



# ***FIRE & EMS NEWS***

**September 10, 2011**

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

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## **REFLECTIONS ON THE 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11:**

**I**t is amazing to think it has been 10 years since the tragic events that had occurred on September 11, 2001. The learning point for all is that we are not out of the woods and that we need to always be on guard for such tragedies and terrorist activities to occur in the future; not acknowledging that such things can and do occur may lead to additional tragedies and casualties. If we fail to learn from history, we are doomed to allow history to repeat itself.

**P**lease take a moment of silence to honor all of the firefighters, law enforcement officers, EMS personnel, and civilians who lost their lives 10 years ago in the tragic events that unfolded on the East Coast as we know today as "9/11." Everyone mourns and acknowledges events in different ways, so also take the time to do what you think is appropriate to learn from what has occurred, and also pay tribute to those that were involved.

**W**hile we know of 343 Firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice, there were thousands others as well who lost their lives. Not to take away from the Firefighters, but to just remember the countless others – as they say, "some gave all, all gave some." Besides the 343 Firefighters, there are also thousands of other Firefighters who survived the incident, but have since had to retire, since passed away, or since developed some form of long-term, life-changing, or life-ending medical or physical condition based on the hazardous conditions.

There are a lot of great sources of fire service websites that can offer additional information and thorough coverage on the 10 year anniversary of 9/11:

- [www.firehouse.com](http://www.firehouse.com)
- [www.fireengineering.com](http://www.fireengineering.com)
- [www.firerescuemagazine.com](http://www.firerescuemagazine.com)
- [www.firerescue1.com](http://www.firerescue1.com)
- [www.firefighternation.com](http://www.firefighternation.com)
- [www.firefighterclosecalls.com](http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com)
- [www.firechief.com](http://www.firechief.com)

There are many, many more great websites to check out, consider this a starting point.

**N**ever forget!

# **CHABOT COLLEGE 2011 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](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

**FALL 2011 Semester:** (August through December, 2011)

*Note: not all classes being offered below are listed below – those that are already full or have already started are not listed since students are typically not allowed to add after the first session in many classes.*

| COURSE   | DAY   | TIMES  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>FT 89</b> (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation)<br><b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b><br>- October 18, 20 and 22 (Tue/Thu/Sat)<br>- November 16, 18 and 20 (Wed/Fri/Sun) | Tue & Thurs (pm)<br>Saturday (all day), <b>or</b><br>Wed & Fri (pm)<br>Sunday (all day) | 1700 – 2050 hours<br>0830 – 1650 hours<br>1700 – 2050 hours<br>0830 – 1650 hours |
| <b>FT 91A</b> (Cal Fire wildland basic training)<br><b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b><br>- November 29, December 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 18               | Tue & Thurs (pm)<br>Saturday (all day)<br>Sunday (all day)                              | 1700 – 2150 hours<br>0800 – 1750 hours<br>0800 – 1650 hours                      |
| <b>FT 91B</b> (Haz Mat 1 <sup>st</sup> Responder-Operations)<br><b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b><br>- November 15, 17, 19 and 20                                       | Tue (pm)<br>Thurs (pm)<br>Sat/Sun (all day)   | 1800 – 2215 hours<br>1700 – 2115 hours<br>0800 – 1730 hours                      |
| <b>FT 91C</b> (I-200; Basic ICS)<br><b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b><br>- November 8, 10, 12 and 13  | Tue & Thurs (pm)<br>Saturday (all day)<br>Sunday (all day)                              | 1700 – 2115 hours<br>0800 – 1730 hours<br>0800 – 1730 hours                      |
| <b>FT 91D</b> (Firefighter Survival)<br><b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b><br>- November 1, 3 and 5  | Tue & Thurs (pm)<br>Saturday (all day)  | 1700 – 2150 hours<br>0800 – 1650 hours   |
| <b>Health 85</b> (EMT Refresher)<br><b>Note: Class meets on the following dates:</b><br>• November 29, December 1, 3, 6, 8 & 10  | Tue & Thurs (pm)<br>Saturday (all day)  | 1800 – 2150 hours<br>0800 – 1550 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 2011 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

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

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**



### **Northern California Training Officers Presents**

#### **“Training Officer Consortium” Training Officer Information Exchange**

**Where:**

City of Roseville  
Martha Riley Library  
1501 Pleasant Grove, Roseville, CA 95747

**When:**

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 from 0900 -1600

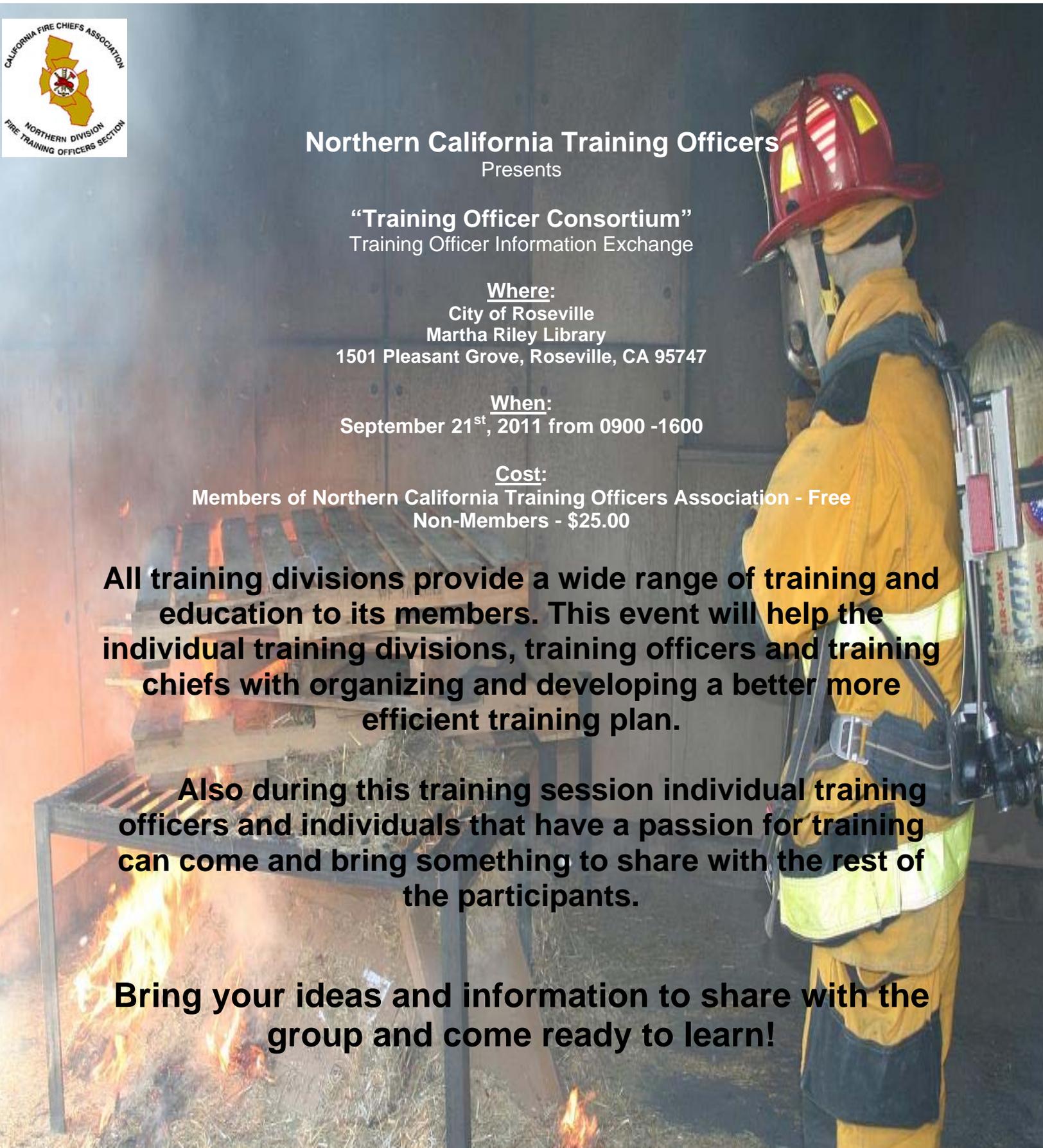
**Cost:**

Members of Northern California Training Officers Association - Free  
Non-Members - \$25.00

**All training divisions provide a wide range of training and education to its members. This event will help the individual training divisions, training officers and training chiefs with organizing and developing a better more efficient training plan.**

**Also during this training session individual training officers and individuals that have a passion for training can come and bring something to share with the rest of the participants.**

**Bring your ideas and information to share with the group and come ready to learn!**



REGISTRATION INFORMATION – NOR CAL TOs Roseville Class – September 21, 2011

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form and payment to:

NorCal TO's  
Attn: Mark Romer  
1700 North Dowd Rd.  
Lincoln CA. 95648  
Registration Questions contact Chief Romer:  
Email: [chiefromer@yahoo.com](mailto:chiefromer@yahoo.com)  
Cell: 1-916-316-6415

Registrations Also Accepted at the Door

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY AT THE  
NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:**

**Student Recruitment:**

***Overview of Life Safety and Public Policy* (P670)**

– Two Pilot Offerings

The United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy is conducting two pilot classes at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, MD for its newly developed 6-day course **P670 - Overview of Life Safety and Public Policy**.

The first pilot class is scheduled to begin Sunday, November 27 through Friday, December 2, 2011. The second pilot is scheduled to begin January 29 through February 3, 2012. Students will arrive on the Saturday before each class and will have a room for Friday night for a Saturday morning departure.

**Applications must be received by close of business, Friday, September 30, 2011 to attend the pilot offerings.**

**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

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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.

Class Size: 22 - Length: 6 days

**Prerequisite:** ICS 100 level and ICS 200 level training. Preferred courses are Q462 and Q463 available through NFA Online at [www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov). Chief's signature attests the applicant has completed this required training.

#### Applications:

- Applicants must complete FEMA General Admission Application Form 119-25-1 available on the U.S. Fire Administration Website at: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>
- Applications must be received by close of business, Friday, September 30, 2011. Completed applications can be mailed to:

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

- Completed applications may also be faxed to the NETC Office of Admissions 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@dhs.gov](mailto:mary.marchone@dhs.gov).

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## **FIREFIGHTER 1 ACADEMY INFORMATION:**



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**California Regional Fire Academy  
Basic Firefighter One Academy**

**The deadline to turn in your application has been extended TWO WEEKS!  
(also see below for NEW ACADEMY START DATE)**

To download an application, visit  
[www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov](http://www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov)  
(located on the "Apply" page)  
Hardcopies are also available at the Business Office or may be mailed by request.

**The California Regional Fire Academy is Now Accepting applications for  
Academy Classes scheduled to begin on**

**Monday, December 5, 2011**  
**&**  
**Monday, January 9, 2012**

**Academy 17 ~ Extended Format Academy  
(Begins December 5, 2011)**

**Academy 16 ~ Full-Time Format Academy  
(Begins January 9, 2012)**

**Application Deadline:**

**All applications must be received by the Business Office by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday,  
September 15, 2011.**

**Late application submissions will not be considered for this academy process.**

All applications will be reviewed after the deadline of  
September 15, 2011. All applicants will be notified by mail and email on their standing in the  
Academy within **two weeks** after the application deadline.

Further information is available on the website and in the application packet.

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

**California Fire and Rescue Training Authority**

(916) 475-1660

[www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov](http://www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov)

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## **FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYMENT OPEN HOUSE:**

**T**he **Alameda County Fire Department** will be hosting an open house for those interested in employment with them as a Firefighter.

All prospective candidates are encouraged to attend a Firefighter Recruit Orientation. The orientation will include an overview of the Alameda County Fire Department, its philosophy and strategic business plan, and Fire Chief Sheldon Gilbert will discuss his vision for the organization. Attributes of the ideal candidate and a summary of the recruitment process will also be discussed. At the end of each orientation, candidates will have the opportunity to ask questions about the recruitment process and/or any of the topics reviewed during the session.

Though encouraged, attendance at the Firefighter Recruit Orientation is optional. Below are dates; specific locations for all dates will be posted on the ACFD website once confirmed:

- October 9, 2011 – 10 am to 12 noon at the Alameda County Training & Education Center, 125 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94607
- October 18, 2011 – 5 pm to 7 pm at the Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Avenue, Dublin, CA 94568.
- October 20, 2011 – 6 pm to 8 pm at a San Leandro Location, TBD.
- October 26, 2011 – 5 pm to 7 pm at a Newark Location, TBD.

**F**or more information, go to the **Alameda County Human Resources** website at <http://www.jobaps.com/Alameda/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=11&R2=8137&R3=01> and the **Alameda County Fire Department** website at <http://www.acgov.org/fire>

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## **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

**T**he **Alameda County Fire Department** is accepting applications for the position of Fire Department Recruit as follows:

### **Firefighter Recruit**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Date Opened</b>     | 9/9/2011 - 4:00:00 PM   |
| <b>Filing Deadline</b> | 10/7/2011 - 5:00:00 PM  |
| <b>Salary</b>          | \$4,926.00 - \$4,926.00/month; \$59,112.00 - \$59,112.00/year |
| <b>Employment Type</b> | Permanent Full-Time Employment                                |

### **Introduction**

The Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD) provides all-risk emergency service to the unincorporated areas of Alameda County, the Cities of San Leandro, Dublin, Newark and Union City, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Serving a population of 840,000 and encompassing an area of roughly 506 square miles, the ACFD

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provides a wide variety of services to an ever expanding and diverse community. These services include:

- Advanced Life Support Rescue
- Fire Suppression
- Hazardous Materials Mitigation
- Urban Search and Rescue
- Water Rescue
- Community Outreach & Education
- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Prevention and Code Compliance
- Regional Dispatch

For more information about the Alameda County Fire Department, please visit their website at [www.acgov.org/fire](http://www.acgov.org/fire)

The final application filing deadline (LDF) for this recruitment is: **Friday, October 7, 2011 - 5:00 p.m.**

**ON-LINE APPLICATIONS ONLY; NO HARD COPY APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE IN THE POSSESSION OF ALAMEDA COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES BY THE LAST DAY FOR FILING.**

#### Description

Alameda County Fire Department's Firefighter Recruit is the entry-level fire suppression, prevention and emergency response position for Alameda County. This classification exists solely for those who are completing their initial Fire Department Training in the Alameda County Fire Department Training Academy.

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The Firefighter Recruit classification is characterized by assignment to the Recruit Fire Academy and subsequent training assignments prior to appointment to a line position. Under close supervision during this Academy, the Recruit must gain understanding of lifesaving and firefighting methods through intensive academic instruction and specialized training. This class is distinguished from the classification of Firefighter in that incumbents are in training to effectively function in the position of Firefighter upon promotion. Upon successful completion of the training requirements, it is expected that incumbents promote to the class of Firefighter.

#### Examples of duties

NOTE: The following are the duties performed by employees in this classification. However, employees may perform other related duties at an equivalent level. Each individual in the classification does not necessarily perform all duties listed.

1. Attends the assigned Alameda County Fire Recruit Training Program by participating in classroom training and manipulative exercises and drills;
2. Undergoes classroom training and manipulative exercises and drills to develop an awareness of the functions and responsibilities of Firefighter and how they relate to fire fighting operations;
3. Studies and completes homework assignments;
4. Takes periodic quizzes and examinations;
5. Completes other training as assigned by the Fire Department prior to being promoted to a line Firefighter, such as maintaining the fire station and equipment and participating in drills and training classes to assure proper state of emergency readiness.

**Minimum qualifications**

**Education:**

- Graduation from \*\*high school or possession of an acceptable equivalency certificate, such as the \*\*General Educational Development Certificate (State of California).
- Successful completion of a California State Fire Marshal approved Firefighter I course by date of departmental (Chief's) Interviews (**week of 01/02/2011**).

AND

**Experience:**

- Must be a paid Firefighter/EMT or Firefighter/Paramedic in a Fire Department. (Seasonal employment is eligible) or be on the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee Displaced Fire Fighter List (Cal Gov Code §53270)

OR - A current member of the Alameda County Fire Department Reserve program.

OR - A current member of a Reserve Program that is supported by a professional City or County Fire Department or Fire District.

OR - Must be a **\*\*Nationally Registered\*\*** Paramedic.

**License:**

1. Possession of a valid \*\*California State Motor Vehicle Operator's License;

2. Possession of a \*\*Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certificate issued within the last twelve months **from the last day of filing (10/07/2011)**; and

3. Possession of a current and valid \*\*California Emergency Medical Technician-1 (EMT-1) certificate or \*\*Certified by the National Registry of \*\*Emergency Medical Technicians, \*\*Emergency Medical Technician – Basic or a \*\*California Emergency Medical Technician-P (EMT-P).

**Special Requirement:**

1. Having visual acuity correctable to 20/30 either eye. Must be able to pass physical ability, medical and psychological examinations.

2. Being able to successfully pass a thorough background investigation.

3. Must be eligible to obtain a Department of Energy security clearance.

**Age:** Minimum 18 years of age.

**\*\*IN ADDITION TO COMPLETING AN ON-LINE APPLICATION, APPLICANTS MUST ALSO SUBMIT COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS TO QUALIFY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE EXAMINATION:**

- HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA (High School or College Transcripts are ok) or GED CERTIFICATION

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- CPAT (issued within 12 months from the last day for filing (10/08/2010 through 10/7/2011)
- (Website: <http://www.cffjac.org/go/jac/cpat/>)
- DRIVER'S LICENSE
- EMT Card
- NATIONALLY REGISTERED PARAMEDIC CARD (if you are a Paramedic (not meeting any of the other Firefighter experience tracks), you must show proof of NATIONAL REGISTRY to qualify).

**ADDITIONALLY: Please Submit the Following (not disqualifying if not submitted by the LDF, but may be required by date of interview and/or prior to appointment):**

- Valid CPR Certification
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) or Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) or Pediatric Education for Pre-hospital Personnel (PEPP)
- Firefighter I Course Completion Certification (if you have received by the LDF 10/7/2011. If you are scheduled to complete your coursework by the date of Chief's Interviews (1/2/2012) you can bring this document with you to Chief's Interviews. Course completion is REQUIRED by the date of Chief's Interviews, but will not be disqualifying if you are not in possession of the certification by the Last Day For Filing).

