



FIRE & EMS NEWS

April 21, 2012

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

FIREFIGHTER SURVIVAL TIP OF THE MONTH:

The following is a must read for all current and future firefighters – a piece that has to do with a challenging situation the fire service is faced with – members that are making unethical decisions and choices that are resulting in negative public relations for the fire service, and is tarnishing our reputation.

Stating that "There is no higher aspiration, no greater ambition than to serve one's fellow citizens as a firefighter," Bobby Halton, FDIC Education Director and editor in chief of *Fire Engineering*, in his opening remarks at Thursday's General Session, reminded attendees that "what firefighters do and how they behave on and off the job matters." Halton relayed how the proliferation of the Internet, the presence of cameras everywhere, and an increasing interest in the fire service has caused firefighter behavior to come under tremendous scrutiny; these developments, Halton said, have raised concerns that the public can easily get the wrong impression from members' behaviors that reflect poorly on the firefighting profession. The solution to maintaining the ethics and honor of the fire service is "to periodically step back and rededicate ourselves to the mission,"

The Firefighter's Creed

Adapted by Chief (Ret.) Bobby Halton, Editor of Fire Engineering Magazine - with permission, from "A United States Coast Guardsman."

I am proud to be a firefighter.

I revere that long line of expert firefighters who by their devotion to duty and sacrifice of self, have made it possible for me to be a member of a service honored and respected, in good times and bad, throughout the world.

I never, by word or deed, will bring reproach upon the fair name of the fire service, nor permit others to do so unchallenged.

I will cheerfully and willingly obey all lawful orders.

I will always be on time to relieve, and shall endeavor to do more, rather than less, than my share.

I will always be at my station, alert and attending to my duties.

I shall, so far as I am able, bring to my seniors solutions, not problems.

I shall live joyously, but always with due regard for the rights and privileges of others.

I shall endeavor to be a model citizen in the community in which I live.

I shall sell my life dearly to my enemy fire but give it freely to rescue those in peril.

With God's help, I shall endeavor to be one of His noblest Works.

Halton explained his interpretation of what this Creed means for the Fire Service.

"In reciting this creed," he said

We recognize the long line of firefighters who so selflessly have come before us; from whose sacrifices we learned that the mission comes first,

We reaffirm that although we are individuals and have personal responsibilities and commitments, we respond in teams, and we are most proud of our work when the mission is accomplished and everyone on the team comes home safely.

We acknowledge that we carry the burden of a virtuous honor which humbles us and buckles our knees under its weight, for to blemish it, to tarnish its luster, is something we can never permit ourselves or any other to dare.

We commit ourselves to our core principles of hard work and individual responsibility.

We dedicate ourselves to being problem solvers and team mates forever, bonded in a brotherhood of morally principled and ethical firefighters.

We acknowledge that we will celebrate life with a reckless abandon, as only those who live everyday with the constant reminder of the fragility of our existence can.

But, we will always be mindful of others, always respectful of those around us and of their rights and their privileges.

Halton left the choice of whether to recite this Creed to the audience members. "Choose freely you must," he said, "for no one can force someone to dedicate himself so fully to such a noble and selfless cause."

More information can be found here:

- <http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2012/04/halton-thursday-fire-service-code.html>
- <http://www.firefighterbehavior.com>

CHABOT COLLEGE 2012 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE:

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

- The following classes are now available this semester!
- For registration information, go to www.chabotcollege.edu

SPRING 2012 Semester: (January through May 2012)

Registration for the Spring 2012 semester at Chabot College has begun, classes are filling up and some are already full!

Presently, the following fire-technology related courses are going to be offered this Spring:

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 91A (CAL FIRE Wildland Basic Training) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - May 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1st Responder-Operations) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - April 24, 26, 28 and 29	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours

SUMMER 2012 Semester: (June through August 2012)

Registration for the Summer 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 2nd

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 95 (Work Experience) **Must also be registered in FT 96**	TBA	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95**	Tuesdays (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (Emergency Response – EMS First Responder)	Mondays & Wednesdays (all day)	0900 – 1450 hours

FALL 2012 Semester: (August through December 2012)

Registration 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 2nd

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization) Note: This section (Monday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 20 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.	Monday (am)	0800 – 1150 hours
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
FT 51 (Fire Service Operations)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival)	Wednesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival) Note: 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
FT 53 (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
FT 54 (Fire Prevention Technology)	Thursday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
FT 56 (Building Construction for Fire Protection)	Wednesday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - October 17, 19 and 21 (Wed/Fri/Sun) - November 6, 8 and 10 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) or Mon & Wed (pm) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours 1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 91A (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - November 29 through December 18	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - 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

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - November 6, 8, 10 and 11	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2115 hours 0800 – 1730 hours 0800 – 1730 hours
FT 91D (Firefighter Survival) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - October 30, November 1 and 3	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 95 (Work Experience) **Must also be registered in FT 96**	TBA	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95**	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)	1400 – 1750 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 81 (EMT) **Must also be registered in Health 83**	Wednesday (all day)	0830 – 1845 hours
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) **Must also be registered in Health 81**	Saturday (one day only – November 6)	0830 – 1620 hours
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets the following dates: - 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

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

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

March 19, 2012

Some National Fire Academy answers to frequently asked questions regarding filling vacant student seats for NFA course opportunities.

Sometimes and for varied reasons it becomes necessary to reschedule or even cancel National Fire Academy courses. Often you may have questions about such schedule changes. Here then are some quick and simple answers to the “whys and whats” associated with seating opportunities in NFA courses:

FAQ – NFA Vacancy Lists

Why are there vacancies at the National Fire Academy? Are enrollments down?

April 21, 2012

www.chabotfire.com

Enrollments in the National Fire Academy (NFA) are actually up. In cooperation with our State training partners, our on-line training at NFAOnline, and in our resident and off-campus delivery program, the NFA reached 110,000 fire service professionals. In 1995 we trained just 15,000. Like every college, we plan our academic year based on last year's enrollments, the number of new courses on the schedule, waiting lists for current courses and the calendar and our best estimate of the demand for courses the following year. It's not an exact science. Vacancies occur for any number of reasons – some classes have low demand because the number of fire department members doing that job is low (e.g. public educators, data analysts, training, plans review, budget), but these courses are in many ways critical to the success of fire and life safety and the administration of the fire department. Other times we may overestimate the demand. When that happens, we cancel a low-demand course, move the enrolled students into another delivery of that course and use the funds to run an additional high-demand course.

It seems that I'm hearing more about vacancies than I ever have in the past. Why is that?

Well, you are. Before widespread communication using web sites and email, the NFA relied on last minute telephone calls to fill seats. We couldn't announce the vacancies in sufficient time to get the students here to campus. Now, with improved communications, the increased membership and support of the Alumni Association and the participation of many of the fire service organizations, we distribute vacancy announcements in a matter of minutes. It is working very well. What you are seeing, though, is only the vacancies. We never send out the list of classes that are already filled and have a waiting list. The lists show only the few vacancies we have.

I don't apply during the application period, I like to wait to see what classes have vacancies before I apply, is that a good idea?

NO! The first requirement for a student's eligibility to attend the NFA is their current job responsibility (Box #16). If you wait, it is likely that the courses you qualify for will be filled by others in the normal application process. When that happens, you lose the best chance you had to attend the NFA. Worse, if applications are low, the class you seek may be cancelled. The most useful and valuable course for you may never show up on a vacancy list. The better strategy is to apply during the normal application periods (April 15- June 15 and Oct 15 to Dec 15). Remember, if you qualify, you may apply for two different courses in the same semester (using a separate application for each); however, you will only receive a stipend for one trip per fiscal year (Oct 1 through Sept 30)

Why are there waiting lists and vacancy lists at the same time?

Our courses are academically rigorous, and every class is considered mid- to upper-level college course work. It is important to ensure that each student is capable of success in the course before being admitted. Students are accepted to the NFA based on the 'target audience' criteria listed in the catalog. We want to make sure that the course is a benefit to both the fire department and the students when they return; and is of sufficient complexity to advance the student's knowledge to improve local service delivery. Students who do not meet the 'target' criteria would slow the class down, and expose the student to possible failure. It is more important to fill a seat with a qualified student than it is to simply fill a vacancy. This ensures success for the department, the student and the rest of the class.

What is the most frequent cause of application rejection?

1. Used the wrong application. For resident courses, applicants should submit the long form (119-25-1) application which requires the chief's signature
2. Didn't fill out the application completely
3. Didn't sign the application, or have the Fire Chief sign the application

4. Failure to describe your activities/responsibilities as they relate to the course for which you are applying and identify how you will use the information obtained from the course. (Box 16).

Any suggestions to increase my chances of success?

On our website, there is a document that provides eight “tips” for completing a successful application. It only takes a minute – but will dramatically improve your chances for success:

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/nfa/8tips.pdf>

All vacancies are filled on a first come, first served basis and qualified by using the Student Selection Criteria listed on our Website: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/>

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:

National Fire Academy Online Mediated Instruction Course

The National Fire Academy is currently recruiting students to help pilot test its first **online instructor mediated course**, *Advanced Principles of Fire and Emergency Services Safety and Survival* (C249). The course will be delivered through NFA Online at: www.nfaonline.dhs.gov

An online instructor mediated course balances self-study components with interactions and discussions between the students and the instructor. This course is done in an asynchronous fashion. Students and the instructor will likely be online at different times and will post and respond to discussions on their own schedule. After reviewing the self-study materials, the students will have the opportunity to participate in discussions with other students on various assigned topics. The instructor will open each module, provide feedback on assignments, summarize discussions, and provide mentoring to meet the unique needs of individual students.

This course is being offered in conjunction with the colleges and universities that comprise the NFA's **Degrees at a Distance Program** - http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/higher_ed/feshe/feshe_ddp.shtm
Students who successfully complete this course *may be* eligible to receive college credit from one of the following schools:

- Cogswell College - <http://firescience.cogswell.edu/>
- Empire State College/SUNY - <http://www.esc.edu/>
- University of Cincinnati - <http://www.uc.edu/>
- University of Maryland, University College - <http://www.umuc.edu/spotlight/firescience.cfm>
- University of Memphis - <http://www.memphis.edu/univcoll/>
- Western Illinois University - http://www.wiu.edu/distance_learning/firefighters/
- Western Oregon University - <http://www.wou.edu/las/socsci/fsa/index.php>

For more information concerning college credit eligibility, please contact: NFAOnlineHelp@fema.dhs.gov

Prospective students should have a thorough understanding of the course requirements before submitting their application. Please familiarize yourself with the course requirements and review the Sample Module Lesson Assignment ([view on USFA website](#)). **Please Note: This is a college-level, writing intensive course. You will be expected to adhere to the American Psychological Association (APA) Style Guidelines for all written assignments.** A tutorial for this format can be found at: <http://www.apastyle.org/>

Important Dates

Application Period: Applications accepted now until April 13, 2012

First Day of Class: June 4, 2012

End of Class: August 26, 2012

Please Note: This is a 12 week course.

Course Description

This course examines the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives (FLSI) - hat they mean and how they can be adapted by every fire and emergency service organization. The 16 FLSI were developed by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) with the support and consultation of virtually every major United States fire service organization. The goal of this course, set at the supervisory and managerial level, is to formulate and put into practice health and safety procedures that address firefighter injuries and fatalities. The course will also focus on the need for a culture change, especially regarding how decisions made at the managerial and operational levels can exert influence to ensure that "everyone goes home."

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate methods for advocating and implementing culture change in the fire and emergency services to decrease and, hopefully, prevent line-of-duty injuries and deaths.
- Recognize the need for the collection of fire-incident data, explain who collects data, analyze the "fire problem" in the United States with current data, and understand how research leads to new technologies, best practices, and culture change.
- Describe the need for investigating a fatality/injury/near-miss, list the essential components of and explain how to conduct an investigation, and formulate how lessons can be learned from near-miss investigations.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of wellness, fitness, and behavioral health as these issues impact firefighters and their families. Understand the principles of Crew Resource Management (CRM) and apply risk management principles to scenarios involving incident management at all levels.
- Demonstrate how national fire service standards for training, certification, and accreditation programs can be adopted at the local level.

Student Selection Criteria

Fire/EMS service management personnel (company officers, shift supervisors, training/prevention/safety officers, chief officers, directors) who have health and safety responsibilities with the ability to implement departmental process improvement addressing prevention of personnel injuries and fatalities.

Class Size: 25 students

Course Requirements: The course includes five modules; one module will be released on-line every two weeks. For each module, participants will be required to:

- Complete the required textbook readings.
- Complete the on-line content, which includes participation in discussion forums and the submission of an individual written paper for **each** module. A sample module lesson assignment is included below (all module lesson assignments have similar requirements).
- Interact with instructor and other student participants.

Costs and Fees: This course is offered free-of-charge. Students will be required to purchase a text book.

How to Apply:

Students must complete the General Admission Application (FEMA Form 119-25-1) available on the USFA website at: www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm

Completed applications should be submitted by April 13, 2012 to:

NETC Admissions Office
16825 S. Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Completed applications can also be faxed to the NETC Admissions Office at [301-447-1441](tel:301-447-1441)

Material Requirements:

The following text book will be used in this course: ***Understanding and Implementing the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives***; ISBN-13: [978-0132622769](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780132622769)

The cost for this text book ranges between \$65.00 and \$75.00 and students can purchase it directly through either of the following websites:

www.barnesandnoble.com and www.amazon.com

NOTE: Do not purchase the textbook until you have been notified by the NETC Admissions Office of your acceptance into this Pilot offering.

Participation will require an active account in NFA Online (www.nfaonline.dhs.gov). Registration in NFA Online is free.

Technical Requirements:

The system requirements listed below are required for the course to work properly:

- Internet Explorer 7 or 8 recommended
- Adobe Acrobat Reader 9 or higher
- Microsoft Word 2003 or higher
- Pop-up Blockers Turned OFF
- Optimal screen resolution 1024 x 768

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:



In partnership with Firehouse Magazine
www.firehouse.com

Presents...

***Staying Out of the Gunsight
Critical Elements for Safe Engine Company Operations in the
Wildland-Urban Interface***

Presented by: Chief Todd McNeal, Twain Harte Fire Department

**Vacaville, CA
Travis Credit Union | One Travis Way | Vacaville, CA
Tuesday, April 24, 2012 • 9:00AM - 4:00PM**

Wildland Urban Interface firefighting, commonly referred to as WUI, is a growing danger for engine companies across the Nation. This explosive growth of structures and communities into the wildland and fire prone environments has produced a more complex and dangerous environment for suppression resources. This Workshop will discuss concepts, topics, and operational based safety considerations for any firefighter working in this hazardous arena. Participants will be exposed to the obvious and subtle dangers of fire behavior in the WUI, how to recognize the potential, and most importantly develop skills to proactively engage in fire suppression without placing oneself in the line of fire.

Todd McNeal has recently accepted the position as Chief of Twain Harte Fire and Rescue in Tuolumne County, CA. Prior to accepting the position, Chief McNeal worked as a Captain for the City of Sonora Fire Department and served as the Wildland Training Officer. Chief McNeal has a diverse background in wildland and structural fire management and suppression, and has been serving as a Division/Group Supervisor on a Federal Type II Incident Management Team for the last 6 years. Captain McNeal's career began with the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service working between California and Montana. Chief McNeal has been actively instructing in the fire service for the last decade and holds numerous ICS qualifications in wildland operations. Additionally, Chief McNeal is a Registered Instructor with CA State Fire Training, a CA Fire Officer, and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resource Management.

**\$69 Registration cost includes handouts, lunch and certificate.
Go to www.firenuggets.com for registration and more detailed information.**

If you're looking for a more comprehensive experience, explore the Firehouse options below (Firehouse Expo and World). Choose from two events offering five days of training and education to include hands-on training, preconference workshops, conference classes, networking opportunities and purchasing options.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR YOUR SAFETY.

July 17-21, 2012 - Baltimore, MD – www.firehouseexpo.com
February 17-21, 2013 - San Diego, CA – www.firehouseworld.com

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

2012 International Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) are pleased to announce that the 2012 International Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week will be held the week of **June 17-23, 2012**. As in past years, Safety and Health Week 2012 will be a collaborative effort of the fire and emergency service involving the major organizations as part of the grassroots effort to promote the event and have a positive impact on all fire/EMS personnel. We invite you to participate again this year because your involvement is critical to Safety and Health Week's success.

At this time, we are asking each participating organization to:

- Confirm your organization's willingness to take part again this year.
- Provide updated point of contact information (if applicable).
- Commit to promote the event through by linking to the Safety and Health Week from your website and sharing announcements with your members and other interested parties.

The theme this year is Rules You Can Live By - This year's effort will capture the importance of responders taking care of themselves both on and off the emergency incident scene. Fire and EMS personnel can utilize the tools and resources of two nationally acclaimed programs: the SHS Section's Rules of Engagement and the NVFC's Heart-Healthy Firefighter Program.

A New Look for 2012 - International Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week marks the unification of the IAFC's Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week with the NVFC's National Firefighter Health Week. The most noticeable change for fire and EMS departments is a new, user-friendly website dedicated exclusively to Safety and Health Week: www.SafetyAndHealthWeek.org.

Please let me know of your interest in participating by March 7, 2012. Once you have committed to taking part, please let us know what vehicles your organization has to distribute program information and how the IAFC and NVFC can support you and the other partners in promoting the event. We will soon be sending out some Safety and Health Week graphics that you can include on your website to link to the event's website.

To learn more see the complete media release: **IAFC and NVFC Join Forces for 2012 Safety and Health Week: Campaign reinforces the Rules You Can Live By on and off the fire ground –** <http://www.iafc.org/Media/PressReleaseDetail.cfm?ItemNumber=5762>

We appreciate your organization's past involvement and hope that you will join with us again in this important event. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you,

Vicki

Victoria Lee - Program Manager - International Association of Fire Chiefs
4025 Fair Ridge Drive, #300 - Fairfax, VA 22033

Email: vlee@iafc.org

Tel: 571-221-2813 - Fax: 541-306-3775

<http://www.iafc.org>

April 21, 2012

www.chabotfire.com

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

USFA Announces the 2012 Arson Awareness Week Theme

Prevent Youth Firesetting ***focuses on the importance of a collaborative community effort to reduce the occurrence of youth engaged with fire***

Contact: USFA Press Office (301) 447-1853 - March 21, 2012

Emmitsburg, MD. - The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) is pleased to partner with the International Association of Arson Investigators; Safe Kids USA; USAonWatch; the National Volunteer Fire Council; and the National Association of State Fire Marshals to announce the theme for the 2012 Arson Awareness Week - http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/subjects/arson/arson_awareness.shtm - **Prevent Youth Firesetting.**

USFA and its partners will use the week of **May 6-12** to focus public attention on the importance of a collaborative effort with fire and emergency service departments, law enforcement, mental health, social services, schools, and juvenile justice to help reduce the occurrence of youth engaged with fire.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, **fires started by children playing** accounted for an average of **56,300 fires** with associated losses of **110 civilian deaths, 880 civilian injuries, and \$286 million in direct property damage per year** between 2005 - 2009.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program report states that **juveniles (persons under age 18) accounted for roughly 46% of arson arrests in 2005-2010**. In 2010, 40% of arson arrests were juveniles with 47.6 % of those children under 16 years of age.

"Fire in the hands of children is devastating - regardless of a child's age or motive," said Ernest Mitchell, Jr., U.S. Fire Administrator. "It is imperative that we do everything possible to prevent youth firesetting to protect the nation's most valuable resource, our children."

Parents should teach young children that fire is a tool, not a toy; keep matches and lighters out of reach, in high, ideally locked, cabinets; set a good example by safely using matches, lighters, and fire. The most important thing a parent or caregiver can do is to **always supervise young children.**

In 1999, the USFA developed and released the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS 5.0) Arson Module (NFIRS-11). The Arson Module can be utilized to document juvenile-set fires, whether determined to be intentional, unintentional, or under investigation. This information will permit analysis of juvenile firesetting trends, including intervention strategies and repeated activity.

