



FIRE & EMS NEWS

July 19, 2010

Welcome to the latest issue of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News!

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

FALL 2010 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE

Registration for the Fall 2010 semester has begun for some students, and is scheduled as follows:

Fall Registration Dates

- **Continuing students by priority:** already in process.
- **Early decision students:** already in process.
- **New and Former students:** already in process.

The following fire-technology related courses are going to be offered this Fall:

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization) Note: This section (Monday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 20 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.	Monday (am)	0800 – 1150 hours
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
FT 51 (Fire Service Operations)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival)	Wednesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival) Note: This section (Wednesday afternoon) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 24 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours

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COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 53 (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (mid)	1500 – 1750 hours
FT 54 (Fire Prevention Technology)	Thursday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
FT 56 (Building Construction for Fire Protection)	Wednesday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - October 12, 14 and 16 (Tue/Thu/Sat) - November 17, 19 and 21 (Wed/Fri/Sun)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) or Mon & Wed (pm) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours 1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 91A (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: November 30, December 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 19	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: November 16, 18, 20 and 21	Tue (pm) Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1800 – 2215 hours 1700 – 2115 hours 0800 – 1730 hours 0800 – 1730 hours
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: November 19, 11, 13 and 14	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2115 hours 0800 – 1730 hours 0800 – 1730 hours
FT 95 (Work Experience) **Must also be registered in FT 96**	TBA	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95** Note: Class only meets on the following dates: August 19, September 2, October 7, November 4 and December 16	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)	1400 – 1750 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Friday (am)	0830 – 1250 hours
Health 81 (EMT) **Must also be registered in Health 83**	Wednesday (all day)	0830 – 1845 hours
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) **Must also be registered in Health 81**	Saturday (one day only – November 6)	0830 – 1620 hours
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: November 30, December 2, 4, 7, 9 and 11	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1550 hours
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Mon & Wed (mid)	1300 – 1415 hours
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours

NOTE: The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding Fall 2010 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at <http://banner-web.clpccd.cc.ca.us:700/>

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

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



Residential hazardous materials (hazmat) safety is important in preventing fires in and around your home. Hazmat safety involves the proper handling and storage of combustibles and flammable liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, propane, oil, aerosols, certain household cleaning products, and painting supplies.

The following are some safety tips you can follow to avoid a hazmat emergency:

- Use proper storage containers for flammables and combustibles;
- Know how to shut off the gas supply in case of an emergency;
- Never store flammables in direct sunlight or near an open flame;
- Inspect storage areas regularly and be on the lookout for leaky containers, poor ventilation, and the smell of fumes; and
- Store hazardous materials out of the reach of children and pets.

[Learn More »](#)

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY:

**TAKE CFSTES FIRE OFFICER &
FIRE TECH CLASSES ON THE INTERNET
REGISTER FOR FALL 2010 CLASSES, NOW!**

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

State Budget Cuts = Less Fire Classes
LIMITED REGISTRATION STARTS JUNE 28th
Register Early, Classes are Expected to Fill Fast.

CFSTES Fire Officer classes are scheduled in a Hybrid (Internet"Classroom) format at Allan Hancock College and the Fire Tech classes are scheduled exclusively online, at either Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, CA and Imperial Valley College in El Centro, CA. The following courses will be available in the Fall 2010 Semester starting August 23rd.

CFSTES Fire Officer Classes (Hybrid (Internet"Classroom) format)

- Fire Management 1: Management" Supervision for Company Officers - Hybrid
- Fire Command 1A: Command Principles for Company Officers - Hybrid
- Fire Command 1B: Incident Management for Company Officers - Hybrid
- Fire Command 1C: I-Zone Fire Fighting for Company Officers - Hybrid
- Fire Prevention 1A: Introduction to the California Fire Code - Entirely On-line
- Fire Prevention 1B: Introduction to the California Fire Code - Entirely On-line
- Training Instructor 1A: Cognitive Lesson Delivery - Hybrid
- Training Instructor 1B: Psychomotor Lesson Delivery - Hybrid

The CFSTES classes are fully accredited by the State Fire Marshal and the fire technology classes are transferable to any community college.

Fire Technology Classes (Entirely on-line)

- Fire Protection Organization
- Fire Prevention Technology
- Fire Protection Equipment & Systems
- Building Construction for Fire Protection
- Fire Behavior & Combustion
- Principles of Fire and Emergency Services Safety and Survival
- Fire Hydraulics
- Apparatus & Equipment
- Fire Company Organization & Procedure (Not a CFSTES Class) - Late Start
- Fire Behavior & Combustion - Late Start

Wildland, EMS, Emergency Management & Haz Mat classes, as well as General Education classes are also offered on-line.

For information on how to enroll as a student and register for classes, or if you want additional information on the Fire Technology Program, contact Dan Coffman at dcoffman@hancockcollege.edu

FIRE TRAINING & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY:



REGISTER NOW FOR TAK-RESPONSE!

**Public Safety Training Group Members
Receive \$25 Off Full Conference Registration**

Register with association source code 30003

REGISTER HERE



THE CONFERENCE

Within this post-9/11 era, the message is clear, no single discipline can properly deal with forthcoming threats by themselves! We need to unite, train together, and operate as a single entity.

The TAK-Response Conference & Exhibition September 14 - 16, 2010, is a first of its kind multidisciplinary training event focused on equipping emergency responders with the tools and insights to navigate tomorrow's first response environments.

Why Attend TAK-Response?

- Participate in the dedicated Tactical Fire, Tactical Law Enforcement, Tactical Disaster & Homeland Security, or Tactical EMS sessions
 - Cultivate interagency relationships
 - Make new connections
 - Learn new life preserving tactics from agency leaders
- Need more reasons to attend?

[Click here to learn more about the conference](#)

Featured Tactical Firefighting session:

July 19, 2010

www.chabotfire.com

Educational Credit & Grant Reimbursement

TAK-Response is approved for the delivery of up-to 16-hours continuing education within the following classifications: **POST, EMS & BRN** (including the pre-conference).

TAK-Response qualifies for reimbursement from **State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP), Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), and Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)** grant funds. Contact your training department to see if these reimbursements are available to you.
PCS is your official TAK-

Wednesday, September 15, 2010
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Vent for Life

Captain Rick Hudson, Sacramento City (CA) Fire Department

A review of concepts for prioritizing the first-due arriving companies' tactical needs for ventilation, specifically for life-saving searches, will be targeted around arrival assignments and crew riding positions. Brief case studies are presented along with a group discussion forum.

[Click here to review all session descriptions](#)

Response Housing Company
Call today to book your room at a show discounted rate.
888-472-7462 or [click here](#)

THE EXHIBITION

Join hundreds of attendees to see the latest products and services from industry-leading companies. The exhibition will feature cutting edge products and technology vital to combating 21st century threats.

[Click here to view the exhibitor list](#)

Interested in exhibiting? There's still space left! [Click here for information on exhibiting and sponsorships](#)



THE PRE-CONFERENCE SUMMIT

3-C Summit: Managing Catastrophe

This pre-conference summit focuses on:

- Successes in interagency coordination during disasters
- Preparing for using unfamiliar resources
- Networking with colleagues and first responders of all disciplines

[Click here to learn more about the pre-conference summit](#)



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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW](#)



FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The [Burbank \(CA\) Fire Department](#) is accepting application for **Firefighter Recruit** until August 27, 2010.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION:

- **EDUCATION/TRAINING:** Graduation from high school or equivalent.
- **LICENSE & CERTIFICATES:** A valid California Class "C" Driver's License or equivalent and State of California Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certificate at time of appointment. Note: Must be able to obtain a valid California Class "B" Driver's License within three years of appointment to Fire Fighter.
- **AGE:** Must be at least 21 years of age at time of appointment
- **DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:** A valid State of California Paramedic License

To view the job announcement and for more specific details about the position including how to apply, go to: <http://www.ci.burbank.ca.us/index.aspx?page=219>

For more information about the **City of Burbank** and the **Burbank Fire Department**, visit their website at: www.ci.burbank.ca.us

For more information about the **Burbank Fire Department Firefighters Association**, *International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 778*, visit their website at: www.burbankfirefighters.org

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

- **Yvorra Scholarships for First Responders Now Accepting Applications**

Yvorra Leadership Development Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 408
Port Republic, Maryland 20676-0408
(410) 586-3048
(410) 586-3047 FAX
www.yld.org

YLD Announces 2010 Scholarship Competition

The Yvorra Leadership Development Foundation is accepting applications for the 2010 scholarship awards competition. **The application deadline is September 30, 2010.**

Since 1989 YLD has awarded more than \$103,000 in scholarships to emergency responders throughout the United States. Any active duty career or volunteer member of the Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services may apply. In 2009, YLD issued three awards of \$2,500.

To request or complete and an application visit our web site at www.yld.org.

The Yvorra Leadership Development Foundation was organized in 1988 in honor of Deputy Fire Chief James G. Yvorra, who was killed in the line of duty. In 2007, YLD established the Chief John Eversole Endowment for Hazardous Materials Responders. In 1995, the Foundation established the Donald E. Sellers Endowment for Emergency Medical Services. For more information, visit the web site at www.yld.org.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

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

Firehouse Expo – *Baltimore, MD* - July 20 through 25, 2010

Go to www.firehouseexpo.com for more information.

Fire Rescue International – *Chicago, IL* - August 24 through 28, 2010

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

TAK – RESPONSE – *San Jose, CA* - September 14 through 16, 2010

Go to www.takresponse.com for more information.

Firehouse Central – *Dallas, TX* - September 27 through October 1, 2010

Go to www.firehousecentral.com for more information.

California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium – *Fresno, CA* - November 15 through 19, 2010 - Go to <http://register.calchiefs.org/> for more information.

Firehouse World – *San Diego, CA* - February 26 through March 2, 2011

Go to www.firehouseworld.com for more information.

Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) – *Indianapolis, IN* – March 21 through 26, 2011 - Go to www.fdic.com for more information.

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

Baltimore (MD) Mayor Rawlings-Blake Signs Bill Requiring Installation of Sprinklers in New Homes:

Announced additional funding for lithium battery smoke alarms to keep communities safe.

Today, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake joined Council President Bernard "Jack" Young, Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke (District-14), Councilman Warren Branch (District-13) and Fire Chief James Clack to sign into law City Council Bill 10-0437, Residential Code - Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems. Beginning July 1, 2010, all new one and two-family homes built in Baltimore City will be required to have residential fire sprinklers. The City Council passed the landmark legislation on June 21, 2010. Baltimore becomes the largest city in the United States to require these life saving devices in all new residential construction.

"I would like to thank Councilwoman Clarke for her continued efforts to increase fire safety in Baltimore," Mayor Rawlings-Blake said. "With this legislation, combined with other efforts, including reduced rotating firehouse closures effective July 1 and continued outreach to provide free smoke alarms to City residents, we can continue to reduce fire related deaths."