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**These documents can be submitted in one of the following ways:**

1. Scanned and attached to the on-line application (fitting all cards on one page is acceptable / please ensure that the scan is clear, readable, and opens before attaching); *OR*
2. Delivered in person or by U.S. Mail to ALCO HRS, 1405 Lakeside Drive, Oakland California 94612. Lobby hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (must be in the possession of HRS by the LDF 10/7/2011 -attention Monique Hill); *OR*
3. Via e-mail to [monique.hill@acgov.org](mailto:monique.hill@acgov.org). (Include the recruitment title - FIREFIGHTER RECRUITI)  
**- PLEASE NOTE - FAX TRANSMITTALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

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NOTE: The Civil Service Commission may modify the above Minimum Qualifications in the announcement of an examination.

**EXAMINATION PROCESS:**

This process will consist of the following steps:

1. A review of candidates' application to verify possession of minimum requirements. Those candidates determined to be qualified will move to the next step in the examination process;
2. A written test weighted as Pass/Fail. Passing candidates will move forward to the next step in the examination process;
3. An oral interview will be weighted at 100% of the candidates final examination score.

**\* WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE ANNOUNCED SCREENING PROCESS STEPS.**

**TENTATIVE RECRUITMENT PLAN:**

- \*\*Recruitment Closes (LDF) - 10/07/2011; 5:00 p.m.
- \*\*Screening of Applications for Minimum Qualifications - 10/18/2011
- \*\*Written Exam - 11/4/2011 and 11/05/2011
- \*\*Oral Interviews - Week of 12/05/2011
- \*\*Chief's Interviews - Week of 01/02/2012
- \*\*Effective Date of Eligible List - 02/15/2012
- \*\*Firefighter Recruit Academy - March 2012
- \*\*Firefighter Recruit Academy Graduation - June 2012

**F**or more information, go to their **Human Resources** page:  
[www.cityofwestsacramento.org/cityhall/employment/default.cfm](http://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/cityhall/employment/default.cfm)

**F**or more information about the **County of Alameda**, visit their website at [www.acgov.org](http://www.acgov.org)

**F**or more information about the **Alameda County Fire Department**, visit their website at [www.acgov.org/fire](http://www.acgov.org/fire)

**F**or more information about the **Alameda County Firefighters, I.A.F.F. Local 55**, visit their website at [www.iaff55.org](http://www.iaff55.org)

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**FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

**T**he **Alameda County Fire Department** is accepting applications for the position of Fire Department Aide as follows:

**Fire Department Aide - Services As Needed (SAN)**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Date Opened</b>     | 9/9/2011 - 4:00:00 PM                               |
| <b>Filing Deadline</b> | 10/7/2011 - 5:00:00 PM                              |
| <b>Salary</b>          | \$11.97 - \$14.56/hour                              |
| <b>Employment Type</b> | Permanent Intermittent (Services-As-Needed/on call) |

Fire Department Aides are employed on an hourly, **services-as-needed** basis and are always provisionally appointed to the position. Applications will be screened according to the minimum qualifications outlined in the online bulletin.

**The final application filing deadline for this recruitment is: Friday, October 7, 2011 - 5:00 p.m.**

**ON-LINE APPLICATIONS ONLY; NO HARD COPY APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**Description**

Alameda County Fire Department Aides, under the direction of the Administrative Secretary, Battalion/Assistant Fire Chief or equivalent position performs a variety of activities including messenger, weed abatement, public and community education, hydrant checking, administrative and clerical assignments and special projects as required. Duties vary depending on the particular division assignment and individual areas of interest or specialization, if any. Fire Department Aides are employed on an hourly, **services-as-needed** basis and are always provisionally appointed to the position. This class reports to the Administrative Secretary or Battalion/Assistant Fire Chief, Emergency Preparedness Manager, Community Outreach Coordinator or designee.

**Examples of duties**

NOTE: The following are the duties performed by employees in this classification. However, employees may perform other related duties at an equivalent level. Each individual in the classification does not necessarily perform all duties listed.

- Drives delivery van or truck for pick-up and delivery of fire department mail, materials, supplies, furniture and equipment to all fire locations, county agencies and departments and vendors on a regularly scheduled basis.
- Loads and unloads delivery vehicles; sorts, receives and prepares fire department materials, supplies and equipment for transport.
- Delivers and fills, if necessary, oxygen tanks and air bottles to all stations.
- Assists with office work such as answering telephones, typing, filing and copying, as needed.
- Assists with special projects or assignments as needed.
- Assists at community events or other public functions as needed.
- Inspects property for weed and combustible materials that may constitute a fire hazard; writes correspondence setting forth violations and conditions for abatement.
- Maintains service schedules and records for fire hydrants and conduct periodic testing.
- Provide training to the public in emergency preparedness, CERT, basic fire safety and CPR under the direction of ACFD staff.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

**Age:** Must be 18 years of age at the time of appointment.

**License:** Possession of a valid California Motor Vehicle Operator's license and a satisfactory DMV record.

NOTE: The Civil Service Commission may modify the above Minimum Qualifications in the announcement of an examination.

**Knowledge and skills - An ideal candidate would possess the ability to:**

- Use common hand and power tools.
- Exercise mechanical aptitude.
- Follow oral and written instructions.
- Work effectively with co-workers, supervisors and the public.
- Drive safely and skillfully.
- Sort and categorize mail and other correspondence.
- Plan and prioritizing work to meet scheduled routes.
- Lift up to 50 pounds; e.g., mail bins, smoke blowers, oxygen and water bottles.
- Perform administrative and clerical duties accurately.
- Maintain hydrant equipment.

- Maintain accurate records.
- Speak to small public groups.

**Examination components**

**APPLICATION SCREENING PROCESS:**

This process will consist of the following steps:

1. A review of candidates' application to verify possession of minimum requirements. Those candidates determined to be qualified will move to the next step in the process;
2. An oral interview will be weighted at 100% of the candidates final examination score.
3. The next steps in the process are TBD.

Fire Department Aides are employed on an hourly, **services-as-needed** basis and are always provisionally appointed to the position.

**\*WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE ANNOUNCED SCREENING PROCESS STEPS.**

**TENTATIVE RECRUITMENT PLAN:**

- \*\*Recruitment Closes (LDF) - 10/07/2011; 5:00 p.m.
- \*\*Screening of Applications for Minimum Qualifications - 10/10/2011
- \*\*Oral Interviews (exam - weighted at 100% of final score) - 10/17/2011
- \*\*Creation of List - 11/16/2011
- \*\*Departmental Hiring Interviews - To Be Scheduled After Promulgation of Eligible List

**F**or more information and to apply, go to the Alameda County Human Resources website at <http://www.jobaps.com/Alameda/default.asp>

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**



**T**his fall brings the first of a great new training opportunity for fire service personnel at every level:

- Gateway Midwest in St. Charles, MO, Oct. 21-23. This comprehensive and dynamic three-day program features:
  - All-day pre-conference workshops from Tim Sendelbach and Chief Rich Gasaway
  - More than 18 instructors teaching 30+ sessions for firefighters, company officers & chiefs
  - One and two-day hands-on training classes including RIT, Forcible Entry, Man-in-Machine, Engine & Ladder Co. Ops and more

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- A combination of speakers that includes both big names and new faces with fresh perspectives
- Evening social events so you can network with peers and instructors
- Keynote programs to inspire and enlighten

Held at the Ameristar Resort, Spa & Casino in St. Charles, Missouri, the location is conducive to learning and will also give you plenty of opportunities for food, fun and relaxation when class isn't in session. Plus there's a great discount on room rates for attendees. Internet will be available at no cost to all instructors and attendees.

**T**o receive a 10% registration discount, use my last name: Prziborowski

**F**or more information, go to: <http://goforwardtraining.com/gateway>

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**FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE LAFD:**

Dear Friend of the LAFD, here are two items of interest:

**LAFD 9-1-1 Ceremony:**

We would like to inform you that the public and press are cordially invited to join Fire Department, Law Enforcement and Military agencies for a "9/11 Remembrance Ceremony" dedicated to those who perished on September 11, 2001. Speakers will include Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Fire Chief of the Los Angeles Fire Department, Brian L. Cummings, Fire Chief of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Daryl L. Osby, Los Angeles Police Chief, Charlie Beck, Los Angeles County Assistant Sheriff, Marvin O. Cavanaugh, United States Coast Guard Captain of the Port, Roger LaFerriere, U.S. Congresswoman Janice Hahn and Former Governor Gray Davis.

This location is especially noteworthy due to the presence of two memorials dedicated to the events of September 11, 2001. The first memorial is dedicated to the World Trade Center and consists of a 23-ton, 22-foot tall steel column that was originally part of the lobby structure. This column is believed to be the largest remnant of the World Trade Center on the West Coast. The second memorial is located in the lobby of our training center and is titled "Towering Memories." The "Towering Memories" memorial consists of two shapes similar to the silhouette of the Twin Towers that comprised the World Trade Center. Included on the memorial is a list of names of those who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the Pennsylvania plane crash site.

DATE: Sunday, September 11, 2011

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center, 1700 Stadium Way, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Hot Weather Safety Tips:**

During hot weather - and throughout the year, the **Los Angeles Fire Department** asks you to consider some important safety tips for vehicles and children.

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

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

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

For additional information about child and vehicle safety:

- kidsandcars.org – <http://kidsandcars.org>
- American Academy of Pediatrics – <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/116/1/e109.full.pdf+html>
- Additional Hot Weather Safety Information - <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/>

###

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 Status & Location: <http://bit.ly/BrianLAFD>  
LAFD Home Page: [www.lafd.org](http://www.lafd.org)

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

### **Focus on Fire Safety: Emergency Preparedness**

Disaster preparedness became a renewed priority for our Nation as a direct response to the devastation of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Following the tragedies of that day, government at all levels has worked more closely with civic and private sector organizations and the September 10, 2011 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com) 15

public to prepare for emergencies. Americans need to become fully aware, trained, and practiced on how to respond to potential threats and hazards.

**Preparedness starts with YOU!** Everyone should:

1. Have an emergency supply kit - <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html>
2. Make a family escape plan - <http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/index.html>
3. Be informed about the types of emergencies - <http://www.ready.gov/america/beinformed/index.html> that can happen in your community and how your family will respond.

Each person's needs and abilities are unique but every individual can take important steps to prepare for all kinds of emergencies – including fire emergencies - and put plans in place.

### ***Prepare for a Fire Emergency***

In less than 30 seconds, a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for a house to fill with thick black smoke and become engulfed in flames. By preparing for a fire emergency, you can greatly reduce your chances of becoming a fire casualty.

- Install smoke alarms (<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/campaigns/smokealarms/alarms/index.shtm>) on every level of your home, including the basement. For extra safety, install smoke alarms both inside and outside sleeping areas.
- Test your smoke alarms once a month and change the batteries at least once a year.
- Replace smoke alarms every 8-10 years or as the manufacturer guidelines recommend.
- Plan your escape from fire - [www.usfa.fema.gov/campaigns/smokealarms/escapeplans/index.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/campaigns/smokealarms/escapeplans/index.shtm) - The best plans have two ways to get out of each room.
- Practice fire escape plans several times a year. Practice feeling your way out of the house in the dark or with your eyes closed.
- Purchase only collapsible escape ladders evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).
- Check that windows are not stuck, screens can be taken out quickly, and that security bars can be properly opened.
- Make sure everyone in your family understands and practices how to properly operate and open locked or barred doors and windows.
- Consider installing residential fire sprinklers in your home - [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/home\\_fire\\_prev/sprinklers/](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/home_fire_prev/sprinklers/)

Contact your local fire department on a non-emergency phone number if you need help or have questions about fire safety in your home.

### **Fire Departments**

Be part of the national emergency preparedness effort! Sign up to be a National Preparedness Month Coalition Member: <http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM>

We encourage all fire departments to join this national effort. Even if you registered last year, you need to do it again. As a Coalition Member, you will have access to resources and be able to collaborate with thousands of fellow members across the country on ways to participate and get your community involved.

**Participation is Easy!**

Being a part of the preparedness effort is easy and there are many ways to get involved and make a difference. From participating in an event already planned and scheduled in your community, to including preparedness messaging in existing communications, or even creating an emergency preparedness event or practice drill... No effort is too small or too large!

**Everything you do will help!**

With your help as a Coalition Member, we can make certain all Americans are prepared to face and respond to disasters and emergencies in their homes, businesses, and communities. As a National Preparedness Month Coalition Member, your efforts to bring emergency preparedness to your community will not just be important, they will make a difference!



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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**



**Volunteer VICTIMS Needed!**

- What: A simulated “Multi-Casualty Incident”  
When: Sunday, September 18th, 8:00-11am.  
Where: Berkeley High Parking Lot (Enter - Channing St.)  
Why: Exercise Multi-Casualty Incident Response in Berkeley

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, Berkeley Fire Department will be conducting a medical Multi-Casualty Incident drill in the City of Berkeley.

Volunteer Victims:

1. Wear comfortable old clothing; may require lying on the ground.

September 10, 2011

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

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

2. Meeting location is Berkeley High School parking lot (enter Channing St.)
3. Bring your acting skills!

Come help the community prepare for a Multi-Casualty Incident!



**Contact:** FF/Paramedic Mike Shuken at (707) 888-7775 or email [meshuken@yahoo.com](mailto:meshuken@yahoo.com)

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:**

### **National Fire Academy (NFA) Training Opportunities *(as of September 1, 2011)***

Vacancies exist in the following NFA courses at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. You may refer to the internet at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/index.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/index.shtm) for more information, or contact the Admissions Office via email [netc-admissions@dhs.gov](mailto:netc-admissions@dhs.gov) or by phone at (301) 447-1035. Completed applications may be faxed to (301) 447-1441.

***If interested, apply immediately!***

**Note:** *The NFA policy of only 1 stipend-supported trip per fiscal year remains. However, a qualified individual may seek to participate without stipend assistance. **PLEASE INDICATE** with your application that you are aware of this restriction when you apply for the course.*

***All vacancies are filled on a first come, first served basis and qualified by using the Student Selection Criteria listed on our Website: [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/index.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/index.shtm)***

The "Frequently Asked Questions about NFA vacancies is below this list of courses.

- R108 Eval Performance Based Designs**  
3/11/2012-3/16/2012 10 vacancies
- R135 Fire Protection for the Built Environment**  
1/29/2012-2/3/2012 18 vacancies
- R138 Hot Topics Research In Fire Protection**  
1/8/2012-1/13/2012
- R150 Management of EMS**  
2/20/2012-3/2/2012 20 vacancies
- R152 Emergency Medical Services: Special Operations**  
1/16/2012-1/27/2012

- R154 Advanced Safety Operations & Management**  
2/5/2012-2/10/2012
  
- R200 Leadership Strategies For Community Risk Reductions**  
1/8/2012-1/13/2012
  
- R203 Fire Dynamics-Fire Modeling**  
3/19/2012-3/30/2012
  
- R210 Fire Arson Investigation & Courtroom Techniques**  
3/5/2012-3/16/2012
  
- R214 Forensic Evidence Collection**  
1/29/2012-2/3/2012
  
- R220 Fire Inspection Principles**  
11/7/2011-11/18/2011  
12/12/2011-12/23/2011  
2/20/2012-3/2/2012  
3/19/2012-3/30/2012
  
- R233 Chemistry for Emergency Response**  
10/17/2011-10/28/2011  
12/12/2011-12/23/2011  
2/20/2012-3/2/2012
  
- R243 Hazardous Materials Incident Management**  
3/4/2012-3/9/2012
  
- R247 Advanced Life Support Response to Hazardous Materials Incidents**  
10/3/2011-10/14/2011  
1/16/2012-1/27/2012
  
- R254 Haz Mat Special Ops Team Management**  
1/8/2012-1/13/2012 4 vacancies
  
- R331 Organizational Theory in Practice**  
12/12/2011-12/23/2011
  
- R335 Administrative Public Assistant Community Recovery**  
1/8/2012-1/13/2012  
3/4/2012-3/9/2012
  
- P492 Emergency Research Deployment Plan**  
1/8/2012-1/13/2012
  
- R491 NFIRS: Program Manager**  
10/30/2011-11/4/2011
  
- R629 Youth Firesetting Prevention & Intervention**  
3/11/2012-3/16/2012

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- P670 Overview of Life Safety and Public Policy**  
11/27/2011-12/2/2011  
1/29/2012-2/3/2012
- R810 VIP: Leadership & Administration**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012
- R811 VIP: Fire Cause Determination for Company Officers**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012
- R815 VIP: Challenges for Local Training Officers**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012
- R822 VIP: Advanced Safety Operations & Management**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012
- R824 VIP: Management Strategies for Success**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012
- R825: VIP: Command & Control of Fire Department Operations Target**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012
- R831 VIP: CMD & CNTRL of Incidents Operations**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012
- R847 VIP: EMS Incident Operations**  
2/12/2012-2/17/2012

### **FAQ – NFA Vacancy Lists**

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

Enrollments in the National Fire Academy (NFA) are actually up. Last year, 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 115,000 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 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.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>

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**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

**Registration for the 2011 Fresno Training Officers Symposium is now open!!!**

- The Fresno Symposium is being co-sponsored by the Northern California Training Officers Association and the Southern California Training Officers Associations.
- This year's [Fresno Training Officers Symposium](#) will be held **Monday November 14, 2010** through **Friday November 18, 2011** in Fresno, California!

**F**or more information, go to the registration website at <http://register.calchiefs.org> - where you can download the class descriptions and complete online registration.