For more information regarding the **2012 Arson Awareness Week**, go to: www.usfa.fema.gov/aaw

For more information about the National Fire Academy's Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention class or other training courses, go to: www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa

FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES BY ANDONI KASTROS:

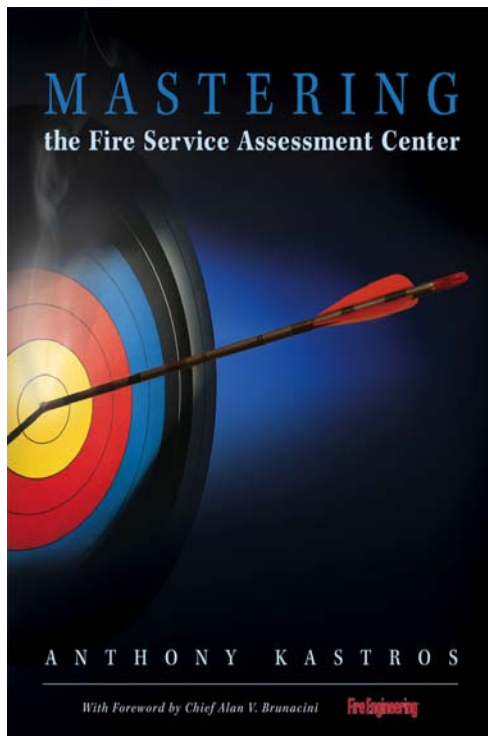


MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER

4-DAY WORKSHOP

INSTRUCTOR: ANTHONY KASTROS, AUTHOR OF
MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER
BY FIRE ENGINEERING

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



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

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

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

Anthony Kastros is a 24-year veteran of the fire service. He is a Battalion Chief with the Sacramento (CA) Metro Fire District. He is author of the Fire Engineering DVD series "Mastering Fireground Command - Calm the Chaos!" and author of the Fire Engineering book and video series, "Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center", that focuses on strategy, tactics, leadership and management. Chief Kastros is an FDIC instructor, teaching fireground tactics and leadership/team building for fire departments throughout the United States. He spent 4 seasons on a Type 1 incident management team, and 10 years as a FEMA USAR Task Force Manager, deploying to New York on 9/11. Anthony is the program director for the Sacramento Metro Fire Command Training Center and is currently a line battalion chief supervising 12 companies.

MAY 21 THROUGH 24, 2012 – MILPITAS, CA - \$595.00*

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

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

USFA Releases *Your Role in Fire-Adapted Communities*

New guide addresses actions to improve individual and community wildland fire safety

Contact: USFA Press Office (301) 447-1853 – March 27, 2012

Emmitsburg, MD. – The U. S. Fire Administration (USFA), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service and the International Association of Fire Chiefs, announces the release of ***Your Role in Fire-Adapted Communities*** – http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fire_adapted_communities.pdf (PDF, 772 Kb). This new guide promotes a **holistic approach to wildland fire risk reduction** in the wildland urban interface and addresses **actions to improve individual and community safety**. For communities to become more resistant to wildland fire threats, a **strong collaboration must exist** between federal, state, and local agencies and the public. Aligning with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) **"whole community" principles**, this guide encourages a community environment where individuals have access to critical information and the knowledge necessary to reduce the loss of life and property.

Visit the FEMA website - <http://www.fema.gov/about/wholecommunity.shtm> for information on the "whole community" approach to emergency management. "It is important that fire departments partner with other local emergency response departments, state fire and forestry agencies, and any regional federal organizations before a fire begins," said U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell. The concept behind **fire-adapted communities** is that with proper community-wide preparation, populations and infrastructure can withstand the devastating effects of wildland fire, thereby **reducing the loss of life and property**. In addition to understanding wildland fire defensible space and preparedness, the guide further explains how **a community can coexist with the threat of wildland fire** and ultimately **reduce the need for costly fire suppression responses**. As the science of fire-adapted communities continues to evolve, agencies and the public can take steps now to understand better the role they play and actions they can take to coexist safely with wildland fire threats.

Your Role in Fire-Adapted Communities can be downloaded under the Publications section of the USFA website at: www.usfa.fema.gov

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

USFA and the U.S. Department of Justice Initiate Study of Best Practices for Emergency Vehicle Visibility

Study will benefit both the fire service and law enforcement - Contact: USFA Press Office - (301) 447-1853 - *April 11, 2012*

Emmitsburg, MD. – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), supported by the U.S. Department of Justice National Institute of Justice (NIJ), and in partnership with the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association's (CVVFA) Emergency Responder Safety Institute, has initiated a study of emergency vehicle markings, lighting, and design to recommend best practices for increased visibility to approaching motorists. "USFA is committed to reducing emergency vehicle crashes and responders being struck on the roadway," said U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell. "We are grateful for DOJ's support of this important study which will benefit both the fire service and law enforcement."

The goal of this study is to develop best practices in the application of various chevron patterns, creative use of reflective decal markings, new arrangements of warning lights and other innovative designs, all with the intent of increasing the visibility of the emergency vehicles to motorists approaching them. The study will focus on emergency vehicles not covered by existing standards in this area. "Increasing the safety of law enforcement officers and firefighters is a key focus of NIJ," said John H. Laub, Director of the National Institute of Justice. "Through effective emergency vehicle safety projects such as this, we are committed to reducing deaths and injuries from crashes and being struck by vehicles." "CVVFA is pleased to work with both USFA and NIJ on this project to enhance the safety of emergency responders," said CVVFA President Michael Sullivan. "Our goal is to support the decision makers in local fire, police, and EMS departments on ways to enhance the emergency vehicle and roadway operations safety of their organizations."

Further information on USFA's emergency vehicle and roadway safety research initiatives – <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/research/safety/vehicle-roadway.shtm> may be found on the USFA website.

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

U.S. Fire Administration Announces 2011 Outstanding Research Award Winners and Roll of Honor Inductee

Award winners will present and defend their projects during the 24th Annual Executive Fire Officer Symposium, May 4-6, 2012

Contact: USFA Press Office - (301) 447-1853 - March 29, 2012

Emmitsburg, MD. – The U.S. Fire Administration announced today a select group of fire service executives who will either receive the National Fire Academy's (NFA) 2011 Annual Outstanding Research Award or be inducted to its Roll of Honor. The Outstanding Research Award recognizes Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP) students for their research projects. The Roll of Honor induction recognizes that the inductee completed four 4.0 Applied Research Projects over the four year EFOP. The award winners will present and defend their projects during the 24th Annual Executive Fire Officer Symposium - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/efop/graduate.shtm> on May 4-6, 2012, at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

On the announcement of the 2011 Awards, U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell commented, "More than ever we need scientific and empirically based studies with results to provide potential direction and action for remedying the very difficult problems confronting fire and emergency services within communities in the United States. These fire service executives and the work they have completed represent the best of the best, and all of us at the U.S. Fire Administration are very proud of their accomplishments. The Applied Research Projects selected this year represent the diverse and wide range of challenges we face in the fire service. We celebrate all of the recipients for their creativity and dedication." Also being recognized this year will be Deputy Fire Chief Daniel N. Olson of Kitsap County Fire District 18 in Poulsbo, Washington. Deputy Chief Olson will be inducted into the Executive Fire Officer Program Applied Research Roll of Honor for his attainment of completing all four of his Applied Research Projects at a 4.0 level. Olson will be only the eighth individual to attain this honor in the history of the EFOP, which now has over 3,070 graduates.

The Executive Fire Officer Program is designed to provide senior fire officers with a broad perspective on various and challenging facets of fire administration. Over a four-year period, the officers continue their professional development in four courses at the Academy, which are recommended for either graduate-level or upper division baccalaureate credit equivalency by the American Council on Education. Participants in the program are required to complete an applied research project in their organization which attempts to resolve a problem or solution through the conduct of original research within six months after the completion of each of the four course areas.

The 2011 Outstanding Research Award recipients are:

- **Executive Development Course Awardee**

Scott Somers, Administrator, City of Mesa Fire Department, Mesa Arizona –
Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic Feasibility Study for the Mesa Fire Department -
<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo45539.pdf> (PDF, 6.5 Mb)

- **Executive Analysis of Community Risk Reduction Course Awardee**

Brian Ashton, Captain, City of Boise Fire Department, Boise Idaho
The Fire Risks of a Corn Field Maze - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo45539.pdf> (PDF, 1.1 Mb)

- **Executive Analysis of Community Risk Reduction Course Awardee**

Steven T. Wright, Deputy Fire Chief, South Kitsap Fire and Rescue Department, Port Orchard Washington

Aligning South Kitsap Fire and Rescue School Fire Safety Education Program with Community Risks - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo45984.pdf> (PDF, 860 Kb)

- **Executive Analysis of Fire Service Operations in Emergency Management Course Awardee**

Stephen Abbott, Battalion Chief, North County Fire Protection District, Fallbrook California

Assessing the Effects of Energy Beverages Upon Firefighter Health and Safety - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo45984.pdf> (PDF, 317 Kb)

To obtain a copy of the four 2011 Executive Fire Officer Outstanding Applied Research award winning projects, contact the U.S. Fire Administration, Executive Fire Officer Program, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Maryland, 21727; or call (800) 238-3358, extension 1639, and leave your request on voice mail.

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

USFA, Federal Highway Administration Complete Study of Traffic Incident Management Systems

Updated Traffic Incident Management Systems ***manual contains technical information and training programs for fire and emergency service providers***

Contact: USFA Press Office - (301) 447-1853 - April 12, 2012

Emmitsburg, MD. – The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Highway Administration, working in partnership with the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) have, through a study of current traffic incident management practices and policies, updated the 2008 edition of the **Traffic Incident Management Systems** - http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa_330.pdf (TIMS) (PDF, 5 Mb) manual. The 2012 edition provides the most current technical information and training programs in traffic incident management for fire and emergency service providers in this area as well as guidance to local fire departments on compliance with the latest edition of the DOT Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). "Effective traffic incident management can enhance roadway safety for firefighters and other emergency responders of which too many have been killed on duty from being struck by vehicles," said U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell. "The USFA was pleased to work with the DOT Federal Highway Administration and IFSTA towards reducing this number." This project included research into effective roadway operations safety and management examining such technology and practices as:

- roadway safety vests and other personal protective equipment,
- effective distance of placement of roadway warning signs,
- correct amount and type of emergency vehicle warning lighting (e.g., intensity, color, etc.), and
- roadway operations safety training.

"We're committed to enhancing the safety of firefighters and emergency responders working on our nation's roadways," said Victor Mendez, Federal Highway Administrator. "We must provide for the safety of these men and women who act selflessly to risk their lives to protect and assist the motoring public." The updated TIMS manual includes case studies of roadway incidents that have taken the lives of firefighters, highway scene safety survival basics, incident command for roadway incidents, and examples of effective traffic incident management programs. "Traffic incident management is an important operational and safety issue for today's fire service," said Mike Wieder, IFSTA Executive Director. "IFSTA was proud to work with USFA and the U.S. Department of Transportation in this initiative to protect firefighters operating on the roadway."

Further information about this study and other **roadway safety projects** may be found on the USFA website – <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/research/safety/roadway.shtm>

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

The application period for the first semester of National Fire Academy resident classes opens April 15. The application period closes June 15. The first semester includes those classes scheduled from October 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013. Applications must be postmarked between April 15 and June 15, 2012. June 15th is also the deadline for EFO applications for the Federal fiscal year: October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013.

THERE IS A BIG CHANGE IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS!! - Beginning April 15, 2012, students applying for FY13 training courses (those starting after September 30, 2012) are required to register for a Student Identification Number (SID). This number will be used in place of the Social Security Number on General Admissions Application forms.

Click here to learn 'How to Register for a SID' - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/about/attend/ftin.shtm>

All information about courses, applications and suggestions for successful completion of the application can be found at the following sites:

Click here for the 2012-2013 Course Schedule - http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/nfa/course_schedule.pdf

Click here to download the FEMA Form 119-21-1, General Admissions Application Form - http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/ff_119_25_1_75_5.pdf

This document may be useful to you as well: Eight Tips for Completing a Successful NFA Application - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/nfa/8tips.pdf>

Completed applications for resident courses must be sent to the following address:

Office of Admissions, Building I, Room 216
National Emergency Training Center
16825 South Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727-8998
Applications may also be faxed to (301) 447-1441

For more information, please call the Admissions Office at (800) 238-3358, ext. 1035 or (301) 447-1035. Please share this with your organizations, friends and colleagues.

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

Student Recruitment: Overview of Life Safety and Public Policy - (P670) – Second Pilot Offering

The United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy is conducting the second pilot of the newly developed 6-day course *Overview of Life Safety and Public Policy*. The class will be held at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, MD June 10-15, 2012. Students will arrive on Saturday June 9 and will depart on Saturday June 16.

Applications must be received by close of business, Friday, April 27, 2012.

Course Description:

The purpose of the course is to empower students with the ability to create, evaluate and defend public policy in their home community. The course is also designed to facilitate understanding of how codes and regulations can be used as an effective component in fire prevention, fire mitigation and overall community risk reduction. The course will address how to: use a risk assessment to prioritize risk; develop a problem statement and recommend a strategic prevention intervention using public policy; design a strategy to build support for a public policy, develop and submit a proposal; understand the issue resolution process; and market, apply and evaluate the new public policy.

There is a pre-course assignment due two weeks before class.

Student Selection Criteria:

Students who have previous experience with code development, implementation and enforcement as well as those who have little or no experience but would like to learn more about the process are encouraged to apply. The target audience is fire chiefs, fire marshals, inspectors, code practitioners, plans reviewers, building officials, fire and life safety educators, fire and EMS officers. Preference will be given to teams such as a fire marshal and a building official from the same community.

Class Size: 22

Length: 6 days

Prerequisites: ICS 100 level and ICS 200 level training. Preferred courses are Q462 and Q463 available through [NFA Online](#). Chief's signature attests the applicant has completed this required training.

Applications:

- Applicants must complete General Admission Application FEMA Form 119-25-1 form available on the U.S. Fire Administration Website at: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>
- **Applications must be received by close of business, Friday, April 27, 2012.** Completed applications can be mailed to:

NETC Admissions Office
16825 South Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

- Completed applications may also be faxed to the NETC Admissions Office at 301-447-1441 or 301-447-1658
- Applicants should not make plans to attend the pilot until notified by the NETC Admissions Office
- Stipends for eligible students are available for attendance at pilots. Attendance at pilot courses does not prevent an eligible student from obtaining another stipend within the same fiscal year

For further information contact Mary Marchone, Training Specialist, by phone at 301-447-1476 or by email at mary.marchone@fema.dhs.gov.

FIRE SERVICE INFO FROM THE LAFD:

The Los Angeles Fire Department along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say there are all kinds of emergencies out there that we can prepare for. Take a zombie apocalypse for example. That's right, we said z-o-m-b-i-e a-p-o-c-a-l-y-p-s-e. You may laugh now, but when it happens you'll be happy you read this, and hey, maybe you'll even learn a thing or two about how to prepare for a **real** emergency.

"How do I prepare for a zombie apocalypse?" Well, we're here to answer that question for you, and hopefully share a few tips about preparing for any emergency!

- **Water** (1 gallon per person per day)
- **Food** (stock up on non-perishable items that you eat regularly)
- **Medications** (this includes prescription and non-prescription meds)
- **Tools and Supplies** (utility knife, duct tape, battery powered radio, etc.)
- **Sanitation and Hygiene** (household bleach, soap, towels, etc.)
- **Clothing and Bedding** (a change of clothes for each family member and blankets)
- **Important documents** (copies of your driver's license, passport, and birth certificate to name a few)
- **First Aid supplies** (although you're a goner if a zombie bites you, you can use these supplies to treat basic cuts and lacerations that you might get during an earthquake)

If your equipped to deal with a zombie apocalypse, you are prepared for a pandemic, earthquake, or terrorist attack. It can be tough to get people thinking about emergency preparedness **before** disaster strikes, so we hope this entertaining attempt got your attention.

Get a kit, make a plan, and be prepared!

AND:

Dear Friend of the LAFD, Please put these dates for local fire service and LAFD events on your calendar today! All are welcome...

April 21, 2012

www.chabotfire.com

20

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, April 23-25, 2012

8:00AM - 2:00PM

'Fill The Boot' For Muscular Dystrophy

Twenty Locations (Citywide)

Details will be emailed next Sunday afternoon and posted at <http://lafd.blogspot.com>

Saturday, May 6, 2012

6:00PM - 8:00PM

Bowling Benefit for LAFD Widows & Orphans (in Tarzana) - <http://bit.ly/lafra-bowling>

Saturday, May 12, 2012

10:00AM - 4:00PM

'Fire Service Recognition Day' - Annual LAFD Citywide Open House

Details will be emailed on Sunday May 5 and also posted at <http://lafd.blogspot.com>

Thursday, June 7, 2012

11:30AM - 2:30PM

15th Annual 'Hope For Firefighters' Event (Bunker Hill - Downtown Los Angeles)

<http://bit.ly/hope-for-firefighters>

Saturday, June 30, 2012

9:00AM - 4:00PM

American Heroes Airshow

Hansen Dam Recreation Center in (Lake View Terrace) - http://bit.ly/Heroes_Airshow_2012_Flyer

We look forward to having you and your family join us at these events. Everyone is welcome!

###

Respectfully Yours in Safety and Service,

Brian Humphrey

Firefighter/Specialist - Public Service Officer - Emergency Public Information (EPI) Center

Los Angeles Fire Department

"Serving with Courage, Integrity and Pride"

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

LAFD Home Page: LAFD.ORG

Do You Follow 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>

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 for more information.

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

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

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

Go to 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

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

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

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

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

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

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

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

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

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

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

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

Northern California
526 Commerce Way
Livermore, CA 94551

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

FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:

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

Name:	Jonathan D. Myers
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	54
Gender:	Male
Status:	Career
Years of Service:	20
Date of Incident:	03/19/2012
Time of Incident:	1000hrs
Date of Death:	03/19/2012
Fire Department:	Norfolk Fire-Rescue
Address:	100 Brooke AVE, STE 500, Norfolk, VA 23510-1836
Fire Department Chief:	Jeffrey F. Wise

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Incident Description: Firefighter Myers was found unconscious on the floor of his fire station's bunk room. Fellow firefighters immediately started CPR. Myers was then transported to DePaul Medical Center where he passed away from a cause still to be determined.

Incident Location: Station 13, 176 Maple Ave., Norfolk, VA

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

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

To date, 20 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Donald L. Jones
Rank: Captain
Age: 56
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 31
Date of Incident: 03/19/2012
Time of Incident: 2230hrs
Date of Death: 03/19/2012
Fire Department: Jacksonville Fire Department
Address: 900 N Redmond RD, Jacksonville, AR 72076-3623
Fire Department Chief: John Vanderhoof

Incident Description: Captain Jones responded with fire and police to a single-vehicle accident that involved a damaged gas main. While working to clear the scene of the accident, a second motor vehicle reportedly accelerated and veered off of the road striking two firefighters and a police officer. Captain Jones was killed upon impact. The police officer and second firefighter were both transported by air to the hospital and are reported to be in critical but stable condition. The driver of the second vehicle has been charged with 2nd degree murder and two counts of criminal intent to commit 2nd degree murder given that, according to witnesses, this person allegedly did not try to stop.

Incident Location: 8400 block of Highway 161 South, Jacksonville, AR

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

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

To date, 21 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Edward Richard Bernosky
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 79
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 50+
Date of Incident: 03/20/2012

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Time of Incident: 1530hrs
Date of Death: 03/20/2012
Fire Department: Adena Volunteer Fire Company
Address: PO Box 656, Adena, OH 43901-0656
Fire Department Chief: David Bernosky

Incident Description: Firefighter Bernosky suffered a medical emergency while working a fire department water detail. Medics and firefighters rendered aid but Bernosky passed away from a cause still to be reported.

Incident Location: Pine Valley Sportsman's Club, 108 S Bridge ST, Adena, OH 43901

Funeral Arrangements: 03/24/2012

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

To date, 22 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: David Bailey
Rank: Captain
Age: 50
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 18
Date of Incident: 04/03/2012
Time of Incident: 1130hrs
Date of Death: 04/03/2012
Fire Department: Los Angeles County Fire Department
Address: 1320 N Eastern AVE, Los Angeles, CA 90063-3244
Fire Department Chief: Daryl L. Osby

Incident Description: Captain Bailey suffered a fatal medical emergency while engaged in physical fitness activities at Los Angeles County Fire Department Camp 14 in Santa Clarita.

Incident Location: LACoFD Camp 14, San Francisquito Canyon, Map (USNG): 11S LU 6465 2584

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

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

To date, 23 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Kenny Fox
Rank: Fire Chief
Age: 39
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 20+

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Date of Incident: 04/07/2012
Time of Incident: 0424hrs
Date of Death: 04/07/2012
Fire Department: Decatur County Volunteer Fire Department Station 3
Address: PO Box 159, 19 S East ST, Decaturville, TN 38329
Fire Department Chief: Pending

Incident Description: Fire Chief Fox died from injuries sustained when the roof of a burning bar and grill collapsed on him. Two other firefighters on the interior attack team were injured but according to reports were pushed outside of the structure by Chief Fox just before the collapse. They were both transported to the hospital and treated for serious but non-life threatening injuries. Investigation into the cause of the fire and fatality continues by local and state authorities.

Incident Location: 3098 Highway 412 E, Parsons, TN 38363 (USNG: 16S DE 0311 4408)

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation will be 04/09/2012 from 1000-2100hrs, and on 04/10/2012, 1000-1400hrs, followed immediately by services at the Trinity Assembly of God, 1141 Southwest ST, Decaturville, TN 38329 (telephone: 731-852-4477).