Residential fire sprinklers have proven their effectiveness in saving lives across Maryland. Since the early 1990's when state law mandated sprinklers in new multi-family homes and townhouses, there have been no fire deaths in these protected structures. More than half of Maryland's municipalities and nine counties have adopted similar requirements for one and two-family homes.

"Sprinklers save lives," added Councilwoman Clarke, the lead sponsor of the bill. "This bill is a step in the right direction of safer homes for all our citizens."

"Home blazes are the leading cause of fire death in our city, and residential fire sprinklers will give our citizens crucial time to escape," said Fire Chief James Clack. "Working smoke alarms only alert occupants to a fire, but residential sprinklers act quickly to control blazes before they become deadly."

The Mayor also announced that the City is increasing its funding for the Fire Department's free smoke alarm program. Funding was increased from \$80,000 last year to \$100,000 for this upcoming year. The smoke alarms installed by the Fire Department have lithium batteries that last 10 years.

The Fire Department has installed over 15,000 lithium battery smoke alarms as part of this program. Residents can request a smoke alarm for their home by calling the Smoke Detector Hotline at (410) 396-7283.

EVERYONE GOES HOME NEWSLETTER – June 2010:



www.EveryoneGoesHome.com

EVERYONE GOES HOME®

FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY INITIATIVES

June 2010
E-Newsletter

[2010 Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week - June 20-26, 2010](#)

Departments are encouraged to suspend all non-emergency activity during Safety Week and focus on safety, health and wellness-related training and education.

» [Click Here to Read the Full Article](#)

[Advancing the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives, 18 Holes at a Time](#)

In 2004, the first National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) Memorial Golf Tournament was held in Fairfield, PA, to raise funds for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and to heighten awareness of its mission.

» [Click Here to Read the Full Article](#)

More June 2010 Articles:

- [Everyone Goes Home® Program Sparks Culture Change](#)
- [Experience - A Wise Teacher](#)
- [Two Firefighters Saved - Thanks, Captain!](#)

» **More:** [View the Complete June 2010 Newsletter](#)

» **Archives:** [Everyone Goes Home® Newsletters](#)



The *Everyone Goes Home*® Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Program is made possible through the efforts of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, with funding provided by the Department of Homeland Security, Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the generosity of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company.



Homeland Security



Fireman's Fund[™]
Insurance Company

A company of Allianz (All)

» For More Information Visit: www.everyonegoeshome.com

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

National Pet Fire Safety Day is July 15

Promote pet fire safety in your community

An estimated 500,000 pets are affected annually by home fires, and a new data analysis by the National Fire Protection Association shows that nearly 1,000 house fires each year are accidentally started by the homeowners' pets. The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is joining ADT Security Services and the American Kennel Club® (AKC) for the third annual National Pet Fire Safety Day on July 15 to spread awareness about how to prevent pets from starting home fires and keep pets safe in the event of an emergency.

"Not many pet owners realize that their pet can actually be the cause of a devastating fire," said AKC spokesperson Lisa Peterson. "Simple preventative measures, such as flameless candles and removing stove knobs when leaving the house, can mean the difference between life and death for your four-legged friends."

Chris and Kay Wardlow of Oklahoma know that all too well. Their curious dog Lucy was home alone and spied a cake on the stove top. As Lucy tried to get a taste, her paw accidentally hit the stove knob and turned on the gas burner that was under the cake pan. Within minutes, the house was filled with smoke, triggering the Wardlow's ADT monitored smoke detector. Firefighters were called to the scene and Lucy was rescued.

"Planning for unexpected emergencies like home fires and taking these precautions are an integral part of responsible dog ownership," Peterson said.

Fire departments across the country are encouraged to utilize Pet Fire Safety Day on July 15 to spread pet fire safety messages in your community. The following tips can be used to help educate pet owners on how to prevent their beloved pet from starting a fire, as well as how to keep their pets safe.

Prevent your pet from starting fires

- Extinguish open flames - Pets are generally curious and will investigate cooking appliances, candles, or even a fire in your fireplace. Ensure your pet is not left unattended around an open flame and make sure to thoroughly extinguish any open flame before leaving your home.
- Remove stove knobs - Be sure to remove stove knobs or protect them with covers before leaving the house – a stove or cook top is the number one piece of equipment involved in your pet starting a fire.
- Invest in flameless candles – These candles contain a light bulb rather than an open flame, and take the danger out of your pet knocking over a candle. Cats are notorious for starting fires when their tails turn over lit candles.
- Beware of water bowls on wooden decks – Do not leave a glass water bowl for your pet outside on a wooden deck. The sun's rays when filtered through the glass and

water can actually heat up and ignite the wooden deck beneath it. Choose stainless steel or ceramic bowls instead.

- Pet proof the home - Take a walk around your home and look for areas where pets might start fires inadvertently, such as loose wires and other potential hazards.

Keep your pets safe

- Keep pets near entrances when away from home – When leaving pets home alone, keep them in areas or rooms near entrances where firefighters can easily find them.
- Secure young pets - Especially with young puppies, keep them confined away from potential fire-starting hazards when you are away from home, such as in crates or behind baby gates in secure areas.
- Practice escape routes with pets – Keep collars and leashes at the ready in case you have to evacuate quickly with your pet or firefighters need to rescue your pet.
- Consider using monitored smoke detection services – As an added layer of protection beyond battery-operated smoke alarms, smoke detectors connected to a monitoring center help save pets who can't escape when left home alone.
- Affix a pet alert window cling – Write down the number of pets inside your house and attach the static cling to a front window. This critical information saves rescuers time when locating your pets. Make sure to keep the number of pets listed on them updated.

The NVFC has a listing of fire departments across the nation where pet owners can obtain a free pet alert window cling as part of National Pet Fire Safety Day. Visit www.nvfc.org/windowclings to find a location near you. The clings are also free online at www.adt.com/pets and will be available this September at your local AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day. This year's flagship event will be held in Raleigh on September 24. Visit <http://www.akc.org/clubs/rdod/> for more information on an event near you.

The **National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)** represents the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and provides invaluable tools, resources, programs, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. Learn more at www.nvfc.org.

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The **Santa Clara County Fire Department**
Invites Applications (***deadline extended to July 30, 2010***) for:

Firefighter /Engineer assigned to Paramedic Duty

For more information about the **Santa Clara County Fire Department**, including the application process, information on the position, as well as what is required to apply, please visit their website at: www.sccfd.org

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

Dear Friend of the LAFD,

Periodically, we share a digest of *non-incident* articles from the Los Angeles Fire Department blog. We welcome you to click the links below that interest you. But first, pen these dates in your calendar - and plan to join us for worthy causes and fun events!

- Tuesday, July 20, 2010 - 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- **Blood Drive For Future Firefighter(s) in Granada Hills**
<http://goo.gl/fb/rZjlv>

- Saturday, July 24, 2010 - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- **American Heroes Airshow in Lakeview Terrace**
<http://bit.ly/de8QNL>

- Monday, September 13, 2010 - 8:00 AM
- **LAFD Golf Invitational to benefit Firemen's Relief Association**
<http://bit.ly/d7bSpH>

...**As promised, our most popular recent LAFD blog posts:**

- **Did You Know the LAFD has an Photo Gallery?**
<http://flickr.com/photos/lafd>

- **Firefighters Stress Hot Weather Safety in Los Angeles**
<http://bit.ly/9IR03T>

- **Children, Hot Weather & Cars = Danger!**
<http://bit.ly/duussF>

- **Will Household Cleaning Force You to Call 9-1-1?**
<http://bit.ly/9k2EGl>

- **LAFD Insight: The Brush Clearance Process in Los Angeles**
<http://bit.ly/9Eb0GB>

- **There Was Indeed No Cure - Only Pancakes, Prizes and (*with our deepest thanks*) You** - <http://bit.ly/c9wG2Y>

Are you on Twitter? Follow @LAFD, @LAFDtalk and @SmokeAlarm
<http://twitter.com/LAFD>
<http://twitter.com/LAFDtalk>
<http://twitter.com/SmokeAlarm>

Find LAFD on Facebook at: <http://facebook.com/LosAngelesFireDepartment>

#

Respectfully Yours in Safety and Service,

Brian Humphrey
Firefighter/Specialist
Public Service Officer
Los Angeles Fire Department

"Serving with Courage, Integrity and Pride"

LAFD Home Page: <http://lafd.org>
LAFD News Blog: <http://lafd.org/blog>

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

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

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

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

To see the **available dates** to take the CPAT at any of the above three locations, visit their website at www.cpatonline.org

FIRE SERVICE INFO FROM THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION:



Golf Opportunities Are Still Available - Reserve Your Spot at One of Our 2010 Golf Tournaments Today!



The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Golf Tournaments have become an important source of revenue for supporting NFFF programs. Since the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation receives no direct government funding, it must rely upon grants; individual and corporate contributions; and fundraising events to support its programs. Proceeds from these events enable surviving families and co-workers of fallen firefighters to attend the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend held each October. These funds also help to endow scholarships for family members of fallen firefighters, and to provide logistical and emotional support to departments coping with a line-of-duty death.

Supporting the Foundation...18 Holes at a Time
Come Golf With Us at One of Our Regional Tournaments

September 2010

- » **Anchorage, AK** - September 10, 2010
- » **Geneva, IL** - September 10, 2010
- » **North Texas** - September 10, 2010
- » **Rockford, IL** - September 10, 2010
- » **St. John's, SC** - September 10, 2010
- » **Prescott Valley, AZ** - September 11, 2010

September 2010

- » **Butler, PA** - September 20, 2010
- October 2010
- » **Orange Co./Jefferson Co., TX** - October 16, 2010

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 -

Dates / Locations / Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monday August 9, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Alameda, CA</u>) - Tuesday August 10, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Alameda, CA</u>) - Thursday September 9, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Mountain View, CA</u>) - Friday September 10, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Mountain View, CA</u>) <p>**Go to their website at www.sfparamedics.org and click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates and times and to register as a volunteer.</p>
You will receive:	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.
Your role:	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.
To register / More information:	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 www.sfparamedics.org/pages/about/volunteer.php

- Advanced Medical Life Support Classes: Volunteers Needed

Dates / Locations / Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wednesday September 15, 2010 from 1230 to 1700 hours (<u>San Francisco, CA</u>) - Thursday September 16, 2010 from 1030 to 1700 hours (<u>San Francisco, CA</u>) - Thursday November 11, 2010 from 1230 to 1700 hours (<u>San Francisco, CA</u>) - Friday November 12, 2010 from 1030 to 1700 hours (<u>San Francisco, CA</u>) <p>**Go to their website: www.sfparamedics.org & click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates & times and to register as a volunteer.</p>
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FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & SAFETY INFORMATION FROM THE EVERYONE GOES HOME FOUNDATION:

FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY

LEARNING

Media CENTER

Everyone Goes Home® Learning Media Center E-Alert - July 9, 2010

Electrical Emergencies and First Responders



[View other Fallen Firefighter Plaques](#)

Everyone Goes Home® & Courage to Be Safe®

This Month's Feature

[Electrical Emergencies and First Responders](#)

This segment, taken from Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Resource Kit #4, focuses on safety when responding to emergencies involving overhead and underground electrical equipment and facilities.