**Classes being offered this year include, but are not limited to:**

- Fire Command 1C
- Fire Command 2B
- Driver/Operator 1A
- CSFM Confined Space Rescue
- CSFM Firefighter Survival
- CSFM Trench Rescue
- CSFM Automobile Extrication
- CSFM Low Angle Rope Rescue
- CSFM Fire Control 4A & 4B
- CSFM Ethical Leadership in the Classroom
- CSFM Training Mandates
- CSFM Regional Instructor Orientation
- CSFM Alternate Fuel Vehicles
- Chief Officer Leadership Symposium
- Company Officer Development
- L-280 (Followership to Leadership)
- S-290 (Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior)
- S-445 (Incident Training Specialist)
- Tower Rescue
- Cutting Edge Command Officer
- Calm the Chaos
- Target Safety
- The Lost Art of Hose Operations
- SIZE-Up Matters
- CICCS & IQS Familiarization
- Accident Investigation
- Cal EMA STL Update
- Company Officer
- Lessons Learned from Haiti and New Zealand
- Command and Control
- Fire Behavior
- Fireground Search Operations for Big Box, Multi-Story Occupancies
- Thermal Imaging Awareness
- Truck Academy - Commercial Ventilation
- Truck Academy – RIC
- Truck Academy - Forcible Entry
- Aerial Operations
- Elevator Rescue
- RIC Command & Control
- How to Train and Motivate the Adult Learner
- Fireground Safety
- Self-Leadership Taking Control
- Mountain Meteorology & the Effect on Wildland Fires; Why the Weather Portion of S290 Matters
- Mission Focused Command Operations

- Dynamic Risk Assessment
- Lessons Learned Coston Incident
- Contemporary Safety Management
- And many more - see the website for more details.

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## **FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYMENT OPEN HOUSE:**

**T**he **Berkeley Fire Department** will be hosting an open house for those interested in employment with them as a Firefighter or Firefighter/Paramedic on the following dates:

- September 24, 2011
- October 8, 2011
- October 29, 2011
- October 30, 2011
- November 5, 2011
- November 19, 2011

The open house will occur each day between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm and will be located at Fire Station #2 at 2029 Berkeley Way in Berkeley, CA.

**F**or more information, go to their website at: [www.berkeleyfire.com](http://www.berkeleyfire.com)

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## **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

**T**he **Berkeley Fire Department** will be accepting applications for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic until Monday October 10 at 5:00 pm.

**F**or more information, go to: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/berkeley/default.cfm>

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

### **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRAINING OFFICERS**

***Presents:***

**[Santa Fe Springs Fire Rescue to host "Training Mandates"](#)**

**[October 4, 2011](#)**

Santa Fe Springs Fire Rescue will host the So-Cal Training Officers general membership meeting on October 4, 2011 starting at 9 a.m. @ The Santa Fe Springs Rio Hondo Regional Training Center.

The topic will be "**Training Mandates.**" Mike Despain and Christine Boozer from Fresno Fire are the guest speakers along with Herman Jett of Cal-OSHA Consultation. SFS Division Chief Stan September 10, 2011

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

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Klopfenstein will also give an update on the L.A. Area Fire Chiefs Regional Training Group. This event will conclude with a walking tour of the training facility. The board meeting will follow the general meeting. Santa Fe Springs Fire Captain Bill Noble will be the point of contact for questions regarding this event (see below).

**Date:** Tuesday, October 4, 2011  
**Location:** Santa Fe Springs Rio Hondo Regional Training Ctr.  
11400 Greenstone Avenue  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
**Time:** 0900 – 1200  
**Cost:** FREE!  
**Contact:** SFS Fire Captain Bill Noble  
[billnoble@santafesprings.org](mailto:billnoble@santafesprings.org) or (949) 280-2146

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

### **Mastering Fireground Command** ***Calm the Chaos!***



Today's fireground should be a calm and orchestrated event, but often it is not! Fewer fires, mass attrition, and little or no command training have created an era in today's fire service where the simple "bread and butter" house fire is a sentinel event.

**The NIOSH top 5 line of duty death causal factors on the fireground surround size up, command, communications, accountability and SOP's.**

Participate in simulations for house fires, garden/center hall apartments, commercial, wildland, MCI, hazardous materials incidents and review actual incident video and audio to get answers to the following questions...

- How do I set clear tactical objectives, have clear communications and establish command presence on my fires?
- How do I create a personal system that blends all of my classes, certifications, SOP's, ICS, and tactical fundamentals into a simple, street smart and effective way?
- What's the difference between size ups and arrival reports and how do I become great at both?
- What are the trigger points and safety issues of Offensive, Defensive and Combination strategies?
- What are the key points to Rescue, Exposures, Confinement, Extinguishment, Overhaul, Ventilation and Salvage?
- How do I really use ICS day-to-day and get beyond "checking the boxes"?
- How do we get SOP's/SOG's working in my department?
- When do we call an audible on the SOP's?
- What could hurt me or my crew tonight?

This intense, hands-on and interactive workshop hits these issues head on and will simplify the components of strategy & tactics, SOP's and ICS. We synthesize these 3 key ingredients to help you drastically improve the way you command your next incident or handle your upcoming assessment

center! Don't believe the lie that you cannot prepare for the test and the job at the same time. The military, airlines, and NASA do it, and it's about time the fire service did!

**Who should attend?**

- ✓ Current officers who desire to dramatically improve their fireground command abilities
- ✓ Aspiring officers who desire to develop a system for outstanding performance for the assessment center test and the job
- ✓ Training officers who desire the latest in tactical training

*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.*

**Alameda County Fire Department - September 19-20, 2011**  
**Go to [www.Trainfirefighters.com](http://www.Trainfirefighters.com) for online registration**  
**Class size limited to due to depth of instruction**

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

### **Advisory: Generators and Electrocutation Risk from "Backfeeding" Power Lines**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, FEMA's U.S. Fire Administration would like to remind first responders and the general public to assume that all power lines are energized. Even though power may be out in your immediate area, improperly connected portable generators are capable of "backfeeding" power lines thought to be inactive. "Backfeeding" happens when you connect a portable generator directly to your home's wiring without having a functional transfer switch. Without a transfer switch, your portable generator's electricity can be sent back into the power grid from your house. This will energize the utility's power lines on your street and poses an electrocution hazard for first responders, utility workers, and your neighbors who may not know that your voltage is present on the shared lines. In addition, as the utility's power is restored, your portable generator and house wiring may be severely damaged from improper usage.

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 26, 2011  
Release #11-312  
September 10, 2011

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

**CPSC Hotline: (800) 638-2772**  
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908  
USFA Media Contact: (301) 447-1853

- **Survival Tips After a Hurricane Strikes**
- ***CPSC and USFA Warn About Deadly Dangers That Can Linger After Hurricane Irene Passes***

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) are warning residents in hurricane-impacted areas about the deadly dangers that can remain even after Hurricane Irene strikes. Consumers need to be especially careful during a loss of electrical power, as the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and fire increases at that time. In order to power lights, to keep food cold or to cook, consumers often use gas-powered generators. CPSC and USFA warn consumers NEVER to use portable generators indoors or in garages, basements or sheds. The exhaust from generators contains high levels of carbon monoxide (CO) that can quickly incapacitate and kill.

“Don’t create your own disaster in the aftermath of a storm,” said CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum. “Never run a generator in or right next to a home. Carbon monoxide is an invisible killer. CO is odorless and colorless and it can kill you and your family in minutes.” From 1999-2010, nearly 600 generator-related CO deaths have been reported to CPSC. CPSC is aware of an annual average of 81 deaths due to carbon monoxide poisoning from generators in recent years. The majority of the deaths occurred as a result of using a generator inside a home’s living space, in the basement or in the garage.

“We know from experience as victims try to recover from disasters, they will take unnecessary risks with candles, cooking and generators. These risks often result in additional and tragic life safety consequences,” said Deputy U.S. Fire Administrator Glenn A. Gaines. “When you consider the challenges faced by firefighters and their departments to also recover from the same disasters, it is important that all of us remember even the simplest of fire safety behaviors following disasters of any type.” Do not put your family at risk. Follow these important safety tips from CPSC and USFA in the aftermath of a storm.

### **Portable Generators**

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

### **Charcoal Grills and Camp Stoves**

Never use charcoal grills or camp stoves indoors. Burning charcoal or a camp stove in an enclosed space can produce lethal levels of carbon monoxide. There were at least seven CO-related deaths from charcoal or charcoal grills in 2007.

### **CO Alarms**

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

### **Electrical and Gas Safety**

Stay away from any downed wires, including cable TV feeds. They may be live with deadly voltage. If you are standing in water, do not handle or operate electrical appliances. Electrical components, including circuit breakers, wiring in the walls and outlets that have been under water should not be turned on. They should be replaced unless properly inspected and tested by a qualified electrician. Natural gas or propane valves that have been under water should be replaced. Smell and listen for leaky gas connections. If you believe there is a gas leak, immediately leave the house and leave the door(s) open. Never strike a match. Any size flame can spark an explosion. Before turning the gas back on, have the gas system checked by a professional.

### **Candles**

Use caution with candles. If possible, use flashlights instead. If you must use candles, do not burn them on or near anything that can catch fire. Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish candles when you leave the room. Consumers, fire departments and state and local health and safety agencies can download CPSC's generator safety posters, door hangers and CO safety publications at **CPSC's CO Information Center** - <http://www.cpsc.gov/info/co/index.html> or order free copies by contacting CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772. Download USFA's publications on disasters and fire safety and other safety issues at [www.usfa.dhs.gov](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov)

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## **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

**F**or more information about the following position – Firefighter II with Cal Fire (including how to apply) go to their website at: [http://www.fire.ca.gov/about/about\\_careers\\_exams.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/about/about_careers_exams.php) and navigate to the OPEN EXAMINATIONS section:



### **FIRE FIGHTER II**

**Recruitment #107799-00101082-0PB34**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Department(s):</b>       | Department of Forestry & Fire Protection  |
| <b>Opening Date:</b>        | 8/31/2011 9:00:00 AM  |
| <b>Closing Date:</b>        | Continuous  |
| <b>Type of Recruitment:</b> | Departmental Open, NonPromotional   |
| <b>Salary:</b>              | MONTHLY-RANGED-SALARY - \$2,777.00 to \$3,374.00  |
| <b>Employment Type:</b>     | Permanent Full-time<br>Permanent Part-time<br>Permanent Intermittent<br>Limited Term Full-time<br>Limited Term Part-Time<br>Limited Term Intermittent |
| <b>Exam Type:</b>           | State-wide  |

## **INTRODUCTION**

The examination is open from 9:00 am, August 31, 2011 until 5:00 pm, September 28, 2011.

## **DRUG FREE STATEMENT**

It is an objective of the State of California to achieve a drug-free State work place. Any applicant for State employment will be expected to behave in accordance with this objective, because the use of illegal drugs is inconsistent with the law of the State, the rules governing civil service, and the special trust placed in public servants.

## **WHO SHOULD APPLY?**

Applicants who meet the minimum qualifications as stated on this bulletin may apply for and take this Training and Experience examination at any time. Once you have taken the examination, you may not retake it for six (6) months.

## **FILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**Final File Date:** Continuous - **Current Filing Period: August 31 - September 28**

**Testing is considered continuous as examination dates may open and close at any time. Candidates must complete the application process and meet the requirements to take the online examination. Applicants will respond to questions to determine if they meet the minimum qualifications. An immediate minimum qualification determination will be made by the online system. If an applicant qualifies, he/she will be allowed to continue into the examination. DO NOT SUBMIT AN EXAMINATION/EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION (STD 678) TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION OR THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD. THE APPLICATION FOR THE FIRE FIGHTER II EXAMINATION IS COMPLETED DURING THE ONLINE INTERNET APPLICATION PROCESS.**

**Where to Apply:** Click on the **Apply Online** button at the bottom of this bulletin.

## **ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION**

An open, merged eligible list will be established by the State Personnel Board for use by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The names of successful competitors will be merged onto the eligible list in order of final score, regardless of test date. Eligibility expires 12 months after it is established. Competitors must then retake the Training and Experience examination to reestablish eligibility. Once you have taken the Training and Experience examination, you may not retake it for six (6) months.

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

Qualifying experience may be combined on a proportionate basis if the requirements stated include more than one pattern and are distinguished as "Either" I, "Or" II, "Or" III, etc. For example, candidates possessing qualifying experience amounting to 50% of the required time of Pattern I, and additional experience amounting to 50% of the required time of Pattern II, may be admitted to the examination as meeting 100% of the overall experience requirement.

Minimum age of 18 years at the time of appointment. (Candidates who are within two months of satisfying the age requirement will be admitted to the examination.)

### **EITHER I**

Three months of firefighting experience.

### **OR II**

One year of experience as a certified volunteer firefighter. Applicants applying under this pattern will be required to provide a copy of one of the following documents when submitting an Examination/Employment Application (STD 678) for hiring purposes:

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

- California State Fire Marshal (SFM) Volunteer Fire Fighter Certificate
- California SFM Fire Fighter I Certificate
- Copy of an application for a California SFM Fire Fighter I Certification or SFM Volunteer Fire Fighter Certification signed by the Fire Chief or designee
- A letter signed by the Fire Chief of your volunteer fire company stating that you have met all requirements necessary to receive either a California SFM Fire Fighter I certificate or a California SFM Volunteer Fire Fighter certificate
- California SFM Fire Fighter I accredited Fire Academy certificate or equivalent California Fire Fighter I Fire Academy certificate taught at a California college (approximately 200-300 hours)
- A letter on official letterhead signed by the dean, registrar, or designee certifying successful completion of a California SFM accredited Fire Fighter I Fire Academy
- Transcripts from a California college indicating completion of a SFM Fire Fighter I Academy

**OR III**

Completion of training courses, prerequisite for Fire Fighter I Certification. Applicants applying under this pattern will be required to provide a copy of one of the following documents when submitting an Examination/Employment Application (STD 678) for hiring purposes:

- California SFM Fire Fighter I accredited Fire Academy Certificate or equivalent California Fire Fighter I Fire Academy Certificate taught at a California college (approximately 200-300 hours)
- A letter on official letterhead signed by the dean, registrar, or designee certifying successful completion of a California SFM accredited Fire Fighter I Fire Academy
- Transcripts from a California college indicating completion of a SFM Fire Fighter I Academy

**OR IV**

One year of experience as a Fire Prevention Specialist I and successful completion of the mandatory training courses prescribed for a Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Fire Fighter I.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

A Fire Fighter II responds to alarms as a member of a fire crew; connects, lays, and operates hose lines; enters burning areas and structures with charged hose lines; operates and climbs ladders; makes forcible entry into buildings; ventilates buildings; uses hand tools and fire equipment to contain and suppress fire; assists in rescue and salvage operations; assists in building, grounds, and equipment maintenance and repair; inspects, cleans and repairs fire hose and equipment; maintains and inspects fire tools to ensure tools are in working order; performs general housekeeping duties; may operate motor vehicles; and may assist in the training of seasonal and volunteer fire fighters.

**EXAMINATION INFORMATION**

Online Training and Experience Examination - Weighted 100%

The sole component of the Fire Fighter II examination is an online Training and Experience examination. To obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum score of 70% must be attained. An applicant will receive his/her score upon completion of the Training and Experience examination. To preview the exam questions, go to:

[https://jobs.ca.gov/webshare/sup/FF2\\_questions.pdf](https://jobs.ca.gov/webshare/sup/FF2_questions.pdf)

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

In addition to evaluating the competitor's relative abilities as demonstrated by quality and breadth of experience, emphasis in the Training and Experience examination will be on measuring competitively, relative to job demands, each competitor's knowledge and abilities, as stated on this bulletin.

### **CAREER CREDITS**

Three (3) Career Credits will be added to the final score of all competitors who are successful in this examination, and who qualify for and have indicated so on their examination. Career Credits are granted as follows:

- Competitors who have worked full-time for three months with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection either as a seasonal Fire Fighter I or a limited-term or permanent intermittent Fire Fighter II, Fire Fighter II (Paramedic), Fire Apparatus Engineer, or Fire Apparatus Engineer (Paramedic) since January 1, 1979.
- State employees with permanent civil service status.
- Full-time employees of the State who are exempt from State civil service pursuant to the provisions of Section 4 of Article VII of the California Constitution, who meet all qualification requirements specified by the Board, and who have 12 consecutive months of service in an exempt position.
- Competitors who have served at least one full year in, or are graduates of, the California Conservation Corps (eligibility shall expire 24 months after graduation from the California Conservation Corps or five years after graduation if the competitor has participated in a California Conservation Corps scholarship program).
- Competitors who have mandatory reinstatement rights to a position with permanent status but he/she must explain their civil service status in the appropriate section of the Examination/Employment Application form STD 678.

### **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

#### **SPECIAL PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Willingness to work on weekends and holidays and remain on duty 24 hours a day, as required; visual acuity, color vision and hearing adequate to successfully perform the job; physical strength, dexterity and agility necessary to perform the duties of the position.

#### **ADDITIONAL DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**

Education equivalent to completion of the 12th grade. Possession of a valid California driver license of the appropriate class issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

#### **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

##### **JOINT APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE PROGRAM**

Eligibles selected for permanent positions in this classification are placed in an apprenticeship program. Continued employment is conditional upon successful completion of the Fire Fighter Academy which is conducted at the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Academy.

##### **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION INFORMATION**

Candidates selected for a permanent appointment will be required to complete a Background Certification Statement regarding criminal convictions. A criminal conviction may preclude a candidate from employment; however, appointment commitments will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

**MEDICAL EXAMINATION**

A medical examination is conducted prior to appointment. Tests include a basic clinical examination, including medical history, visual acuity test, audiometry, pulmonary function test, and other tests as may be determined necessary. Any limitation which restricts a person from safely performing the duties of the position may constitute basis for removal of the candidate's name from the eligible list.

**CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST**

Prior to appointment, candidates will be required to successfully pass a Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) administered by the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFF JAC).

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Applications** are available at [www.jobs.ca.gov](http://www.jobs.ca.gov), State Personnel Board offices, and local offices of the Employment Development Department.

**If you meet the requirements** stated on this examination bulletin, you may take this examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. Your performance in the examination described on this bulletin will be rated against a predetermined job-related rating, and all candidates who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

**The State Personnel Board** reserves the right to revise the examination plan to better meet the needs of the service, should the circumstances under which this examination was planned change. Such revision will be in accordance with civil service laws and rules, and all competitors will be notified.