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

To date, 24 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Robert Neary
Rank: Lieutenant
Age: 60
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 37

Name: Daniel Sweeney
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 25
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 5

Date of Incident: 04/09/2012
Time of Incident: 0315hrs
Date of Death: 04/09/2012
Fire Department: Philadelphia Fire Department
Address: Fire Admin Bldg, 240 Spring Garden St., Philadelphia, PA 19123-2991
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers

Incident Description: Lieutenant Neary and Firefighter Sweeney, both from Ladder 10, were battling a multi-alarm fire with exposures. While operating inside of one of the exposure structures, a wall collapsed, killing both of them and injuring several other firefighters. Investigation into the incident continues by local and state authorities.

Incident Location: Front Street and York Street (USNG: 18S VK 887 262).

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Tribute is being paid to Lieutenant Robert Neary and Firefighter Daniel Sweeney at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 26 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: John "Jack" Colbert
Rank: Captain
Age: 60
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 39
Date of Incident: 04/06/2012
Time of Incident: 1215hrs
Date of Death: 04/06/2012
Fire Department: Birchwood Fire Department
Address: PO Box 70, 101 N Main St, Birchwood, WI 54817
Fire Department Chief: Jeff Robotka

Incident Description: Captain Colbert responded to the station for a drowning incident. Upon arrival, he worked communications at the station until he fell ill and left for home where he passed away from a heart attack.

Incident Location: Red Cedar Lake (Staging: Loch Lomond Beach Club, 2754 28th Street, Birchwood, WI 54817 (USNG: 15T XL 1078 5089))

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation will be held from 4-8 p.m. Monday at Appleyard Home for Funerals in Rice Lake. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Birchwood.

Tribute is being paid to Captain John "Jack" Colbert at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 27 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: John Earl Wilkinson Jr.
Rank: Fire Chief
Age: 44
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 27
Date of Incident: 04/12/2012
Time of Incident: 1930hrs
Date of Death: 04/13/2012
Fire Department: Lake Dreamland Fire Department
Address: 4603 Cane Run RD, Louisville, KY 40216
Fire Department Chief: Pending

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Incident Description: Fire Chief Wilkinson responded to and worked an outdoor fire call. After returning home and in the early morning hours, Wilkinson experienced a medical emergency initially reported to have been a heart attack. Emergency responders were summoned to the residence but despite all efforts, Chief Wilkinson succumbed to his injury.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation, 04/16/2012 from 1200-2000hrs, and 04/17/2012 from 1100-1300hrs, with services to follow at Ornsby Heights Baptist Church, 2120 Lower Hunters Trace, Louisville, KY.

Tribute is being paid to Fire Chief John Earl Wilkinson Jr. at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 28 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: George Marshall Sanford
Rank: First Lieutenant
Age: 67
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 50
Date of Incident: 04/15/2012
Time of Incident: 1808hrs
Date of Death: 04/15/2012
Fire Department: Redding Fire & Emergency Medical Services Company # 1
Address: PO Box 86, 186 Black Rock TPKE, Redding, CT 06896
Fire Department Chief: Ron Van Oostendorp

Incident Description: First Lieutenant Sanford succumbed to unknown medical causes in the driver's seat of the fire company ambulance just as he was about to leave the station in response to a fire call.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Tribute is being paid to First Lieutenant George Marshall Sanford at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 30 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Richard A. Nappi
Rank: Lieutenant
Age: 47
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 17
Date of Incident: 04/16/2012
Time of Incident: 1300hrs

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Date of Death: 04/16/2012
Fire Department: Fire Department City of New York
Address: 9 Metro Tech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner Salvatore J. Cassano

Incident Description: Lieutenant Nappi suffered an apparent heart attack while battling a three-alarm fire in Bushwick, Brooklyn. According to FDNY, Lt. Nappi led a team of firefighters who stretched and operated a hoseline in a mezzanine area of the first floor. While battling the fire, Lt. Nappi became overheated and collapsed. Firefighters from Ladder 112 removed him on a stretcher to the street where he initially was conscious and alert. He was placed in an ambulance and EMS personnel began to treat him when he suddenly became unconscious and suffered cardiac arrest. While paramedics and EMTs continued to work on him, he was rushed by ambulance to Woodhull Hospital where he later died. Though the cause of the fire remains under investigation by authorities, media reports say that a large pile of cardboard boxes reportedly caught fire on the second floor of the two-story warehouse.

Incident Location: 930 Flushing Avenue in Bushwick (USNG: 18T WL 9004 0617).

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

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

To date, 31 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: John C. Winkelman
Rank: Fire Captain
Age: 54
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 23
Date of Incident: 04/12/2012
Time of Incident: 1457hrs
Date of Death: 04/12/2012
Fire Department: Huntley Fire Protection District
Address: 11808 Coral St. PO Box 517, Huntley, IL 60142
Fire Department Chief: James Saletta

Incident Description: While on assignment as the District's Communications Officer, Captain Winkelman attended an off-shift meeting at the dispatch center. Upon his return home from the meeting, Captain Winkelman was killed in a motor vehicle accident.

Incident Location: Rt. 176 and Mt. Thabor Rd., Crystal Lake, IL

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation will take place on Tuesday 04/17/2012 from 1600-2100hrs at the Cosman Center (Huntley Park District), 12015 Mill ST, Huntley, IL 60142. A fire department walk through will take place at 1900hrs. Lineup will begin at 1830hrs in the southwest parking lot. Funeral services will take place on Wednesday 04/18/2012 at 1100hrs at the St. John's Lutheran Church, 6812 Main ST, Union, IL 60180. Visitation at St. John's will be held from 1000-1100hrs. Lineup will be at 1030hrs. Procession to Marengo City cemetery will follow immediately after the funeral service. Further information can be obtained by contacting Capt. Scott Ravagnie - Huntley Fire at 847-669-2995 or by email sravagnie@huntleyfpd.org.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Tribute is being paid to Fire Captain John C. Winkelman at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 29 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Adam Longo
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 31
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: <1
Date of Incident: 04/12/2012
Time of Incident: 1500hrs
Date of Death: 04/18/2012
Fire Department: Natrona County Fire Protection District
Address: PO Box 820, 2800 Pheasant DR, Casper, WY 82604-4337
Fire Department Chief: Kevin Finn

Incident Description: Firefighter Longo was driving a squad truck to the fire station to pick up a brush truck in response to a grass fire when he suffered a stroke. Other firefighters in the vehicle were able to get control of the truck and bring it to a safe stop. Longo was treated and transported to the hospital but passed away from his injury several days later.

Incident Location: Andrea Lane, WY

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

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

To date, 32 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

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Firefighter fatalities in USFA reports are summarized by date/year-of-incident. Initial notices posted online at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/> and distributed via USFA listserv do not represent the final on-duty firefighter fatality determination by USFA for such reports, nor LODD determination made by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (www.firehero.org) 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

ARKANSAS FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-Others Injured-STRUCK BY

VEHICLE

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter was killed in the Line of Duty and another Firefighter and Police Officer remain in critical condition after a single vehicle crash late last night. Companies were called to the scene of Highway 161 South in Jacksonville around 2300 last night after a car crashed, causing a gas main break. While emergency crews were clearing the accident, a van veered off the road, driving around barriers, hitting three -- 2 Firefighters and a police officer. The one Firefighter was killed on impact. The other Firefighter and Police Officer were transported where both are still listed in critical condition.

DRIVER ARRESTED & CHARGED WITH MURDER:

Jacksonville PD has identified the driver of the van that killed the Firefighter as 47-year-old Bryce Allen of Jacksonville. He has been charged with 2nd degree murder and two counts of criminal intent to commit 2nd degree murder because he allegedly did not try to stop. Allen is the son of Thelma Allen, the driver of the original car that crashed and caused the initial gas main break. According to a witness who watched the crash unfold, Bryce Allen told authorities his accelerator pedal on his vehicle got stuck. The Jacksonville FD is a career department of 60 personnel located NE of Little Rock. We'll have more details as they become available.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-20-12 / 0340 Hours

AND:

VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER LODD-During PT

We have been advised of the Line of Duty Death of Norfolk Fire & Rescue Dept. member, Jon Meyers, this morning while participating in physical fitness activities at the station. His fellow NFR Firefighters found him unconscious at the firehouse. CPR and ALS was immediately started, then he was transported to DePaul Medical Center where he was sadly pronounced dead. Our condolences to those affected. Additional Details Should Be Available:

HERE: <http://www.iaff-local68.org/>

HERE: <http://www.norfolk.gov/nfr/>

PUT UP OR SHUT UP:

2 Interesting fire service related issues in the news today....related to either getting involved or living with the consequences of NOT getting involved. The first is that IAFF member and Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin President Mahlon Mitchell is getting involved. **Fully involved!** He has announced that he will run for Lieutenant Governor in the recall election to be held June 5. Mitchell is running for the second-most powerful office in that state, which has become a national battleground in the fight to protect workers rights: **MUCH MORE HERE FROM THE IAFF:**

<http://www.iaff.org/12News/031912Mahlon.htm>

Secondly, in the community of SECURITY (seriously) Colorado, their fire apparatus responds with ONE firefighter. That's it. DRIVER only.**GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT? Keep Reading.** Since 1990, they have run 1 person per apparatus. As the FF pulls up, they set the parking brake, prime the pump, get out. put it in pump gear, drag the hose line and head to the fire. "We train very hard every day to do what we do with single man crews. It's what we're stuck with," said Captain Marris of the Security Fire Department. When the fire apparatus arrives at the scene of a fire, the lone Firefighter inside can't always do it alone....often has to wait for help to arrive...another truck to show up, that has one guy on it as well. The fire has an EXCELLENT chance at winning.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Got a problem with that? That's a question for those who LIVE in Security-and communities experiencing similar issues. The choice is simple: Vote for higher taxes for more Firefighters or JOIN the volunteer side of the operation and get involved in solving YOUR fire protection problem.

It's easy to pick up almost any paper these days and see FIREFIGHTERS pointing out the high risks to their communities and themselves when budgets, staffing, response times or other stuff negatively impacts the ability to get water on the fire, rescue people etc--(as long as we are providing them with facts, not bs and giving them the most we can for their tax dollars, but that's a whole other discussion)--but until the taxpayers get involved-by either paying for it thru taxes or their time, their "Security" is the level of service they have chosen. Additionally, when a community decides they only WANT one FF on an apparatus, the FD leadership has a real clear obligation to let them know that in reality, ONE person driving a fire engine is normally known as a salesman-and nothing more. As brave and tough as the Security FF's are-it's sad that they, once again, have to take extreme and grave risks, to help a community that really doesn't want it. It also raises the question of WHY they take those risks? Like it or not, we all know the answer. Leadership has an obligation there as well. Not easy stuff. **Much More Here:** <http://www.krdo.com/news/30706258/detail.html>

SAN JOSE FIREFIGHTER REMAINS IN BURN UNIT-Doing better

That San Jose firefighter injured in the apartment building fire early Thursday remains in the burn unit of a local hospital recovering from second-degree burns. The firefighter, a 15-year-veteran of the department, fell through the roof at the fire and suffered second-degree burns and injuries to his hands, waist area and below his waist, but was in stable condition as of Friday evening and is expected to recover from his injuries.

Video & Photos

HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/6rfypog>

HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/7h43e23>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-19-12 / 1356 Hours

AND:

Hey,

As you will remember, in January 2011, Firefighter Mark Falkenhan of Baltimore County's Lutherville VFD, a highly respected veteran career and volunteer Firefighter, died in the Line of Duty. The **INTERNAL REPORT** (link below) has now been published and provides observations and recommendations for operating at future fires. **Once again, as pointed out in the report, this fire, like many other LODD's, his death was not the result of one specific issue within the event-but numerous issues that lead up to the tragic loss.**

A detailed timeline of the fire, leading up to the loss, from the time the initial call went out until Falkenhan was removed from the third floor of the building, is included in the below report. The timeline also includes transcripts of the radio transmissions between FF Falkenhan and others as he sought assistance in escaping the building. We have also included an edited link to the **RADIO TRAFFIC** below. In summary, Falkenhan and his partner entered and made their way into the building to search for victims, without a hoseline. The apartment, like ANY dwelling any FF operates in today-is filled with plastics and other petro-chemical based consumer items (carpeting/flooring, furniture, TV's etc) that create a gas filled and subsequent fire environment of explosive potential. Firefighters searching saw fire in the corner of the apartment shortly before coming across a victim-but those conditions were not communicated via radio. At 1841 hours, crews

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

were ordered to evacuate the building and about a minute later Falkenhan called a MAYDAY. At 1850 hours, Firefighters found Falkenhan unconscious and eventually removed him from the building.

Some of the main recommendations in the report include:

=STRICT/DISCIPLINED CREW INTEGRITY:

Company officers shall ensure that crew integrity is maintained at all times by all personnel operating in an IDLH environment. Falkenhan and his partner separated while searching the third floor-and his partner was forced to bail due to the conditions.

=A RADIO FOR EVERY FIREFIGHTER:

=No personnel should operate in an "immediately dangerous to life or health" environment without a portable radio. Falkenhan's partner did not have a portable radio.

=PORTABLE RADIO AND RADIO SYSTEM USAGE: =Develop ways of reducing inadvertent radio interference, including developing a rubberized cover for the push to talk buttons on radios which would reduce the chances of accidentally pushing it.

=COMMUNICATE WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND WHAT YOU SEE: =While performing operations above the fire, notify command of changing conditions, and immediately request resources to support your function. The Firefighters conducting search and rescue operations saw fire in the corner of the apartment shortly before coming across a victim-but never communicated the fire conditions to command. The room flashed as they were exiting the apartment.

The report concludes that while Falkenhan's death was tragic, there is little need for massive changes to the department's related protocols. **As you and we have all read in previous Line of Duty Death reports, if current policies and procedures were/are adhered to, the opportunity for tragic outcomes may be reduced.**

In a statement from the report: "It would be easy if one particular failure of the system could be identified as the cause of this tragedy. "We could fix it and move on. Unfortunately, it is not that simple. No incident is 'routine.' Mark's death and this report reinforce that fact."

HERE IS THE REPORT:

<http://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/Fire/report/finalreport120320.pdf>

HERE IS THE EDITED RADIO TRAFFIC:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMsc8nuEvVw>

Once again-the above information, report, radio traffic etc is an excellent opportunity to learn, and HONOR the memory of FF Mark Falkenhan. The NIOSH report will follow soon.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-21-12 / 0600 Hours

AND:

Hey,

In addition to The Secret List we sent you earlier, (with the Baltimore County LODD report links) it is important for us, you (and your troops) to thoroughly read this "Part 2" as a part of the earlier TSL. Below is a link to the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) engineering analysis (FIRE BEHAVIOR) report (a total of 38 pages-loaded with photos, charts, graphs and modeling graphics) . It offers some additional take home fire behavior points for the field, especially the importance of compartmentation and closing doors as we search.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

The Baltimore County Fire Department requested the assistance of ATF Fire Protection Engineers to utilize engineering analysis tools, including computer fire modeling, to assist with determining the route of fire spread and the events that led to the firefighter MAYDAY and subsequent Line of Duty Death...the first report that we sent out to your earlier on The Secret List.

Working closely with the Balto. County FD Post Incident Analysis Team, the ATF Fire Research Laboratory created a computer simulation of the garden apartment building using Fire Dynamics Simulator (FDS). The statements of each firefighter were reviewed and their individual actions (breaking windows, opening doors, etc.) and observations (fire size, smoke conditions, etc.) were recorded on floor diagrams. The actions and observations of the firefighters were then associated with specific times in the fireground audio to generate an overall event timeline. All events in the model are based on this master timeline of events. In addition, all photographs were time stamped and synchronized with the model. The Post Incident Analysis Team was consulted throughout the development of the event timeline and the computer fire model to ensure accuracy.

While no fire model will exactly replicate a fire, this model provided insight on the route of fire spread, the rapid fire growth leading to flashover of the second and third level, and the benefits of compartmentation on slowing fire and smoke spread. The unidirectional flow path up the stairs from the terrace level apartment resulted in a high rate of convective heat transfer to the firefighters initially attempting to descend the stairs, making attacking the seat of the fire very difficult. The model then supported the fact that the main stairwell acted as an open channel for fire and smoke spread between the second and third levels, resulting in flashover of the third level in approximately 30 seconds after the second level. This rapid fire growth leading to flashover is supported by photographs, witness statements and fireground audio. The model was then utilized to explore the effects of compartmentation using apartment entrance doors. The FDS model supported the scene observations and indicated that shutting the entrance doors blocked the flow of buoyancy driven fire gases through the structure, ultimately preventing fire extension to the third floor apartment via the stairwell. The FDS model was utilized as part of the overall engineering analysis of this tragic fire and allowed for a better understanding of the events that led to the firefighter MAYDAY and subsequent Line of Duty Death. The model was also used as an educational tool providing insight on potential methods of preventing similar tragedies in the future. The results of this engineering analysis are intended to be reviewed by the Post Incident Analysis Team to assist in the creation of recommendations to mitigate the danger associated with future fire incidents.

HERE IS THAT REPORT: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/bin/a/m/b_atffireanalysis120319.pdf

Take advantage of this outstanding opportunity to learn, and again, honor Firefighter Mark Falkenhan who was killed in the Line of Duty at this fire. Our thanks to Baltimore County and the ATF for reaching out and allowing us to pass this on.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List

AND:

OHIO FF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY - THE SECRET LIST -

It is with deep regret that we advise you that on this past Wednesday, March 21, 2012, Edward Bernosky, a Firefighter with the Adena (SE Ohio) Volunteer Fire Department collapsed from an unconfirmed heart attack while pulling hose at a water shuttle. We'll post additional updates. Our sincere condolences to all affected. RIP.

WISCONSIN FF DIES IN SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY

April 21, 2012

www.chabotfire.com

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Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Services for Staff Sgt. Jesse Grindey are being held today in the Grant County, WI-community of Hazel Green. The 30-year-old Grindey joined the Army 10 years ago and was a military policeman assigned to the 287th Military Police Company based at Fort Riley, Kansas. He served one tour of duty in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. He has been a Volunteer Firefighter in Hazel Green since he was 18 years old. He died in Military Line of Duty on March 12 in Kandahar province. The DOD released no details of his death. Grindey is survived by his wife, two very young children and other family members. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 3-23-12 / 1253 hours

AND:

Hey,

If you drive or ride the right front seat as a boss or partner on your apparatus, this video is worth watching and passing along. It shows a responding FD EMS unit running thru a red light-when it gets t-boned by a civilian car that had the green light.

HERE is the video: <http://tinyurl.com/75w457e>

And it's also HERE: <http://www.philly.com/philly/express/>

You will see a car slam into the unit, causing it to flip over on its side. 2 Philadelphia FD paramedics were taken to the hospital for treatment of NLT injuries. There were no patients inside the ambo the time of the crash and no one inside the striking car was seriously injured. **Stop at red lights. Seriously.**

FDNY FIREFIGHTER HEADING HOME FROM THE BURN UNIT (Video)

That FDNY Rescue 2 Firefighter who suffered severe burns on the job went home today after spending 3 months in the burn center at New York Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. As you'll remember, Rescue 2 FF Robert Wiedmann was critically burned in a December 19, 2011 fire in Crown Heights. FF Wiedmann was admitted to Hearst Burn Center in extremely critical condition after sustaining injuries battling a fire at an apartment building. He suffered burns to 54 percent of his body, including his head, face and back. He was on a respirator for 13 days and has had 10 operations, all requiring skin grafts. FF Wiedmann left the hospital Friday morning in a limo with FDNY and NYPD escorts.

VIDEO & PHOTOS OF THE FIRE HERE: <http://www.fdnyscure2.org/news/fullstory/newsid/151981>

TODAYS "HOME COMING" VIDEO HERE:

http://www.myfoxny.com/dpp/news/firefighter-robert-wiedmann-heading-home-20120323-1gf?CMP=201203_emailshare

REMEMBERING FIREFIGHTER OSCAR ARMSTRONG (Report Below)

A "single family dwelling" Fire That Any Of Us Can and Will Encounter.

This week take time to remember that on March 21, 2003, Cincinnati (Ohio) Firefighter Oscar Armstrong III tragically died in the Line of Duty. FF Armstrong died after becoming trapped in a flashover while operating at a single family dwelling fire. The fire started in the first-floor kitchen of a two-story, single-family residence.