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The *Everyone Goes Home®* Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Program is made possible through the efforts of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, with funding provided by the Department of Homeland Security, Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the generosity of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company.



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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

- 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.

FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:

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

Name:	Scott W. Davis
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	46
Gender:	Male
Status:	Career
Years of Service:	14
Date of Incident:	06/19/2010
Time of Incident:	Pending
Date of Death:	06/20/2010
Fire Department:	Oswego Fire Department
Address:	35 E Cayuga ST, Oswego, NY 13126-1151
Fire Department Chief:	Joseph P. Perry

Incident Description: Firefighter Davis passed away from an apparent heart attack shortly after completing a tour of duty that included several emergency responses.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: A fireman's service will be held at 1800hrs, June 23, at Nelson Funeral Home. Calling hours will be held from 1400-1800hrs, June 23, prior to the service at the funeral home, 11 W. Albany St., Oswego.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Oswego Firefighters Association, 35 E. Cayuga St., Oswego, N.Y. 13126.

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Scott W. Davis at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/

To date, 35 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 33 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year 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

AND:

Name:	Jay C. Brown
Rank:	Fire Chief
Age:	42
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	24
Date of Incident:	06/27/2010
Time of Incident:	1800hrs
Date of Death:	06/27/2010
Fire Department:	Gresston Volunteer Fire Department
Address:	Gresston, GA
Fire Department Chief:	Pending

Incident Description: Fire Chief Brown passed away from an apparent heart attack while working with his fire department to clear away trees that were knocked down during severe storms in the area.

Incident Location: Friendship UMC Road.

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Fire Chief Jay C. Brown at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/

To date, 37 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 35 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year 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

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

AND:

Name: Steven Scott Crannell
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 47
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 20
Date of Incident: 04/21/2010
Time of Incident: 0005hrs
Date of Death: 04/22/2010
Fire Department: Guthrie Center Fire Department
Address: 101 State Street. Guthrie Center, IA 50115
Fire Department Chief: Doug Kent
Fire Department POC: Chief Doug Kent

Incident Description: Firefighter Steven Crannell participated in a fire department training drill on the evening of 04/21/2010. He went home after assisting with cleanup from the drill. EMS was dispatched to his home at 12:05 am on 4/22/2010. He was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced dead at 1:20 am from an apparent heart attack.

Funeral Arrangements: Memorial Services were held Saturday, 04/24/2010 at 16:00hrs, at the Guthrie Center High School gymnasium. Visitation was held from 1300hrs until service time at the school.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Memorial contributions may be made to the Guthrie Center Fire Department, 101 State Street, Guthrie Center, IA 50115.

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

To date, 38 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 36 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year 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

AND:

Name: Frank William Fouts, V
Rank: Lieutenant
Age: 37
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 17
Date of Incident: 7/01/2010
Time of Incident: 1100hrs
Date of Death: 7/01/2010
Fire Department: City of Kankakee Fire Department
Address: 385 E OAK ST, Kankakee, IL 60901-3924

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Fire Department Chief: Ron Young
Fire Department Website: <http://www.kankakeefire.org/>

Incident Description: Lieutenant Fouts passed away from cardiac arrhythmia after completing two fire and two EMS calls on his last shift.

Incident Location: 1345 E. Cap Circle, Bourbonnais, IL

Funeral Arrangements: Tuesday, July 6, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 211 N. Center Avenue, Bradley, Illinois 60915, (815) 939-3573.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Frank William Fouts, V Memorial Fund for his children. Other expressions of sympathy or condolences can be sent to Local 653 at 1136 Flossie Circle, Bourbonnais, IL 60914-4564 or emailed to jtjkb@comcast.net.

Tribute is being paid to Lieutenant Frank William Fouts, V at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 39 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 37 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year 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

AND:

Name: Thomas Araguz III
Rank: Captain
Age: 30
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 11
Date of Incident: 07/03/2010
Time of Incident: 2130hrs
Date of Death: 07/03/2010
Fire Department: Wharton Fire Department
Address: 319 N Fulton ST, Wharton, TX 77488-3903
Fire Department Chief: Bobby Barnett
Fire Department Website: <http://www.whartonfire.com>

Incident Description: Captain Araguz was killed when he became caught and trapped by rapidly progressing fire conditions inside of a 25,000 square feet 250-foot-long processing building at a poultry farm. A contributing factor fueling the fire was large fans used to keep the animals cool. The cause of the fire remains under investigation by state and local authorities.

Incident Location: 580 Maxim DR, Boling, TX 77420-0020

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Funeral Arrangements: Visitation, 07/10/2010 from 1300-180hrs at the Wharton Funeral Home, 515 E. Boling HWY, Wharton, TX. The funeral will take place 07/11/2010 at 1400hrs, Wharton Civic Center, 1924 N. Fulton, Wharton, TX. Public parking will be at the Wharton High School, 800 E. Ahldag. Buses will transport those attending beginning at 1230hrs and immediately after the funeral. Graveside services will follow at the Evergreen Memorial Park, 3511 E. Alabama RD (CR 166), Wharton, TX.

For those who would like to pay tribute to Captain Thomas Araguz III, the funeral procession will follow from Wharton Civic Center, south on Fulton ST, west on Boling HWY, south on North Richmond RD, east on Alabama ST, passing the Wharton Fire Station, then north on Alabama RD, ending at Evergreen Memorial Park.

Public needing more information may call (979) 532-4811 x400.
Fire Department personnel needing more information, call (281) 802-4561.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: An account has been established for Captain Thomas Araguz III at The First State Bank of Louise, 505 E. Boling HWY, Wharton, TX ((979) 532-0404). Please make checks payable to The Thomas Araguz III Memorial Fund.

Tribute is being paid to Captain Thomas Araguz III at
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 40 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 38 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year 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

AND:

Name:	Charles Robert "Bob" Flintom
Rank:	Engineer
Age:	61
Gender:	Male
Status:	Career
Years of Service:	30+
Date of Incident:	07/01/2010
Time of Incident:	1000hrs
Date of Death:	07/04/20010
Fire Department:	Pelham-Batesville Fire Department
Address:	2761 S Highway 14, Greer, SC 29650-4926
Fire Department Chief:	Phill Jolley
Fire Department Website:	http://www.pbfd.com/

Incident Description: Firefighter Flintom was in the fire station kitchen preparing lunch when he blacked-out, fell, and struck his head. Flintom went to the hospital and discovered his fall had caused some internal bleeding. The following day, Firefighter Flintom's condition worsened and he became unconscious, passing away from his injury on July 4th.

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Incident Location: 2761 S Highway 14, Greer, SC 29650-4926

Funeral Arrangements: 07/10/2010 @ 1400hrs, Floyd's Greenlawn Chapel in Spartanburg.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Memorials may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 500 Taylor Street, Suite 101, Columbia, SC 29201.

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter-Engineer Charles Robert "Bob" Flintom at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 41 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 39 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year 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

AND:

Name: Douglas L. Smith
Rank: Firefighter - Chief Driver
Age: 50
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 29
Date of Incident: 07/09/2010
Time of Incident: 1030hrs
Date of Death: 07/09/2010
Fire Department: Liberty Hose Company No. 1
Address: 225 West Broad Street, Williamstown, PA 17098
Fire Department Chief: Scott Slough

Incident Description: Firefighter Smith passed away due to an apparent heart attack as he entered the fire station while responding to a fire call in nearby Porter Township.

Incident Location: Porter Township, PA

Funeral Arrangements: Memorial services will be held at 1100hrs on 07/15/2010, Immanuel Lutheran Church, East and Vine streets, Williamstown, with the Rev. Kathleen Kuehl officiating. Visitation will be from 0900hrs until time of the service at the church. Interment with military honors will be at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Liberty Hose Company No. 1, West Broad Street, Williamstown, PA 17098, or Williamstown EMS, PO Box 74, Williamstown, PA 17098.

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter & Chief Driver Douglas L. Smith at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 42 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 40 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA
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firefighter fatality reports are posted online @
http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Charles Hornberger
Rank: Engineer
Age: 60
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 30
Date of Incident: 06/30/10
Time of Incident: 1140hrs
Date of Death: 07/12/10
Fire Department: Milmont Park Fire Company Station #49
Address: 714 Belmont Avenue, Milmont Park, PA 19033
Fire Department Chief: Terry Burke, Sr.
Fire Department POC: Deputy Chief Jay Volpone

Incident Description: On Wednesday, June 30, 2010, at approximately 1140hrs, Engineer Hornberger responded to the fire station for an alarm of a commercial building fire. He arrived at the station but missed the truck. He stayed at the station until his company returned and then went home. While leaving his house a short while later, he collapsed. He was immediately given CPR and rushed to the Taylor Hospital. He remained in the hospital where he passed away from irreversible damage to the heart.

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation will be Sunday, July 18, 2010, 1700hrs-2000hrs and Monday, July 19, 2010, from 0830hrs-0945hrs at the Milmont Park Fire Company. At 1000hrs, there will be a procession from the fire house to St. Peter and Paul Cemetery where Engineer Hornberger will be laid to rest with full honors. Engineer Hornberger was the Past Deputy Chief of the Milmont Park Fire Company and had spent many years as a member of numerous other departments.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

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

To date, 43 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 41 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and two from previous year 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

AND:

Name: Richard L. Springman
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 20
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
July 19, 2010

www.chabotfire.com

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Years of Service: 6
Date of Incident: 07/14/2010
Time of Incident: 1545hrs
Date of Death: 07/14/2010
Fire Department: Trout Run Volunteer Fire Company
Address: 241 State RTE 14, Trout Run, PA 17771
Fire Department Chief: Robert Whitford

Incident Description: Firefighter Springman was responding in his personal vehicle to a fatal two-vehicle collision on Route 15 when his truck reportedly struck a guardrail and crashed. Firefighter Springman was ejected from his vehicle and passed away from injuries sustained in the accident.

Incident Location: US Hwy 15 @ Powys Curve in Lewis Township, PA.