**Candidates needing special testing arrangements** due to a disability must mark the appropriate box on the application and/or contact the testing department.

**Hiring Interview Scope:** In a hiring interview, in addition to the scope described in this bulletin, the panel will consider education, experience, personal development, personal traits, and fitness. In appraising experience, more weight may be given to the breadth and recency of pertinent experience and evidence of the candidate's ability to accept and fulfill increasing responsibilities than to the length of his/her experience. Evaluation of a candidate's personal development will include consideration of his/her recognition of his/her own training needs; his/her plans for self-development; and the progress he/she has made in his/her efforts toward self-development.

**General Qualifications:** Candidates must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment, and ability to work cooperatively with others; and a state of health consistent with the ability to perform the assigned duties of the class. A medical examination may be required. In open examinations, investigation may be made of employment records and personal history, and fingerprinting may be required.

**Eligible Lists:** Eligible lists established by competitive examination, regardless of date, must be used in the following order: 1) sub-divisional promotional, 2) departmental promotional, 3) multi-departmental promotional, 4) service-wide promotional, 5) departmental open, 6) open. When there are two lists of the same kind, the older must be used first. Eligible lists will expire in one to four years unless otherwise stated on the bulletin.

**Veterans' Preference Points:** California Law (Government Code 18971-18978) allows the granting of Veterans' Preference Points in Open entrance and Open, Non-Promotional entrance examinations. Veterans' Preference Points will be added to the final score of all competitors who are successful in these types of examinations, and who qualify for and have requested these points by mail. **In Open and Open, Non-Promotional entrance examinations, Veterans' Preference Points** are granted as follows: 10 points for veterans, widows, and widowers of veterans, and spouses of 100% disabled veterans; and 15 points for disabled veterans.

Employees who have achieved permanent State civil service status are not eligible to receive Veterans' Preference Points. Permanent State civil service status means the status of an employee who is lawfully retained in his/her position after completion of the applicable probationary period. This includes permanent intermittent, part-time, and full-time appointments. In addition, individuals who at any time achieved permanent State civil service status and subsequently resigned or were dismissed from State civil service are not eligible to receive Veterans' Preference Points. Veteran status is verified by the State Personnel Board (SPB). Directions to apply for Veterans' Preference Points are on the Veterans' Preference Application (Std. Form 1093) which is available at [www.spb.ca.gov](http://www.spb.ca.gov) or from the State Personnel Board, 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

If you have any questions concerning this examination bulletin, please contact:

State Personnel Board  
801 Capitol Mall  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(866) 844-8671, TTY (916) 654-6336  
California Relay Service: 1-800-735-2929 (TTY), 1-800-735-2922 (Voice)

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## **FIRE SERVICE INFO FROM THE U.S.F.A.:**

### **Assistance to Firefighters Grant Application Period Extended**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announces that the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application period will be extended for one week due to Hurricane Irene response and recovery.

**The new deadline for AFG applications is September 16, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. EDT.**

This extension of time will allow our partners to address the immediate needs of their communities while providing adequate opportunity for them to apply for grant assistance under the AFG program.

Hurricane Irene has affected a wide expanse of communities on the East Coast of the United States. FEMA recognizes that many of the eligible applicants for the AFG grant application period, that is presently open, are fire departments and non-affiliated EMS departments. FEMA understands that the most important focus should be on life and property. Applicants who are in the process of completing an application can continue. Please note that the FEMA system did not have any disruption of service due to the storm and therefore, information submitted to date is intact. If applicants have not started their application yet, it's not too late. The AFG website has tools available to assist with preparing competitive applications ([www.fema.gov/firegrants](http://www.fema.gov/firegrants)).

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

### **ELITE COMMAND TRAINING**

**PRESENTS**

### **S-404 SAFETY OFFICER "ALL RISK"**

**NOVEMBER 9, 10 & 11, 2011**

**0830 TO 1700**

**HOSTED AT:**

**SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE CENTER  
255 SOUTH AIRPORT BOULEVARD  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

**INSTRUCTED BY:**

**DEPUTY CHIEF - MIKE BRYANT  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**ASSISTANT CHIEF - DAVE FRANKLIN  
SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT**



**TOPICS INCLUDE:**

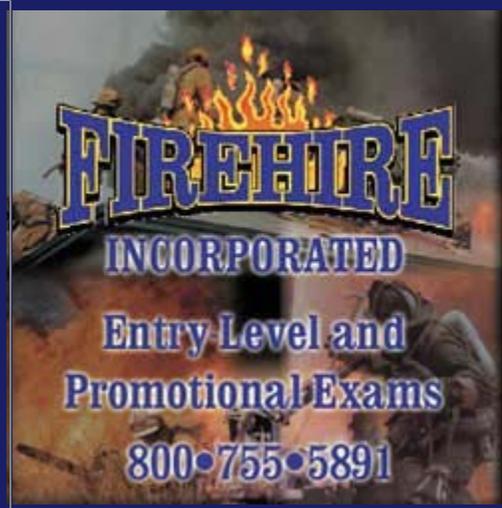
- **BUILDING FIRES**
- **WILDLAND SAFETY OFFICER**
- **CAL & FED OSHA REQUIREMENTS**
- **CERTIFICATION (CICCS) TASK BOOK**
- **VEHICLE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS**
- **FIREFIGHTER INJURY INVESTIGATIONS**
- **RISK ASSESSMENT & MITIGATION PROCESS**
- **HAZMAT & US&R ASSISTANT SAFETY OFFICER**



**THE COURSE CURRICULUM WILL DELIVER AN "ALL RISK" FORMAT FOR THE SAFETY OFFICER POSITION COMMENSURATE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FIRESCOPE AND IS A STATE ACCREDITED CLASS RECOGNIZED BY THE NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP AND CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE TRAINING**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[WWW.ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM](http://WWW.ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM)**

# **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT INFO - FIREHIRE:**



FIREHIRE® Inc. August 2011 Newsletter

*Where Your Fire Service Career Begins!*

**August 4th, 2011**

## **LATEST NEWS**

The October 11th, 2011 examination is quickly approaching. **You have until September 30th, 2011 to get your application packet and payment submitted. You must also have a valid CPAT card or certificate submitted by the October 11th, 2011 examination date. It must be dated after October 11th, 2010 for it to be accepted.**

We have seen some hirings since the last newsletter. The Cities of San Mateo, Piedmont, and the San Ramon Valley Fire District are currently in the process of hiring candidates from our Registry. The City of Vallejo just hired 5 and they are anticipating hiring more after the October examination. Don't let this opportunity pass you by. If you wish to re-test to improve your scores or you are renewing your annual test, you **DO NOT** have to submit another application packet. We keep everyone's application packet on file for at least 4 years. If you want to fill out an updated application packet, please feel free to do so. If you are new to the process, applications are available to download from [www.firehire.com/downloads.htm](http://www.firehire.com/downloads.htm)

You can also receive an application via USPS mail by contacting our office at (800) 755-5891.

## **WORKING OPPORTUNITY**

**This is a tremendous opportunity to get some experience as a front-line firefighter. This is as close to a firefighter position that you can get outside of a career position.** Just wanted to pass along that the Wilton Fire Protection District will be holding a written exam for Shift Firefighter. The test will be held on August 17, 2011 at 0900. Below are the requirements to take the test. For an application or any additional information please visit our website at [www.wilton-fire.org](http://www.wilton-fire.org)

### **Minimum Requirements - Shift Firefighter**

1. State of California Firefighter 1 Skills Package, OR California State Fire Marshal Firefighter I Certificate
2. Attended and successfully completed an approved Firefighter Academy
3. California Emergency Medical Technician-Basic

## **FIREHIRE Written Examination Study Guide**

The written examination is based solely on the FIREHIRE® Inc. Study Guide. **The Study Guide is available for purchase on our website at the FIREHIRE Store. To score well, it is highly recommended that the candidates purchase the study guide.**

## **WRITTEN EXAMINATION DATES/TIMES**

The written examinations will be held at the Barbara Morse Wackford Community Center.

The address is 9014 Bruceville Road in Elk Grove, California.

**The next written examination is going to be administered on October 11th, 2011, and is weighed at 100%.**

## **Follow FIREHIRE on Twitter**

FIREHIRE® Inc. is now on

4. Willing to work a minimum of one (1) twenty four (24) hour shift per week
5. Attend mandatory full Department monthly training
6. Have the ability to follow directions
7. Must be in good health
8. Minimum of eighteen (18) years of age
9. Maintain a current CPAT card
10. California Drivers License

### **JOB OBJECTIVES**

Assists in Suppression of fires, rescue and lifesaving operations; responds to emergency medical calls and renders first aid; handles fire streams and other fire service equipment in suppression of fires; performs daily maintenance of stations, quarters, apparatus and equipment; makes required equipment checks; assists in putting apparatus and equipment back in readiness for other emergencies; attends scheduled mandatory training drills; performs other duties as assigned. The Wilton Fire Protection District will provide a per shift monetary stipend. Shift Firefighters will receive seventy five (75) dollars per twenty four (24) hour shift to cover on duty meals and uniforms. WFPD approved Licensed Paramedics, providing Advanced Life Support skills, will receive an additional twenty five (25) dollars per twenty four (24) hour shift.

### **CPAT INFORMATION**

We will only accept a copy of a valid CPAT card/certificate.

**When you turn in your copy of the CPAT card/certificate, it must be filed with FIREHIRE Inc. on/or before the date of the written examination.**

The CPAT card/certificate must be dated **AFTER OCTOBER 11TH, 2010** for it to be accepted. You must submit a copy of it for your files. You may bring a copy of your CPAT card or certificate of completion to the written examination. You **MUST** bring a copy, not just show us your Card.

***IF YOUR CPAT CERTIFICATION EXPIRES ANYTIME WITHIN THE YEAR THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN THE WRITTEN, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE AN UPDATED COPY ON FILE OTHERWISE YOU WILL NOT BE CURRENT ON THE REGISTRY!***

### **RECENT FIREHIRE CANDIDATE HIRINGS**

Between May 17th, 2011 and August 4th, 2011 the following agencies have conducted interviews with FIREHIRE candidates:

**Piedmont FD**

**San Ramon Fire Protection District**

**San Mateo FD**

**Vallejo FD has just hired 5 Firefighter/Paramedics.**

We will keep you updated. If you are into Twitter, you can follow my tweets @GBPackerfan1963. I'll try and keep you up to date on the current hiring of our contracted agencies.

### **COULD YOU BE NEXT?**

<http://www.firehire.com>

Twitter. Please take the time to follow us @GBPackerfan1963.

I will update the current hiring status of our contracted agencies.

I will also respond to your tweets regarding the best way to make yourself marketable to the Fire Service.

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

### **Atlanta Fire Rescue Department Moves Professional Development Forward**

Last week Chief Kelvin Cochran and his staff made a significant move to build guidelines into the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD) professional development program. Ed Kaplan and Michael McCabe, of the National Fire Academy helped facilitate the one-day workshop. This event marks the first time a metro-size department has incorporated the FESHE professional development model into its planning and operations. Chief Cochran called 50 staff members including all sworn rank levels and non-sworn civilian staff together to discuss the future of professional standards leading to promotion in all career capacities.

Everyone in attendance (regardless of position or rank) was afforded the opportunity to question existing promotion testing and prerequisite requirements such as experience, training and higher education. Workgroups also identified potential roadblocks and redundancies such as time, communications and cultural shifts that could impede progress. Work groups were also tasked with proposing a timeline for implementation. Both civilian and sworn staff agreed that a requirement for higher education from associate to masters' degree levels is important to successful professional career development. As McCabe put it "there is no substitute for the benefits of advanced education coupled with equal hands-on training and experience".

Attendees were also provided copies of the new National Professional Development Model Matrix. The matrix is a roadmap that serves as a guide to career firefighters seeking advancement to higher officer and management levels. The Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) had recently voted to add their own standards to the matrix. Students using the matrix will now be able to cross reference education (NFA courses, College courses, etc.), NFPA JPR standards and CPSE experience and education standards to meet requirements for testing and eventual promotion. The results of the workshop will be compiled into a list of recommendations to be forwarded to the AFRD professional development committee for consideration and future implementation. Chief Cochran and his staff ended the workshop feeling that all goals for the day had been achieved and everyone remains excited and optimistic about the future of the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department and career development.

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

### **California Fire & Rescue Training Authority**

**Fire Management 2A - Organizational Development & Human Relations**

**September 26-30, 2011 Monday-Friday**

**Folsom, CA - \$360.00 per student**

**Instructor: Deputy Chief Michael Bryant, LA County FD**

**Prerequisite: Fire Management 1**

This is the first of a five-course series. This course provides information on how to make the transition from supervisor to manager. It offers sound management principles in preparation for more intensified training in specific disciplines. Topics of discussion include: Internal and external influences, personality traits of your firefighters, managing human relations, group dynamics, conflict solution, and more. This course is designed for Chief Officers, Company Officers, Staff Officers, Training Officers and other Fire Service Managers.

**Fire Management 2B - Fire Service Financial Management**

**December 5-9, 2011 Monday-Friday**

**Folsom, CA - \$360.00 per student**

**Instructor: Deputy Chief Michael Bryant, LA County FD**

**Prerequisite: Fire Management 1**

This is the second of a five-course series. This course is designed to provide insight into the cyclical nature of budgeting and financial management. As a management course, the student will become familiar with essential elements of the financial planning, budget preparation, budget justification, and budget controls. This course is designed for Chief Officers, Company Officers, Staff Officers, and other Fire Service Managers.

**Fire Management 2C - Personnel and Labor Relations**

**January 30-February 3, 2012 Monday-Friday**

**Location TBD - \$360.00 per student**

**Instructor: Deputy Chief Michael Bryant, LA County FD**

**Prerequisite: Fire Management 1**

This is the third of a five-course series. This course is designed to provide a fire manager with advanced knowledge and insight of fire personnel, human resource, diversity management, legal mandates, labor relations, and related areas. Methodology will include presentations, case study, exercises, and focused discussions. This course is designed for Chief Officers, Company Officers, Staff Officers, and other Fire Service Managers.

**Fire Management 2D - Master Planning**

**March 26-30, 2012 Monday-Friday**

**Location TBD - \$360.00 per student**

**Instructor: Deputy Chief Michael Bryant, LA County FD**

**Prerequisite: Fire Management 1**

This is the fourth of a five-course series. This course provides information and discussion centering on program planning, master planning, forecasting, system analysis, system design, policy analysis, and others. This course is designed for Chief Officers, Company Officers, Fire Service Managers, and City/County Administrative Officers and Planners.

**Fire Management 2E - Ethics and the Challenge of Leadership**

**June 4-8, 2012 Monday-Friday**

**Location TBD - \$360.00 per student**

**Instructor: Deputy Chief Michael Bryant, LA County FD**

**Prerequisite: Fire Management 1**

This is the fifth of a five-course series. In this course, the participant will correlate personal core values and characteristics to ethical decisions and behaviors. In addition, the participant will explore ethical and principle-centered leadership, including ethical systems, ethical dilemmas, and ethical decision-making models. The participant will also examine challenges and develop strategies for leading in public safety organizations serving diverse and dynamic communities. The participant will use a variety of learning modalities including case studies, video analyses, and critical thinking scenarios to explore ethics and the challenges of leadership. This course is designed for Chief Officers, Company Officers, Staff Officers, and other Fire Service Managers.

**Contact Information**

phone: (916) 475-1660

[www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov](http://www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov)

Find us on Facebook 

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

**USFA Releases Civilian Fire Fatalities in Residential Buildings Report**

**Contact - USFA Press Office: (301) 447-1853 - September 7, 2011**

EMMITSBURG, MD — The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) issued a special report today examining the characteristics of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings. The report, [Civilian Fire Fatalities in Residential Buildings - http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v12i7.pdf](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v12i7.pdf) (PDF, 1.0 Mb), was developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center and is based on 2007 to 2009 data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).

According to the report:

- Ninety-one percent of all civilian fatalities in residential building fires involve thermal burns and smoke inhalation.
- Bedrooms (55 percent) are the leading location where civilian fire fatalities occur in residential buildings.
- Fifty-one percent of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings occur between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. This period also accounts for 49 percent of fatal fires.
- Seventy percent of fire victims in residential buildings were escaping (36 percent) or sleeping (34 percent) at the time of their deaths.
- Smoking was the leading cause of fatal residential building fires.
- Males accounted for 57 percent of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings; women accounted for 43 percent of the fatalities.
- Approximately 43 percent of civilian fatalities in residential building fires are between the ages of 40 and 69.

Thirteen percent of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings were less than 10 years old. Fires that affect our homes are often the most tragic and the most preventable. This September, as our Nation marks the ten-year anniversary of 9/11 and the eighth annual observance of National Preparedness Month - <http://www.ready.gov/index.html>, FEMA encourages all Americans to prepare for emergencies – including home fire emergencies. **“By preparing for a home fire emergency, you can greatly reduce your chances of becoming a fire casualty,”** said Deputy U.S. Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines. **“Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, test them once a month, change the batteries at least once a year, and make and practice a home fire escape plan.”**

Civilian Fire Fatalities in Residential Buildings is part of the Topical Fire Report Series. Topical reports explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS. Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information. Also included are recent examples of fire incidents that demonstrate some of the issues addressed in the report or that put the report topic in context. For further information regarding other topical reports or any programs and training available at the U.S. Fire Administration, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**R**.W. Jones & Associates will be offering a number of State certified courses to assist you with getting promoted and/or with career development to be a better firefighter, better company officer, better chief officer, etc.

- **Low Angle Rescue Operational:** September 21 through 21, 2011 (*Class in Los Gatos, CA*)
- **Rescue Systems 1:** September 26, 28, October 3, 5 & 7, 2011 (*Class in Campbell, CA*)
- **Rescue Systems 1:** September 27, 29, October 10, 17 & 19, 2011 (*Class in Campbell, CA*)
- **Training Instructor 1A:** October 10 through 14, 2011 (*Class in San Jose, CA*)
- **Fire Command 1A:** November 7 through 11, 2011 (*Class in San Jose, CA*)
- **Training Instructor 1B:** December 12 through 16, 2011 (*Class in San Jose, CA*)
- **Training Instructor 1C:** February 6 through 10, 2012 (*Class in San Jose, CA*)

For more information and to register for the classes, go to their website at [www.ertnow.com](http://www.ertnow.com) or call (209) 406-2447.