Among the skills/areas specifically cited in "Lessons Learned/Lesson Reinforced" in the below CFD and NIOSH reports are:

- firefighter orientation within the fire structure;
- crews' staying together during operations;
- company officers' supervision of crew members, especially inexperienced firefighters;

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- enforcement of radio discipline and the means to make communications in full personal protective equipment effective;
- implementing and maintaining a strong command presence and system;
- frequent training on and adherence to standard operating procedures on the fireground.
- ensure fire fighters enter burning structures with charged hose lines and properly stretch, deploy, and position those hoselines;
- ensuring that a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) is established and in position prior to initiating an interior attack
- ensuring that ventilation is closely coordinated with interior operations and command
- ensure that fire command and company officers always maintains close accountability for all personnel operating on the fireground

Take time to honor his memory and the CFD's loss by reading and sharing these reports.

http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/cityfire/downloads/cityfire_pdf8213.pdf (The CFD Report)

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200312.html> (The NIOSH Report)

<http://tinyurl.com/74pyq74> (Fire Engineering Article)

<http://www.cfdhistory.com/htmls/lodding.php?info=84> (Photos/Coverage)

WHILE NOT LINE OF DUTY:

Our condolences to Hartsdale (Westchester County NY) Fire Chief Ed Rush and his family and friends in the loss of his son, who was also a Firefighter. Tyler Rush, 24, a Lieutenant with the Elmsford (Westchester County) NYFD died shortly after 1930 last night when his motorcycle collided with a car. Our condolences to the EFD as well as all others affected. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 3-23-12 / 2026 Hours

AND:

FIREFIGHTER STRUCK AND KILLED LODD-BY FIRE APPARATUS

We regret to advise you that a Belgium Firefighter was struck and killed in the Line of Duty today. Firefighter Ernest Robey 57 years old from the Willebroek Fire Department in Belgium was hit and ran over by fire apparatus. The crash occurred during a run on Highway A12 heading to Anvers. The fire apparatus was backing up when Firefighter Robey somehow slipped off a ladder/ladder area of the rig, fell and was run over by the apparatus. Firefighters from the City of Purrs where called mutual aid to cover and the Willebroek Firefighters were placed out of service. The driver of the apparatus has been hospitalized in shock over the death of his Brother Firefighter. Our condolences to all affect-we have additional on our home page.

RESPONDING APPARATUS CRASH IN NEW YORK

A ladder company responding to a Bedford-Stuy trash fire crashed into another vehicle yesterday, leaving 10 people, including 6 members hurt according to FDNY. Ladder 111 was responding to the fire on Bedford Avenue when it struck a car at Fulton Street and Nostrand Avenue about 1220 hours yesterday. A witness stated that the apparatus struck the car, which was turning onto Fulton Street, as it was going thru a red light at Nostrand Avenue. 6 Firefighters and 4 civilians were taken to Kings County and Woodhull hospitals with NLT injuries.

LESSONS LEARNED: 42 Years With The FDNY (From Vinny Dunn, Retired Deputy Chief-FDNY)

Here is a really cool on going "pass it on" project that offers lessons learned, stories, tales and advice, GREAT reading. <http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/fdny-theses-stories-lessons.shtml>

SEE YOU AT FDIC!

Looking forward to seeing many of you at FDIC again this year. It's APRIL 16-21, 2012-just a few weeks away. Not registered yet? Seriously? GO HERE TO GET THERE. www.FDIC.com

DO NOT MISS THE NFFF STOP, DROP, ROCK & ROLL ANNUAL PARTY:

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

DO NOT MISS THE F.O.O.L.S. BASH: <http://www.indymetrofools.com/>

Hemming and hawing about going or not to FDIC? Knock off the hemm. Don't haw. Just GO-trust us-even if you have to pay your own way (they have lowered the registration for 2012), it's an absolute investment in yourself as a Firefighter - from the HOT sessions, the classes, the workshops etc to the social sessions and interactions with the other nearly 30,000 attendees. Check it out.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-28-12 / 1411 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Garland (Texas) firefighter has a fractured skull after an accident on the job over the weekend. FF Bobby Brinkley was struck in the face by an SCBA air tank. Brinkley, who has been with the department about two years, is in intensive care at Parkland Hospital. On Saturday morning, Brinkley and other members of the Swift Water Rescue unit were called from station 8 to Rowlett Creek Preserve to rescue a dog that was trapped in the creek. The Firefighters were using an SCBA bottle to fill a water raft to rescue the dog. At some point, the tank became disengaged from the raft and the high pressure turned the the bottle into a projectile. The tank struck Brinkley in the face, fracturing his skull....he was taken by helicopter to Parkland. **HERE is much more:**

<http://www.myfoxdfw.com/dpp/news/Garland-Firefighter-Hurt-in-Freak-Accident-032612#ixzz1qEAokt3R>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-26-12 / 0800 Hours

AND:

Hey,

As you will recall, a Muncie (IN) FF died in the Line of Duty last summer in a church fire. Tragically, there is a history of church and related houses of worship fires resulting in the death of Firefighters-see numerous links below. Of the factors identified in the new NIOSH report (link below), the investigation shows that the initial **SIZE-UP** did not fully consider the impact of limited water supply, available staffing, the occupancy type, and lightweight roof truss system. On June 15, 2011, Firefighter Scott Davis, 40, was at that fire conducting interior firefighting efforts inside the Muncie church when the steeple collapsed onto the sanctuary portion of the structure. Other firefighters escaped with minor injuries and attempted to rescue Firefighter Davis, who died in that fire.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT upon arrival, units had visible fire and heavy smoke coming from the roof of the church and a second alarm was immediately requested due to the lack of hydrants in this area.

HOWEVER-the interior crew was initially met with visible conditions, light smoke, and no visible fire **INSIDE** the church. Conditions quickly changed after walls and areas of the ceiling were opened up, exposing a fire engulfed attic space. A decision was then made to evacuate the building due to the

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amount of fire burning above the Firefighters. At this same moment (around 1610 hours), the roof began to collapse into the church where the Firefighters were working, trapping the victim and injuring others as they exited out of windows or ran from the collapse. Due to the magnitude of the fire, the fire department was unable to return to the collapsed area to rescue the victim. The victim's body was later recovered after the fire was extinguished.

At this fire, the incident commander's size-up did not identify proper strategy and tactics for the church, the location and size of the fire hidden in the attic, a practical water supply for suppression (no water hydrants were near the church, and a lake from which to pull water was only identified later) and hazards associated with the lightweight roof truss systems used in the church.

The incident commander also placed his command post so that he could not see conditions on the opposite side.

"When the acting BC arrived on scene, he began a walk around of the structure where he discovered that the steeple had toppled over, indicating the potential for further collapse of the roof structure," the report says.

"The volume of fire discovered in the attic was too large for the initial 1 3/4-inch hoseline and not easily accessible by the firefighters," the report says. "Also, the fire department did not have sufficient water and significant fire flow to extinguish a fire in a nonresidential structure and of the volume of fire encountered."

The report points out the importance of BEFORE THE FIRE pre-incident planning inspections of buildings within their response areas so that they can develop safe fireground tactics and not have to guess when arriving on the scene.

In the fire that took Firefighter Davis's life, the firefighters involved knew that the area did not have an immediate water supply, but the church had no pre-incident plan.

MUNCIE FIRE REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201114.html>

PITTSBURGH CHURCH FIRE REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200417.html>

TENNESSEE CHURCH FIRE REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200437.html>

ARKANSAS CHURCH FIRE REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200103.html>

GEORGIA CHURCH FIRE REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face9904.html>

TEXAS CHURCH FIRE REPORT: <http://writer-tech.com/pages/articles/texas.htm>

DISPATCHER-THE FIRST, FIRST RESPONDERS

We've written for years about how critical the role of dispatchers are in what we do. From the first people dealing with the emergency (well before your tones go off) to their role in supporting responding and operating companies, their role is a critical part of any FD's response. In some places unfortunately they are under paid, over worked and poorly trained with predictable results. And in as much as Firefighters may often get frustrated with their Dispatchers, it's also clear that the importance of Firefighters and Officers spending time in the dispatcher center (either during probation, training or regularly) to truly understand the job (vs what you think you understand) as well as Dispatchers out riding with units for the same reasons, cannot be overstated.

A new study finds that emergency dispatchers who handle 911 calls also suffer a mental toll, especially when taking distressing calls involving accidental death and suicide. The new study shows that 911 dispatchers' indirect exposure to traumatic events can result in symptoms of PTSD. "Usually research considers links between disorders and how much emotional distress is experienced on the scene of a traumatic event," said study author Dr. Michelle Lilly of Northern Illinois University in a

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statement. "However, this is the first study on emergency dispatchers, who experience the trauma indirectly."

For the study, published in the Journal of Traumatic Stress, researchers questioned 171 emergency dispatchers currently working in 24 U.S. states. The dispatchers - predominately white women around age 38 with more than 11 years of dispatching experience - were asked about the types of calls they answer and their corresponding emotional distress. They participants then rated the types of calls that caused great distress and were asked to recall the worst call they ever received.

About 16% of the calls dispatchers identified as their worst involved the unexpected injury or death of a child. About 13% were suicidal callers, 10% were police-officer shootings and another 10% involved the unexpected death of an adult. The researchers report that the dispatchers experienced a high level of distress following 32% of potentially traumatic calls and that 3.5% of the dispatchers reported symptoms severe enough to be classified as PTSD.

Not knowing what happens after calls are dispatched is a significant stressor for dispatchers, ABC News reports. "We don't know the end result. We don't know if they made it. There is no formal communication back to us," Monica Gavio, a coordinator for the Burlington County, New Jersey, 911 communications center. When we look at the entire "chain of response-from the 9-1-1 call, the call processing, the dispatching and the radio operations-it's clear that dispatchers are an integral part of what we do. **MORE HERE:** <http://healthland.time.com/2012/03/29/study-911-dispatchers-experience-ptsd-symptoms-too/#ixzz1qX8FVnM0>

RESPONDING CHICAGO EMS CHIEF CRITICAL (But NLT) AFTER CRASH

A Chicago Fire Department Paramedic Chief was hospitalized last night when the sport-utility vehicle he was driving rolled over during a multi-vehicle crash on the South Side. The Chief was responding to a fire on South Greenwood Avenue when another vehicle struck the fire department's Ford Expedition about 8:55 p.m. near East 95th Street and South Stony Island Avenue and the CFD vehicle rolled over and came to rest upside down The Paramedic Field Chief was taken in critical but "stable" condition to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn. A 42-year-old driver, Nicole Chaparro, was cited with failing to yield to an emergency vehicle.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-29-12 / 1531 Hours

AND:

Hey,

3 Dearborn (MI) Firefighters had a serious close call while operating on the roof of a commercial clothes cleaners today. While on the roof attempting to vent, the roof gave way underneath the Firefighters, due to fire conditions, but they were able to very luckily get off the collapsing section.

NOTE: Check out the photos and the video both as well as the numerous links we dug up for you and your crew.

STEP BY STEP PHOTOS HERE:

<http://www.clickondetroit.com/news/-/1719418/9767702/-/5ldid2/-/index.html>

(Watch photos 4, 5 and 6 specifically but then also watch the previous and post collapse smoke and related fire spread)

VIDEO HERE: http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/wayne_county/choppr-7-video-shows-scary-

[moments-for-fire-fighters-battling-a-dearborn-fire#ixzz1qZWEOfSW](#) (WATCH THE LARGE AREA OF THE ROOF SECTION DROP)

HERE are some related training materials for your use:

=Preventing Injuries and Deaths of Firefighters Due to Truss System Failures:
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2005-132/>

=Preventing Injuries and Deaths of Fire Fighters due to Structural Collapse:
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/99-146/pdfs/99-146.pdf>

=50 Ways Firefighters Die (The Original by Chief Dunn) <http://vincentdunn.com/dunn/50.pdf>

=Venting Commercial Buildings <http://my.firefighternation.com/profiles/blogs/tips-for-venting-commercial> (M.Dugan Article)

=Roof Ops: When To Go Defensive: <http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/print/volume-164/issue-3/features/commercial-building-fires-when-to-go-defensive.html> (Article)

=Collapse of Burning Buildings: <http://www.pennwellbooks.com/colofburbuil.html> (V.Dunn Book)

=Collapse of Burning Building Videos: <http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/vindunn.shtml> (V.Dunn Videos)

=Strategic and Tactical Considerations on the Fireground <http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/bs8294.shtml> (J. Smith Book)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-30-12 / 0112 Hours

AND:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE CAPTAIN LINE OF DUTY DEATH-Medical Emergency

We regret to advise you that Los Angeles County Fire Captain died in the Line of Duty earlier today. The Captain was leading training with some inmate/wildland Firefighters when he was stricken. We'll post more information as it becomes available. Our condolences to all affected.

MARYLAND FIRE INSTRUCTOR STRUCK DURING ROADWAY SAFETY TRAINING

On April 1 at 1000 hours on the 5900 block of Radio Station Road in La Plata, there was an incident involving a fire department SUV and a Maryland Fire Rescue Institute Training Instructor. The driver of the SUV, 22, was practicing maneuvers on a cone course when he lost control of the vehicle for an undetermined reason and struck Dominic Troiano, 59, the MFRI instructor. He was initially treated on the scene and then flown to Baltimore Shock Trauma where he was admitted with critical injuries-however is now doing better and is expected to be extubated today. We'll post updates on our home page.

IMPORTANT-YOUR PORTABLE FIREFIGHTER RADIO:

The NFPA Standards Council is seeking your input to determine if an NFPA standard is needed for firefighter portable radios. Like all fire service related NFPA committees, **YES**-there would be

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FIREFIGHTERS participating in the development of this standard. **Do you agree that a standard is needed?**

HERE are the details: At their March 2012 meeting the NFPA Standards Council reviewed a request that the NFPA consider the establishment of a new document on the design, performance, testing, and certification of two-way, portable (hand-held) land mobile radios (LMR) for use by emergency services personnel.

Comments regarding this matter or expressing interest in participating should be directed to the NFPA Standards Council in care of Ms. Mary Maynard at any of the addresses below.

Email: stds_admin@nfpa.org

US mail: Codes and Standards Administration
NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02169-7471
Fax: 617-770-0700

Some additional information: The following is abstracted from NIST Technical Note 1477, published in 2006. It should be noted that there have not been any significant changes to products available to the fire service since this report was published. The complete document is available at: http://www.fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/NIST_TN_1477.pdf

Please contact the NFPA Standards Council at the above addresses to let them know that the fire service needs a standard that supports the design, testing and mfg of portable radios for use in the firefighting environment.

ATTENDING FDIC? Do You Subscribe To The Secret List?

WRITE THIS DOWN:

**Booth 1704 at FDIC.....we'll explain why later.
Seriously-BOOTH 1704.**

FINAL NOTE: Our prayers go out to all of you in Texas and related areas dealing with this afternoons horrible tornadoes.

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 4-3-12 / 1714 Hours

AND:

Hey,

It was on April 4, 2008, that Firefighters from Colerain Township (Hamilton Co, OH) and mutual aid companies responded initially to what was a reported automatic alarm. While responding, the dispatcher upgraded the run, indicating the occupants were reporting a working house fire. Not long after that **Fire Captain Robin Broxterman**, 37-years-old, a 17-year veteran career firefighter and paramedic, and **Firefighter Brian Schira**, 29-years-old, a 6 month probationary, part-time Firefighter and EMT with Colerain Township (Ohio) Fire & EMS both **died in the Line of Duty after the floor they were on collapsed into the burning basement at that dwelling fire.**

Following the loss, the Colerain Township Fire/EMS Department issued that very in depth report (**link below**) with valuable details on what happened based upon the information available at the time.

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Critical details such as the importance of size-up, 360 walk around and other information is of great value to any Firefighter and Officer. The NIOSH report is also linked below.

As Colerain Fire Captain Steve Conn rightfully stated-as it applies to many LODD's "There was not one major mistake that caused the death of our 2 Firefighters. There was a perfect storm, a combination several little things that hit all at the wrong time."

Stated in the report "the department will never forget the ultimate sacrifice made by Captain Robin Broxterman and Firefighter Brain Schira in their service to the community. **By sharing the knowledge gained** from this very tragic and painful incident, the Department will ensure their sacrifice was not in vain and hope that other fire departments can avoid a similar tragedy"....

The reports have mattered in several cases already, including the City of Defiance, Ohio, where FF's studied the report and following that-applied the lessons at a fire they responded to-and their scene operations were positively altered due to what they learned from Colerain. **RIP HERE is the NIOSH Report:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200809.html>
HERE is the Colerain Township FD Report:
http://www.egovlink.com/public_docum...s%20Report.pdf

360 SIZE UP-Challenges & Solutions - in the URBAN Environment

As mentioned above-a 360 degree size up is critical-but may be easier said than done. The latest issue of **URBAN FIREFIGHTER** is out and has a really good piece on that specific subject, and addresses the urban related challenges and some solutions:

Check it out HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/bvy57h2>

It starts on PAGE 12 of the above link....but also check out the entire issue....loaded with good stuff we can all benefit from.

CALIFORNIA CHIEF INJURED IN RESPONDING CRASH

An Orange County Fire Authority Battalion Chief was injured after his truck collided with another vehicle in an intersection around 1000 hours today while he was en route to a separate collision. The Chief had been dispatched to a three-vehicle accident in Carbon Canyon near the San Bernardino County line when the collision occurred. Both the battalion chief and the female driver of the other vehicle were transported to UC Irvine Medical center. The Chief has NLT injuries.

FD TRAINING

We often get e-mails asking about non-conference type "hands on" FD training programs. One of the best is run by a phenomenal Fire Officer who we have been friends with for 30+ years. Take a moment to check out what Jim McCormack has created:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5omL9qrwz4&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.fdtraining.com/index.html>

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTERS? Check out this new video for the recruitment of Junior members:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGu5nr_R2yA&feature=youtu.be

Developed by the National Volunteer Fire Council's (NVFC) the video is now available for download above or at the National Junior Firefighter Program web site

HERE: www.nvfc.org/juniors

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 4-4-12 /2212 Hours

AND:

UPDATE:

HERO TENNESSEE FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-OTHER FIREFIGHTERS SERIOUSLY BURNED--THE SECRET LIST

Reports are now that it was Firefighter Kenny Fox, a volunteer Firefighter and Sheriff's Deputy, who became trapped - and killed in the Line of Duty when the roof collapsed during this mornings restaurant fire in Decatur County, TN. 2 other Firefighters were badly burned and are at Vanderbilt Hospital. Firefighters Jeremy Inman and his brother Randy are being treated for third degree burns on their face and hands. Firefighter Fox's eldest son was also on the fire scene assisting at the fire and stayed until crews could recover his father's body. FF Fox leaves behind a wife and three sons. Reports are that FF Fox heroically pushed his fellow firefighters out of the way as the roof collapsed, trapping Fox inside the Oak Hill Cafe-leading to his death. FF Fox was also a Sergeant with the Decatur County Sheriff's Office. His oldest son was also fighting the fire just before 0430 today. The younger Fox ran inside the burning building to try to save his father, but it was too late. More updates to follow here and on our home page.

*** Note - This is the second Off-Duty Police Officer, who was serving as a Volunteer Firefighter to be killed in the Line of Duty this year. The other incident happened early this year in WI. ***

Take Care-BE CAREFUL
BillyG
The Secret List 4-7-12 / 1755 hours

AND:

All,
Updated info indicates that it was the Fire Chief who was killed in the Line of Duty, with the 2 other Firefighters who are injured in Western Tennessee earlier today. Decaturville Volunteer Fire Chief Kenny Fox - age 39, who serves as the Decatur County Volunteer Chief, responded to that fire at a bar early this morning. As we advised you earlier, while Chief Fox was unable to make it out of the building before the roof collapsed, he did manage to push 2 other Firefighters out of the way, saving their lives. Members of Kenny's "A Team" as he called them at the Decaturville VFD said he was irreplaceable, and not only did he volunteer there, but his wife and 2 sons volunteer as Firefighters there as well. One son was there and had been operating on the scene just a few moments after he was there, fighting the fire while his dad was trapped. Chief Fox's 19-year-old son did enter the building trying to find his dad and understandably, did not leave until other Firefighters made him get out. The 2 Firefighters who were injured in the fire were brothers; Jeremy and Randy Inman. Both were transported to Vanderbilt Hospital for third degree burn treatment but reportedly NLT. More updates will follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL
BillyG
The Secret List 4-7-12 / 2230 hours

AND:

Hey,
Below is a link to an **FDNY CLOSE CALL** video is from a recent "all-hands" fire in Brooklyn. In it you will see Ladder 156's roof Firefighter head up the aerial with his tools. When he gets to the top

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

section, he stops and takes a look (sizes up to provide a report to the Chief) - when the explosion occurred. That extra second to slow down and "size it up" before going further made a big difference.

HERE is the video: http://youtu.be/npa_EOY9_nA

BASEMENT FIRES? Free Firefighter Training Program.

Below is a link to the release of UL's latest **FIREFIGHTER SURVIVAL** research project on Basement Fires. The UL folks along with Firefighters and Fire Officers have worked for 2 years conducting numerous experiments to examine basement fire collapse hazards and fire dynamics to bring some more science to the streets. They have packaged the results in an online interactive training program accessible for FREE from their fire service outreach website. Keep in mind these are **tactical considerations** suggested from our series of experiments to try to make firefighters smarter and safer. **CLICK HERE FOR THE FREE INTERACTIVE ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM:**

<http://content.learnshare.com/courses/73/356711/player.html>

CLICK HERE FOR THE REPORT/STUDY:

<http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/offerings/industries/buildingmaterials/fire/fireservice/basementfires/>

OR CLICK HERE: www.ul.com/fireservice (Click on "Basement Fires")

OUTSTANDING FIREFIGHTER TRAINING-AT NO COST!