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Richard L. Springman at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/

To date, 44 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 42 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year 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

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USFA does not have a Line-of-Duty-Death (LODD) criterion nor does it make LODD determinations. "Please note, running totals of firefighter fatalities used on these initial notices do not necessarily reflect the number of firefighter fatalities used in totals for the (provisional) monthly year-to-date USFA firefighter fatality reports, or year-end (provisional) reports posted online at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

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

FIRE SERVICE SAFETY, TRAINING & NEWS
STORIES TO LEARN FROM, COURTESY OF
DEPUTY CHIEF BILLY GOLDFEDER & GORDON
GRAHAM, HOSTS OF www.firefighterclosecalls.com

Short Cuts, Deaths & BP-Asking Questions (The Secret List)

Hey,

As you may remember, 2 Kilgore (TX) Firefighters died in the Line of Duty (*NIOSH report link below) while training on their new aerial truck back in January of 2009. They died after falling from the elevated aerial platform during training. The members were participating in the drill to familiarize themselves with a newly purchased 95-foot mid-mount aerial platform truck. The group of 4 FF's, without safety belts, were in the aerial platform which was raised to the roof of an 8 story college dorm. The platform became stuck on the concrete parapet wall at the top of the building. During attempts to free the platform, the top edge of the parapet wall gave way and the aerial ladder sprung back from the top of the building, then began to whip violently back and forth. 2 of the 4 FF's standing in the platform were ejected from the platform because of the motion. **They fell about 80 feet to the ground and were tragically killed in the Line of Duty.**

Now, the family of one of the Firefighters who was killed will soon be in court. Firefighters Cory Galloway and Kyle Perkins were the victims who died in the Line of Duty. FF Galloway's family has filed a lawsuit against E-one Incorporated, Hallmark Apparatus of Texas, and the City of Kilgore because of his death. The suit focuses on the fact that the truck had just been delivered a few weeks before the training, which did not include safety belts. The suit accuses the Kilgore FD of requiring its FF's to operate the equipment in a high risk exercise after just a few hours of basic training, and without safety belts. **Predictable?**

While the courts and attorneys will figure this one out, it really hits hard (especially recently) around the fact that so many FD's are cutting costs, and in some stupid and very risky ways. Now keep in mind, cutting costs may or may not have been the reason why the truck didn't have safety belts or more training, that remains to be proven in court. But with SO MANY FD's and their Cities, etc, are trying to "find savings" and "save money" it (as always) is just a matter of time before it "catches up" - and in most cases, the "catching up" doesn't personally impact those who made the decision to cut the funds and save the money.

When a city closes a firehouse and lays off Firefighters but keeps parks open, the impact of the closed firehouse will rarely personally impact those at city hall. But it will impact the person who will eventually have a fire. Naturally, the cuts also impact those who are expected to "fix" that fire (firefighters) when they arrive later, and perhaps with less staffing due to other cuts. Do more with less.

SEATTLE FIRE KILLS 5:

Take the recent case of Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn who is now taking back his idea of cutting the number of Firefighters who would respond after that horrific apartment fire last

weekend that killed 4 kids and an adult. 4 kids and an adult killed in a fire had better have an impact on elected officials. The goal would be to get them to "get it" BEFORE people are killed. Like Mayors and City Managers everywhere, McGinn initially proposed the idea to save money. He suggested that less Firefighters on the apparatus would work out OK. But then, as the Mayor stated very publicly, "this past weekend gave us a concrete example of the importance of protecting our public safety budget; in light of that event, I am not proposing any reductions to the SFD"

The city is facing a \$50 million dollar budget shortfall and like cities everywhere, decisions have to be made. If the budget is cut, service is absolutely reduced and in some cases risk is increased. Of course, risk doesn't "have" to be increased. **When a city shuts down firehouses or reduces staffing, they can order their Firefighters to NOT take risks and they can advise their citizens to NOT have fires.** That'll probably work out well, dontcha think? Ask the Seattle Firefighters who did their heroic best to bravely try to save those kids.

BP:

And then there is the BP oil disaster. The "face" of BP, Mr Hayward had been well known (before the incident) for his aggressive cost cutting and supporting a culture of corner cutting and carelessly increasing risks that led BP to choose cheaper, quicker ways of drilling. Their decisions then exposed BP's workers to greater risks as well as OUR Gulf of Mexico. Cost cuts = more profits. We understand profits and the fact that they are in business to make money but I'll bet they never thought THIS would happen. It "could" happen but what are the odds. Take a risk and see what happens. Awww come on now, what's gonna happen?

760 RECENT SAFETY VIOLATIONS:

When you look at BP's "safety" record, we find that the company has had 760 US safety violations in 5 years, compared with ExxonMobil's 6 during the same time. How do you think BP's risk management philosophy compares to ExxonMobil? And we haven't even talked about the 11 men killed. R.I.P.

RISKY BUSINESS:

As a Firefighter, Fire Officer or Chief, we manage risks everyday. Sometimes thru pro-active methods with training, prevention, pub-ed, pre-plans, command and company leadership, staffing, heavy first alarm responses, etc. We know there will be a problem at some point, so we take action to minimize the problem. It's the opposite of putting your head in the sand and pretending "everything will be ok".

The Firefighters will not fall out of a tower ladder.

We won't have a fire with people trapped.

The oil well will not catch fire and leak into the pristine Gulf of Mexico.

Risk management is a systematic approach to minimizing a department's (or community) exposure to risk. A risk management system includes various policies, procedures, training and practices that work in unison to identify, analyze, determine, evaluate, address and monitor risk. Risk management information is used along with other information, such as feasibility, life safety and cost vs benefit, to arrive at a risk management decision. Transferring risk to another party, lessening the negative affect of risk and avoiding risk altogether are considered pretty common risk management strategies.

The RISK warning signs were all there.

Could Firefighters get tossed out of a tower ladder? Have Firefighters ever fallen out of or off aerial devices previously? Has training or the lack of equipment lead to death and injury to Firefighters in the past? Who asks those questions? Could staffing cuts result in civilian (and Firefighter) deaths? Have civilians ever died due to fire service cuts? **Who asks those questions?** Could a company with 760 safety recent violations cause the worse environmental disaster in our history?

Who asks those questions?

Ask the questions. Yeah you.

Hopefully you belong to a Department where the leadership has the answers and has thought about "what might go wrong" well before you ask the questions.

Maybe you don't even have to ask.

Take Care-Be Careful. HAPPY FATHERS DAY.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-19-10 / 1616 Hours

www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

*NIOSH REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200906.html>

Receive Secret List notifications via TWITTER: <http://twitter.com/theseclist>

The Secret List is always posted on FACEBOOK: <http://tinyurl.com/y855vmt>

AND:

OSWEGO (NY) FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-HEART ATTACK FOLLOWING SHIFT

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the passing of Oswego Firefighter Scott W. Davis, IAFF Local 2707. After completing his tour of duty on the morning of June 19th Firefighter David is reported to have suffered an apparent fatal heart attack shortly after midnight yesterday, Fathers Day. FF Davis was 46 yrs. old and he leaves behind a wife Shawn and 3 children, Brandi 24, Kimberly 21 and Daniel 12. Services will be held on Wednesday June 23rd from the Nelson Funeral Home in Oswego N.Y. If there are any questions please don't hesitate to call District 2 V.P. Amedio @ 315-529-2173. As the day approaches modifications may be made to the scheduled itinerary and any changes will be posted on the NY State Professional Firefighters website: <http://www.nyspffa.org/index.html>

As always, our condolences to all affected by the loss of FF Davis.

**REMINDER: FIREFIGHTER SAFETY WEEK IN UNDERWAY:
DETAILS HERE FROM IAFF & IAFC:**

<http://www.iafc.org/displayindustryarticle.cfm?articlenbr=43147>

<http://www.iaff.org/10News/030110SafetyWeek.htm>

<http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/wallpaper/2010/shsweek/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-21-10 / 1554 Hours

AND:

FIRE APPARATUS ROLLOVER KILLS WA. FIRE CHIEF IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Washington's Franklin County District 4 Fire Chief was killed in the Line of Duty while operating at a brush fire just off highway 24 near Othello yesterday afternoon. Chief Chet Bauermeister, 53, was driving a snow cat converted into a fire apparatus on steep terrain when it rolled about 100 feet down a hill. 29 Year old FF Ryan Theroff was riding with Chief Bauermeister when it rolled and he was thrown out of the vehicle. FF Theroff was taken to Othello County Hospital where he was treated and released for minor injuries. More details will be posted on our home page. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

OHIO FIREHOUSE STRUCK LITERALLY BY CITY HALL:

Storms that swept across northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan last night struck the Edgerton, Ohio, town hall, picking up its roof and dropping it right on the firehouse just a few feet away. A Firefighter who was outside the firehouse when the town hall roof struck was taken to a hospital in nearby Bryan for NLT injuries. The weight of the town hall roof was beginning to show signs of stress as it sat on the firehouse roof.

CONGRATS TO CHICAGO FIRE COMMISSIONER BOB HOFF

A well known, highly respected Firefighter and 3rd generation member of the Chicago Fire Department is their new Fire Commissioner. Mayor Daley appointed Bob Hoff to be the new Commissioner yesterday.

Commissioner Hoff, a 33-year member, has been the department's 1st Deputy Fire Commissioner since 2008 and is one of the most decorated Firefighters in CFD's history. He has twice won the Carter Harrison Award, the department's highest honor for bravery. In 1984, he suffered burns so badly in an attic fire that he spent 21 days in the burn unit. "The water was temporarily shut down. I was ahead of the hose line. I ventilated the attic and I was caught in the flash-over. I had to go back through the fire to get out," Hoff recalled. "It was a flashover....The day I got burned, my son was five years old." Fearing that history might be repeating itself (as his Dad was killed in the Line of Duty-see below), Hoff said, "The first thing I asked the burn doctor is, 'Am I gonna be able to come back to work?' Hoff's father, Battalion Chief Thomas Hoff, died in the Line of Duty a 1962 fire building collapse. "My father and another chief (Robert O'Brien) were sent in...to make sure all the firefighters were out of the building. As they were exiting, the roof collapsed," the younger Hoff recalled. Both Chiefs were killed in the line of Duty that day. Despite the loss, Commissioner Hoff said he never hesitated to follow in his father's footsteps. "I have to live up to his expectations...I went to the cemetery Sunday on Father's Day and never did I believe I'd be standing here being asked to be fire commissioner. It's a proud day," Hoff said.