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



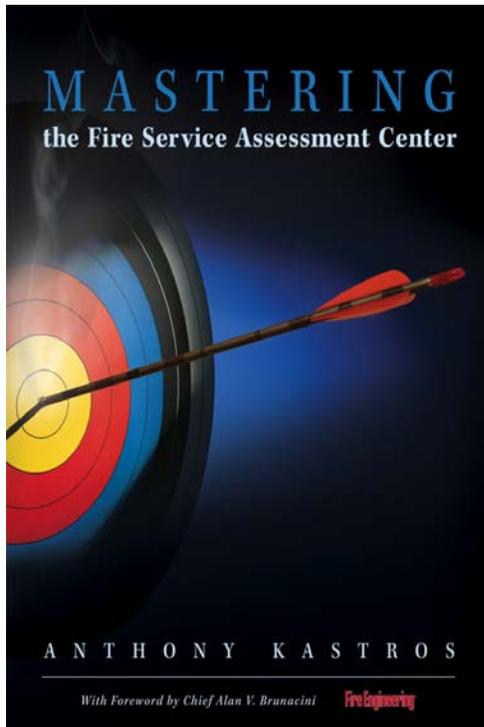
## **MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER**

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.**

OCTOBER 11 THROUGH 14, 2011 – MONTEREY, CA  
\$495.00\*

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

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

### **Fallen Firefighters to Be Honored on October 16, 2011**

**The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the U.S. Fire Administration will honor 89 firefighters who died in the line of duty at the 2011 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend. These firefighters will be featured in the National Fallen Firefighters Tribute Widget on July 12, 2011. For more information on how you can include the tribute on your website, visit <http://weekend.firehero.org/widget/>**

Emmitsburg, MD - The 30th Annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend will be held at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg on October 15-16, 2011. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Fire Administration will honor 72 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2010. A bronze plaque containing their names will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, located here on the National Fire Academy campus. Seventeen firefighters who died in previous years will also be honored. The plaques surrounding the Memorial, which was established in 1981, will contain the names of more than 3,500 firefighters.

Twenty-seven states experienced line-of-duty deaths in 2010. Deaths resulted from vehicle accidents while en route to or returning from emergency calls, building collapses, natural disaster response, falling, drowning, heart attacks, and burns/smoke inhalation. Three multiple fatality incidents accounted for six deaths. One multiple fatality occurred during a flashover at a structural fire; one incident resulted from an apparatus accident, and one involved a building collapse at a commercial structure fire. Illinois had the nation's greatest number of firefighter line-of-duty deaths in 2010 with 8, followed by New York and Pennsylvania with 7; and Kansas had 6. "Firefighters are called upon to face danger on a daily basis," said Chairman of the NFFF Board of Directors, Chief Dennis Compton. "In October, a grateful Nation will honor their dedication and remember their sacrifice. The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend brings their loved ones and the fire service together to let their families, coworkers, and friends know that they will never be forgotten." For more information about the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend visit <http://weekend.FireHero.org>

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**American Health Education** in Dublin, California will be offering a number of State certified courses to assist you with getting promoted and/or with career development to be a better firefighter, better company officer, better chief officer, etc.

- **Fire Command 1A:** September 12 through 16
- **Fire Prevention 1A:** September 19 through 23
- **Management 1:** October 10 through 14
- **Training Instructor 1B:** October 24 through 28
- **Prevention 1B:** October 31 through November 4
- **Command 1C:** November 14 through 18
- **Training Instructor 1C:** December 5 through 9
- **Prevention 1C:** December 12 through 16

Additionally, they are offering numerous EMS related initial and continuing education courses such as EMT, EMT refresher, Paramedic, CPR, ACLS and PALS. To register for these classes or see the other variety of classes being offered, go to their website at [www.americanhealtheducation.com](http://www.americanhealtheducation.com) or call (800) 483-3615.

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## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**H**ere are a number of fire service seminars being offered by FireNuggets.com in 2011 – sign up now as they will surely sell out and be very popular! For more information, go to [www.firenuggets.com](http://www.firenuggets.com)

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**Seminar #1:** Thursday, October 20, 2011

### **Mastering Fireground Command – Calming The Chaos**

- Presented by Battalion Chief Anthony Kastros, Sacramento Metro Fire District

The NIOSH top 5 line of duty death (LODD) operational causes on the fireground surround size-up, command, communications, accountability, and SOP's. This intense, hands-on and interactive workshop hits these issues head on and will streamline the components of strategy & tactics, SOP's and ICS. We synthesize these three key ingredients to help you drastically improve the way you command your next incident or handle your upcoming assessment center! Don't believe the lie that you cannot prepare for the test AND the job at the same time. The military, airlines, and NASA do it, and it's about time the Fire Service did! We will conduct extensive incident reviews, including actual video and audio of commercial structure, apartment, residential, wildland, fatal fires and saves. Participate in simulations for house fires, garden/center hall apartments, and commercial fire incidents to get answers to the following questions...

1. How do I set clear tactical objectives, have clear communications and establish command presence on my fires?
2. How do I create a personal system that blends all of my classes, certifications, SOP's, ICS, and tactical fundamentals into a simple, street smart and effective way?
3. What are the trigger points and safety issues of Offensive, Defensive and Combination strategies?

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

4. What are the key points to Rescue, Exposures, Confinement, Extinguishment, Overhaul, Ventilation and Salvage?
5. How do I really use ICS day-to-day and get beyond "checking the boxes"?
6. What could hurt me or my crew tonight?

For details on this seminar, go to: [http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11\\_kastros.pdf](http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11_kastros.pdf)

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**Seminar #2:** Thursday December 8, 2011

**Strategic and Tactical Air Management for the Fireground**

- Presented by Captain Mike Gagliano, Seattle Fire Department

The Point of NO Return is a dynamic, cutting edge presentation that is transforming the way the national fire service views Air Management, Tactical safety and Firefighter survival. This fast moving workshop utilizes dramatic audio/video, stimulating discussions, and everyday scenarios to create a synergistic learning experience where the students lead, as well as learn. At the center of the class are The Need, The Mandate, and The Solution. Each area will be covered in detail and gives the students practical information, along with drills, to take back to their departments. Among the topics covered are:

*The Rule Of Air Management (ROAM) ■ The point of NO return ■ How firefighters are dying in structures ■ The coming changes to NFPA 1404 and how they will affect you ■ Factors that affect the duration of a firefighter's air supply ■ READY checks (A new way to do buddy checks) ■ Review of close calls from Seattle, Phoenix, Ft. Worth and other cities ■ Practical methods to manage your air ■ CARA radio reports ■ Myths of air management*

These and other topics will make for a great day of learning and classroom participation. The consistent comment received from firefighters across the spectrum of experience is: "I wish I had this class years ago. I can take this and use it tonight."

For details on this seminar, go to: [http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11\\_gagliano.pdf](http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11_gagliano.pdf)

**NOTE:** All of the above seminars are going to be held at:

**Carr Convention Center**  
4400 Rosewood Drive  
Pleasanton, CA 94588

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## **EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE BAY AREA:**

The **San Francisco Paramedic Association** is looking for **volunteers** for the following upcoming EMS related classes:

- **Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Classes - Volunteers Needed -**

|                                   |                         |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Dates / Locations / Times:</b> | <b>October 13, 2011</b> | from 1200 to 1700 hours ( <u>Sausalito, CA</u> ) |
|                                   | <b>October 14, 2011</b> | from 1200 to 1700 hours ( <u>Sausalito, CA</u> ) |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | **Go to their website at <a href="http://www.sfparamedics.org">www.sfparamedics.org</a> and click on Volunteer Info (under Give) to confirm the above dates and times and to register as a volunteer.  |
| <b>You will receive:</b>               | Valuable experience watching paramedic level (or higher) students perform patient assessments. Learn from their plusses and minuses. You will also receive a free San Francisco Paramedic Association t-shirt.                                       |
| <b>Your role:</b>                      | As a volunteer, you will be moulaged and designated to role-play a victim of a trauma emergency scenario. Please wear loose, old, comfortable clothing, as you may be on the floor for some scenarios.   |
| <b>To register / More information:</b> | Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at <a href="http://www.sfparamedics.org">www.sfparamedics.org</a> |

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## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:**

**Southern California:**

626 N. Eckhoff Street  
Orange, CA 92868

**Northern California**

526 Commerce Way  
Livermore, CA 94551

**Sacramento Area:**

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

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**FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:**

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

Name: Steve Cox  
Rank: Fire Marshal  
Age: 55  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: 22  
Date of Incident: 08/26/2011  
Time of Incident: 0730hrs  
Date of Death: 08/28/2011  
Fire Department: South Davis Metro Fire Agency  
Address: 255 S 100 W, Bountiful, UT 84010  
Fire Department Chief: Jeff Bassett  
Fire Department Website: <http://www.sdmetrofire.org/>

**Incident Description:** Fire Marshal Cox was performing a fire fighters skills fitness test. During the test, Marshal Cox started to have difficulty breathing and maintaining his balance, the test was stopped and he was quickly treated by fellow firefighters and taken to Lakeview Hospital where he became unresponsive and was admitted to the ICU. On August 27, 2011 his condition became worse and his body organs started to shut down, he was flown by medical helicopter to the University of Utah Medical center for further care. The following day, Fire Marshal Cox passed away from a cause still to be determined.

**Incident Location:** 255 S 100 W, Bountiful, UT 84010

**Funeral Arrangements:**

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Viewing - Thursday September 1, 2011 at the Bountiful-Woods Cross Regional Center located at 835 North 400 East in North Salt Lake City from 5:30pm till 9:00pm. Funeral - Friday September 2, 2011 services will be at the Bountiful-Woods Cross Regional Center starting at 11:00am, no viewing before the service. Burial location is the Bountiful Cemetery 2224 South 200 West in Bountiful.

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Fire Marshal Steve Cox at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 66 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2011; 61 from incidents that occurred in 2011 and five from previous years' incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

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

**AND:**

Name: Anthony Quinten "Tony" Meyers  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 38  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: Pending  
Date of Incident: 08/28/2011  
Time of Incident: 1515hrs  
Date of Death: 08/28/2011  
Fire Department: Angelina River Volunteer Fire Department  
Address: RTE 7 Box 299-4, Jasper, TX 75951  
Fire Department Chief: Richard Lackie

**Incident Description:** While operating at the scene of an outdoor fire, Firefighter Meyers passed away from injuries sustained when, according to state police, he lost control of the ATV he was operating and crashed into the front of a Texas Parks and Wildlife pickup truck at a roadway intersection. According to media reports, Meyers was using the ATV to travel between two separate fires that were burning in order to monitor the progress of each blaze. Local authorities suspect that both fires were intentionally set.

**Incident Location:** County Roads 39 and 32 in Jasper County, TX.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter Anthony Quinten Meyers at

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

To date, 65 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2011; 60 from incidents that occurred in 2011 and five from previous years' incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @

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

**AND:**

Name: Henry "Jay" Branscum  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 32  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Years of Service: <1  
Date of Incident: 09/02/2011  
Time of Incident: 2323hrs  
Date of Death: 09/03/2011  
Fire Department: Northeast R-IV Rural Fire Association  
Address: PO Box 111, 106 S Main, Cairo, MO 65239  
Fire Department Chief: Harold Muehe

**Incident Description:** Firefighter Branscum died from a cause still to be determined while working at the scene of campground/resort fire involving several camp trailer homes.

**Incident Location:** Cairo, MO.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Services are set for 10 AM Thursday Sept. 8, 2011 at Timber Lake Christian Church, 1624 Gratz Brown, Moberly, MO 65270. Burial to follow, MO State Veterans Cemetery, County Rd 1675, Jacksonville, MO 1479.

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** In lieu of flowers the Family suggests memorials to the Jay Branscum Memorial Fund, c/o Bank of Cairo and Moberly, 207 East Rollins St, Moberly, MO 65270.

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter Henry "Jay" Branscum at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 67 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2011; 62 from incidents that occurred in 2011 and five from previous years' incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Christopher Peterson  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 22  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 4  
Date of Incident: 09/03/2011  
Time of Incident: 1500hrs  
Date of Death: 09/03/2011  
Fire Department: Ward Four Fire Protection District  
Address: PO Box 613, 261 Highway 505, Jonesboro, LA 71251-0613  
Fire Department Chief: Curtis Roller

**Incident Description:** While responding to a call for medical assistance, Firefighter Peterson died from injuries sustained when the fire department utility truck he was operating failed to negotiate a curve, left the roadway, and struck an embankment and tree.

**Incident Location:** Siloam Church Road.

**Funeral Arrangements:** 09/07/2011 @ 1400hrs, Garrett (Jackson Parish) Community Center.

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Firefighter Christopher Peterson at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

To date, 68 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2011; 63 from incidents that occurred in 2011 and five from previous years' incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

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

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

Hey,

Early this afternoon, the tanker/tender from the Otto Township Fire Protection District (Kankakee County Illinois) collided with an SUV. The apparatus overturned and ejected the Firefighter in the right seat and injuring the Firefighter/driver. The driver of the fire apparatus was transported to a local hospital and will be going into surgery this evening. The ejected firefighter was airlifted to Christ Hospital (Chicago suburb) with external spinal fracture (but no spinal cord injury) and other fractures. Fortunately he is moving his feet and hands. The driver of the SUV was transported to an emergency room hospital with non-life threatening injuries. We'll post more details and photos on our home page as they become available. While all the facts about this crash have not been released as of yet, HERE is a video to share with those Firefighters and Medics you may also be sharing this story with:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOfEsnvXSD8>

HERE is a report w/photos on the Line of Duty deaths of 2 FF's in a recent apparatus ejection crash:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201019.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-20-11 / 2000 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

As you know, 2 Otto Township (IL) FF's were seriously injured when the tanker they were driving crashed and overturned yesterday while responding to a call. The driver of the tanker, Firefighter James Turner, 67, was taken to Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee in serious condition. Reports are that he will remain in ICU for 4-5 days as they removed his spleen, has 11 fracture ribs, pneumothorax and will likely be on a ventilator for next couple of days. The second firefighter, David Tiburtini, 21, who was ejected, was taken in serious condition to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn. Their tanker collided with a car whose driver was also seriously injured, was ticketed for not having a valid driver's license and not having insurance. The tanker was responding on a fire call, traveling

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

southbound on U.S. Route 45/52 when it collided with the civilians vehicle that was making a left turn just after 1400 hours. Both vehicles left the road after the collision and the fire apparatus overturned. The apparatus had just passed a southbound truck and was attempting to pass the civilians' vehicle when it turned left, directly into the path of the responding apparatus. More details to follow.

**STANDPIPE & RELATED WATER SUPPLY ISSUES EYED IN ASHEVILLE LODD CITY REPORT**

A new Asheville city report points generally to a faulty (potentially debris in pipe(s)) standpipe contributing to the Line of Duty death of Captain Jeff Bowen in that medical office building blaze last month. AFD Firefighters also went without consistent water for longer than previously thought. Nearly 38 minutes passed from the time the first companies left their stations to when they were able to get consistent water on the fire, a problem identified as largely due to the standpipe. There is no evidence someone tampered with the pipe, one of two in the five-story building. However, the standpipe in question at the fire had reportedly passed a required inspection in April and passed several post-fire tests, according to city records. Much more to follow. HERE is more: <http://tinyurl.com/3sv2gwd>  
Take Care-BE CAREFUL. Seeya in Atlanta at F.R.I. This Week: <http://tinyurl.com/42qqxhs>  
BillyG

The Secret List 8-21-11 / 1533 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

We just received some additional facts regarding the apparatus crash that occurred in Illinois yesterday. Both Otto Township Firefighters are improving and BOTH WERE wearing seat belts. They did sustain serious injuries when their tanker crashed and overturned while responding on a fire call. The driver of the tanker, Captain James Turner, 67, was taken to Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee in serious condition. Captain Turner will remain in ICU for 4-5 days as they removed his spleen, has 11 fracture ribs, pnemo-thorax and will likely be on a ventilator for next couple of days. The second firefighter, David Tiburtini, 21, who was partially ejected (more details below), was taken in serious condition to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn and is improving as he has been taken off the vent and is speaking. FF Tiburtini was belted in, however the violent energy of the crash partially forced him out of the right side as the tanker rolled. Their tanker collided with a car whose driver who has been treated and released and was ticketed for not having a valid driver's license and not having insurance. The crew was responding on a fire call, traveling southbound on U.S. Route 45/52 when the rig collided with the civilians vehicle that was making a left turn, just after 1400 hours. Both vehicles left the road after the crash and the fire apparatus overturned. The apparatus had just passed a southbound truck and was attempting to pass the civilians' vehicle when the car turned left, directly into the path of the responding apparatus.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-21-11 / 2046 Hours

**AND:**

**GREEK FIRE CHIEF KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-WILDLAND FIRE**

We regret to advise you that a Fire Chief has been killed in the Line of Duty while operating at a forest fire in southern Greece. 49-year-old Gythio Fire Chief Konstantinos Kastris died in the southern Peloponnese today. Chief Kastris is the first Firefighter in Greece to have died in the Line of Duty since major fires ravaged southern and central Greece in 2007, killing 76 people, including 9 Firefighters. This fire, in the eastern Mani area broke out earlier today, and was being fought by 20 firefighters, a team of soldiers, four water-dropping aircraft and eight vehicles. Like parts of the United

States, Greece suffers destructive forest fires every summer, although this year the damage so far has been comparatively small. Our sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-22-11 / 1100 Hours

**AND:**

**GERMAN FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-CRASH**

A vacant house fire in Borschemich, Germany yesterday lead to the Line of Duty death of a Firefighter. A special services mask service unit responding from Erkelenze to the fire call rolled over, killing the 33-year-old Firefighter on the passenger side and seriously injuring the Firefighter driving, age 56. The fire call was dispatched at 1725 hours Monday for the working house fire which brought out the air unit. While responding w/lights and siren on the rural road, the rig ran off and on to the right shoulder and then overcorrected causing the apparatus to flip over. Our sincere condolences.