Don't miss the 2012 Metro Atlanta Firefighters Conference, May 18 - 20, 2012. The classroom sessions are **FREE** again this year and hands on training is only \$25.00 This years instructors include some outstanding folks such as Skip Coleman, Dave Dodson, Curt Isakson, Dan Madrzykowski, Ray McCormack, P.J. Norwood, along with other superb instructors from the metro Atlanta area and across the U.S: <http://www.maffc.org/instructors>

CHECK IT OUT HERE: www.MAFFC.org

ONE FIREFIGHTERS SUICIDE-A Very Different Kind Of Story

This is an article about one specific case-Philadelphia Firefighter Jack Slivinski Jr...and the alleged fire department controversy around his death. <http://tinyurl.com/ck5tm6s>

VIRGINIA BEACH PLANE CRASH RADIO TRAFFIC

This is a recording of the initial dispatch and operations of the military plane crash in Virginia Beach, VA. **HERE is the link:** <http://tinyurl.com/86lhkd5>

WE'LL SEE YOU AT FDIC:

Stop by booth 1704

Why? Q-What Does "WTF" Stand For?

A-Duh: Well Trained Firefighters....which is what is has ALWAYS stood for since the first Secret List was written back in 1998! **Seriously-go to BOOTH 1704 and DEMAND a Firefighter Close Calls "WTF" sticker for FREE. ALSO FOR FDIC: DO NOT MISS THE NFFF STOP, DROP, ROCK & ROLL ANNUAL PARTY:** <http://www.stopdroprocknroll.com/>

DO NOT MISS THE F.O.O.L.S. BASH: <http://www.indymetrofools.com/>

And if you are driving to Indy on I-70 from the east, DO stop at Company 7 BBQ in Englewood (Dayton area) Ohio, 1000' north of I-70-owned by a Firefighter family-this outstanding joint, decorated like a 1930's firehouse, was named as a top BBQ Restaurant in N.A. for the past 2 years:

www.company7bbq.com

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-

BillyG

The Secret List 4-8-12 / 2019 Hours

AND:

TWO PHILLY FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-FIRE & COLLAPSE

We regret to advise you that a 5 alarm fire in Philadelphia has resulted in 2 Firefighters being killed in the Line of Duty - with others injured. It's reported that the wall of an exposed building (furniture building) had partially collapsed. 2 Firefighters had been rescued and transported to the hospital. One of the Firefighters is reported to be in stable condition and other Firefighters status is not yet known. The other 2 additional Firefighters were originally unaccounted but have since been found suffering fatal injuries. Initial reports are that the fire started around 0300 hours and was brought under control around 0600. Much more HERE (including photos) from our friends at Philly Fire News:

<http://phillyfirenews.com/content/firewire/detail/6703.php> Much more to follow. RIP.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 4-9-12 / 0730 hours

AND:

MAINE PARAMEDIC DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-

While he was a member of the Fire Department, he died in his role as a Paramedic, at the EMS Service

UPDATE: The Town of Van Buren Ambulance Service is mourning the loss of Peter Carbonneau, Paramedic, who died in the Line of Duty last evening. The 51-year-old paramedic was working when he succumbed to illness while completing his duties at the station. Despite the efforts of fellow EMS personnel, Peter Carbonneau was pronounced dead at Cary Medical Center. Peter started volunteering at the Van Buren Ambulance in 1984 at the age of 24. He has served in many different capacities throughout the years, including Assistant Director and later Director of the service. He also previously worked as a Paramedic for Madawaska Ambulance Service. **In addition to his service to the Town of Van Buren as a Paramedic, he dedicated 24 years as a volunteer firefighter for the Van Buren Fire Department.** He also served on various boards for the town, most recently as Chairman of MSAD 24's school board.

PA FIREFIGHTER DOWN AT CRASH SCENE

A Firefighter suffered a possible CVA while at a crash scene on SR 54 in Rush Township at around 1300 hours this afternoon. He was transported by Air Medical to a trauma center. The tractor trailer was hauling coal and lost half the load. Rush Township is in Schuylkill County and 2 Volunteer Fire Companies serve Rush Township: the Hometown Fire Company and the Quakake Volunteer Fire Company. According to the Assistant Chief of Hometown, the FF/Fire-Police Officer is stable at this time at the hospital.

===PHILADELPHIA DOUBLE LINE OF DUTY DEATH-1 FF IN ICU-- UPDATES AND LINKS

Lieutenant Robert Neary (age 60) and Firefighter Dan Sweeney, (age 25), both from Ladder 10, were operating at that multi-alarm fire with exposures, this morning. While operating inside of one of the exposure structures, a wall collapsed, killing both of them and injuring several other Firefighters. The two injured firefighters, Francis Chaney and Pat Nally, were taken to Temple University Hospital. Chaney was treated and released. Nally, who required CPR at the scene of the fire, remained in the intensive care unit in stable condition.

WHAT HAPPENED? Initial reports are that Chaney and Nally were rescued from the collapse in about 20 minutes, but it took Firefighters 2 hours to reach Lt. Neary and FF Sweeney. All 4 Firefighters had gone back into the Giamari Furniture store on a "routine check" to ensure the fire had not sparked again...."That's when the collapse happened . . . they were buried in debris....our teams

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

had to cut timbers, remove debris and bricks to get to them"--according to PFD Commissioner Lloyd Ayers. Lt. Robert Neary had 38 years on the department. He has been a Lieutenant since 1983. He was awarded four unit citations in his career. Before joining the fire department he was a Philadelphia Police officer for 3 years and He Was an Army reservist for 10 years attaining the rank on Sgt 1st class. Lt. Robert Neary leaves behind his wife Diane and their three children. FF Daniel Sweeney followed his father, Captain David Sweeney (ret.), footsteps and joined the Philadelphia Fire Department in July of 2006. He has been stationed at Ladder 10 since 2007. Daniel has been awarded two unit citations in his career. Daniel was the loving son of his parents David and Marian Sweeney.

RELATED LINKS:

RADIO TRAFFIC: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VkU-aFGoLbw&feature=player_embedded

PHOTOS/VIDEOS: <http://phillyfirenews.com/content/firewire/detail/6703.php>

Philly Fire News is an excellent site to follow all the updates on this mornings tragic loss: www.PhillyFireNews.com

More to follow,

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-

BillyG

The Secret List 4-9-12 / 1430 hours

AND:

Hey,

Who is right on fireground tactics? It depends.

I was taught years ago by old timers that the outcome to almost every fire depends on size-up, conditions and resources...that has not changed since probie school in 1973. It makes sense.

-SIZE UP:

We all know (or should know) that size-up helps you put all your "stuff" in motion-or not in motion-or a certain kind of motion -it depends. A non-existent or halfazzed size up can generally determine how the fire will go. Size up (including pre-planning, alarm assignments etc) can start well before a fire is even reported.

-CONDITIONS:

Conditions: that's what you have when you arrive. Is there the kind of smoke showing that would give Dave Dodson bad dreams? Do you have a lotta fire, a little that will soon be alotta, nothing etc. Conditions are generally "the problem" you were dispatched to fix. The conditions (and the stuff that leads to the conditions) often found in dwelling fires in 2012 are not the same conditions (and stuff) found in 1973...or even later.

-RESOURCES:

That's the people and equipment that help you deal with the conditions, based upon your size up. Resources can be pre-determined well before a fire is reported. A poor understanding of the needed resources can determine how the fire will go. Resources in 2012 may not be the same as in 1973.

INTERESTING STUFF.

BELOW is an excellent article about this "stuff" by Chief Eddie Buchanan. **Note-it's from a Chief.**

Relax-we fully understand that some Chiefs simply have the title and are not at all seriously focused on taking care of their people, community etc. Some are focused on themselves, logos, lettering-if you can imagine that. Like most good Chiefs, Eddie isn't one of those. But GENERALLY the difference between Chiefs and everyone else in a fire department (in this specific case) is the fact that CHIEFS are where the buck stops. CHIEFS OWN that fire scene and are responsible for everyone on that scene. It's easy and understandable to feel like you have a better idea on how the war should be

handled when you are not a General. To be clear-CHIEF is just a title for some, some who have no understanding of the immense responsibility they have in protecting their personnel. Protecting them while understanding there are some risks that must be taken-depending upon SIZE UP, CONDITIONS and RESOURCES....and a little science from time to time as well.

Take a moment to check out this article:

New-School Fire Research and Old-School Tactics: Who Do You Believe?

<http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2012/04/new-school-fire-research-and-old-school-tactics-whom-do-you-believe.html>

WILDLAND FIRES ON THE EAST COAST

Numerous working wildland fires going on at this time on the East Coast. One fire in particular, located in Ridge (Suffolk County, Long Island, NY) is reported as a 10 alarm equivalent. Updates as applicable.

TV PLANS FOR THIS EVENING? Be sure to check out this TV Show featuring DC Firefighters---it should be really interesting.

<http://science.discovery.com/tv/nerve-center/episodes/dc-fire-ems.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 4-9-12 / 1637 Hours

AND:

Hey,

It's the street-wise Chiefs that understand the importance of NOT cutting the training budget-to insure the Firefighters, the Community and the Department are well protected. Cut the training budget? It's an "easy" budget hit because - as some of the clueless will say - "it doesn't impact direct (fire/EMS) service provision" - and they could not be more wrong. It IS the foundation of direct service provision. You've heard it before: training, training, training. Nearly EVERY Firefighter Line of Duty Death, Injury, Close Call and Near-Miss (injury and/or legal related) will point to the training-or the failure to have applicable and appropriate training-as an ingredient in figuring what went wrong. While we **DO NOT WANT** to cut the training budget-but often need some "help" in getting city hall dwellers to understand WHY retaining funding for Firefighter training is critical for us-but also for their (city managers and elected officials) future as well.

CHECK THIS VIDEO OUT! - Go to <http://www.lexipol.com/disciplines/fire-d-2.html> and click **VIEW TODAY'S TIP** (center right side of page) from FireFighterCloseCalls co-host Gordon G - some solid answers on how to convince your City Hall dwellers on why your fire department TRAINING BUDGET is so critical...and should not be cut.

Philadelphia Double FIREFIGHTER LODD Update:

==THE BUILDING IS THE ENEMY-Frank Brannigan taught us that years ago-and little has changed.

Building Owners Cited Numerous Times For Violations

Philadelphia officials say the vacant warehouse owners had been cited for fire code violations several times and court action was in the works when the building was hit by yesterdays fire that led to the deaths of 2 Firefighters in a collapse at an adjacent furniture store where the fire had spread.

City officials would be looking into criminal negligence charges in the fire that led to the Line of Duty deaths of Lt. Robert Neary, 60, and Firefighter/Paramedic Daniel Sweeney, 25, (who was also a part-time Paramedic with the Warminster, Tri-Hampton and Penndel-Middletown EMS squads) as well as injuries to two other firefighters. **One Firefighter remains hospitalized in guarded condition.**

City officials said the warehouse property's corporate owner had been cited three times since November and a fourth citation was issued after a March 29 inspection following a community meeting. Officials said the city was preparing to take the owner to court as required after the first three violations and that, separately, a sheriff's sale was expected this summer because of about \$72,000 in unpaid city and water tax bills. Fran Burns, commissioner of the city's Licenses and Inspections department, said the owner, York Street Property Development, had a zoning permit good through July 2013 for an 81-unit development on the site. "This isn't a landowner or property owner we couldn't find; this is someone who had a very active interest in the property and has an active and open zoning permit for development," Burns said. "I don't understand, when you have a zoning permit for an 81-unit development, that you don't understand your responsibility to have a secure property."

==SUICIDE RESPONSE CONTINUES TO REQUIRE CAREFUL SIZE UP BY FIRE / EMS and POLICE PERSONNEL

Twelve people were evacuated from a Boston apartment building and four Boston police officers and an EMS crew were taken to a hospital after a woman committed suicide last night inside an apartment by ingesting a toxic chemical. A woman ingested the chemical last evening and was later pronounced dead. 4 cops and the medics were being quarantined to determine whether they were affected by the substance. A relative of the woman reported that the victim told her she ingested a chemical and asked that her cats be taken care of. She is believed to have ingested sodium azide, a chemical used to make airbags. "But it can metabolize into some kind of cyanide," a BFD Deputy Chief said, adding that the woman died about an hour or two after ingesting the substance.

==GETTING JAMMED UP IN CITY HALL

A tower ladder got wedged in the parking lot underneath Springfield (Oregon) City Hall last night. The ladder got caught on the ceiling of the parking garage. It appeared to do some damage to the truck, but the fire department was not immediately available for comment. The crew had to deflate the truck's tires to remove it. One more reason to avoid City Hall at any expense.

==FDIC 2012 UPDATES:

-The "Not To Be Missed" FOOLS Party (Wednesday)

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

-The "Not To be Missed" Stop, Drop, Rock and Roll Party (Thursday)

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

-WHY PARTICIPATE IN THE 2012 FDIC STAIR CLIMB?

Check this out: Why We Climb - http://firehero.org/news/2012/stairclimb_022712.html
NFFF is at booth 9244 and here are some links for you to note as you get ready to head to Indy -

-2012 FDIC 9-11 Memorial Stair Climb registration:

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1049354>

-2011 9-11 Memorial Stair Climb video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vg2eRsSaYy8>

And Lastly:

WE'LL SEE YOU AT FDIC-Stop by booth 1704

Why?

Quit asking-just go to BOOTH 1704 and getta free Firefighter Close Calls "WTF" (Well Trained Firefighters) sticker.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 4-10-12 / 1700 Hours

AND:

Hey,

6 years ago today, New Jersey Firefighter/Foreman Kevin Apuzzio was killed in the Line of Duty. Instead of our words, here are the words that Chief Dan Krushinski of the East Franklin (NJ) FD has sent us to share with you: "...On April 11th, 2006 which was 6 years ago today, many of our lives changed in a heartbeat, especially the life of 21 year old Firefighter Kevin Apuzzio. Kevin stood courageous on the front lawn of 36 Whittier Avenue and said "Chief, what do you need my crew and I to do?" I Said "Kevin, go in and get her." While it only seems like yesterday, to me it is still clear as day. With a house full of smoke and an elderly women trapped, Kevin did not hesitate and attempted to rescue her. I knew when the floor collapsed and my men fell into that basement from that point forward, their lives along with many others would be changed forever. Kevin Apuzzio, you will always be by our side and your name is tattooed on my arm to prove it. On that day, you lost your life and became a hero doing something you loved to do, that was helping strangers..." Today, my family which includes the men and women of Station 27, my wife and children and the Apuzzio Family will be spending the day together. We will share story's about our hero's life and not mourn Kevin, but celebrate his life and all that he stood for. God bless you Kevin, continue to watch over us each and every day..." Chief of Department Dan Krushinski-EFFD

THE FIRE DETAILS:

On April 11, 2006, Foreman Kevin Apuzzio died while he and four members of the East Franklin FD selflessly and heroically attempted to rescue 75-year-old Betty Scott from a single family dwelling fire. Foreman Apuzzio died when he became trapped after falling through a floor that collapsed into a well involved basement....he fell just a few feet from the front door - with Mrs Scott in hand. Mrs. Scott also died in the fire as Kevin and crew were attempting to remove her.

While it is sadly but widely acknowledged, most FF LODD's can clearly be prevented. However, in this case, it is documented that Kevin died while he and his crew were heroically attempting a rescue - that based upon conditions and size up, was the right thing to do. We take a moment to again remember Kevin, the Apuzzio Family and the members of the East Franklin FD, along with all area FD's that were impacted by the Line of Duty Death of Kevin. Rest in Peace.

HERE is the FIRE / LODD REPORT:

<http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dfs/reports/eastfranklin.pdf>

HERE is the EFFD - Website: <http://www.station27.com/>

==LONG ISLAND FIREFIGHTER TRAPPED: What Happened.

Only hours after being released from Stony Brook University Medical Center's burn unit, Manorville Firefighter William Hille, who was injured in the wild fires that scorched more than 1,000 acres this week, was back at the firehouse today, describing his traumatic experience:

<http://tinyurl.com/cjzdkp>

==NOTE: CHANGES AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY/NETC:

FEMA is in the process of eliminating the use of Social Security Numbers when applying for training. National Fire Academy students applying for FY 2013 on-campus (10-/6-/2-day) and off-campus (10- and 6-day) courses will need to register for an interim Student Identification Number (SID) that will be used in place of the SSN. **CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS:**

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/about/attend/ftin.shtm>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 4-11-12 / 1824 Hours

AND:

All:

It is with deep regret that the PFD announces the death of Lieutenant Robert Neary, assigned to Ladder 10, Platoon "C". Lieutenant Neary, a veteran of 37 years of service, died on Monday, April 9, 2012, while on duty. All off-duty officers and members are invited to attend the services in uniform.

VIEWING AND MEMORIAL-Tomorrow-Friday, April 13, 2012-1600 Hours
Givnish Funeral Home
10975 Academy Road
Philadelphia, PA 19154

INTERMENT : Private

Members attending the viewing and memorial on Friday, 4/13/12 who wish to be part of the formation should report to BC Michael Yaeger at 1430 Hours in front of Givnish Funeral Home. Archbishop Ryan High School will be available for the overflow parking.

REVISION NOTE: The viewing previously scheduled for Saturday is for FAMILY ONLY.

ALL PHILADELPHIA LODD FUNERAL DETAILS HERE: <http://www.iaff22.org/index.cfm?section=1>

NORTH CAROLINA RESPONDING CHIEF CRASHES-FOLLOWING APPARATUS-CIVILIAN DIDN'T EXPECT THE ADDITIONAL UNIT

A Battalion Chief with the Gastonia FD was responding on a run, following a ladder truck, earlier today. A woman driving her car saw the ladder truck - but did not pause to see the GFD Chiefs Dodge Durango following behind - when she attempted to make a left-hand turn into her driveway. The vehicles collided and then struck two separate trees. The Battalion Chief and the woman were both transported to Gaston Memorial Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Both vehicles were totaled. The wreck is under investigation.

ANOTHER GOOD REMINDER: When multiple units are responding behind one another, expect the "motoring public" to expect just the one apparatus / units they see and hear-and not the others that may be following.

HERE ARE TWO VIDEO EXAMPLES of multiple apparatus responding where the public didn't expect additional units-that resulted in civilian fatalities:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ga_vHeGYQ34 Massilon, Ohio

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szcRNAHV_qo Baltimore City

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 4-12-12 / 2034 Hours

AND:

KENTUCKY FIRE CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL EMERGENCY

We regret to advise you that Lake Dreamland (Louisville, KY) Fire Chief John Wilkinson Jr. died in the Line of Duty this morning. Chief Wilkinson, 44, had responded on a fire call last night and then a few hours later Lake Dreamland firefighters were dispatched to his home on a medical call on what is reported to be related to heart related. Chief Wilkinson was selected as chief of the Lake Dreamland Fire District in September 2010, replacing his Dad, John Wilkinson Sr., who had a 47-year career with the department where he'd also served as chief since 1994. Wilkinson Jr. joined the Lake Dreamland

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fire department in 1985, working there as a firefighter until June 2009. He also served as an assistant fire chief for the Kentucky Air National Guard. For many years, Wilkinson served as a member of the districts board of trustees, a role he still held despite being named chief of the department. He was married and had one child. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

HERE IS THE LDFD HOME PAGE: <http://www.lakedreamlandfire.com/>

TECH RESCUE RESULTS IN CLOSE CALL-Injured Firefighter In New Jersey

A Hackensack Firefighter who was injured when bricks from the façade of a building fell on him in Bogota (NJ) yesterday has been released from the hospital. Firefighters were called in after a contractor who was removing windows from that Bogota storefront noticed that the top beam had started to sag. Capt. Peter Danzo, a 25-year veteran FF, was released from Hackensack University Medical Center last night. Captain Danzo's femur was injured, but not broken, and he will have to follow-up with a specialist. Danzo and another member of the department's special operations unit, were hit by falling bricks while helping to shore up the building. The second firefighter, Pete Maio, a five-year veteran, was treated at the scene for an injured arm. Firefighters were called to the building around 11 am yesterday after a construction worker removed the storefront window on the first floor, causing the section above it to sag. It appeared that the window had been supporting the structure and that some of the "structural members" had rotted, Dan Howell, the borough's construction official, said Friday.

IT'S DOWN TO FOUR IN THE SEARCH FOR CHARLESTON (SC's) NEW CHIEF

Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. today announced the names of four finalists to become Charleston's next Fire Chief. These four folks, narrowed down from 61 applicants, will visit the city on April 30 as part of the selection process. **The candidates are:** Paul J. Berardi, Deputy Fire Chief of the Kansas City (MO) Fire Department. He has 26 years of experience in the fire service including 12 years as deputy chief. Karen E. Brack, Deputy Fire Chief of the Eugene (Ore.) Fire Department. She has 29 years of experience in the fire service including the last four years as deputy chief. Richard Brannon, Deputy Fire Chief of Mobile (Ala.) Fire-Rescue. He has 33 years of experience in fire service including the last six years as deputy chief. Edwin W. Smith, Fire Chief of Henrico County, Va. He has 35 years of experience in the fire service, including four years as chief.