HERE is MORE about that FIRE:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/102058>

Commissioner Hoff told the media that the CFD would continue to be a "trend-setter" among major cities in cross-training firefighters as paramedics to respond to the steady decline in fires and the corresponding increase in calls for EMS. "Someday, you're gonna see all the members that are on the job cross-trained to be dual function (Firefighter/Paramedic). We step up to the plate and, whatever's on the streets, we're gonna fix because we're cross-trained," he said.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

CONGRATS to long time TSL member, Commissioner Bob Hoff on this outstanding, very well deserved and earned achievement.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-24-10 / 0730 Hours

AND:

Hey,

2 Tulare County (California) Firefighters were struck while operating at the scene of a vehicle fire Saturday evening. One is in critical condition while the other is standing by his injured friend's bedside. While Engineer Pat Hines, 56 and Captain Gary Gregory, 52, were operating at a fully involved SUV and as they were attempting to extinguish the fire, a vehicle practically came out of nowhere. Engineer Hines was thrown about 50 feet on impact and was airlifted with two broken legs, broken ribs as well as internal injuries. **His status was downgraded from serious to critical Saturday evening. Captain Gregory was treated for minor injuries at Tulare District Hospital.** The vehicle on fire was stolen, a common occurrence in Tulare County with 5 or 6 a week and many more on the weekends. There were no witnesses other than the Firefighters. Cops are looking for the suspects in a white pickup truck, possibly a Ford, with major front end damage from this hit and run. We'll post updates.

RESPONDING FIRE APPARATUS AND POLICE CAR CRASH AND STRIKE BICYCLIST IN PHILLY:

A crash involving a Philadelphia police car, fire apparatus and a bicycle sent two people, including a police officer, to the hospital around 1830 hours Friday. Both the fire company and the patrol car were responding to a fire on Brown Street when both vehicles collided with one another. The impact sent the patrol car into a bicyclist. All injuries are NLT. **A THOUGHT: Perhaps police should respond routine to fires. Perhaps. We're just say'n...**

WILDLAND PLANE CRASH:

A slurry bomber trying to land at Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport crashed yesterday, suspending drops on 2 of the larger wildfires burning in Colorado. Both the pilot and the co-pilot are OK. Slurry bombers are used to carry fire retardant to be dropped onto fires. Rangers at Rocky Mountain National Park say slurry drops used to fight the fires have been suspended at both the Cow Creek Fire burning in Rocky Mountain National Park and the Round Mountain Fire until further notice.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-27-10 / 0905 Hours

AND:

Hey,

We have posted photos on our home page of this mornings responding fire apparatus crash rollover in Farmington (MO) where 6 Firefighters were hurt, 1 seriously. The apparatus was responding to a mutual aid dwelling fire around 0140 Hours this morning when the right tires dropped off the right side of the highway. When that happened, the apparatus driver overcorrected, causing the pumper to veer off the highway and rollover. 5 of the

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30

Firefighters, ages 19 to 45, had minor injuries. However, the apparatus driver, Charles E. Farr, 30, was flown by helicopter to St. John's Mercy Medical Center in Creve Coeur for treatment of serious injuries. As of about an hour ago, all are doing well, 5 have been released and 1 is being held for 24 hour treatment and observation. **Initial reports were that the driver was belted, but it appears that at least some of the crew were not as 1 was ejected.** Updates will follow. We wish them all a rapid recovery.

NEBRASKA FIREFIGHTER SERIOUSLY HURT AT ROW GARAGE FIRE

An Omaha Firefighter was seriously injured at around 0015 hours this morning. Upon arrival, companies found fire quickly spreading in a row of garages. At some point a Firefighter was hurt. It's not clear exactly what happened. The Firefighter was transported to the hospital in serious condition, update to follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. BELT UP.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-27-10 / 1223 Hours

AND:

GEORGIA FIRE CHIEF DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY DURING STORM DETAIL

A Dodge County (GA) Fire Chief died in the Line of Duty last night while trying to clean up from the severe weather that rolled through the area. 42-year-old Chief Jay C. Brown died from an acute heart attack. The fire department was called out to cut down and remove trees that fell during the storms on Friendship UMC Road, that's in the Gresston area. Gresston is off Highway 23, between Eastman and Cochran. Chief Brown began feeling short of breath around 1845 hours. A Firefighter drove Brown to meet an ambulance but at that time, Brown was in full cardiac arrest. Chief Brown was chief of the Gresston Volunteer Community Fire Department. It's part of the Dodge County Fire Association. As always, our sincere condolences.

2 CANADIAN MEDICS KILLED AT WAR:

The war in Afghanistan took 2 more lives Saturday when a blast killed two Canadian medics, one a married woman. Master Cpl. Kristal Giesebrecht, 34, of Wallaceburg, Ont., and Pte. Andrew Miller, 21, of Sudbury, died when an IED exploded around 100 hours Saturday, southwest of Kandahar City. A third soldier, who was wounded, was evacuated to hospital at the Kandahar Air Field and is in stable condition. The troops were traveling in their armored vehicle to deal with a mine that had been found in the doorway of a home when their vehicle detonated an IED. Giesebrecht, a member of 1st Canadian Field Hospital, based at CFB Petawawa, was serving her second tour of duty in Afghanistan. Both medics were attached to the 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment battle group. June has been the deadliest month for NATO in Afghanistan, with at least 85 troops killed so far this month. Support Our Troops-Keep Them In Your Prayers.

FIRE FUNDING MAY BE BETTER-BUT STILL TOO LOW:

House Appropriations Subcommittee Restores Cuts and Adds Funding to the Fire Act grant Program: AFG and SAFER Programs Each Funded at \$420 million. Of course, there is still work to be done by ALL of us by personally contacting our Senators and members of Congress.

HOWEVER, also keep in mind, this is still way too low.

As a friend reminded me this morning: Remember when we were at \$760 million?

MORE HERE FROM FAMA/FEMSA:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/110652>

6 KIDS KILLED IN A NEW YORK STATE HOUSE FIRE:

While we rarely write up fires that aren't related to our Fire Fighter Close Calls mission, this one simply drives home the issue of civilian fire death - to the extreme. To those who fight tighter fire codes, work against residential sprinklers and attempt to reverse the needs for adequate fire department funding and staffing, here is yet another example of what Firefighters respond to-in case anyone in "your" city hall may have forgotten.

HERE is video and photos:

http://m.poststar.com/vmix_94c52d66-8173-11df-bad8-001cc4c03286.html

HERE is the story:

<http://tinyurl.com/2cdjr8r>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-28-10 / 0814 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Volunteer Firefighter in Pennsylvania was driving up to 75 mph and passing cars with his emergency lights flashing when his personal vehicle hit a motorcycle head-on, killing the 23 year old driver last year. But police said there was no emergency at the time, which is why they have charged Jonathan Hogue, 20, with homicide by vehicle, involuntary manslaughter and other crimes in connection with the August 9 crash. The crash happened at 2040 hours when Hogue was driving west in the eastbound trying to pass westbound traffic. Hogue told them a passenger was "playing with" his emergency lights at the time. Hogue's attorney calls the crash a "terrible, terrible accident" but won't comment on the charges or permit Hogue to do so. More to follow.

FIRE SERVICE WEBSITE SURVEY:

The IAFC is seeking input from fire service web users. For example, they are asking what 3 fire service websites do you visit most frequently, what features do you like, good stuff like that, so they can develop their new site.

NOTE: The survey allows you to "write in" any fire websites in the "other" field, if not recognized by the IAFC's survey, such as www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com or others you like such as: www.IAFCSafety.org, www.Everyonegoeshome.com, www.IAFF.org, www.Firefighternearmiss.com, www.nvfc.org, www.FireHero.org, www.Statter911.com, www.VCOS.org, www.Firegeezer.com, www.ISFSI.org, www.FDSOA.org --and any others you perhaps regularly visit and find of value.

Please take a moment to take the survey:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22AR6KP6RPF>

as they have extended the deadline for feedback.

UNUSUAL EXPULSION IN HOUSTON:

A Houston firefighter was injured with broken bones and another was burned on his face when an apparent small explosion happened at a warehouse early today. Firefighters were dispatched about 5:50 a.m. to the small warehouse for an unknown problem. There appeared to be no fire or smoke, and fire officials are uncertain what led to the initial emergency. As the two men were walking inside the building what appeared to be a small boiler exploded near them, injuring them. Another "ya never know" incident reminding all of us about PPE and protection. Glad these FF's will be OK.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-1-10 / 1517 Hours

AND

Hey,

Today we remember Hackensack (NJ) Fire Captain Williams, Lieutenant Reinhagen, and Firemen Kresja, Radumski, and Ennis were killed while fighting a fire at Hackensack Ford, on July 1, 1988.

To the younger Firefighters on The Secret List and visitors to FireFighterCloseCalls.com, please take time to study this fire and also determine if your local "fire" library (department, academy, training center etc) has access to the old AMERICAN HEAT video and story on this fire. It is a "must see" study for all firefighters.

These 6 men were in the structure, a bowstring truss building, when the roof suddenly collapsed. Williams, Kresja, and Radumski were killed instantly, and Reinhagen and Ennis, despite heroic rescue attempts, were tarpped and died from carbon monoxide poisoning. This fire caused significant awareness and changes in many aspects of firefighting not only in Hackensack, but all of North America.

(From the NFPA Report):

5 Firefighters from the Hackensack, New Jersey, FD were killed in the Line of Duty while they were engaged in interior fire suppression efforts at an automobile dealership when portions of the building's wood bowstring truss roof suddenly collapsed. The incident occurred on Friday, July 1, 1988, at approximately 1500 hours., when they received the first of a series of telephone calls reporting "flames and smoke" coming from the roof of the Hackensack Ford Dealership.

Two pumpers, a ladder truck, and a battalion chief responded to the first alarm assignment. The first arriving fire fighters observed a "heavy smoke condition" at the roof area of the building. Engine company crews investigated the source of the smoke inside the building while the truck company crew assessed conditions on the roof. For the next 20 minutes, the focus of the suppression effort was concentrated on these initial tactics.

During this time, however, little headway appeared to have been made by the initial suppression efforts, and the magnitude of the fire continued to grow. The overall fire ground tactics were shifted to a more "defensive" posture (exterior operation) and the battalion chief

gave the order to "back your lines out." However, before suppression crews could exit from the interior, a sudden partial collapse of the truss roof occurred, trapping six fire fighters. An intense fire immediately engulfed the area of the collapse. One trapped fire fighter was able to escape through an opening in the debris. The other five died as a result of the collapse.

This incident and an earlier similar incident at the Waldbaums supermarket fire in Brooklyn, New York, <http://stevespak.com/waldbaums.html> provide important lessons to the fire service regarding the fire ground hazards of wood truss roof assemblies.

ARTICLE:

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

PHOTO/VIDEO:

<http://www.cyberonic.net/~mikef6/p0000120.htm>

RESOURCES:

<http://tinyurl.com/2uchtoq>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-1-10 / 1512 Hours

AND

ILLINOIS FIRE LT DIES FOLLOWING SHIFT-MEDICAL-LODD

It is with deep regret that we advise you that yesterday, 7/01/10. Lt. Frank Fouts of the Kankakee Fire Department, Kankakee, IL died of a cardiac related illness that was unknown to him or his family. He was found outside his home by the family's babysitter. Lt. Fouts was 37 years old and an 10 year veteran of the KFD. He leaves behind a wife, Kathy, and two young boys, Grant 6, and Parker 10 mos. Here's a link to their local newspaper with a story regarding this tragic loss:

<http://daily-journal.com/archives/dj/display.php?id=458795>

As always, our sincere condolences.