**THE FDNY 9/11 FATHERS & SONS INTERVIEW VIDEOS ARE POSTED**

The "9/11 Fathers and Sons" video, based upon Fire Rescue Magazines interviews, are online. It is done in several parts that can all be viewed online.

**HERE is Part 1:** <http://www.firefighternation.com/videos/fdny-fathers-and-sons-interview-part-1>

**UPDATE: BRIDGEPORT CT DOUBLE LODD FIRE: NO CRIMINAL CHARGES**

State investigators working the fire that killed 2 Firefighters last year discovered two of the three dispatchers on duty that day were uncertified, dispatch equipment was less than state-of-the art and the city's building inspection process was ineffectual. It should also be noted that the investigators were "not allowed" to interview the dispatchers involved.

**After reviewing the findings with the local State's Attorney, the State Police determined: "No criminal charges are appropriate and there will be no further action with this investigation."**

Firefighter Michel Baik and Lt. Steven Velasquez died in the Line of Duty while working that fire at a multifamily house on July 24 of last year. Subsequent investigative reports on the fire by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the Connecticut Occupational Safety & Health pinpointed errors made by fire officials at the scene, including ignoring mayday calls from Velasquez and using untested breathing equipment. The fire itself was deemed accidental as well. It began in a second floor bedroom and was caused by a candle that was left unattended close to combustible materials. **The report states that approximately 11 minutes and 53 seconds had passed between Lt. Velasquez's initial mayday call and the acknowledgement of the mayday call by the city's emergency communication center, in violation of center's own policies. "Even after hearing the fourth Mayday transmission, (the dispatcher) did not follow the mayday procedure as prescribed."**

On July 27, 2010, investigators went to the dispatch center where they observed the three large flat screen televisions in the center, "displaying various television programs." The report states investigators found that the audio recordings of the incident transmissions did not match the times on the written radio transmission logs. The system administrator, Marcus Jackson, told them: **"When the equipment was installed in the Public Safety Communications center the city of Bridgeport did not purchase the device that records the actual real-time onto the audio transmission recording as a cost saving measure." Incredible.**

Real time could be determined by adding 20 seconds to each transmission. The report states that two of the three dispatchers on duty the day of the fire had expired state certifications, including the

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

dispatcher who did not follow the mayday procedure. **And even more surprising is that the 911 Center Director (Doree Price) refused to allow the dispatchers or their supervisors to talk to investigators....HERE is more on what is sure to be a continuing story:**

<http://www.ctpost.com/news/article/No-criminal-charges-in-blaze-that-killed-two-2137339.php#ixzz1VuKzTCqe>

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

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-23-11 / 2213 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Excellent news from the Firefighter Cancer Support Network in their hiring Garry Briese as their Executive Director. Garry comes to FCSN with over 36 years of experience in the fire service, most of that time spent as the Executive Director of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. "We couldn't be more pleased to have Garry join our team," said Mike Dubron, President of FCSN. "His background will be invaluable to our organization as we grow." "FCSN is at a point in our growth where in order to continue expanding we need to begin building a permanent office staff to manage the day-to-day activities," said Dubron. "The organization is taking a big step forward and we are excited to have Garry and his experience at the helm." Additional information about FCSN can be found at [www.FirefighterCancerSupport.org](http://www.FirefighterCancerSupport.org).

Bringing Garry on board is a big deal-especially in spite of recent attempts by some self motivated groups ignoring the facts:

[http://www.iaff.org/Comm/PDFs/IAFF\\_IAFC\\_Cancer\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.iaff.org/Comm/PDFs/IAFF_IAFC_Cancer_Statement.pdf)

<http://firechief.com/health-safety/ar/tridata-cancer-firefighter-research-need-200905>

...we continue to move forward in educating, training and doing research to further protect firefighters from our known cancer causing operational environments. As it has been clearly proven by numerous respected medical research professionals, firefighters exposed while operating-both inside and out-measurably and clearly increase cancer risk. Let's make this as simple and factual as possible. Does smoking cause cancer? Sure-it's been proven...so then does a fire at a tobacco factory create a cancer causing environment for firefighters members operating? The answer is clearly yes. Now look at the fires you respond to and the combustible toxic petro-chemical based burning materials in that dwelling (furniture, carpeting etc.) then ask those few claiming that doesn't cause cancer to step right up and breathe that crap in their fancy \$2000.00 suits. With Garry Briese on board, our fire service battle leadership (working with folks from the IAFF, IAFC, NFFF, USFA and many more) just got stronger.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-25-11 / 1500 hours

**AND:**

At least one Chicago, IL Firefighter is in critical condition tonight with severe burns and two others injured following a fire at 7032 S. Justine in the Englewood neighborhood. Reports indicate the firefighters may have been operating in the attic when a flashover occurred and were transported to Christ Hospital in Oaklawn. We will continue to post details of this story on our home page as they become available.

Take Care-Be Careful,

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

BillyG

The Secret List 8-25-11 / 2230 hours

**AND:**

Hey-

As an update to late last evenings Secret List, it is now reported that there are 2 firefighters that were seriously injured in a flashover at 7032 S. Justine and another that suffered minor injuries. 1 firefighter is in critical condition with burns to his face, hands and respiratory burns, one is in serious condition with first and second degree burns and a 3rd who is in fair condition suffering from exhaustion. According to Chicago Fire Commissioner Robert Hoff, "The fire lit up. They were attacking the fire. They were moving in on the fire. They were on the second floor. The officer and the nozzle man were up on the second floor when this thing lit up on them. And they both were removed. They called mayday. As soon as they called for help, they were both removed outside." All three were in the attic of the 1 1/2-story home, battling the blaze when the fire flared, Hoff said. Hoff said one firefighter was spraying water on the fire. The roof had been vented. But then the fire flared up and trapped the firefighters. "The fire may have gotten behind them," he said. We will continue to update this story as new details become available.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-26-11 / 0700 hours

**AND:**

**3 CREW MEMBERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY, PT KILLED-EMS HELICOPTER CRASH**

A EMS helicopter crashed in northwestern Missouri late last night near a small airport where it planned to stop for fuel, killing all four people on board. The Eurocopter AS-350 was carrying three crew members and a patient when it went down at about 1900 hours in a field a mile north of Midwest National Air Center, about 20 miles northeast of Kansas City. The helicopter was transporting to the Kansas City suburb of Liberty and was owned by Air Methods Corp., an Englewood, Colo.-based air ambulance operator. Although the helicopter planned to take on fuel at the airport in Mosby, there is indication as of yet as far as of what caused the crash. The company's website describes it as the nation's largest provider of air medical emergency transport services and systems. Our sincere condolences.

**UPDATE: CHICAGO FF's INJURED/BURNED**

Chicago Fire Captain Tom Ruane and FF Gerald Carter are "out of the woods" but face a long recovery from the facial and respiratory burns they suffered while operating at that house fire in the West Englewood area of Chicago last night. Captain Ruane and FF Carter were on the second floor of the house when the fire conditions worsened, took off and reportedly-and for a yet undetermined reason-"knocked their masks off" according to reports. Captain Ruane and FF Carter are recuperating at Loyola University Medical Center. Both suffered first- and second-degree burns. FF Carter also suffered partial third-degree burns. 2 others members received minor injuries. We wish them a successful recovery.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-27-11 / 0750

**AND:**

Hey,

September 10, 2011

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

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**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

A member of the Princeton (NJ) First Aid and Rescue Squad is critical after attempting a water rescue in Princeton near the Johnson Park School this morning. A second member was also transported by EMS. This situation occurred during an attempted swift water rescue that took place in Princeton due to related weather from hurricane Irene. We'll have more details very soon. **NOTE: The NJ Governor made a statement that a Princeton FF was an LODD-that is NOT accurate and is wrong as of this writing-the member is alive.**

**APPARATUS CRASHES: NY & NJ**

Also in storm related news, in the Centerville area of Ulster County NY, a fire apparatus ended up in a culvert with reported Firefighter injuries this morning. Additionally, a Paramedic with Jersey City medical center in Newark was involved in a crash around 0100 hours. A car blew a red light as they were transporting a patient to the hospital - the ambulance was t-boned entrapping the occupant of the car that hit them. Both medics received NTL injuries. The driver of the vehicle was intoxicated.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-28-11 / 1230 Hours

**AND:**

The Princeton First Aid and Rescue squad member who was swept away in swift moving flood waters while attempting to search a submerged car during Hurricane Irene has died from his injuries, police said this morning. Michael Kenwood, 39, had been hospitalized since he was pulled from the water early Sunday with undisclosed injuries. Kenwood, a member of the squad's swift water rescue team, was dispatched to the area of Rosedale Road near Johnson Park at 4 a.m. Sunday to investigate a submerged car, according to Greg Paulson, deputy director of the squad. It was feared someone was trapped in the car, but it was later determined to be empty. Kenwood was tied to another man and entered the water, but they quickly realized the current was too strong and attempted to turn back when one of the men fell, Paulson said. The two men were tied to a line being tended by other rescue squad members on the shore, but they came free from the line, Paulson. Kenwood was swept away and later pulled from the water by a first aid backup team, Paulson said. Our sincere condolences to all involved.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-29-11 / 1135 Hours

**AND:**

**FIRE MARSHAL LODD-MEDICAL**

We regret to advise you that on August 26, 2011 South Davis Metro Fire Agency Fire Marshal Steve Cox was performing a firefighter skills fitness test at fire station 81, located in Bountiful, Utah. During that test he collapsed, complained of dizziness and shortness of breath, he was immediately treated by fellow firefighters and taken to the local hospital. On August 28, 2011 Fire Marshal Steve Cox passed and died in the Line of Duty from that incident. Currently doctors have no answers to the cause, the medical examiners office is conducting an autopsy. Our most sincere condolences.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-29-11 / 1335 hours

**AND:**

**CANADIAN FIRE CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-CRASH**

**BELGIUM FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-WALL COLLAPSE AT WORKING FIRE**

September 10, 2011

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

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

It is with deep regret that the FD of Jodoigne (Brabant-Walloon, Belgium) has informed us about the Line of Duty Death of 23 Firefighter Nicolas Tordoir, 23, after a wall collapsed following a barn-fire in a housing area in Mélin. Just after 2000 hours last night, when the first companies arrived at the scene, they had to prevent the fire from spreading to multiple exposures, the surrounding houses. As members were attacking the fire from a defensive position, a wall collapsed onto 3 firefighters, injuring 2 and leaving FF Nicolas Tordoir dead after life saving attempts by members at the scene. This is the 4th LODD for that Country in less than a year. For the international members of The Secret List, the funeral of FF Tordoir will take place this coming Saturday September 3th in the Saint Médard church at 10.30h, the funeral procession leaving at 10.00h the City Hall. Our sincere condolences.

**HERE are links for more details of the fire:**

<http://www.jodoigne.be/site/>

<http://www.rtl.be/videos/video/357959.aspx?CategoryID=495>

<http://www.rtl.be/videos/videos/video/357960.aspx>

### **YUKON TERR. FIRE CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-CRASH/SUSPECTED MED EMR.**

We regret to advise you that Tagish (Yukon Tr, CN) Fire Chief Kurt Gantner, 49, died in the Line of Duty yesterday. Early Monday there was a fire call and the Chief worked until the late hours and then was relieved. The Chief then took a couple of hours off, got some sleep, and was reportedly on his way to meet with the fire marshal for the investigation and he died while enroute. The Chief was driving the fire departments pickup truck/ brush rig and was in a single vehicle crash. The truck sped off into the bushes and Chief Gantner was found slumped over the wheel. Chief Gantner was the postmaster and also ran the Tagish Store, Cafe Motel and RV Park in addition to being the Fire Chief. Our sincere condolences.

### **NEW JERSEY RESCUE TECH/EMT LODD FUNERAL IS TOMORROW**

As you know, Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad Line of Duty Death of EMT and Rescue Technician Michael Kenwood, died in the Line of Duty on Sunday, August 28, 2011 shortly after 2200 hours. Michael answered his last alarm on Sunday August 28th, 2011 at 0437 hours while operating at Rescue Box 168/Fire Box 0630 located on Rosedale Road during a swift water rescue assignment in Princeton Township. **SERVICES WILL BE HELD:**

Tomorrow, Wednesday, August 31st, 2011 at 1330 hrs

Robert Shoem Menorah Chapel

150 Route 4 East

Paramus, NJ 07652

GPS: 40.9239 N - 74.0845 W

**PLEASE CONTACT** the Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad at [memorial@PFARS.org](mailto:memorial@PFARS.org) if your department will be sending representation to the service. MORE about PFARS HERE:

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

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-30-11 / 1700 Hours

### **AND:**

Hey,

Well, this shouldn't knock you out of your boots in surprise, but finally it has been proven that FDNY Firefighters who worked at Ground Zero have a **19% greater chance of contracting cancer** than those who did not, a new medical study found. **The issue is one of those things that "you know" the answer to, but understandably, the science must back up the claim.** The FDNY report came

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

out yesterday and argues it is "biologically plausible" to link exposure to the smoldering World Trade Center site to cancer - a finding that could open the door to changing the federal ruling that denied Zadroga Act benefits to cancer-stricken responders. **"The study clearly shows that World Trade Center exposure in these firefighters led to an increase in cancer," said Dr. David Prezant, the FDNY's chief medical officer.**

The report will be printed this month in the medical journal The Lancet which is linked below.

Doc's studied more than 9,800 firefighters, including 8,927 Firefighters who spent time at Ground Zero between 9/11 and the day the site closed in July 2002. Of those members exposed to the toxic site, 263 developed cancer - which is also a 10% jump over what doctors would find in the general public. The finding vindicated many first responders, several of whom are gravely ill, who were devastated when NIOSH ruled in July that cancer could not be linked to Twin Tower toxins - and therefore would not be covered by the Zadroga Act. Elected officials can petition the Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation fund now to ask for a review - and Rep. Carolyn Maloney said she would ask Dr. Howard for that review immediately as cancer is NOT covered currently.

The FDNY report - which tracked smokers and non-smokers separately - revealed an uptick in certain types of cancer among the firefighters, including melanoma, leukemia and cancers of the stomach, colon and prostate. Lung cancer, however, was not discovered at a higher rate in firefighters who worked at the Pit, according to the study. In fact, the nine firefighters who contracted lung cancer were all smokers. **Smoking continues to be a HUGE HEALTH issue in the fire service throughout North America.**

Dr. Prezant cautioned against drawing firm conclusions from the surprising revelation. "Lung cancer takes a long time to develop and we didn't expect to see a big increase," said Prezant, who noted that the test's sample size is too small to draw definitive conclusions about specific types of cancer. Twenty-seven firefighters in the study have succumbed to cancer - and while Dr. Prezant said the rate was "not an epidemic," he fears many more who stared down danger 10 years ago could suffer a similar fate. "They were not thinking about health at that time," said Prezant. "Their only mission was to save and rescue as many people as they could."

**HERE IS MORE FROM THE LANCET:** <http://www.thelancet.com/themed-911>

**HERE ARE MORE MEDIA DETAILS:** <http://tinyurl.com/3ls9jnc>

#### **==COLLECTING FOR MDA/JERRY'S KIDS THIS WEEKEND?**

Just a reminder to use **EXTREME** caution when near the roadways collecting by using hi-vis vests, apparatus and traffic signals along with your FD's policies to best manage the risk for this excellent cause.

#### **FATAL EMS CRASH IN BRAZIL:**

8 people including an EMS driver and a two-year-old patient - died last night in the State of São Paulo, when the ambulance that was transporting, went off the highway and crashed into a tree. According to the news, the cause of the accident is still unknown, but the vehicle - a Fiat Doblò - has a maximum capacity of five to six people. our condolences to all affected. **MORE HERE:**

[http://www.redebomdia.com.br/noticias/dia-a-](http://www.redebomdia.com.br/noticias/dia-a-dia/66021/cinco+peessoas+e+um+bebe+morrem+em+acidente+com+ambulancia+na+raposo+tavares)

[dia/66021/cinco+peessoas+e+um+bebe+morrem+em+acidente+com+ambulancia+na+raposo+tavares](http://www.redebomdia.com.br/noticias/dia-a-dia/66021/cinco+peessoas+e+um+bebe+morrem+em+acidente+com+ambulancia+na+raposo+tavares)

**PHOTO:** [http://midiacon.com.br/materia.asp?id\\_canal=3&id=38963](http://midiacon.com.br/materia.asp?id_canal=3&id=38963)

#### **==ELMONT (Long Island, N.Y.) FD DRILL TEAM TRUCK CRASH "THE FACTS" AND UPDATE:**

Here is a message for readers of TSL, from EFD Chief of Department Michael Capozziello, also a long time Secret List member himself: "I cannot express my gratitude enough for the overwhelming out

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

pouring of support and well wishes we, the Elmont Fire Department have received over the past 24 hours. Out of town companies have literally pulled up on our ramps offering anything they can do to help. Trust me the phone calls, voice messages and text messages mean the world during the "down" times." "I am not naive to the world we live in today, facebook, blackberry message groups, rant sites, etc...in which information is sent literally around the world in seconds. For some there is a perverse need to be the "first" to post something or to "break" the news on these social media outlets. **Almost all of it was wrong, but it is what it is.**"

**HERE ARE THE FACTS AS OF LATE LAST NIGHT:** Last evening 2 members have been released from Jamaica hospital. 1 remains in North Shore Manhasset, hopefully released tomorrow. The most serious injury is still in Jamaica hospital. His condition is very serious, but it has improved from last night. As stated above this is not the time and place to "debate" drill teams. I'm sure there will be plenty of that in the future. The time now is to say a prayer if that's your thing, if not a thought or two before you go to sleep each night for the recovery of our members would be appreciated. Again we can't thank you enough for your support through these trying times. The Elmont Chiefs...Mike, Angelo, Domenic and Brian.