RESUME INFO & PHOTOS HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/7yrbcwx>

MORE DETAILS HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/cedxkal>

Looking forward to seeing you at FDIC: Stop by booth 1704 for your FFCC WTF sticker. No forms to fill out. No secret handshakes. Just a free sticker. Shocking.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 4-13-12 / 2030 Hours

AND:

PAKISTANI FIREFIGHTER DIES FROM SMOKE INHALATION

A Firefighter from the Jamshoro Thermal Power Station was killed in the Line of Duty while fighting a fire in a power unit this morning. Jamshoro is a city in Jamshoro District, Sindh, Pakistan. Firefighter Allah Dino Siyal was operating along with others to knock the fire, which had quickly broken out during maintenance work. As a result of heavy smoke and suffocation inside the unit, FF Allah Dino Siyal fell unconscious and was immediately rushed to Liaquat University Hospital but he passed away in spite of life saving attempts. RIP.

PARAMEDICS CHARGED IN MURDER: Police said the attackers drove away in an ambulance. AN AMBULANCE.

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Two Paramedics in Puerto Rico have been charged with first-degree murder in the killing of a competing Paramedic from another private ambulance company whom they felt stole a patient. The 2 men also face previous weapons violation charges in unrelated cases. One more reason for thorough background checks. The two are accused of fatally shooting 31-year-old Luis Deida Martinez on Wednesday while he ate breakfast at a local bakery. The victim had apparently argued with the two suspects a day earlier after his wife picked up a patient that they claimed should have been transported by them.

EMS CRASH IN KENTUCKY

Four people, including 2 EMT's, were hospitalized early this morning after a Louisville Metro EMS ambulance tipped on its side after being struck by a car. The injured, which also included the car driver and a passenger, were transported to University Hospital; with NLT injuries. Around 0500 the ambulance was traveling eastbound when a Dodge Magnum traveling northbound on Seventh Street struck it. The Magnum appears to have run a red traffic signal and cops believe the Magnum's speed is a factor and are also investigating as they suspect that alcohol was involved. The ambulance crew was not making a run at the time of the accident.

TAKING THE EDGE OFF

"Take the edge off"- it means to **lighten up**-typically it's the firehouse humor we have all used to lighten up the usually bad stuff we respond to or deal with-be it on the scene or at city hall---because ya never know these days. We'll sometimes get e-mails from folks suggesting we share too much "bad" information. **Uh?** That's what TSL and FFCC was created for-so we can learn from the "bad" stuff and make a change or 2. Too much "bad" info? Unsubscribe. **However we do try to lighten it up when something especially "edge taking" comes along.** As Firefighters, what we do is serious stuff -but there are plenty of humorous moments-even in the worst case scenarios. This Oklahoma City woman had a fire and thankfully, she and her family are fine. She provided a very animated interview to the media...and then the video took off going viral. Below is a link to show how creative some folks are in the "digital" age-with this "re-mix" video....in later interviews, she got a kick out of the fact that she's an Internet star. That's taking the edge off..

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0XzqMPvUHk&feature=youtu.be> **(Watch This REMIX)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaAd8OuwwPk> (This is the original interview as seen on Firefighternation.com)

Looking forward to seeing many of you at FDIC this week.

Come by booth 1704-they'll give you a free FFCC WTF sticker. It'll help take the edge off.

Travel Safe.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 4-14-12 / 1725 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Natrona County (Wyoming-near Casper) Firefighter has been hospitalized in critical condition for having a stroke while driving responding apparatus. Firefighter Adam Longo was driving a squad truck to the fire station to pick up a brush truck when he suffered the stroke-fortunately other firefighters in the truck were able to get control of the vehicle and bring it to a safe stop. FF Longo underwent surgery late Thursday afternoon and was listed in critical but stable condition Friday. FF Longo and crew were responding to a grass fire when he was stricken. The fire destroyed a small camper and scorched about 3,000 square feet of grass. Keep'm in your prayers.

FIREFIGHTER STRUCK IN PA

A Firefighter was treated for injuries after being hit by a car in Brighton Heights (near Pittsburgh) late last night. The Firefighter was at the scene of a previous crash when he was struck by a vehicle. He was taken to an area hospital and treated for injuries to his lower leg and knee. Cops stopped the driver suspected of hitting the firefighter, but there was no word on whether charges will be filed.

INDY REMINDERS FOR THIS WEEK:

Amongst the katrillion opportunities at FDIC, please keep these on your schedule:

=WEDNESDAY: FDIC OPENING SESSION: 0800 Chief Steve Kraft will urge us to "Be a Leader, Not Just a Position" ...hmmm. Don't miss his message.

=WEDNESDAY: FOOLS BASH: Corner of Jackson St. & Meridian St, gates open at 1700 hours. Featuring loads of refreshments, t-shirts and related sales from numerous FOOLS groups, bagpipes and drums & some **GREAT** bands.

=THURSDAY: Stop, Drop, Rock & Roll Party & Auction: <http://www.stopdroprocknroll.com/>

=FRIDAY-FALLEN FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB:

<http://www.regonline.com/register/checkin.aspx?eventid=1049354>

???...What is the MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB-and why should YOU get involved, you ask??

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vq2eRsSaYy8>

The above are social/fundraising events where loads of networking/learning opportunities go on as well - in addition to the numerous excellent HOT sessions (pre-registration was required) and open **CLASSROOM SESSIONS.**

==ABOUT THE CLASSES:

LOOK-there will be plenty of time to "sleep in" and other stuff when you get home. We urge you to **NOT MISS ANY** opportunity to LEARN at FDIC-especially on Wed, Thur, Fri and Saturday-when there are HUNDREDS of classes you can choose from: <http://www.fdic.com/attend/conference/classroom-sessions.html>

Safe travels and if we don't seeya Monday afternoon, we'll seeya Friday morning at 0830-or anytime all week at the various events, fundraisers and definitely on the exhibit floor...or at Booth 1704 who is giving away the free FFCC WTF stickers. Because you can always use another sticker to enhance your life.

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 4-15-12 / 1155 Hours

AND:

EGYPTIAN FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

A Firefighter in Egypt died in the Line of Duty last night. Reports are that at least one Firefighter died and several others were injured in the fire that engulfed a major Egyptian oil company. The fire broke out Saturday evening at one of the oil tanks at Nasr Oil Company in Suez. The cause of the fire is unknown and an unreported number of oil workers, police officers and firefighters were injured in the fire. RIP.

REMEMBERING KYLE WILSON: As you are hopefully aware, Technician (Firefighter) Kyle Wilson of the Prince William County (VA) Department of Fire & Rescue was killed in the Line of Duty when he heroically gave his life at a single family dwelling fire on **April 16, 2007.**

We take time out to remember the loss---and below are links to **learn about the fire**, an excellent way to honor his life for all FF's.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200712.html> (NIOSH REPORT)

<http://www.pwcgov.org/vpresentations/fnr/LODDReportFactSheet.pdf> (Prince William County FR County Fact Sheet)

NOTE: Dave S has some excellent coverage as well-as the LODD created an interesting challenge to fire service "pro" reporters MORE HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/7by3xzz>

DHS FINDING FIREFIGHTERS

The inability to track and locate Firefighters inside buildings, especially structures of multiple floors, has been a major challenge for fire commanders since the start of organized fire protection. But that situation is changing with the introduction of GLANSER, a locating and tracking system funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate.

FEMA will demonstrate a field testing prototype of the GLANSER system at BOOTH 1322 at FDIC.

Check out what may be the best solution in tracking FF's to date at **FDIC BOOTH 1322**.

MORE information/article HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/8a7bs8z>

FIREFIGHTER UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR TRAVON MARTIN POSTING

In the world of social networking, anything is possible (as far as communication)-and the **interpretation** of opinions and freedoms have been elevated. A Florida Fire Captain is now the subject of an investigation over his FACEBOOK postings related to the shooting of Trayvon Martin. Another reminder related to social networking and to know your departments policies, local and related laws. **MORE HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/bm2adck>

Final Word: DIRTBAG of the week...this clown stole from a fundraiser dedicated to the families of the 2 Philly FF LODD's last week:

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20120415_Theft_at_firefighter_benefit_caught_on_video.html

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 4-15-12 / 2232 Hours

AND:

CT FIRE OFFICER, FORMER CHIEF & WELL KNOWN FIRE SERVICE HISTORIAN DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

We regret to advise you that Redding (CT) Fire Lt. G. Marshall Sanford, 67, a former fire chief and 50-year veteran firefighter, died while responding to a brush fire Sunday night. Sanford collapsed and died of an as-yet-undetermined "medical issue" as he was hauling equipment up to the scene of the fire. Sanford was also a part-time EMT with Redding EMS, and a member and vice president of the Bethel Fire Department. He was the department's vice president and was a former national president of the Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America, and received the organization's most distinguished award, the William L. Robinson Award. Our condolences on the loss of the one of the worlds most ardent Firefighter, Fire Officer and fire buff. RIP. MORE HERE: <http://reddingfire1.org/>

NORTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER STRUCK

A Firefighter is recovering after being hit by a car while fighting a barn fire in North Carolina on Saturday night. The firefighter was climbing off the back of the fire truck when a passing car hit him-he suffered from a concussion, abrasions and road rash. The driver of the car did not see the Firefighter because of the fire truck lights, and hit him. The driver of the vehicle remained on the scene and will not be charged. The FF has been released from the hospital. ANOTHER REMINDER:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Protect the scene but also consider the over use of lighting-whereas we cannot be seen by approaching motorists. MORE AT www.FireNews.net
MORE FIREFIGHTER ROADWAY TRAINING INFO AT www.Respondersafety.com
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 4-16-12 / 0943 Hours

AND:

FD

FDNY LT RICH NAPPI GIVES HIS LIFE IN THE LINE OF DUTY

(TSL Note: Rich was a solid friend of ours for many years, a long time Secret List member/contributor and a truly genuine Firefighters Firefighter-we deeply mourn his loss and send our deepest condolences to his wife Mary Anne, and their kids Catherine 12, and Nicholas 11.)

====INFORMATION FROM FDNY:

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Fire Commissioner Salvatore Cassano today announced the death of Lieutenant Richard A. Nappi of Engine Company 237, a 17-year veteran of the FDNY who suffered an apparent heart attack while battling a three-alarm fire this afternoon in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn. Lieutenant Nappi, who lived in Suffolk County and leaves behind a wife and two children, was 47 years old. At 1 p.m. today, Engine Company 237 responded to a fire in a two-story commercial building at 930 Flushing Avenue. Arriving with several additional companies within three minutes, Lieutenant Nappi led a team of firefighters who stretched and operated a hoseline in a mezzanine area of the first floor. While battling the fire, Lt. Nappi became overheated and collapsed. Firefighters from Ladder Company 112 removed him on a stretcher to the street where he initially was conscious and alert. He was placed in an ambulance and EMS personnel began to treat him when he suddenly became unconscious and suffered cardiac arrest. While EMT's and Paramedics continued to work on him, he was rushed by ambulance to Woodhull Hospital where he later died. After his appointment to the FDNY on October 23, 1994, then-Firefighter Nappi worked in Engine Company 7 on Duane Street in lower Manhattan. Although he was off-duty on September 11, 2001, he responded from home that morning to the World Trade Center - which was several blocks from his firehouse. In 2003, he transferred to Engine Company 302 in Queens, and - after his promotion to Lieutenant on November 10, 2007, he was assigned to Engine 237.

Prior to joining the FDNY, Lieutenant Nappi was a Parole Officer for the New York State Division of Parole, and also worked for several years as a case worker for Suffolk's Department of Social Services. He was a graduate of Iona College, where he received a BA in criminal justice in 1984. In addition to his work as a member of FDNY, Lieut. Nappi also served as a Volunteer Firefighter, Commissioner and Deputy Chief Fire Instructor with the Suffolk County Fire Academy in Yaphank. He was also very active with the Long Island/Suffolk County FOOLS. Lieutenant Nappi is the 1,142nd firefighter to die in the line of duty since the FDNY's founding in 1865. The last member of the Department to die on the job was Firefighter Paul Warhola of Engine 221, on August 14, 2009.

Lieutenant Nappi is survived by his wife, Mary Anne, and their children Catherine, 12, and Nicholas, 11. Rest in Peace.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 4-16-12 / 1934 Hours

AND:

WYOMING FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL

We regret to advise you that the young Natrona County (Wyoming, near Casper) Firefighter who was stricken/treated/hospitalized while operating at a grass fire last Thursday afternoon - as he had suffered a massive stroke - has now died in the Line of Duty. Firefighter Adam Longo was driving a squad truck to the fire station to pick up a brush truck when he suffered the stroke. Other firefighters in the truck were able to get control of the vehicle and bring it to a safe stop. Our sincere condolences to all affected-RIP. More to follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL
BillyG
The Secret List 4-18-12 / 1457 hours

AND:

WEST VIRGINIA EMT KILLED IN CRASH

We regret to advise you that a West Virginia Rescue Squad member has died in the Line of Duty after a coal truck crossed the center line of a roadway and struck the ambulance she was driving. McDowell County 911 was alerted about the crash on Route 83 in Raysal at approximately 12:37 hours on Wednesday when a McDowell County Ambulance Authority ambulance was struck by a coal truck. The coal truck was not loaded, and the ambulance was not transporting a patient when the crash happened. The coal truck lost control, crossed the center line, struck the ambulance and knocked it against the guardrail, and then the coal truck came to rest on the guardrail just past the ambulance. The ambulances female driver and another member of the ambulance authority had to be extricated from the wreckage. They were transported to Welch Community Hospital where the driver was later pronounced dead. Details on her partner are unknown at this time. Rain was falling when the crash occurred, but it was not known whether it was a factor in the accident. Our condolences-more to follow. RIP.

BillyG
The Secret List 4-20-12 / 2122 hours

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

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

Budget Related Items:

Crushing budget cuts and a dizzying number of calls for aid are crunching Temecula (CA) firefighters. The city contracts with Riverside County for fire services. Poor property values and a county general fund budget crisis have forced administrators to slash \$30 million from the county fire department, Capt. Mike Smith said Thursday. The department announced a 3-percent-plus uptick in calls for aid across the county Thursday. The steady increase in demand for firefighting and medical services is adding fuel's to the department's financial firestorm, officials said. [Click here](http://temecula.patch.com/articles/cuts-weighting-heavily-on-firefighters) to read the 2011 report on county fire service calls. "We're that tipping point now where the cuts we have to make in the future might affect real people," Smith said. Up to now, the department has cut administrative employees and other internal services to keep engine staffing up and response times down, Smith said. A total of 240 staffers were laid off to balance the books. But an anticipated round of new budget cuts in the coming year could force county fire officials to make a tough choice -- cutting fire engines and stations: <http://temecula.patch.com/articles/cuts-weighting-heavily-on-firefighters>

Baltimore Fire Chief James Clack floated a plan Thursday to reduce the ranks by 25 percent and extend firefighters' workweeks by 14 hours, which he says could save the city \$10 million annually. Clack said that shifts for city firefighters, the lowest-paid in the state, would be extended from 42 hours a week to 56 hours, boosting their net pay 20 percent. While he said his goal for the next year is to negotiate the plan with union officials, he acknowledged that there was not "wide acceptance." Disclosure of the proposed plan came as fire officials briefed Rawlings-Blake on the anticipated closure of three fire companies, part of an effort to close a \$48 million shortfall in the city's \$3 billion budget. Clack said a 56-hour workweek is common in "any big city west of the Appalachian Mountains or south of Washington, D.C." He said it is being proposed in the District of Columbia as well as Anne Arundel County and Philadelphia. While Clack said pay would increase 20 percent, he acknowledged that the hourly rate would go down. Still, he said firefighters have told him that they want to earn more pay and his plan would accomplish that. The reduction in the workforce would come over time through attrition, not layoffs, Clack told city officials. "I'm trying to find them a way to get a raise and still manage the Fire Department," Clack said. "There just isn't money available unless we can figure out a way to make our budget stretch forward. The only way I can think of is less people and have them make more money."

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/breaking/bs-md-ci-fire-dept-cuts-20120322,0,6723771.story>

With a possible deficit of \$2.2 million for the next fiscal year, the Chico (CA) city manager recommended Tuesday to leave five public safety positions vacant. City Manager Dave Burkland told the Chico City Council that reducing the police and fire departments' staff "would have an impact on service delivery." Community non-profits, the library, arts programs and economic development are also on the funding cut list, Burkland said. The city manager recommended keeping three firefighter jobs unfilled as well as two for retiring police officers. Six other positions are marked for vacancy, including one for a police services administrative manager, one code enforcement officer, two maintenance workers and two administrative analysts. Burkland also recommended cutting non-salary costs for expenses such as non-mandatory training, supplies and educational reimbursement. The city could also delay replacing its vehicles and increase its fees. In the instance of fire department cuts, Burkland said the fire chief could choose to cut one position from a truck daily or close a station:

http://www.chicoer.com/breakingnews/ci_20224586/chico-police-fire-not-safe-from-budget-cuts

On Monday, the Middleton (ID) Rural Fire Protection District announced a re-organization plan to maintain operations following more than \$420,000 in budget cuts. The most significant changes include the elimination of the fire chief position. The current fire chief has been voluntarily demoted to deputy chief. "This reorganization has become necessary due to the diminished property values we have suffered in recent years," Middleton fire commissioners said in a news release. "More cuts may be necessary." But the big ticket item is an upcoming levy. Commissioners will be asking voters to approve a temporary levy on May 15 in the amount of \$575, 240 for two years. Should the levy fail, the commissioners say the district will be forced to return to an all-volunteer organization with "severe limitations on emergency services offered."

<http://www.kboi2.com/news/local/Middleton-Fire-levy-District-budget-144255985.html>

Reno (NV) City Council approved a recommendation Wednesday to send written notice of layoffs to 80 Reno fire staff members, mostly firefighters:

<http://www.rgj.com/article/20120404/NEWS/304040116/Reno-takes-step-toward-laying-off-firefighters?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE>

Eight city of Page (AZ) employees -- including the police and fire chiefs -- have received reduction-in-force notices, it was confirmed Monday. The moves are intended to help Page eliminate a projected \$2.4 million budget shortfall for fiscal year 2012-13. Diak said the positions will go unfilled and that responsibilities of those cut would be assumed by their next-in-charge. "Hardest thing I've had to do in my life, bar none," Diak said Monday. "All of these people are just outstanding individuals. This is no reflection on their job performances."

http://azdailysun.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/page-cuts-top-staff/article_17a1a9de-2c6a-5fca-86fd-98b82dca3e68.html

The Kansas City (MO) Council adopted a budget Thursday that slashes \$7.6 million from the Fire Department but does not spell out how those cuts will be made. Council members voted 12-1 for the new \$1.3 billion budget, with the majority maintaining that the department can get by on less money without seriously jeopardizing public safety. City and firefighters union officials must now negotiate how many jobs will be lost, and the stage appeared set for a showdown with Local 42, which represents most of the department's 1,300 employees. The vote affirmed City Manager Troy Schulte's recommendation from January for the first major reductions to the Fire Department after most other city departments have endured millions of dollars in cutbacks over four years of recession. Schulte suggested the department could achieve its \$7.6 million in cuts by laying off 105 firefighters:

<http://www.kansascity.com/2012/03/29/3523208/fire-department-takes-76-million.html>

To get Corvallis' (OR) financial house in order, City Manager Jim Patterson is proposing a budget for the next fiscal year that includes closing a fire station, eliminating the equivalent of 13 full-time positions and trimming some high-profile posts, such as the city's full-time sustainability supervisor. "The fact is that we are in some challenging economic times and we can't continue to do things the way we've been doing them," Patterson said Tuesday in an interview with the Gazette-Times. "Business as usual is not an option."

http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/proposed-budget-cuts-fire-station/article_1a1a6808-88d6-11e1-919f-001a4bcf887a.html

The Baltimore City (MD) Fire Department announced Thursday which three companies will permanently close under the mayor's budget proposal. When Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake presented her budget plan last month, she called for the closure of three fire companies but didn't specify which ones. The fire chief revealed his plan to reporters on Thursday. As budget cuts continued over the last three years, the Fire Department had implemented daily, rolling closures. Without the prospect of the city restoring the funding, Fire Chief James Clack is prepared to implement a plan that he said will stabilize coverage and boost response times. No fire stations will be closed, and there will be no layoffs. Instead, the plan calls for a complex redeployment of resources -- including reassignments for some 72 firefighters: <http://www.wbaltv.com/news/30844556/detail.html>

Scottsdale (AZ) Community College losing fire, EMT programs. Scottsdale Community College will move its courses in fire science and paramedic training to Mesa Community College, starting this fall. The move will save money and streamline operations, said Daniel Corr, vice president of academic and student affairs at SCC. "This was not a decision we arrived at easily," he said. "We were faced with a situation where we would need to invest significant resources to build the type of paramedic and fire-science program we aspire to." We couldn't rationalize doing that. It didn't make sense for being good stewards of the public's dollars."