IOWA LODD-MEDICAL EMERGENCY FOLLOWING DRILL (Delayed)

It is with deep regret that we advise you that Guthrie Center (Iowa) Firefighter Steven Crannell participated in a fire department training drill on the evening of 04/21/2010. He went home after assisting with cleanup from the drill. EMS was dispatched to his home at 12:05 am on 4/22/2010. He was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced dead at 1:20 am from an apparent heart attack. Funeral services have already been held but this LODD was only recently reported to the USFA/NFFF. Our condolences to all affected.

THIS COMING SUNDAY MORNING

According to this coming Sunday's **CBS SUNDAY MORNING TV** show preview, no parade seems complete without fire apparatus, and (in spite of some insane budget decisions in some areas) very few communities could do without the people who maintain and operate them, in some cases, Volunteer Firefighters. More than 70 percent of the Firefighters in the United States are Volunteer and in this week's "Sunday Morning" cover story, CBS's Travel Editor Peter Greenberg (yep-long time Secret List member and veteran Volunteer Firefighter in Suffolk County, N.Y.) celebrates the legacy of America's Volunteer Departments.

Be sure to check it out this coming Sunday Morning, July 4, 2010.

HERE is more: <http://www.cbsnews.com/sections/sunday/main3445.shtml>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-2-10 / 2243 Hours

AND

Hey,

A Redding (CA) Firefighter ended up in the hospital after some fireworks exploded in his hand during a demonstration. CalFire and the Redding FD were putting on the display to show how dangerous fireworks can be and how quickly a fire can start. The FF suffered burns yesterday when the roman candle exploded next to him. The FD's fire prevention specialist, he was transported with minor burns to his face and one of his eyes. He lit the roman candle, which launches exploding shells, as part of an annual media day about fireworks. It was the third firework he lit and it exploded in place rather than shooting one of its shells. Fortunately the FF was wearing FR clothing, a helmet and eye protection.

KID STRUCK BY FIRE APPARATUS ON FIREWORKS STAND BY DETAIL

A 6 year-old boy was run over by a fire apparatus south of Darwin (Australia) last night and is now in intensive care at the hospital. The 6 year old was run over about 2030 hours at as the fire apparatus was being parked in readiness for the possibility of fires sparked by fireworks during last night's Territory Day celebrations. We'll update as we hear more, but just another reminder of how kids will usually be found around fire apparatus-and the last thing any of us want to do is cause accidental harm.

4th of July-Happy Birthday USA (and a reminder for our younger TSL members)

On July 4, 1776, we claimed our independence from Britain, and American Democracy was born. Every day thousands of people appropriately and legally come to the "land of the free and the home of the brave" so they can begin their American Dream. Not much different than our parents, grandparents and relatives did, such as my Dad and his family did in the early part of the 20th century. Independence Day commemorates the Continental Congress' adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The document, primarily written by Thomas Jefferson, served as a formal announcement that the 13 American colonies were no longer part of the British Empire and would henceforth be free and independent states.

Free and Independent. We love that. The basis for our Country.

The 4th of July remains a strong symbol of specifically and positive American qualities that are all based upon FREEDOM. Did you know that since 1916, Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest in Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York City was started as a way to settle a dispute among four immigrants as to who was the most patriotic. **Proud to be Americans.**

So on this 4th of July, put down that electronic toy for just a minute (hit pause) and take time to enjoy and appreciate your FREEDOM. Is the flag out? While it should be displayed at our homes every day, make sure it is definitely up this weekend. **Look around and realize how blessed we are to enjoy our FREEDOM and most importantly and especially, please keep those who are preserving our FREEDOM, those serving in our armed forces, in your deepest prayers. We are a Country at war.**

Have a great 4th of July and enjoy **FREEDOM**, even the freedom to stay at home and barbecue, carefully.

Please enjoy a few of these outstanding clips from the musical, "1776":

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9HD1x_kZRQQ (Congress, burning issues and decision making-not!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TY3TubZdYqA> (Congress-a whole year-doing NOTHING!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-OAWKTDeIGU&feature=related> (Jefferson, Franklin & Adams: The Eagle!)

A Happy and Safe 4th of July from our Families to you and yours.

BillyG, GordonG, BrianK, ForestR, RudyH, BarryF, ChrisS & IggyK,
The Secret List 7-2-10 / 0800 Hours

AND:

Hey,

An accident at the Desert Canyon Golf Course (in Mountain Home, Idaho) today prompted the cancellation of the City of Mountain Home fireworks show scheduled for Sunday evening. According to initial reports, 3 Mountain Home Firefighters were injured, one seriously, after the pyrotechnics display detonated around 1320 today, Saturday. It happened as one of the firefighters prepared to place one of the firework shells in a launch tube and the shell detonated in his hands, causing burns to the upper half of his body. 2 other firefighters were also injured in the initial explosion. All three were taken by ambulance to Elmore Medical Center. Their current conditions were unavailable as of early this evening but earlier were stable. Reports are that the explosion caused the remaining fireworks to detonate, starting a fire that spread to a nearby ridge but that fire was brought under control with no more issues. Updates will follow.

MOTORCYCLE MEDIC STRUCK WHILE RESPONDING:

A Charleston County EMS (South Carolina) motorcycle paramedic was seriously injured this afternoon on James Island. The medic was responding to a call on his County emergency motorcycle (marked with lights and siren) and a car pulled out in front of him. The medic is reported to be at MUSC Trauma in Charleston with bi lateral femur fractures, pelvis fracture, 2 broken arms. Updates will follow.

MINNESOTA FIREFIGHTERS BURNED

2 Firefighters were injured today while operating at a house fire in Minneapolis. Both were hospitalized at Hennepin County Medical Center with severe burns but are NLT. Companies were called to a house fire just before noon and when they got to the third floor of the house, there was a flashover. 1 Firefighter with 9 years service was forced out of the window due to the heat and had to be rescued. He suffered third degree burns on his arms and upper body and his partner suffered second degree burns. Updates to follow on our home page.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-3-10 / 2137 Hours

AND:

TEXAS FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY AT AN INDUSTRIAL FIRE

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a Wharton (Texas) Firefighter died in the Line of Duty last night while operating at a huge egg farm fire near Bowling, TX. The Firefighter, 30, whose identity has not yet been released, was recently promoted to Captain at the Wharton FD and leaves behind a wife and two young sons. He had 11 years on the job. More than 150 Firefighters from 31 FD's operated which started around 2130 hours at the Maximum Production Co., an egg farm about 11 miles east of Wharton and three miles from Bowling. The fire has now been declared under control. The building was 25,000 square feet in a 250-foot-long building, and was fueled by huge fans used to keep the animals cool. Details to follow. As always, our most sincere condolences.

INDIANA EMT LODD WHILE RETURNING TO QUARTERS FROM RUNS

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the line of duty death of Henry County, Indiana EMS EMT Bill Kirby. EMT Kirby suffered a fatal heart attack Friday evening after returning to station from two emergency responses. He is also a member of the Dunreith VFD and a member of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association. EMT Kirby is 56 years old and leaves behind his wife, Cindy, 33 year-old son, Chris, three step-children, and seven grandchildren. As always, our most sincere condolences.

REMEMBERING GLOUCESTER CITY, N.J. TRIPLE LODD-July 4th, 2002

On July 4th, 2002 at 0136 hrs., The Gloucester City FD along with auto-mutual aid including the Mt Ephraim FD was dispatched to 200 North Broadway in Gloucester City for a dwelling fire. Responding units were advised that occupants may be trapped. First arriving units were on the scene in less than three minutes and had heavy fire, burn victims and kids trapped. While Firefighters were operating an interior attack and rescue, a partial collapse of the structure occurred. An emergency evacuation signal was sounded and while that was happening, a much more substantial collapse occurred trapping 8 Firefighters. Additional rescue resources were requested, Firefighter accountability was initiated and rescue efforts continued. Five of the eight trapped Firefighters were rescued. But 3 Firefighters (see below) died in the Line of Duty and 3 children were killed.

We remember James Sylvester, Fire Chief, Mount Ephraim FD. Sylvester, 31, a 17 year veteran, was survived by his wife, who was pregnant with the couple's first child. John West Deputy Chief, Mount Ephraim FD. West, 40, a 23-year veteran, was survived by his wife and three children. Thomas G. Stewart III, Career Firefighter, Gloucester City FD. Stewart, 30, a 13 year veteran, was survived by his fiancée and their son. Stewart publicly proposed to his girlfriend, just hours before the fire while they watched the city's fireworks from high atop a fire truck ladder at Gloucester City High School.

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

HERE is the NJ STATE REPORT: <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs//gloucester.pdf>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-4-10 / 1039 Hours

AND:

TRIPLE EMS LODD-AIRCRAFT CRASH

July 19, 2010

www.chabotfire.com

An air ambulance crashed during an emergency landing near Alpine-Casparis Municipal Airport in west Texas, killing all five people on board this morning. The victims were: 78-year-old patient Guy Richard Folger of Alpine his 59-year-old wife, Mary Folger. 2 flight nurses/medics, 49-year-old Sharon Falkener of Fort Davis 42-year-old Tracy Chambers of Alpine along Pilot 59-year-old pilot Ted Caffarel of Beaumont. Caffarel was apparently trying to make an emergency landing when the plane hit a rut in the muddy field, overturned and burned. Aircraft is registered to O'Hara Flying Service II LP of Amarillo. NTSB investigating. As always, our condolences.

UPDATE: FIRE CAPTAIN IDENTIFIED IN TEXAS FF LODD

As reported earlier, a Wharton Fire Captain died last night while operating at an egg farm fire just outside Boling that took more than 150 firefighters all night to put out. Fire Captain Thomas Araguz III, 30, recently had been promoted to captain at the Wharton FD and leaves behind a wife and two young sons. Captain Araguz and 2 other Firefighters, challenged by heavy smoke and worsening conditions, started retreating from the building, but Captain Araguz became trapped and did not make it out. Very heavy fire conditions kept firefighters from entering the building to save Captain Araguz, whose body was discovered about 0720 hours this morning. Updates and photos on our home page.