#### **ADDITIONALLY:**

In addition, the following is the **official statement from the Elmont Fire Department & Fire District re: Training Exercise Accident:**

"In the course of a fire department drill team training exercise, an accident occurred, injuring four of our members. Our first concern is for the wellbeing of our brother firefighters and our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families as they deal with their injuries. This accident will undergo a routine investigation by the Nassau County Police Department, and as such, it would be inappropriate to comment further until this investigation has been undertaken and completed." **The Nassau County PD investigation remains ongoing at this time, and of course, we wish the best to all affected for a rapid and successful recovery.**

#### **WAFFLE HOUSE AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

##### **How To Assist Your Community When It Is Scattered, Covered and Smothered**

As you probably know, the 62-year-old food chain has a longstanding reputation for staying open during natural disasters. And if a storm is too intense to stay open straight through the worst of it, Waffle House has especially strong protocols, policies and procedures for getting back online quickly. Its hurricane playbook explains how to reopen a restaurant and what to serve if there is gas but no electricity, or a generator but no ice. An important element is limiting the menu so the company's supply chain can focus on keeping certain items stocked and chilled or frozen. Waffle House's tenacity and preparedness are so watertight that FEMA Director Craig Fugate (TSL member) has joked that he watches a "Waffle House Index" of disaster magnitude. He can tell how bad a disaster's been by how much of its menu Waffle House is serving. EHS Today (link below) specifies the exact parameters of the index, which gained credence when Washington University Business professor Panos Kouvelis conducted a study on the subject.

**HERE IS MORE FROM "EHS TODAY"** <http://tinyurl.com/3frcz35>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-2-11 / 1311 Hours

**AND:**

#### **MISSOURI FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY AT HOUSE FIRE**

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

It is with deep regret that we advise you that Northeast R-4 Rural Fire Association Firefighter Henry "Jay" Branscum died in the Line of Duty today while operating at the scene of several house fires. Firefighter Branscum leaves behind a wife and step-son. He died after suffering an unknown medical emergency while working at the scene of multiple structures on fire. Funeral arrangements are pending, and are tentatively set for Thursday September 8th, 2011. Complete arrangements will be posted on [www.mofirefuneral.org](http://www.mofirefuneral.org) . Our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-3-11 / 2230 Hours

**AND:**

**LOUISIANA FF LINE OF DUTY DEATH-APPARATUS CRASH-TOO FAST FOR CONDITIONS**

We regret to advise you that a Jackson Parish (LA) Volunteer Firefighter died yesterday afternoon while responding to a call for medical assistance. The Firefighter was identified as 22 year-old Christopher Peterson from Jonesboro. FF Peterson was driving a 1998 Dodge utility truck from the Ward Four Fire Protection District when he failed to negotiate a curve. The truck ran off the road and struck an embankment and several trees. FF Peterson was transported to an area hospital but died a short time later. Reports are that the highway was wet at the time of the crash and the truck was traveling too fast for the road conditions.

Our sincere condolences to all affected.

**NEW ZEALAND FIREFIGHTER LODD-RESPONDING-MEDICAL**

A Central Otago (NZ) Firefighter died last night after becoming sick while responding. The Roxburgh and Alexandra fire brigades were called to a fire in Central Otago, at around 1900 hours last night. The 64-year-old FF/driver of a tanker carrying around 10,000 litres of water suffered a medical emergency along the way, and slowed the vehicle to a stop. After pulling over, fellow FF's and emergency staff gave the man CPR and other assistance but the rescue attempts failed, and the man died at the scene. The man had been with the rural fire service for about seven years and loved his job. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-4-11 / 1730 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

You may have seen some Facebook and related internet type postings regarding "Texas" requesting firefighters on mutual aid due to their wildland fires. The request is not accurate and it is a hoax. Any fire mutual aid requests would always come through (and to) Local, State and National fire service and emergency leadership. This message sent as per Texas Fire Chiefs, TIFMAS, IAFC, USFA and FEMA. Please feel free to forward.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-6-11 / 1243 hours

**AND:**

Hey,

The FDNY has battled a quarter of a million structural fires since the attacks and murders of 9/11. And it has lost 11 Firefighters in the Line of Duty doing so. One, Thomas Brick, became lost and died in a furniture warehouse. Another, Richard Sclafani, gave his life in a cellar. John Martinson died in an

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

apartment fire. Others fell off roofs or leapt from windows, or died in floor collapses or high-rise disasters. **One NY magazine has taken a significant look at FDNY and the loss of their members.** Since 2006, **New York's City Limits Magazine** has been gathering FDNY reports on line-of-duty deaths from 1991 to the present. These documents and others, along with interviews with current and former FDNY members, fire experts and kin of the deceased, point to a set of factors that contributed to those deaths, and the many reports on Sept. 11 detail the lessons that disaster had to teach. **FDNY reports and interviews with experts indicate whether the lessons from these many fatalities have led to very positive and meaningful change in New York City...so their Line of Duty Deaths are not in vain.** The City Limits Magazine investigation (below) looks at FDNY Firefighter fatalities over 20 years, finding common factors and tracking the city's positive leadership efforts to address them.

**HERE is the numerous online articles:**

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

<http://www.citylimits.org/news/articles/4421/when-fire-wins-causes-of-fdny-deaths>

<http://www.citylimits.org/news/articles/4418/costly-lessons-what-we-ve-learned-from-firefighter-deaths>

<http://www.citylimits.org/news/articles/4420/this-building-killed-1-firefighter-but-may-save-dozens>

<http://www.citylimits.org/slideshow/623/remembering-lost-firefighters-1991-2011>

**May they all Rest In peace.**

**NIOSH REPORT: FF LODD-LOST, DISORIENTED-OUT OF AIR**

A new NIOSH reports covers the facts regarding the LODD of a 30-year-old Texas Fire Captain Thomas Araguz who died while attempting to locate and extinguish a late night fire in the back of an egg processing plant. The seat of the fire was located in a dry storage area at the back of the plant that housed paper and styrofoam products for packaging the eggs. When companies arrived, fire was visible from the roof of the dry storage area. The victim's crew attempted to breach a wall for more direct access to where they thought the seat of the fire was located. The access was blocked by stacks of wooden pallets. Two captains made entry with an uncharged hoseline through the front door to find and extinguish the fire. The front of the plant was charged with heavy dark smoke and high heat conditions. They became disoriented in the thick smoke, lost the hoseline and called a Mayday that was not heard and acted upon. While searching for the handline, the captains ran out of air, got more disoriented and were separated. One captain attempted to kick out a section of wall and was heard by exterior crews who breached the wall and rescued him. Intense fire conditions thwarted all further rescue efforts until the fire was extinguished. Captain Araguz was found the next morning.

**HERE is the entire report:** <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201016.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-6-11 / 1114 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

As we all prepare for the 10th Anniversary of 9/11, everyone deals with it differently. Especially within the FDNY (343+ killed), NYPD (23+ killed) and PAPD (37+ killed) as well as the families and friends: some NEVER FORGET, most cannot FORGET. Some WANT to forget....and really, if you can think of an emotion, it probably relates to someone and their feelings.

**And then there are those FDNY members who few people even know about.**

A Memorial Wall listing the names of 55 **additional FDNY members** who have died in the last 10 years due to World Trade Center-related illnesses, was unveiled at FDNY Headquarters yesterday. Several more will be added this week who have died since the plaque was constructed. These

### Chabot College Fire & EMS News

members on the Wall died of illnesses related to their work at the World Trade Center during and after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Very sadly, the reality is that many more names will be added over the following years. **We felt that this year, this issue of The Secret List should be dedicated in the memory of all who died, but with a special focus on the MOST RECENT FDNY Line of Duty Deaths that few people are aware of. May they rest in peace, the 343+.**

**"DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE WHO BRAVELY SERVED THIS DEPARTMENT PROTECTING LIFE AND PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK IN THE RESCUE AND RECOVERY EFFORT AT MANHATTAN BOX 5-5-8087 WORLD TRADE CENTER."** (Plaque Inscription)

The names included:

Firefighter Robert W. Dillon, Engine Co. 153  
Firefighter Vanclive A. Johnson, Ladder Co. 135  
Firefighter Russell C. Brinkworth, Ladder Co. 135  
Firefighter Edward V. Tietjen, Ladder Co. 48  
Firefighter Walter Voight, Ladder Co. 144  
Battalion Chief Kevin R. Byrnes, Battalion 7  
Firefighter Stephen M. Johnson, Ladder Co. 25  
Lieutenant Richard M. Burke, Engine Co. 97  
Firefighter Michael Sofia, Engine Co. 165  
Firefighter Joseph P. Costello, Battalion Co. 58  
Firefighter William R. O'Connor, Ladder Co. 84  
Lieutenant Reinaldo Natal, Field Communications Unit  
Paramedic Deborah Reeve, EMS Station 20  
Fire Marshal William Wilson, Jr., Manhattan Base  
Lieutenant Thomas J. Hodges, Engine Co. 313  
Firefighter Robert J. Wieber, Engine Co. 262  
Lieutenant Joseph P. Colleluori, Jr., Engine Co. 324  
Firefighter Michael J. Shagi, Engine Co. 74  
Firefighter William R. St. George, Battalion Special Operations Command  
Firefighter Raymond W. Hauber, Engine Co. 284  
EMS Lieutenant Brian Ellicott, EMS Dispatch  
Firefighter William E. Moreau, Engine Co. 166  
Lieutenant John P. Murray, Engine Co. 165  
Firefighter Sean M. McCarthy, Engine Co. 280  
Firefighter Bruce M. Foss, Ladder Co. 108  
Firefighter Jacques W. Paultre, Engine Co. 50  
Firefighter Kevin M. Delano, Sr., Ladder Co. 142  
Lieutenant Vincent J. Tancredi, II, Ladder Co. 47  
Paramedic Clyde F. Sealey, Bureau of Health Services  
Firefighter Timothy G. Lockwood, Engine Co. 275  
Firefighter Edward F. Reilly, Jr., Ladder Co. 160  
Firefighter John F. McNamara, Engine Co. 234  
Lieutenant Thomas G. Roberts, Ladder Co. 40  
Captain Kevin J. Cassidy, Engine Co. 320  
Firefighter Joan R. Daley, Engine Co. 63  
Firefighter Richard A. Manetta, Ladder Co. 156  
Lieutenant Peter J. Farrenkopf, Marine Co. 6  
Battalion Chief John J. Vaughan, Battalion Co. 3  
Firefighter Robert A. Ford, Engine Co. 284

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Paramedic Carene A. Brown, EMS Bureau of Training  
Firefighter James J. Ryan, Ladder Co. 167  
Lieutenant Robert M. Hess, Ladder Co. 76  
EMT Freddie Rosario, EMS Station 4  
Lieutenant Harry Wanamaker, Jr., Marine Co. 1  
Supv. Commun. Electrician Philip J. Berger, Outside Plant Operations  
Firefighter Vincent J. Albanese, Ladder Co. 38  
Firefighter John P. Sullivan, Jr., Ladder Co. 34  
Firefighter Roy W. Chelsen, Engine Co. 28  
Firefighter John F. O'Neill, Ladder Co. 52  
Lieutenant Randy J. Wiebicke, Ladder Co. 1  
Firefighter Brian C. Malloy, Ladder Co. 80  
Lieutenant John A. Garcia, Ladder Co. 5  
Firefighter Anthony J. Nuccio, Ladder Co. 175  
Fire Marshal Steven C. Mosiello, Chief of Department's Office  
Firefighter Carl Capobianco, Ladder Co. 87  
Take Care-Be Careful. God Bless America.  
BillyG  
The Secret List 9-9-11 / 1200 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

2 L.A. City Firefighters were transported to area hospitals with serious injuries from a working fire in a dwelling above Studio City in a house reportedly owned by Jack Nicholson. The occupants of the house are William O'Farrell and actor William Tynan, who starred in The Two Jakes with Nicholson. **One L.A. City FF was transported after wooden beams fell on him and hit his head, and another firefighter was taken in for smoke inhalation and chest pains.** 200+ firefighters operated at the fire around 2000 hours last night in an area where the house is surrounded by long and steep roads, secluded with heavy brush. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

**FIRE ACT APPLICATIONS ARE SLOW?!! Seriously??**

**FIRE Act Grant Application Deadline Is September 16 - Apply Now!** Time is absolutely running out to apply for the Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) grant program! Only more week remains to submit an applications. **The "rumors" are that the applications are NOT pouring in.**

**Let's make this REAL clear:**

THE associations YOU pay dues to such as IAFF, IAFC, NFA, NVFC and many others have all busted their organizational tails to get and maintain this program. **If we don't get applications in, the non-supportive politicians will use the lack of applications to cut these programs-leaving our supportive politicians empty handed.** The FIRE Act grant application period closes THIS FRIDAY, September 16, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. EST. Funding is available for apparatus, fire station modifications, equipment, training, PPE and health and wellness programs.

**Applications are lagging and departments are strongly encouraged to submit applications.**

FEMA continues to emphasize the importance of **training** in the Fiscal Year 2011 program, and has determined that the most benefit is derived from instructor-led, hands-on training that leads to a national or state certification. Therefore, fire fighter safety and survival training, including the IAFF Fire Ground Survival Train-the-Trainer program, Blue Card Command and others will be likely seen as a high priority in the FIRE Act program. **Do not miss this opportunity!** Applications focused on national or state certification training, including TtT initiatives, receive a higher competitive rating.

Instructor-led training that requires students to demonstrate their grasp of knowledge of the training material is integral to a certification, and also will receive a high competitive rating.

**MORE HERE:** <http://www.fema.gov/firegrants/> (FEMA)  
<http://www.iaff.org/11News/090911FIREAct.htm> (IAFF)  
<http://www.iafc.org/Government/content.cfm?ItemNumber=1296> (IAFC)  
<http://www.nvfc.org/resources/grants/grant-writing-resources/> (NVFC)  
<http://tinyurl.com/3ojqtfn> (NFPA)

**\$3.4 MILLION JUDGEMENT IN CT FIRE APPARATUS CRASH DEATH  
FIREFIGHTER DRIVING THE APPARATUS FOUND TO BE NEGLIGENT**

A Superior Court judge Thursday ordered the City of Bridgeport (CT) to pay more than \$3.4 million to the family of a mother and daughter killed four years ago when their car was broad-sided by a fire truck at a downtown intersection. Judge Theodore Tyma ruled that Firefighter David Otero was negligent when he drove through a red traffic light on July 31, 2007, crashing into the car occupied by Essie Williams, 76, and her 58-year-old daughter, Gwendolyn Little. Little died at the scene while her mother, of Platt Street, died eight months later from her injuries.

"The plaintiffs have proven by a fair preponderance of the evidence that Otero **was negligent in failing to keep a proper lookout as he drove Ladder 5** into and across the intersection of Congress Street and Housatonic Avenue," the judge wrote. "There is no plausible reason, notwithstanding Otero's explanatory testimony, why he stopped looking to his left and right as he proceeded through the busy and heavily traveled intersection while continually accelerating his approximately 37 ton truck."

The judge rendered a total award for Little's death against the city of \$1,268,236.80 and \$2,160,662.70 on behalf of her mother. Associate City Attorney Betsy Edwards said both sides previously agreed to a limit on any possible verdict so the city will be liable for less than half the amount awarded and will have three years to pay it off without interest. According to testimony at trial, the fire apparatus had just left their firehouse and was responding to a fire when Otero accelerated through the red light at the intersection and t-boned the 1977 Dodge sedan pushing it 30 feet across the intersection. **MORE HERE:** <http://tinyurl.com/3bbhuap>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-10-11 / 0847 Hours

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

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

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**Budget Related Items:**

A select group of inmates may get the chance to get out of jail to fight fires and respond to medical emergencies in Camden County (GA). At least that's an idea being tossed around to help solve the county's budget woes:

<http://www.news4jax.com/news4georgia/29122193/detail.html>

The mood in the City of Lancaster's (OH) three firehouses is grim these days. Mayor David S. Smith told the City Council this month that he plans to lay off 31 city workers by Oct. 1, including 20 firefighters and six police officers, to balance the city general-fund budget as required by state law. Lower-than-expected income-tax collection and reduced local-government funding from the state blew a hole in this year's \$23.6 million budget, Smith said: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-department-management/articles/1108880-Ohio-mayor-plans-to-lay-off-20-firefighters/>

Nearly half of the 49 San Jose (CA) firefighters laid off last year amid a record budget shortfall will be back on the job starting Friday thanks to a federal bailout. The \$15 million, two-year fire staffing grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency -- believed to be the largest awarded to any city -- will help restore all the firefighter jobs lost a year ago when city and fire union leaders failed to reach an agreement on pay cuts that city officials said were needed to prevent layoffs. The 22 laid-off San Jose firefighters who return to their jobs this week, after six weeks of a "refresher academy" to update their certifications, will be joined in coming months by 27 others hired away or laid off from other departments -- 14 in October and 13 in February. Last year's layoffs had shrunk the department to about 650 firefighters: [http://www.mercurynews.com/bay-area-news/ci\\_18757947?nclink\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/bay-area-news/ci_18757947?nclink_check=1)

Residents in historic Olivehurst (CA) may have a longer wait for emergency services, after the Olivehurst Public Utility District's board voted to cut full-time 24-hour fire service. By voting Thursday night to lay off two fire captains and post openings for two part-time firefighters, the board bowed to economic realities making a continuous Fire Department an impossibility. "It's difficult, and it's definitely not what we wanted to have happen," said Olivehurst Fire Chief Wade Harrison, who along with a part-time office clerk is for now the only permanent Fire Department employee. OPUD directors said they had little choice after property owners voted against a proposal in June to raise a fire assessment and keep the department solvent: <http://www.appeal-democrat.com/news/fire-109278-olivehurst-property.html>