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/scottsdale/articles/2012/04/04/20120404scottsdale-community-college-losing-fire-emt-program.html>

The Eagle River (CO) Fire Protection District usually operates five stations. Three times this month, the district has only had enough people to keep three of those stations open. The fire district's property tax revenue — which accounts for 85 percent of its income — has dropped by \$1.7 million from 2011 to this year, due to declining property values. District officials last year asked voters for a property tax increase to keep its income at 2011 levels through the end of this decade. Voters said no. That's left the district scrambling to keep as many people working as possible. But people get sick, or hurt, or take vacations. In the past, the firefighters worked overtime to cover those shifts. But these days, there's a strict no-overtime policy in place — there's simply no money:

<http://www.vaildaily.com/article/20120410/NEWS/120419970/1078&ParentProfile=1062>

A Baltimore (MD) City councilman introduced a measure Monday night that would put advertisements on fire trucks to help save three fire companies currently slated for closure. Councilman Pete Welch was inspired after seeing a school bus carrying a paid advertisement on its side and thinks the concept could help bring some desperately needed cash to the fire department, according to WBAL-TV. "I think it'll be tastefully done, and it should raise enough money so we don't have any closures or any companies shutting down," Welch said. "We'll just be able to have public safety intact in Baltimore City."

http://www.firehouse.com/news/10699864/fire-truck-ads-proposed-to-avoid-baltimore-closures?cmpid=email_CPS120411003&utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120411003

Swansea (IL) Mayor Jim Rauckman said it's "painful " to have to cut a full-time firefighter, but the move won't endanger residents. Rauckman said Tuesday that village officials first decided to reduce the Fire Department staff from two paid, full-time positions to one:

<http://www.bnd.com/2012/04/04/2127783/mayor-chiefs-dismissal-painful.html>

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.*

So much for wearing PPE - Two male firefighters adorned in bright dresses rushed to battle an engine fire Saturday during the Padua Parade in central Minnesota. John Egan, the Sauk Centre Fire Chief, said the firefighters in drag were members of the Seda Fire Department. They were participating in the parade when a truck engine caught fire nearby. Egan said the fire spread to another truck and that the firefighters ran to put it out. Video of the battle shows the men adjusting their dresses as they aim a fire hose:

<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2012/03/17/2-firefighters-in-drag-battle-engine-fire-at-parade/>

The Clovis (CA) Fire Department union treasurer who admitted taking more than \$100,000 from his union is now facing criminal charges. The Fresno County District Attorney's Office on Monday filed one count of felony embezzlement against John Morton Watson, 37, of Visalia. He remains free until his arraignment, which is pending. The District Attorney's Office said that Watson took money from the Clovis Firefighters Association from late 2004 to 2011. Watson worked as a Clovis Fire Department training officer and was a Clovis firefighter for 12 years. He has admitted to embezzling union funds and resigned in January, when the case came to light. Clovis police say Watson confessed to taking \$56,000 from the firefighters association over six of the 10 years he served as treasurer:

<http://www.fresnobee.com/2012/03/19/2767615/ex-clovis-fire-union-official.html#storylink=mirelated>

The Oasis fire station have to be deactivated and around two dozen positions may have to be slashed to help the Riverside County (CA) Fire Department close a \$10 million budget gap going into the next fiscal year, Chief John Hawkins told the Board of Supervisors today. During its first budget impact hearing to determine how county agencies will manage spending cuts in 2012-13, the board received a detailed report from Hawkins on tentative measures to pare down the fire department's expenses. The chief listed a series of steps that will chop the deficit by \$3.7 million, still leaving \$6.5 million in red ink. "We will do everything we can to close the budget gap in the current fiscal year and future years," Hawkins said. According to the chief, the department's west Jurupa Valley station would be partially deactivated, with an engine taken out of service, leaving a two-medical squad in place. Eighteen limited-term contract, or "relief," firefighters could be cut from the payroll, according to the chief. He said two battalion chief positions, including the head of the public information bureau, would be downsized, along with two fire captains and two employees in the county Office of Emergency Services. Supervisor Bob Buster praised the chief for "not just firing people wholesale" but instead putting the "entire organization" under the microscope to identify critical functions that should be left untouched:

<http://www.mydesert.com/article/20120328/NEWS08/120328008/Oasis-fire-station-closure-Riverside-County-Fire-Department-layoffs-budget-gap?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Cimg%7Cfrontpage>

The Yolo County (CA) Grand Jury has recommended procedural changes for Dunnigan firefighters. The suggestions were made public Monday after the jury investigated the Dunnigan Fire Protection District's policies and procedures. The examination was initiated after someone alleged violations of policies related to the volunteer fire department's operation, including the retention of volunteer firefighters, staffing protocol and possible open meeting procedures, according to Grand Jury Forewoman Marcella Harrison:

http://www.dailydemocrat.com/news/ci_20212302/yolo-grand-jury-seeks-changes-needed-dunnigan-fire

The Orlando (FL) Fire Department recently demoted a district chief for being drunk on the job while in uniform, officials told WFTV. However, WFTV learned that he was given his district chief position back. Officials said that Orlando Fire District Chief Jerry Keith was demoted to a lieutenant after drinking beer while in uniform and showing up at an off-duty city event intoxicated in April 2010. But because the city failed to gather enough evidence to prove Keith was drunk, he was given his original position back, even though he admitted he was intoxicated and had been drinking in uniform earlier that day. "When it was reported Jerry was acting different, there was a failure to conduct a drug or alcohol test," said Union president Steve Clelland. "There was no evidence that Jerry was under the influence." Keith told investigators he had a drinking problem and was embarrassed by his actions:

<http://www.wftv.com/news/news/local/district-fire-chief-demoted-being-drunk-job-gets-j/nLXmX/>

Injured and ailing people wait as dispatch problems slow the Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department. Firefighters and paramedics cite confusion at stations, delays and other problems: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-fire-dispatch-20120318,0,2031599.story>

It didn't take long for an injured San Jose (CA) firefighter to get pulled into the raging pension reform battle between public safety unions and Mayor Chuck Reed. Hours after the firefighter suffered serious burns early Thursday morning while battling a four-alarm blaze on the city's west side, a website produced by the San Jose Police Officers' Association tweeted, "Firefighter Seriously Injured Protecting Residents -- Mayor Reed Yawns." On its website, Protect San Jose wrote that the injuries to the firefighter are likely "serious enough that they will end his career" and claimed that under Reed's pension-reform measure on the June ballot, the firefighter would no longer receive a disability retirement. There was one glaring problem with that statement: The injured firefighter is expected to make a full recovery, according to San Jose fire Capt. Robert Sapien, president of the firefighters union: http://www.sqytribune.com/california/ci_20201093/internal-affairs-second-thought-injured-san-jose-firefighter

Los Angeles (CA) Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa on Wednesday ordered the Los Angeles Fire Department to stop withholding basic information about emergencies one day after the department announced it would impose a media blackout. Citing the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, a federal medical privacy law, the department announced Tuesday that it would no longer provide the public with basic information about fires, traffic accidents or other emergencies it responds to. "In the absence of a written legal opinion giving your department guidance, I believe it is our duty to provide information to the media and the public," Villaraigosa wrote in a letter to LAFD Fire Chief Brian Cummings. "I am directing you to immediately resume releasing information." <http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Mayor-Villaraigosa-Orders-LAFD-to-End-Media-Blackout-143736266.html>

Responding to concerns about L.A. Fire Department response times, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa is calling for more ambulances, as well as a new public safety analyst to oversee the Fire Department's statistical analysis. The mayor hopes to bolster public confidence in the wake of a recent controversy over the LAFD's emergency response times. Fire officials admitted that for years they had put out performance data that made it appear they were getting to medical emergencies faster than they actually were. In a letter to the council sent late Thursday, Villaraigosa said the confusion over how fast fire units respond to emergencies was "untenable." "We must take immediate steps to rectify it," he said: <http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-villaraigosa-calls-for-more-ambulances,0,6283941.story>

X-rated photos next to a fire truck bearing the Albuquerque (NM) Fire Department's logo created quite a stir last month, and now the website that posted the risqué pictures agreed to A symbol of safety and protection for AFD wound up as the backdrop for a sex symbol last month. The AFD logo wasn't removed when the fire truck was sold at auction. "We were proactive. We stepped up and contacted the company that was responsible for those photos and we asked them to remove our logo and they in fact blurred it out," AFD Chief James Breen said. But the good news didn't last long. The fire chief quickly found out that one photo can quickly multiply and spread like wildfire in the x-rated industry. "They did tell us that they did have 25,000 affiliates and they didn't have control over all of them," Breen said: <http://www.koat.com/news/new-mexico/albuquerque/X-rated-website-blurs-AFD-logo-in-pornographic-photos/-/9153728/10365892/-/tox0kvz/-/index.html>

A Eugene (OR) firefighter has received \$285,000 to settle her lawsuit accusing city fire department officials of discriminating against her on the basis of sex and “perceived disability” when she returned to work after receiving a heart pacemaker in 2008. Carolyn McCann’s suit also alleges that the city retaliated against her for making a worker’s compensation claim in connection with an off-duty incident in which her heart stopped in 2007. McCann, now 43, said Monday that she felt the city tried to punish her and force her to quit after a cardiologist cleared her to return to all firefighting duties following the implantation of the device, which uses electrical impulses to regulate heart rhythm. The city of Eugene “was not prepared to bring her back to work as a firefighter, based on what (Eugene Fire Department) Deputy Chief of Operations Karen Brack admitted in the lawsuit was her own ‘ignorance’ about pacemakers,” McCann’s lawyer, Jennifer Middleton, said in a statement released Monday. “Instead, Eugene Fire & EMS officials restricted McCann from firefighter facilities, allowed her only light-duty activities, barred her from training to prepare for a full return, and subjected her to additional, unnecessary medical exams.”

<http://www.registerguard.com/web/updates/27892479-55/story.csp>

A sometimes angry Los Angeles (CA) Fire Chief Brian Cummings defended his agency Friday against an increasing chorus of criticism over response times, saying to meet the ideal standards would take 89 more stations in Los Angeles. Cummings’ statements came during a City Council Public Safety Committee hearing looking into LAFD response times and other problems with the agency. The department has faced criticism over revelations that it misled the council on how often it meets the national standard of responding to calls within five minutes 90 percent of the time. “To get to everyone in under five minutes, we would need to add 89 facilities to be that close to every resident in the city,” Cummings told the committee. Cummings was told to return to the committee with more detailed data on response times:

http://www.dailynews.com/politics/ci_20245270/l-fire-chief-brian-cummings-pressed-slow-response

A Roanoke (VA) firefighter who engaged in sexual shenanigans while on the job has failed to prove he was the victim of sexual discrimination. Dennis Croft, a lieutenant in the city’s Fire-EMS Department, was demoted from his rank of captain for having a tryst with a paramedic in the bunkhouse of a fire station. The paramedic, Deborah Van Ness, received a verbal reprimand. In a lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Roanoke, Croft maintained that his harsher punishment as a male for the same offense committed by his female partner amounted to gender discrimination. But Judge Glen Conrad found no evidence of discrimination in a written decision this week, noting several differences between the cases of Croft and Van Ness. Croft was Van Ness’ supervisor, for one, and he was on duty at the time of the sexual encounter while she was not: <http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/306617>

A United Kingdom ambulance paramedic has admitted photographing and videoing a female colleague while she was in the shower at work:

http://www.emsworld.com/news/10688167/uk-paramedic-took-pics-of-female-colleague-in-shower-at-workplace?cmpid=email_CPS120329004&utm_source=EMS+Weekly+Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120329004

An arrest warrant has been issued for a former deputy fire chief in Bensalem (PA), accusing him of collecting on a false workers’ compensation claim. Bensalem police say the arrest warrant accuses 27-year-old David Jerri Jr. of insurance fraud and theft, all felonies of the third degree:

<http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2012/03/20/former-bensalem-fire-official-accused-of-workers-compensation-fraud/>

Fire Chief resigns: Alcohol troubles again for Carlisle, Iowa chief. Latest off-duty incident follows previous on-duty EMS response:

<http://statter911.com/2012/03/26/alcohol-troubles-again-for-carlisle-iowa-chief-latest-off-duty-incident-follows-previous-on-duty-ems-response/>

On Tuesday morning Minneapolis Police served a search warrant at Minneapolis (MN) Fire Station 19 at 200 Ontario Ave SE at the University of Minnesota East Bank. A 20-year veteran firefighter was arrested along with a woman who was with him at the firehouse and a man who was parked in a car nearby. Police called it part of an ongoing drug investigation. News reports indicate the firefighter had a previous run in with another police agency over drugs:

<http://statter911.com/2012/03/28/drug-raid-at-minneapolis-fire-station-firefighter-others-arrested/>

Move over, Johnny Lungs! There's another "disabled" FDNY retiree who's off to the races — NASCAR Cliff. Cliff Stabner, a 55-year-old city firefighter who retired in 2003 with a three-quarter disability pension of \$95,000 annually, has surfaced as a member of the fire rescue team responding to crashes at Dover International Speedway in Delaware. The Post has obtained photos of Stabner wearing an orange jumpsuit and a helmet and standing next to a rescue vehicle at Dover's "Monster Mile" track. Stabner also is a fire captain in his quaint new hometown of Lewes, Del. He's even been seen climbing roofs. Stabner's vigorous post-retirement activities are reminiscent of those of John "Johnny Lungs" McLaughlin, the retired FDNY firefighter from Long Beach, LI, who left the department with a disability pension after being diagnosed with bronchial ailments — and then competed in numerous marathons and decathlons. Stabner is believed to have obtained his disability pension — which is 25 percent more than a regular pension — based on lung-related issues. He was overweight at the time, which may have been a factor, said a source familiar with Stabner's case. The source said it's outrageous that the city approved him for the pension. "If you have a disability pension, why are you fighting fires and doing NASCAR?" said the whistleblower, who requested anonymity. "We as citizens are paying for the higher disability pensions. It drives me crazy. How is it OK? It doesn't make any sense." "I'd rather have [Stabner] running into a building in New York City rather than rushing to NASCAR accidents if we're paying a 75 percent disability pension," said the CBC's Carol Kellerman. "The problem is that many of these firefighters are not really disabled." About three-quarters of FDNY firefighters retired with disability pensions in recent years, up from 50 percent before 9/11. The FDNY pension fund paid out \$588 million for disability pensions last year, more than double the figure from a decade ago:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/the_fa_lane_for_ailing_fireman_CBznD7jXw9CyXfAiZ3QZMM

Bourne (MA) firefighter and paramedic Richard Doherty wasn't Facebook friends with the acting fire chief for whom he worked. But he was a Facebook friend of the chief's secretary, who printed out the expletive-filled postings on Doherty's Facebook page in which he complained about his colleagues, superiors and the town's Police Department. Other postings by Doherty included derogatory terms for gays that poked fun at his personal friends, and he used a photo of the gay police officer on the comedy "Reno 911" to criticize local public safety officials with whom he had had disagreements. The postings resulted in Doherty's termination. Now, a magistrate with the Division of Administrative Law Appeals has found there was just cause for the town to discipline the firefighter:

http://www.emsworld.com/news/10685131/mass-paramedic-can-be-disciplined-for-facebook-postings-says-mass-div-law-appeals?cmpid=email_CPS120330011&utm_source=EMS+Weekly+Recap&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120330011

Jacksonville (FL) could be sued by the U.S. Justice Department as early as today over a government finding that firefighter promotion tests discriminated against African-Americans

from 2004 to last year. The department's Civil Rights Division wrote last month it concluded the city "had engaged in a pattern or practice of employment discrimination" and said the division had authorized attorneys to go to court. "The United States will file its complaint no later than April 20," read the letter by Delora Kennebrew, chief of the employment litigation section. Federal lawyers concluded that promotions tests for four ranks — engineer, lieutenant, captain and district chief in the department's fire suppression division — had unfairly hindered black firefighters' advancement. To make up for that, the Justice Department wants the city to change its promotion practices and provide "make-whole relief." That would include job offers, back pay with interest and changes in seniority for firefighters harmed by tests that were discriminatory, according to the letter:

<http://jacksonville.com/news/metro/2012-04-19/story/jacksonville-could-face-federal-lawsuit-over-discrimination-firefighter>

An interim fire chief has been put in place at the Chillicothe (MO) Fire Department pending an investigation into use of expired air bottles. Mayor Jack Everson confirmed late Thursday that he has appointed Assistant Chief Jeff Creed as interim chief to take the place of longtime Chief Bruce Vaughan due to the investigation. What Vaughan's current status is with the city is unclear, but Everson said he is supposed to hear from Vaughan on Monday as to whether the chief will retire. Vaughan has been with the fire department since May 1973:

<http://www.chillicothegazette.com/article/20120405/NEWS01/120405005/Interim-Chillicothe-fire-chief-appointed-pending-probe-into-expired-air-tanks?odyssey=mod|mostview>

The city of Pittsburgh (PA) will discipline a paramedic for improperly handling a 911 call from a Brookline man, who claimed that the ambulance crew summoned to his home Feb. 11 seemed more interested in having snow chains put on its vehicle than in treating him for what turned out to be a mini-stroke. The type of discipline hasn't been determined, Robert McCaughan, the city's chief of Emergency Medical Services, said. Chief McCaughan said the paramedic, whom the city did not identify, also will undergo training on interacting with patients:

http://www.emsworld.com/news/10685244/pittsburgh-paramedic-faces-discipline-for-disregarding-brookline-man?cmpid=email_CPS120330011&utm_source=EMS+Weekly+Recap&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120330011

Fifteen of Montgomery County's (MD) 18 volunteer fire and rescue departments misused state grant funds and made unauthorized purchases in the last fiscal year, creating the potential for fraud and abuse, county-commissioned auditors found. Auditors with the firm Rager, Lehman and Houck found errors related to state grants in six departments. For example, the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department spent \$50,000 in grant funds on materials that were supposed to be paid for using money the department had raised privately, according to auditors. The funds were replaced when the error was discovered. The opposite problem occurred at the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department, where \$17,002 of taxpayer money was spent when state grant funds were supposed to be used instead:

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/local/maryland/2012/03/finances-lack-oversight-montco-fire-departments-audit-finds/417291>

Mayoral campaign politics again spilled into a controversy over lagging Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department response times Tuesday as the City Council voted to launch yet another investigation into the agency's faulty data. The department has been under scrutiny since fire officials acknowledged last month that they have been releasing performance reports that made it appear that first responders were arriving at medical emergencies faster than they actually were: <http://articles.latimes.com/2012/apr/18/local/la-me-fire-response-20120418>

A grand jury has indicted a Chambersburg man on charges that he sexually abused a teenage boy in Staten Island, N.Y. Robert William Murray, 40, appeared Wednesday for an arraignment and was formally informed of the indictment, according to Peter Spencer, a spokesperson with the Richmond County, N.Y. District Attorney's Office. Murray's lawyer, New York private attorney Nick Wooldridge, said Thursday that his client has pleaded not guilty to the charges against him. Known for years of service as a firefighter in Franklin County, Murray was arrested in New York on Feb. 3. He remains free on his own recognizance. He was originally charged with use of a child in a sexual performance and committing a criminal sexual act in the third degree, both felony offenses. He was also charged with endangering the welfare of a child, a misdemeanor. An additional felony charge, promoting a sexual performance by a child under 17, was added Wednesday, according to Richmond County criminal court records:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/1263627-former-pa-firefighter-indicted-on-child-sex-charges-in-ny/>

Memphis (TN) Fire Department Lieutenant Reginald Davis and his lawyer Brenda Oats-Williams told WPTY-TV that an audio recording of a confrontation last June between Lt. Davis and Deputy Chief Daryl Payton shows the department is covering up what really happened. The TV station reported last year, shortly after the incident occurred, that Davis told police he was physically assaulted when he confronted Chief Payton about a lack of specialized training for firefighters assigned to the airport fire station. It was Davis who was suspended because of the incident. According to the TV station, Chief Payton was not disciplined and the department has said the investigation of the incident is over. Attorney Oats-Williams says that the meeting quickly turned into a shouting match and that Davis tried to leave, but Chief Payton wouldn't let him:

<http://statter911.com/2012/04/03/memphis-fire-department-lieutenant-shares-audio-recording-he-says-proves-deputy-chief-assaulted-him-claims-cover-up/>

An investigation has been launched after a Miami-Dade (FL) firefighter posted some inflammatory remarks in the wake of Trayvon Martin's death on his personal Facebook page. The website, which is geared toward African-American issues, said someone with access to Beckmann's Facebook page sent them a screen shot of his posting. Capt. Brian Beckmann's post, published for the public Friday by the website theGrio.com, lambasts the prosecutor in the George Zimmerman case and suggests "urban youth" are the products of "failed, sh*tbag, ignorant, pathetic, welfare dependent excuses for parents." Miami-Dade Fire Rescue released a statement saying the post is currently under investigation:

<http://statter911.com/2012/04/16/social-media-the-fire-service-trayvon-martin-case-brings-scrutiny-of-miami-dade-captains-personal-facebook-page/>