AND IN NEVADA: CITY HALL DWELLERS PASS THE BUCK TO UN-KNOWING CITIZENS ON FF STAFFING:

Reno City Council is about to ask citizens to vote on whether or not to have 3 or 4 Firefighters assigned to Reno fire apparatus. The problem is that citizens know nothing about operating fire departments. Hmm-how 'bout that! So why would citizens be asked to make such a critical decision, one that has life and death ramifications? The Council knows the answers (and there are plenty of facts to show what is needed related to cost vs benefit). As many folks in Reno feel, the elected folks need to get it together and find the courage to make the tough decision based upon facts. As this article states: "We aren't paying them to run for political cover and pass stuff off to the citizens, which looks a lot like a thinly disguised setup for blaming someone else if the plan doesn't work. Looks like a great opportunity for the Firefighters to show the public the facts.

HERE is more: <http://tinyurl.com/2at32rj>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-4-10 / 2036 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Yesterday in Suffolk County (Long Island, N.Y.) an EMS SUV was involved in a fatal responding crash. EMT Marlon Chavarria , 21, of the Brentwood Legion Ambulance, was driving the 2007 Ford Explorer first response unit with its lights and sirens activated when it collided with a 1993 Saturn. EMT Chavarria was responding to another vehicle crash at the time. Jarred Smith, 18, of Brentwood was driving the Saturn and was trying to make a left turn onto Cecil Avenue when he was hit by Chavarria's SUV. One of the three passengers in the Saturn, Daryn McKay, 18, later tragically died at the hospital. Smith and the other two passengers suffered minor injuries. EMT Chavarria was taken in with leg and shoulder injuries. Additional details will be posted.

DELAWARE FF COLLAPSES IN CARDIAC ARREST AT FIRE SCENE - IS REVIVED

A Firefighter collapsed in cardiac arrest in Dewey Beach (DE) last night while on an area fireworks stand by detail. Dewey Beach and Seaford Firefighters had responded around 2305 Hours last night for a report of smoke coming from a dwelling. After arrival they discovered that fireworks had started a small brush fire. While on the scene, a Firefighter collapsed from sudden cardiac arrest and fire and police personnel started CPR immediately. An AED was quickly utilized to shock him once while waiting for EMS to arrive. The Seaford Firefighter, estimated to be around 60 years old, was with Firefighters from Seaford who were assisting with the Rehoboth area fireworks coverage. He had no complaints before he collapsed. Two Sussex County EMS bike medics who were assigned to the fireworks arrived quickly, determined he was in V-fib cardiac arrest and shocked him a second time and he regained a pulse. **Police arrested the man who has been accused of using the fireworks that started the fire, Patrick McCloskey, 27, of Baltimore has been charged with disorderly conduct and they intend to refer the case to the State Fire Marshal for possible further charges.**

FDNY PARAMEDIC MURDERED: WHILE WE NORMALLY DON'T REPORT OFF DUTY INCIDENTS, THIS ONE IS WORTHY OF MENTION:

An off-duty FDNY Paramedic was senselessly stabbed to death early yesterday while trying to do the right thing, by breaking up a fight. FDNY Medic Kelvin Buggs, 21, had been partying earlier in the night. He and friends left the party and as they walked down Fulton Street in East New York (Brooklyn) at around 0300, they saw a fight brewing. He tried to break up the scuffle, but one of the dirtbags plunged a knife in his shoulder and neck. It's unclear if Buggs knew his attacker but there have been no arrests. Buggs worked for FDNY EMS since last July and was assigned to EMS Battalion 57 in Bedford-Stuy. He leaves behind a girlfriend and 2-year-old daughter. Our condolences.

Final note: We don't know why the CBS Sunday morning feature on Firefighters didn't show yesterday, but if we hear more, you will certainly be advised.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-5-10 / 0941 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Firefighters in North Charleston (S.C.) are currently operating at a now under control single family dwelling fire. Earlier at this fire, there was a reported flashover with collapse and members were trapped. All members are reported to be out at this time with at least 2 Firefighters being injured. 1 Firefighter (reported to be serious with burns) has been flown out and the other has been transported by ground. We will post updates on our home page but we also encourage you to go to www.SConFire.com for the latest local info and updates.

GAS EXPLOSION INJURES FIREFIGHTER IN CALIFORNIA

A gas explosion blew up a house in Sacramento this morning with companies on the scene investigating prior. At least one Firefighter was transported with injuries. At 0947 hours they received a call from a neighbor about a possible gas leak at a vacant dwelling., then at 0951 hours a chief and a company arrived and 3 minutes later, Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

was called to investigate. But within two minutes, the house exploded into a ball of fire splintering the roof upward beyond the trees.

More HERE: <http://blogs.sacbee.com/crime/archives/2010/07/explosion-rocks.html#ixzz0spqYPYQG>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List

AND:

Hey,

We have been advised that a potential applicant for Austin-Travis County (Texas) EMS died this morning during a physical agility simulation. The man was part of a program in which people who are interested in learning more about EMS observe what paramedics do and learn more about the agency's training program. EMS training program died this morning of cardiac arrest. He was part of an "EMS community training program". The victim was going through a simulated agility exam when they went into cardiac arrest.

FIRE APPARATUS STRIKES FIREHOUSE

The public safety building in Wolfeboro (NH) suffered significant damage this morning when it was struck by the fire department's ladder truck. The truck hit a building column, and part of the bay area collapsed. No one was hurt and the WFD is investigating what caused the crash.

NORTH CHARLESTON FIRE UPDATE:

One of the 3 North Charleston firefighters injured while fighting a house fire yesterday remains in stable condition this evening at The Joseph M. Still Burn Center in Augusta, Ga. FF John Bolton (who has been with the NCFD since February, but has previous years of service) had surgery today and did well. He has 2nd and deep 2nd degree burns on his left hand and 2nd degree on his wrists on his right hand. He is recovering and may be able to go home tomorrow. Fire Capt. William Odum, a 10-year-veteran, and FF Antwon Green, a five-year-veteran, were both released from the Medical University Hospital yesterday. We wish them all a rapid recovery. We have posted pictures of this fire and the conditions they encountered on our home page, as well as www.SConFire.com.

REMEMBERING THE 14 FIREFIGHTER LODD's AT THE COLORADO "STORM KING" FIRE:

On July 6, 1994, the Colorado "Storm King fire" (also known as the South Canyon Fire), like most fires, started out as a routine fire but would result in the **Line of Duty Deaths of 14 Firefighters**.

It started small (about 50 acres), and wasn't growing rapidly. Initially it was low on the priority list for getting Firefighters deployed. Finally, a group of 52 firefighters and smoke jumpers were brought together to control the fire. The Firefighters split up into two crews, most of them going below the fire to keep it from moving further towards Interstate 70. Out of nowhere, the wind completely changed direction, now gusting at speeds up to 47 miles per hour directly at the Firefighters. The wind created an incredible wall of flame, that was moving at them at a speed of about **30 feet per second**. The fire was reaching 200 - 300 feet high. The fire was not only above them, but it had moved below them too. There was a short ridge

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

between them and the fire, so they weren't aware that it was as close as it was. It was about 270 feet from them and when they started running, it took only 10 to 15 seconds for the fire to reach where they were standing before they even started running.

Unfortunately, there weren't that many burned areas for the Firefighters to find safety in, and although they had survival shelters, a lot of the Firefighters tried to run uphill, to a ridge line, to try to escape the heavy fire conditions. Unfortunately some Firefighters didn't make it in time. This fire that had started as a small, slow moving 50 acre fire, had just exploded into a 2,000 acre fire, killing 14 Firefighters operating from Colorado, Montana, Idaho, and Oregon. We take time to remember Firefighters Kathi Beck, Tami Bickett, Scott Blecha, Levi Brinkley, Robert Browning, Doug Dunbar, Terri Hagen, Bonnie Holtby, Rob Johnson, Jon Kelso, Don Mackey, Roger Roth, James Thrash and Richard Tyler.

HERE is the Fire Report: http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs_rp009/index.html

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-6-10 / 1859 Hours

AND:

Hey,

The Shelton (CT) PD is mourning the death of Sgt. Orville Smith, who died this week from complications from internal injuries he sustained late Saturday night when hit by a drunken driver as he directed traffic. **Sgt. Smith was an long time active member of the Shelton White Hills Fire Co. 5.** On Sunday, Sgt Smith was doing better, was in very good spirits but then he took a turn for the worse. Smith and his police car were struck by drunk driver while he was directing traffic after a private fireworks event. Sgt. Smith recently turned 64 and planned to retire next year with 40 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Smith of Oxford. **We mention this because not only was he a Firefighter-but also that he was "another" police officer struck down by a drunk, no different than a Firefighter could be struck-and has been-while directing traffic. Our sincere condolences.**

REMEMBER THE TOWN THAT LOVED THEIR LIBRARY BUT NOT THEIR FD? How'bout this:

You will recall that in May, we wrote an a SECRET LIST about how the very affluent Town of Westport (CT) voted for the Library budget and not for their FD's needs. Because we know you want to be kept up to speed on stuff like this, last night they voted to NOT support a 1.2 million dollar SAFER grant that would have added 8 firefighters to their department.

HERE is our original TSL on it:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/107913/layout/no>

Here is a follow up that happened last night:

<http://www.westportnow.com/index.php?v2/comments/28895/>

23 FIREFIGHTERS LAYED OFF IN LAWRENCE (MA):

Lawrence laid off 23 firefighters today in the latest move by Mayor William Lantigua to balance the budget. In addition to the layoffs, several fire officers were demoted and the Engine 9 firehouse was closed, the third firehouse in the city that has been shut down due to the city's financial crisis. "Lawrence is a busy city for fire and police," acting fire Chief Brian

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Murphy said yesterday. "We know it and we've told them, but it fell on deaf ears." The layoffs went into effect at 0800 this morning. Some high-ranking officials were demoted, including one captain to lieutenant and two lieutenants to firefighters. The city will rely on MUTUAL AID to handle the load. For now.

ON THE OTHER HAND. New Orleans (LA) is hiring 78 Firefighters by using the SAFER Grants they received.

"BLOCKING" FIRE CHIEF PASSES:

You may remember Chief Robert Jenkins of the Rockaway Township (NJ) FD. He was the then deputy fire chief who was arrested and held in handcuffs following an argument with a New Jersey State Police trooper after he refused to move fire apparatus that was blocking/protecting the right lane of Route 80. The charges were eventually dropped and it worked out with better communication in the end for all. However, we are now sorry to advise you that the Chief passed away last night from Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS) after a courageous two year battle. Chief Jenkins was also a career fire captain of several decades with the Picatinny Fire Department. Our condolences to all affected by his passing.