The Coastside (Half Moon Bay, CA) Fire Protection District is sticking with its state pension contract, despite recent efforts to cancel the agreement. The district board reversed direction after CalPERS announced earlier this month that it's increasing the cost of terminating pension plans. The new cancellation charge would have tacked an additional \$6 million on the district's expected \$13 million pension liability. Coastside Fire Protection District is not alone. Public agencies across the state are struggling with unfunded liability for their employee pensions. In fact, according to a Stanford University report, unfunded liability for independent public employee pension systems in California is \$175 billion. Coastside Fire Protection District, which now contracts with CalFire for fire services, has no employees of its own. Therefore, CalPERS puts the district in an inactive pool. Of the approximately 60 employees getting CalPERS retirement money attributable to their work on the coast, roughly half are already retired and drawing payment. What's not clear is whether the district will ultimately lose less by continuing its pension contract with CalPERS. Although the district won't have to pay the steep cancellation fee, the inactive pool is still vulnerable to market fluctuation. Cole noted the big picture ramifications of sticking with CalPERS and said 10 years of losses could potentially equal what the district would pay in the cancellation fee it's trying to avoid: [http://www.hmbreview.com/news/fire-district-struggles-with-pension-debt/article\\_9a2ec7ae-d4e1-11e0-83b8-001cc4c03286.html](http://www.hmbreview.com/news/fire-district-struggles-with-pension-debt/article_9a2ec7ae-d4e1-11e0-83b8-001cc4c03286.html)

Chicago (IL) Mayor Rahm Emanuel could wring \$300 million from the combined \$1.8 billion budgets of Chicago's Police and Fire Departments, in part by dramatically altering union contracts that expire June 30, an influential alderman said Thursday. "There's no more sacred cows when the taxpayers are hurting like they are," said Ald. Anthony Beale (9th), former  
September 10, 2011 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)

chairman of the City Council's Police and Fire Committee. In the Chicago Fire Department, Beale wants to permanently reduce the minimum staffing requirements for fire apparatus and switch firefighters to an eight-hour shift — and away from the cherished 24-hours-on, 48-hours-off schedule that allows them to work second and third jobs:

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/7414372-418/alderman-target-police-fire-contracts-to-reduce-budget-deficit.html>

In times of limited funding, firefighters are being asked to extend the life of their equipment. Montclair City Manager Ed Starr, like other city officials, has asked his fire chief to keep vehicles "a little bit longer than they normally would," since the city has not been able to put as much money into its vehicle replacement fund. If the vehicle is functioning properly and continues to fulfill its purpose, Starr said he did not see a problem extending its life expectancy. While there is no rule saying fire apparatus must be replaced within so many years of purchase, there are guidelines that local fire departments can follow:

[http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci\\_18825726?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci_18825726?source=most_viewed)

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

- *Someone asked why I run these stories that tend to make the fire service look not-so-professional at times. Well, besides the fact they are public knowledge, I think it is critical for all of us in the fire service – current and future personnel – to learn from not only the good, but the not-so-good of others. Good, bad or indifferent, fire service personnel are in the public eye since we are paid by the taxpayers and they have a right to hold us accountable for our actions since they are paying for us to be here. In today's world, the key to success is building and maintaining positive working relationships with the public, not to mention the elected/appointed officials, since all of them are the ones that ensure we still have jobs and that we get what the community we work for feels is appropriate, reasonable, cost-effective and efficient, in regards to staffing and the number of fire stations and resources.*

The controversial upcoming FDNY exam will be the most expensive test in the city's history, the Daily News has learned. The new civil service test, ordered by a Brooklyn federal judge who declared that previous FDNY exams discriminated against minorities, is expected to cost the city more than \$3.3 million to develop and administer, officials said. The cost of the previous Fire Department exam, given in 2007, was \$1.3 million, according to officials at the Department of Citywide Administrative Services:

[http://articles.nydailynews.com/2011-08-21/local/29929150\\_1\\_vulcan-society-john-coombs-exam](http://articles.nydailynews.com/2011-08-21/local/29929150_1_vulcan-society-john-coombs-exam)

The chief of a Delaware County (OH) fire district has until Monday to submit his resignation or be fired. Mark Almendinger, part-time chief of the Berkshire, Sunbury, Trenton and Galena Joint Fire District for four years, said he was told last week that its board had voted on Wednesday to place him on paid leave. He was asked to provide a letter or email of resignation to the board by noon on Monday, or he would be fired. Almendinger said he is being asked to leave because of phone calls he made to Berkshire Township trustees about the sale of the township hall. Delaware County officials had looked into buying the soon-to-be-vacated building and using it as an additional EMS station. With the fire district responding to 900 medic calls a year, Almendinger said having an additional EMS station would benefit the area. Almendinger said he doesn't plan to resign. "If they want to fire me because I'm trying to improve the safety service to the community, I'll take the thing," he said.

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2011/08/28/fire-chief-told-to-resign-or-be-fired.html>

Americans eager to give after the 9/11 terrorist attacks poured \$1.5 billion into hundreds of charities established to serve the victims, their families and their memories. But a decade later, an Associated Press investigation shows that many of those nonprofits have failed miserably. There are those that spent huge sums on themselves, those that cannot account for the money they received, those that have few results to show for their spending and those that have yet to file required income tax returns. Yet many of the charities continue to raise money in the name of Sept. 11. One charity raised more than \$700,000 for a giant memorial quilt, but there is no quilt. Another raised more than \$4 million to help victims, but didn't account publicly for how it spent all of the money. A third helps support a 9/11 flag sold by the founder's for-profit company. There are other charities that can account for practically every penny raised - except that all the money went to pay for fundraising, and not the intended mission: [www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/investigation-shows-some-9/11-charities-bogus](http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/investigation-shows-some-9/11-charities-bogus)

Prosecutors say a 32-year-old Idaho volunteer firefighter who allegedly started a string of small blazes in eastern Idaho faces charges of arson:  
<http://www.ktvb.com/home/E-Idaho-volunteer-firefighter-charged-with-arson-128532183.html>

A college student pinned under a car that had crashed into his motorcycle in Brooklyn (NY) died yesterday after rescue workers struggling to free him from the wreckage dropped the vehicle on him in a tragic accident. A witness said a firefighter cursed at another person working at the scene when the vehicle dropped onto the victim: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-ems/articles/1117426-Video-Motorcyclist-dies-after-rescuers-drop-car-on-him/>

A college student pinned under a car that had crashed into his motorcycle in Brooklyn (NY) died yesterday after rescue workers struggling to free him from the wreckage dropped the vehicle on him in a tragic accident. Karam Rampersaud, 21, of Brooklyn, had been on his way to classes at City College when he collided with a Ford Taurus at 8:45 a.m. on Loring Avenue and Forbell Street in East New York. Seconds after cops and firefighters started to lift the Ford with a jack, things went horribly wrong. "The car was about four feet up," said witness James Selder, 41. "Then the car just dropped right back down. Right on him. Everybody in the crowd screamed." "A firefighter cursed at another guy and yelled, 'What are you doing?' " Crystal Robinson, 43, heard Rampersaud moaning. "After the car fell on him, he didn't make a sound," she said. Rampersaud died at Brookdale Hospital:  
[http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/brooklyn/rescue\\_horror\\_jJHDq4XRcU9s2mNnnR6HEP](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/brooklyn/rescue_horror_jJHDq4XRcU9s2mNnnR6HEP) and:  
<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-ems/articles/1117426-Video-Motorcyclist-dies-after-rescuers-drop-car-on-him/>

A Superior Court judge Thursday ordered the city of Bridgeport (CT) to pay more than \$3.4 million to the family of a mother and daughter killed four years ago when their car was broadsided by a firetruck at a downtown intersection. In an 18-page decision, Judge Theodore Tyma ruled that Firefighter David Otero was negligent when he drove through a red traffic light at Congress Street and Housatonic Avenue on July 31, 2007, crashing into the car occupied by Essie Williams, 76, and her 58-year-old daughter, Gwendolyn Little. Little, of Willow Street, died at the scene while her mother, of Platt Street, died eight months later from her injuries. "The plaintiffs have proven by a fair preponderance of the evidence that Otero was negligent in failing to keep a proper lookout as he drove Ladder 5 into and across the intersection of Congress Street and Housatonic Avenue," the judge wrote. "There is no plausible reason, notwithstanding Otero's explanatory testimony, why he stopped looking to his left and right as he proceeded through the busy and heavily traveled intersection while continually accelerating his approximately 37 ton truck."  
<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/conn-city-ordered-34m-fire-truck-deaths>

**Positive Public Relations Items:**

Firefighters sacrifice their bodies and put their lives on the line — it's all in a day's work. But that's not all the firefighters in Maricopa (AZ) have sacrificed. As part of an agreement between the City of Maricopa and the Professional Fire Fighters of Maricopa – the local body representing the interests of Maricopa's fire personnel – the firefighters have also surrendered some of their benefits to help save the City money. Maricopa fire captain Dan Ashton, representing the firefighters association, spoke about the agreement – officially chartered through a memorandum of understanding – at last week's Maricopa City Council meeting. All five council members present at the meeting voted to approve the memo of understanding, and mayor Anthony Smith even started a round of applause for the firefighters after the council's vote. "I wanted to recognize the ability to come forward and negotiate and work with the city manager (Brenda Fischer) and recognize the stepping up to help with the financial burden of cost-sharing . . . now the burden is shared across all city staff," council member Alan Marchione said to Ashton at the meeting. "I think that's very commendable, and I wanted to thank you and your members for that."

[http://www.trivalleycentral.com/articles/2011/08/26/maricopa\\_monitor/top\\_stories/doc4e57e45aec190076912164.txt](http://www.trivalleycentral.com/articles/2011/08/26/maricopa_monitor/top_stories/doc4e57e45aec190076912164.txt)

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**Training & Safety Related Items:**

Why do we as a fire service place ourselves at substantial risk to save burning vehicles in the first place? Risk a lot to save a lot, risk a little to save a little, risk nothing to save nothing. Is your life worth a couple thousand bucks for a car? Just a question...answer for yourself, or your family: <http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/1109116-Vehicle-fires-do-not-merit-unnecessary-risks/>

There's an old fire service saying that has been around for many decades that states, "What you do in the first five minutes is more important than the next five hours." This is especially true with regards to assessing and managing risk on the fireground. The initial arriving company officer is immediately tasked with assuming command and managing risks associated with the incident. Here are a few key points to consider:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-attack/articles/1107685-Risk-assessment-tips-for-the-initial-arriving-officer/>

Investigators are trying to determine why a man would break into a fire station and kill himself. The odd incident occurred early Monday morning at the Modesto (CA) Fire Department's Station No. 2 on Chicago Avenue on the west side of town, authorities said. The man, described as Latino in his 20s, shot through a window, entered the building and then shot himself to death, according to Modesto police Sgt. Brian Findlen. All three firefighters at the station were sleeping. One was awoken by what he thought was a sound of gunfire at about 3 a.m., but dismissed it and went back to sleep, according to Battalion Chief Hugo Patino. At about 6:30 a.m., a firefighter discovered the dead man on the other side of the building from where the firefighters sleep. A gun was nearby:

<http://www.modbee.com/2011/08/22/1825410/police-man-kills-himself-inside.html>

"I will insult you and I am willing to tell you things you don't like. Some of you will be angry with me — and I am very sorry — but I have to say some things that need to be said." As far as introductions go, they don't come much blunter than the one delivered by the Swedish

firefighter and fire instructor Dr. Stefan Svensson at the start of his Fire-Rescue International presentation Thursday. While firefighter fatalities are generally on a downward trend, Dr. Svensson said the number of firefighter fatalities per 100,000 fires every year isn't declining in the same manner — despite the fact civilian deaths in fires are. "My conclusion is that you as a fire service are taking greater and greater risks to save nothing," he said. "Why do we push on when things go bad? Why don't we stay on the outside? Being aggressive requires a great deal of knowledge. But we can only be aggressive if you have the knowledge." Finally, the biggest problem with the U.S. fire service remains its culture, according to Dr. Svensson and many traditions and ways of doing things need to be changed:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/1112717-Swedish-fire-expert-critical-of-US-firefighter-safety-at-FRI/>

Let it burn? Just maybe says the Detroit (MI) Fire Department commissioner. Donald Austin handles the topic of the proactive decision made by the Detroit Fire Department to not always go into "vacant" structures that are on fire, instead choosing the more progressive approach of attacking the fires from the outside, using a defensive strategy. This should drastically reduce the risk to firefighters as unfortunately, numerous firefighters have been killed and/or injured fighting fires inside vacant dwellings when there was no reasonable reason to believe there were "savable lives inside." Traditionalists may not like this, but if it saves some lives and reduces injuries, it has some great benefits:

<http://statter911.com/2011/08/26/let-it-burn-just-maybe-says-the-detroit-commissioner-donald-austin-handles-the-topic-head-on-with-charlie-leduff-others/>

Use of traditional fire suppression tactics and the unrecognized presence of combustible metals factored into an explosion that injured seven firefighters in Los Angeles last year. The explosion occurred as firefighters were battling a fire that tore through a block of industrial buildings in South Los Angeles on July 13, showering the responders with molten titanium and shrapnel. The impact from the flaming shrapnel and percussion from sound waves caused injuries ranging from burns to ringing in ears, according to a NIOSH safety investigation report released Wednesday. In addition, NIOSH recommends fire departments:

- Ensure that pre-incident plans are updated and available to responding fire crews
- Ensure that first arriving personnel and fire officers look for occupancy hazard placards on commercial structures during size-up
- Ensure that all firefighters communicate fireground observations to incident command
- Ensure that firefighters wear all personal protective equipment when operating in an immediately dangerous to life and health environment
- Ensure that an Incident Safety Officer is dispatched on the first alarm of commercial structure fires
- Ensure that collapse/hazards zones are established on the fireground:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/1107704-NIOSH-Tactics-factored-into-LA-metal-fire-explosion-injuring-7-firefighters/>

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**General Fire Service Related Items:**

A Redwood City (CA) fire battalion chief has been promoted to the department's second-in-command to initially oversee the hybrid service with neighboring city San Carlos. Stan Maupin, a five-year veteran of Redwood City Fire Department, officially begins his new position Monday, Aug. 29. His first assignment is managing the San Carlos Fire Department

when it begins Oct. 1 although in the future he will stretch to the entire Redwood City Fire Department, according to the announcement made yesterday. "I'm proud and grateful to be given the responsibilities of this new position," Maupin said in a prepared statement. "The shared services concept is new for all of us and I'm looking forward to ensuring it works well for the benefit of the communities of both Redwood City and San Carlos." The shared service partnership calls for Redwood City fire to provide management for the new department while San Carlos hires the firefighters and paramedics. The city of San Carlos contracted with Redwood City after disbanding the joint Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department. Belmont is establishing its own stand-alone department:

[http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article\\_preview.php?id=165788&title=New%20deputy%20fire%20chief%20to%20head%20hybrid%20department](http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=165788&title=New%20deputy%20fire%20chief%20to%20head%20hybrid%20department)

The North Las Vegas (NV) Fire Department said it will handle all major car accidents and medical emergencies that are usually handled by private ambulance companies. Fire officials said the move, which would also see them treat patients on the scene and transport them if firefighters are the first on scene, is expected to bring the city more than \$2 million in savings over the next year:

<http://www.fox5vegas.com/story/15371111/nlv-fire-to-handle-all-emergency-calls-in-cost-saving-move>

There are 35 fire and rescue stations in Montgomery County (MD). Assistant Fire Chief Scott Graham says three of them are crawling with bed bugs. Thursday, 9 News Now obtained this internal memo sent to all county fire personnel, by chief Richard Bowers. He calls the infestation a very serious issue, and includes information about how to keep bed bugs out. Like inspecting bunkrooms and living room furniture, and cleaning personal linens daily — including sleeping bags:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-department-management/articles/1117471-3-Md-fire-stations-infested-with-bed-bugs/>

The 13 white Buffalo (NY) firefighters whose civil service promotional scores were voided on racial grounds earlier this decade are missing out on a combined \$4.1 million in pay and pension benefits, an expert witness testified Friday. Richard A. Shick, dean emeritus of Canisius College's Richard J. Wehle School of Business, testified that he calculated those lost earnings based on federal and state government pension data and the department's actual promotion histories. State Supreme Court Justice John A. Michalek ultimately will rule on the financial damages Buffalo owes the firefighters for its decision to void 2005 and 2006 civil service test results because minority firefighters did poorly:

<http://www.buffalonews.com/city/article543502.ece>

Norco (CA) council members began the process to dissolve its Fire Department and set up a transitional plan to contract with the county for fire and medical emergency services. County services are expected to save Norco roughly \$1.4 million, according to a staff report. The exact amount of savings by contracting is unknown because Norco would continue paying for accrued vacation time, sick leave, existing workers compensation claims and retired employees' health-care benefits for an unknown period. Cal Fire officials say they can save the city money through longer shifts and more available firefighters. The city believes it would save on overtime and liability costs, such as workers compensation and disability claims:

[http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/PE\\_News\\_Local\\_D\\_wfire08.3fec0bb.html](http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/PE_News_Local_D_wfire08.3fec0bb.html)

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

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

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

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

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

**Chabot College web site:**

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

**\*\*\* PLEASE FEEL FREE TO PASS THIS ON TO YOUR FRIENDS OR CO-WORKERS\*\*\***

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- If you would like to be added to our mailing list (no, I won't give your email address out to others), email me at [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) and I will add you to the list. Benefits of being on the mailing list include being notified when the latest Fire & EMS news is published, and being notified of firefighter testing opportunities, volunteer opportunities, or training opportunities.
- If you know of someone who wants to receive this newsletter (as well as other updates) email me at [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) and I will place them on the mailing list.
- If you want to take your name off of the mailing list, just send me an email at [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) and in the subject heading, and type in "unsubscribe from mailing list" and I will remove your name.
- If you are subscribed to my email mailing list and you are not receiving anything (a problem some earthlink, aol, hotmail and yahoo users have at times), make sure you add my name – Steve Prziborowski and the email address I use to send this newsletter and other fire and EMS related news items out – [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) to your address book, safe list, white list, etc. Since I mass mail items to thousands of people, some email providers may think these items are spam or junk mail, even though they are not. If you have not received anything from me in over two weeks, email me to let me know so that I can attempt to troubleshoot the issue.