Positive Public Relations Items:

Denver (CO) firefighters were first in the chute for contract negotiations, agreeing to \$6 million in cuts over the next three years and setting the tone for the other two public safety unions that will begin negotiations soon. Denver Firefighter Local 858 agreed to no raise next year, and 1 percent raises in 2014 and 2015 — saving the city \$1.1 million in both 2014 and 2015. The union also agreed to changes in health insurance coverage and vacation policies:

<http://blogs.denverpost.com/thespot/2012/04/10/denver-firefighters-contract-raise-2013-1-pct-increase-14-15/67025/>

Many people don't know that if their home was devastated in a fire, Nampa (ID) firefighters have a fund to get them through the first night or two. The boost can be anywhere from \$200 to \$500 that first night, said Nampa Fire Department Capt. Eric White. "Most of them are first shocked because they didn't know anything like that even existed," White said. "And then, number two, they start realizing, 'Holy cow, we don't have anything.' It's like, 'This ... will get us through the next couple of days.'" The burnout fund, which usually has a supply of \$1,000 to \$4,000 dollars, is supported by local fundraisers and gets no government assistance. Firefighters put on a barbecue Saturday at a cutting horse show at the Idaho Horse Park in Nampa, hoping to match or exceed the \$4,000 they earned last year at the event. Because firefighters are first to respond when a family loses a home, they want to be ready to lend a hand, White said:

http://www.idahopress.com/news/when-fire-takes-everything-nampa-charity-fund-brings-hope/article_3fb2c142-764c-11e1-8a7b-0019bb2963f4.html

Friday night in downtown Twin Falls (ID) a fundraiser was held to help raise money for a beloved local resident. John Ramsdell a former Twin Falls firefighter, a full time student and a father of three young children had his life changed dramatically last February when a seizure led to the discovery of a large brain tumor:

<http://www.kmvt.com/news/local/Fundriaser-To-Help-Local-Man-Battle-Cancer-145251555.html>

Utah Fights Cancer With "Pink" Fire Engine. You've heard the saying "Real men wear pink." As it turns out, they also drive pink trucks. 2News has the story of a local fire fighter who is not only wearing pink, but trying to paint the state pink with a pink fire truck – all to fight breast cancer. You've probably heard of the Pink Heals Tours or Guardians of the Ribbon. One local firefighter was touched by one of their national tours that came through Utah a few years back and decided we could use a pink truck too. Sean Lowe is a Logan city paramedic and firefighter. He, like so many of us, has been touched by cancer – and decided with the help of his fellow firefighters to do something to help Utahans battling breast cancer. "We treat people. We go on our knees and look at people, help treat them, take care of their needs. I think with this project, we take it another step further," Lowe said. Box Elder Fire helped out by providing an old fire truck, and now Logan city schools and businesses are working to fix her back up and paint her pink. Weber County will eventually be her home, but the soon to be pink fire truck will be Utah's first of its kind:

http://connect2utah.com/news/top-stories/stories/vid_786.shtml

Clark County (NV) reached a tentative agreement today on a three-year collective bargaining agreement with the IAFF Local 1908. The agreement, which will run from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015, includes a two-year wage schedule freeze and the elimination of longevity for new employees. Either party may open the salary schedule article for further negotiation in the third year. This is the third consecutive agreement with the IAFF in the past 18 months to include major financial concessions. County staff estimates that longevity elimination alone will save more than \$60 million over the next 25 years. "The local 1908 has come to the table and demonstrated a sincere willingness to address the short- and long-term financial issues the County faces. There have been some past challenges, but their assistance and partnership is real and deserves recognition," said Assistant County Manager Ed Finger:

<http://www.mynews3.com/mostpopular/story/Clark-County-reaches-tentative-agreement-with/7m4tZehXZUmpmE5rdd8xew.csp>

Twelve Nampa (ID) firefighters raised more than \$19,000 in donations – nearly double their goal -- by racing up 69 flights of stairs at the Columbia Center in Seattle, the fire department announced Wednesday. Team members ran up 788 vertical feet wearing full fire gear for the

annual Scott Firefighter Stairclimb on March 11. Last year the Nampa team raised about \$4,100. The Nampa team set a goal of \$10,000, well above the \$4,096.62 that members raised last year. All told, 1,550 firefighters representing 291 departments from 24 states as well as Canada and Germany competed in the timed race. The event supports the mission of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society by raising money through sponsorships, individual and department fundraising and entry fees. The team raised money for the event numerous ways. Many team members obtained pledges from friends and family. The Nampa Fire Department Local 804 and several local companies also donated. The team raised money at Costco Nampa by climbing the equivalent of more than 1,000 floors on a StairMill inside the warehouse stores while customers dropped donations into the firefighters' helmets. Donations are still being accepted at [Firefighterstairclimb.org](http://www.firefighterstairclimb.org) on behalf of the Nampa Fire Department:

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/2012/04/04/2063394/nampa-firefighters-exceed-fundraising.html>

Officials of Marion County (OR) Fire District No. 1 announced Friday that they have reached an agreement with its union that includes wage freezes, voluntary demotions and a reorganization of employees that will save more than \$260,000 per year. Two administrative staff have been laid off and two tenured staff, Battalion Chief Kim Batchelor and mechanic Jason Fast, took voluntary retirements. All employees have agreed to take a 2.5 percent wage reduction, fire district board president Randy Franke said. In addition, some employees eligible for promotion will take pay freezes while others will take demotions to lower positions. Chief Kevin Henson said new employee classifications had been created as part of the reorganization effort. In all, three captains have been demoted to lieutenants, 14 firefighter-engineers were demoted to firefighters and a paramedic position was created:

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20120407/NEWS/304070010/Marion-County-Fire-District-No-1-union-agrees-sacrifices?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7CNews%7Cs>

Training & Safety Related Items:

MRSA's an antibiotic-resistant bacteria that was found in many Tucson (AZ) fire houses. Officials counted 26-cases over a period of several years. In 2007, the fire department got help. The Mel and Enid College of Public Health stepped-in and now the fire department's reporting 0 cases of MRSA. Deputy fire chief Ed Nied says, "No one wants to get sick and take that home to their baby, and that's what happened to one of our individuals." Turns out MRSA was mainly found on the couches, and the chairs inside fire stations, all of which have been re upholstered with material that can be wiped down. Deputy fire chief Nied says, "You go inside to someone's home and let's just say they are unfortunate to have it you then get it your pant, your shirt or whatever you come back and you sit on the couch and watch t-v, grab the remote, or use the computer spreading the bacteria."

<http://www.kvoa.com/news/mrsa-cases-down-at-tucson-fire-dept/>

Sacramento (CA) police arrested a man suspected of trying to ram a fire department ambulance on the highway. Fire department personnel were called to the 300 block of Graves Avenue about 9 a.m. Sunday in the Strawberry Manor neighborhood for a woman who needed medical aid. When they arrived, the woman's son was belligerent, according to a police department activity log. Police responded and the fire department ambulance began transporting the mother to the hospital. Police allege that during transport, her son, Johnie Clemon, 30, tried to run into the ambulance on the highway. Fire personnel called police again and officers arrested Clemon at the hospital. He was booked on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon: http://blogs.sacbee.com/crime/archives/2012/03/police-arrest-man-suspect-of-trying-to-hit-ambulance.html#mi_rss=Sacto%209-1-1#storylink=misearch

Los Angeles (CA) Fire Station 20 is in the process of upgrading security protocols after a brazen burglary at their Sunset Boulevard headquarters last week. Capt. Richard Denning, who called the break-in "unsettling," said the pilferage took place as fire trucks were parked in the house, and crews were upstairs resting. It was "a brazen attack," he said, reports the Eastsider LA. Personal electronics and department items like firefighter boots and pants were stolen. Some department items were reportedly found in nearby dumpsters at the corner of Sunset and Mohawk Street. The Eastsider LA blog said that a Rampart detective said the crooks came in through an open back door that was ajar due to a rope. "This was a crime of opportunity as the rear door was left open by a firefighter arriving to work to start his shift," detective Mario Mota told the blog. This is not the first time station security was breached. The station was burglarized last year, however the recent losses are far larger, said officials. Police are investigating: <http://www.scpr.org/blogs/news/2012/03/26/5245/brazen-burglary-echo-park-fire-station-while-crew/>

The initial size-up of an Indiana church fire that killed an Indiana firefighter did not fully consider the impact of limited water supply, available staffing, the occupancy type and the lightweight roof truss system, according to a [National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health report](#). NIOSH recommended that fire departments ensure a complete situational size-up is conducted on all structure fires. In this instance, the incident commander's size-up did not identify proper strategy and tactics for the church, the location and size of the fire hidden in the attic, a practical water supply for suppression (no water hydrants were near the church, and a lake from which to pull water was only identified later) and hazards associated with the lightweight roof truss systems used in the church: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-attack/articles/1262711-NIOSH-Inadequate-size-up-contributed-to-Ind-firefighter-death/>

101 Email Etiquette Tips - It is important that whether for business or personal use that you follow the basics of email etiquette:

http://www.101emailtipstips.com/?cmpid=email_CPS120409005&utm_source=EMS+Management+Tips&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120409005

New-School Fire Research and Old-School Tactics: Who Do You Believe? We get into trouble when understaffed fire departments attempt aggressive interior tactics without sufficient staffing--in other words, we attempt big-city tactics with a small-town crew. We are unable to make the building behave in conjunction with the attack, and thus experience tragic outcomes. Unfortunately, limited staffing is a reality for many departments across the country. For whatever reason, firefighters find themselves leaving the station en route to a working fire with two firefighters aboard. So arriving on scene and conducting an interior fire attack in the absence of a rescue is silly. The new research demonstrates that our fears of pushing fire by way of a window attack are unfounded:

<http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2012/04/new-school-fire-research-and-old-school-tactics-whom-do-you-believe.html?sponsored=firedynamics&cmpid=EnlFireEngWeeklyApril102012>

General Fire Service Related Items:

Entire New Mexico volunteer fire department quits except chief – a former captain says resignations were for various reasons, not organized walk-out:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/recruitment/articles/1263617-Entire-NM-volunteer-department-quits-except-chief/>

Toledo (OH) Fire Department Shifts Personnel, Equipment. With the Toledo Fire Department's calls for service increasing last year, a trend that fire officials say is continuing, the department is making moves aimed at reducing the stress and workload placed on the busiest fire companies. "Some stations are getting the brunt, so we're trying to take some of the sting out," Gary Martin, deputy chief of operations, said. The changes, which focus on moving equipment and some personnel, are the result of an eight-week analysis Chief Martin spearheaded. Using data from 2011, density maps were created to show where medical incidents and fires are reported in Toledo. With that information, Chief Martin and others developed possible scenarios for restructuring but decided on a plan that would move a ladder truck to a reserve unit and relocate several rescue squads. Fire Lt. Matthew Hertzfeld said, "What we're trying to do is rearrange our resources to better utilize and support those companies that do a bulk of the work." He added that the changes "would mean a more efficient use [of resources]. ... We understand in these economic times we're in there are budget constraints, but we're expected to provide a service; we want to do it in the most professional and efficient way we can." No costs are associated with the moves:

http://www.firehouse.com/news/10689847/toledo-fire-department-shifts-personnel-equipment?cmpid=email_CPS120403004&utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120403004

El Segundo (CA) to decide fate of fire service. When El Segundo faced a multimillion-dollar budget deficit two years ago, the City Council considered a Fire Department merger with Los Angeles County as one way to dramatically cut costs. But it wasn't all about money, supporters said at the time. Given that the city was reducing staffing at its two stations, firefighters argued the town would be better served by a larger agency with other firehouses just outside its borders. The proposal prompted an emotional response from residents, community leaders and firefighters, and the council ultimately shelved the plan – until now:

http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_20347177/el-segundo-decide-fate-fire-service

Clark County (NV) hopes public opinion of firefighters improves before tax vote. In 2014, Clark County voters will be asked whether to end or extend a special property tax that since 1996 has helped fund the Fire Department. Voters agreed in 1995 to tax themselves at 5.27 cents per \$100 of assessed property value for 20 years. Without a favorable vote, tax revenue of up to \$15 million — money that helps pay the Fire Department's capital and operational expenses — will disappear. If the economy hasn't gained enough steam to replace that tax revenue, the loss of the money would cause either deep cuts in fire service or drastic cuts in other county services. The only other solution: Make voters love firefighters again:

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2012/mar/23/county-hopes-public-opinion-firefighters-improves/>

The Vallejo (CA) Fire Department has hired 15 new recruits in the past several months, thanks to a federal grant, and they're all getting physical fitness training for free at Dennis Brinson's Olympic Health Club gym on Tennessee Street. Battalion Chief Ray Jackson said the department appreciates the help. Brinson says it's the least he can do. "He did this for the last academy, and there were five in that class," Jackson said. "This is the largest class in a decade." The 10 new recruits are all trained paramedics who know their jobs are based on a two-year grant, he said. He added that it is hoped that through attrition, funds for these new firefighters will be available even after the grant ends. Officials are also applying for more grants, Jackson said:

http://www.timesheraldonline.com/ci_20238450/local-gym-owner-donates-time-facility-train-vallejos

Whatever move the Pinole (CA) City Council makes about providing fire services, it appears that a proposed contract with the Contra Costa Fire Protection District has been rejected. The council instead on Tuesday directed city staff to move forward in pursuit of a possible contract with the Rodeo-Hercules Fire District. The council did not close the door on continuing to operate its own standalone city fire station independently. Off the table is the idea of annexing the city into either the Rodeo-Hercules or Contra Costa Fire district:

<http://hercules.patch.com/articles/pinole-council-leans-toward-contract-with-rodeo-hercules-fire-district>

After a year of covering two cities simultaneously as fire chief, Ed Tubbs said he's still up to the challenge. The Piedmont City Council will consider a possible two-year extension of the arrangement at an April meeting. Albany's City Council voted in January to support continuing the program. Tubbs spends two days in Albany, two days in Piedmont and one day split between the two. "Tuesdays are the craziest days, with department head meetings in both cities," says Tubbs. Albany's fire Chief Marc McGinn retired last year. A pilot program was started last April in which both cities realized they could save money if Tubbs agreed to cover both. Day-to-day operations are handled by the fire captains in each city. Piedmont would save about \$111,000, while Albany would save about \$85,000 with the job-sharing. Albany pays Piedmont their share of Tubbs' salary; Tubbs is a Piedmont employee:

http://www.contracostatimes.com/piedmont/ci_20282620/piedmont-albany-may-share-fire-chief-two-more

As the deadline nears for Santa Ana (CA) fire personnel to formally join the Orange County Fire Authority, officials with both agencies are busy trying to ensure a smooth transition. With a split-second flip of a switch on the morning of April 20, 911 calls that previously would have gone to fire dispatchers in Santa Ana will be re-routed to OCFA's dispatch center, before crews head out to emergency calls on rigs emblazoned with newly installed county fire decals. Faced with a \$30 million budget deficit, Santa Ana leaders Feb. 21 agreed to outsource its fire services with OCFA. Ending the 128-year-old Santa Ana Fire Department is projected to save the city an estimated \$8.7 million to \$10 million a year. With about 200 Santa Ana firefighters and support staff to be absorbed into OCFA, the county organization will immediately grow about 20 percent, as Santa Ana becomes its largest member city on a population-basis:

<http://www.oregister.com/news/santa-347973-fire-ocfa.html>

A proposed shared services agreement between the Newport News (VA) and Hampton fire departments could in future years result in the departments eliminating firefighters. Newport News City Manager Neil Morgan's proposed 2012-13 budget does not include cuts to the fire department. But his budget memo does indicate that the new mutual aid agreement -- where bordering stations along the eight-mile Hampton-Newport News border would respond to emergencies without regard to jurisdictional boundaries -- could in the future result in Newport News cutting up to 12 firefighter positions. The new mutual aid agreement, which still has yet to be voted on by both municipalities, would be part of an overall agreement to improve efficiencies. Other initiatives include centralizing purchasing and the hiring process for both fire departments:

http://www.firehouse.com/news/10687585/cuts-could-be-looming-for-virginia-firefighters?cmpid=email_CPS120328003&utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS120328003

Succeeding as a Young Chief Officer - Those who assume the rank of chief officer at a young age face challenges, but also unique advantages:

<http://www.firefighternation.com/article/management-and-leadership/succeeding-young-chief-officer>

Las Vegas (NV) firefighters launched their annual Fill the Boot drive, but there are questions about fundraising while they are on-duty. Some firefighters have decided it to do it on their own time. Since it began in the 1950s, the fundraiser has raised millions of dollars for Muscular Dystrophy. But after questions were raised about whether taxpayers should be on the hook for those firefighters raising money on the clock, Clark County and North Las Vegas decided to let their firefighters collect money on only a volunteer basis. Some city officials have said that they are have no problem with on-the-clock fundraising, while others are not happy that taxpayers are footing the bill for something that they say firefighters should do on their own time. Las Vegas Fire Chief Mike Meyers said their decision has raised eyebrows. "I am getting some public attention to the fact that we are collecting money for charity on-duty, so I have to make a decision on what we will do in the future," Meyers said:

http://www.mynews3.com/content/news/local/story/Firefighters-on-the-clock-fundraising-questioned/ITq4Z3wD_kWG2q2Bz7dafQ.csp

For the 58th consecutive year, Las Vegas firefighters are using time between emergency calls to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Whether they're able to use on-duty time to help the charity for a 59th year is in doubt. Las Vegas Fire and Rescue Chief Mike Myers said the city may follow Clark County's lead and insist the long-running Fill the Boot program be limited to off-duty hours. "I am evaluating that right now," Myers said earlier this week at a kickoff event for the charity drive during which firefighters use their boots to collect cash in busy parking lots or on sidewalks. Although firefighters throughout Southern Nevada have participated in the drive while on-duty for decades, with no detriment to response times by all accounts, the practice has become controversial in recent years:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fundraising/articles/1268576-Baskin-Robbins-ditches-firefighting-donations/>

Clark County (NV) Commissioner Steve Sisolak is questioning off-duty firefighters' use of county fire trucks as they solicit donations for the Muscular Dystrophy Association at valley intersections. Sisolak — whose criticism helped spur a department policy change prohibiting firefighters from doing charitable work while on duty — has placed an item on Tuesday's commission agenda to air questions about the use of department trucks, which some complain makes it appear firefighters aren't abiding by the policy. At least one county resident has written Sisolak, complaining that it appears firefighters are collecting donations while on the job: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2012/apr/16/sisolak-questions--duty-firefighters-use-county-ve/?hpp>

A Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department plan to put six ambulances back in service to help improve lagging response times amounts to less than a "Band-Aid" fix to the agency's needs, a City Council member said Monday. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa called for the ambulances to be restored to service last month after fire officials acknowledged that the time it takes the rescuers to get to victims in medical emergencies had fallen below nationally accepted standards. In recent weeks, fire officials were forced to acknowledge that they had been publishing reports for the public and city leaders showing that rescuers were arriving to medical emergencies faster than they actually were. The disclosures and controversy prompted Villaraigosa to call for the six ambulances to help restore public confidence in the beleaguered agency. The department's budget has been slashed by more than 15% over the last three years, resulting in fire engines and ambulances being permanently closed at firehouses across the city:

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/04/lafd-ambulance-response-times.html>

Los Angeles (CA) Fire Chief Brian Cummings, offering a new explanation of response times for firetrucks and ambulances, said Tuesday there are some areas of the city that the department will never be able to respond to in less than five minutes. "If it takes you that long to get to a fire station from your house, that's how long it will take for us to respond," Cummings said during a lengthy City Council hearing. "If we were going to respond to every call within four minutes, we would need another 89 stations." Cummings and the LAFD have faced criticism for the past two months as a result of complaints that the department has failed to meet national standards of responding to calls within five minutes:

http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_20420140/cummings-lafd-response-times-will-always-lag-some

Stockton's (CA) interim fire chief, Dave Rudat, left an intriguing sideline off his résumé: He's CFO of a hydroponic company that supplies marijuana growers, among others. The company is GreenGro Technologies of Westminster. GreenGro proudly manufactures the "vertical hydrogarden," a shelf of watery grow trays and energy-efficient lighting. A 2011 company news release says, "GreenGro's products and services are targeted at direct consumers, industrial farming operations, and the explosive medical marijuana market sector."

http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120418/A_NEWS0803/204180316/-1/A_NEWS

Clark County (NV) commissioners declined Wednesday to overrule Fire Chief Bertral Washington's decision that firefighters must be off-duty while collecting money for charity. They clarified the intent of a 12-year-old resolution supporting firefighters raising money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Fill the Boot program because it appeared to conflict with the recent policy, according to County Manager Don Burnette. Commissioners crafted their response to support the annual MDA boot drive, support the chief's policy, and permit the use of department resources including vehicles and uniforms. The resolution also gives the county manager and fire chief power to make future changes to the policy including using on-duty staff: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/commission-backs-fire-chief-s-firefighter-fundraising-decision-147967785.html>

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
Chabot College web site: www.chabotcollege.edu

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