove your name.
- If you are subscribed to my email mailing list and you are not receiving anything (a problem some earthlink, aol, hotmail and yahoo users have at times), make sure you add my name – Steve Prziborowski and the email address I use to send this newsletter and other fire and EMS related news items out – [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) to your address book, safe list, white list, etc. Since I mass mail items to thousands of people, some email providers may think these items are spam or junk mail, even though they are not. If you have not received anything from me in over two weeks, email me to let me know so that I can attempt to troubleshoot the issue.