HERE is more about the initial incident from Curt Varone: <http://firelaw.typepad.com/fire-law/wrongful-arrest/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-8-10 / 2208 Hours

AND:

FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-RESPONDING ON FIRE CALL

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter from Williamstown (PA) died in the Line of Duty this morning as he arrived at the firehouse for a run. Initial reports are that the firefighter suffered cardiac arrest while responding/arriving to at his FD, Williamstown, Dauphin County Station #24, for a fire call. As always our most sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-9-10 / 1421 hours

AND:

FRENCH FIREFIGHTER LODD CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter from Entrevennes (Alpes-de-Haute-Provence) France was killed in the Line of Duty during a public service (basement flood) pump out detail yesterday. 3 paid-on-call Firefighters responded with a pump, but it did not move enough water, so two of them returned to the station to get a larger one. One of the Firefighters remained in the basement running the first pump. When the other two returned, they called out to the FF who stayed back, but they got no answer. Leaning over the trapdoor, the two saw their colleague hunched over, a victim of carbon monoxide fumes. They went down to help him after they first called for help, bringing reinforcements from Bras d'Asse. The rescuers got there and retrieved the 3 bodies and began resuscitation. But it was already too late for Chief Warrant Officer Renaldo Ledoux . Ledoux, aged 37, married and father of two children aged 5 years and 14 months, died in the Line of Duty, on the scene. The other two

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Firefighters from the town, Mickael Verot, 19, and Florian Swift, 17, severely poisoned by the CO, were evacuated by medical helicopter to the hospital Sainte-Marguerite Marseille, where they were placed in a hyperbaric chamber. Yesterday evening, it was learned that they had regained consciousness. As always our sincere condolences. Our thanks to Bills at Firegeezzer.com.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-11-10 / 2117 Hours

AND:

PA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-HEART ATTACK

The Milmont Fire Company regrets to announce the **LINE OF DUTY DEATH** of Charles Hornberger. Charlie passed away on July 12th from complications of a heart attack he had after a call on June 30th 2010. Call #45 came in at 11:32 on June 30, 2010, for a fire alarm. After the call, Charlie suffered a severe heart attack, and was rushed to Taylor Hospital. Charlie was a life member of the Milmont Fire Company, as well as the Vauclain, Holmes and Rutledge Fire Companies. Charlie held the position of Assistant Engineer, as well as past Deputy Chief of the Milmont Fire Company, and Past Chief of the Vauclain Fire Company. He was also a Dispatcher of 20 years for Ridley Twp. as well as Delaware County. He was an avid fire truck collector, and also enjoyed model railroading. Charlie was also a member of several area organizations, to include the Delaware Valley Chiefs Assoc., and the Shamrock Judges. Charlie touched a lot of lives throughout the fire service, and will be missed by all. Arrangements are being made at this time, and more will follow. Apparatus IS requested to attend. For more information please contact Deputy Chief Jay Volpone at 610-636-7497, or the firehouse at 610-532-3232 - Details from: <http://www.mfd49.com/>

As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

Billy G

The Secret List 7-14-10 / 1125 Hours

AND:

PENNSYLVANIA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY- RESPONDING CRASH

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a Firefighter with the Trout Run Fire Company (Lycoming County, PA) was killed in the Line of Duty earlier today. Initial reports are that the Firefighter was responding to a crash and then, for a yet to be determined reason, was involved in a separate crash, (near the first scene) was ejected, and died in the Line of Duty. Details will follow.

As always, our most sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-14-10 / 1652 hours

AND:

Hey,

As you know, yesterday afternoon a Firefighter from the Trout Run Fire Company (in PA) was killed in the Line of Duty. Firefighter Richard Springman, 20, was responding in his personal

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vehicle to a very serious 2 car crash on Route 15, when he crashed. Firefighter Springman was ejected from his vehicle and died in the Line of Duty from injuries sustained in the accident. Details are that he hit a guardrail and after hitting it, FF Springman over steered, causing his truck to travel sideways across both southbound lanes and up onto another guardrail. After sliding on the guardrail, the truck rolled over before landing upright in the middle of the southbound lanes, about 300 yards north of the crash he was responding to. **FF Springman, who was not wearing a seat belt, was ejected from the truck, landing about 15 feet from his vehicle.**

Hepburn Township and Trout Run Firefighters were dispatched to the 2nd scene. However, within minutes after the second crash, all Trout Run Firefighters were taken off the assignment and directed to go to their firehouse on Route 14. Other EMS and fire companies were called to assist at the scenes. Our sincere condolences to all affected by the loss of FF Springman.

KANSAS EXPLOSION & FIRE UPDATE:

As you know, 6 Kirwin (KS) Firefighters were injured (2 critically) when a semi trailer with an acetylene gas welding cylinder and flammable liquids inside caught fire, then erupted in at least one large explosion Tuesday evening. The blast critically injured Firefighters Rex Lowe and Chester Peak, who were airlifted to Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb. Four other Kirwin Firefighters were taken to area hospitals and released after treatment. Kirwin, population about 200 is served by a VFD consisting of about 1 dozen Firefighters.

Earlier in the day Tuesday, contractors had been using cutting torches to remove the old epoxy-sealed, wooden roof of the Kirwin water tower. The crew members had gone for the evening, leaving behind their truck, which was filled with equipment. Shortly after 1900 hours, KFD Firefighters received a report that the roof of the water tower was on fire, along with grass in the road ditch below and the back tire of the semi trailer, which was parked along the road at the base of the tower. The water tower is located about a half mile west of Kirwin. Rose Rozmiarek, Chief investigator for the Kansas State FM's Office, said the fire is believed to have been accidental. Investigators believe debris from the burning water tower roof dropped down beside the truck, catching the back tires on fire. That fire built, as it set materials on the truck ablaze, she said.

The Fire Was Quickly Extinguished, but then:

The tire and ditch fires were extinguished quickly. But as Firefighters were standing just feet from the back of the trailer, considering how to tackle the fire on top of the water tower, the first explosion ripped through the trailer and injured the Firefighters. A second blast also was said to have occurred. Firefighter Chester Peak was hit by the back doors of the trailer as it exploded. FF Peak was airlifted to Kearney with head injuries and a broken arm. A hospital spokeswoman said Wednesday he remained in critical condition. Firefighter Rex Lowe was also airlifted to Kearney and remained in critical condition Wednesday.

Firefighter Justin Ehm was taken by ambulance to the Kearney hospital with an injured shoulder. He was treated and released. Firefighters Nate Roth and Dan Johnson were taken to Phillips County Hospital to be treated for smoke inhalation and heat exhaustion. And Firefighter Justin Gibson was taken to Rooks County Health Center with injured hands.

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2 fire apparatus from the KFD were heavily damaged. One was blown about 150 feet down the hill from the blast. Both were Ford 1-ton chassis grass fire response units with small water tanks and pumps on board. We wish the KFD members all, a rapid recovery.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-SLOW DOWN-USE (and enforce) SEAT BELTS, WITHOUT EXCUSE.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-15-10-/ 1151 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Clay Center (Ohio) Firefighter driving fire apparatus was involved in a crash that killed a person last night while responding to a multi-alarm fire that destroyed a bowling center. Clay Center is in Ottawa County. We will post more details on this crash later, as it becomes available. The Clay Center Recreation facility was destroyed following the evening fire that was reported about 2220 hours. Every fire company in Ottawa County, as well as some from Lucas, Sandusky, and Wood counties, operated at the scene. Clay Center is about 12 miles southeast of Toledo. Details to follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-17-10 / 1147 hours

AND:

Hey,

As a follow-up to today's earlier TSL, an Oak Harbor (Portage FD, OH) Firefighter is in now in critical condition and a civilian is dead after that crash late last night between their 2 vehicles in Salem Township, south of Oak Harbor. **ANOTHER FATAL no seat belt crash involving responding Firefighters.**

The 24 year old civilian was killed as a passenger in a van that was struck by the vehicle driven by responding Firefighter Timothy L. Johnson, 41. FF Johnson was responding in his personal vehicle, to a fire mutual-aid request at that multi-alarm bowling alley fire in Clay Center, in western Ottawa County. FF Johnson was driving north on Ohio 19, south of Oak Harbor, at around 2300, when he struck a van driven by a 20 year old female. The female had stopped for a stop sign at Ohio 19, then turned north. She was attempting to turn west onto Portage River South Road when her van was struck by FF Johnson's pickup. FF Johnson and the civilian who was killed were not wearing seat belts and it's not known if the female was wearing one. She is listed in stable condition. The woman was flown from the scene to Medical University of Ohio in Toledo and was listed this morning in stable condition.

We'll post updates as they become available. This is the 2nd fatality (one being a FF LODD and one being a civilian with the above FF critical) this week involving responding Firefighters and NO SEAT BELTS. **WTF!?** How many more HINTS are needed? We can share this stuff all day long but if the FF doesn't belt up if Officers don't strictly enforce it, we'll just keep telling you the same story again and again. **CHECK THIS OUT:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsPFJAiPe5M&feature=related>

THIS WEEK FIREHOUSE EXPO:

Looking forward to seeing many of you at Firehouse Expo in Baltimore this coming week. MORE details about the excellent conference in Bawlmer HERE:

www.FireHouseExpo.com

Take care-BE CAREFUL. SERIOUSLY. BUCKLE UP.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-17-10 / 1612 Hours

To subscribe to the Secret List and get these emails for yourself, go to

www.firefighterclosecalls.com

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

NOTE:

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

Budget Related Items:

- *To really get a pulse on how some of our taxpayers (the ones we work for) feel about the fire service, please take the time to not only read the articles below, but also the reader comments that follow many of the news stories. Some of those comments are very negative, and if we are not careful, we really run the risk of losing credibility and respect with the public (not to mention funding), which could have serious long-term effects on the stability and perception of our American Fire Service. While it is true everyone (including taxpayers) are allowed to have their opinion, we would be naïve to turn away, get emotional, not acknowledge, or even discount the comments made. Knowledge can be power, and if used properly, can attempt to turn negative attitudes into positive attitudes, which can and will pay dividends in the long run.*

With Clark County (NV) firefighters on notice that they won't be getting as much overtime pay as they've enjoyed in the past, a flood of retirements is expected. "They've reached their maximum salary limits, so retirement is looking more attractive to them than continuing to work without all that extra overtime pay," Commissioner Steve Sisolak says. Plenty of would-be rookies are waiting to fill out the ranks, though. The County Fire Department started accepting applications Tuesday for recruits — and reached its limit of 1,000 that day. The department now has only 23 openings. Sisolak says its leaders are certain that at least 100 employees will leave in the next year, but they expect the final number will be far more than 100 because of changes to overtime pay: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/jun/25/county-government-wave-firefighter-retirements-hor/>

Twenty F.D.N.Y. fire companies across the city are being saved, while six-day library service will be slashed to five in a \$63 billion budget deal struck late last night between Mayor Bloomberg and the City Council. The agreement restores \$395 million to avoid some of the steep cuts the mayor imposed in the fiscal 2011 budget, which takes effect Thursday. But city agencies still have to cope with \$1 billion in other service reductions. Between five and 10 senior centers will close -- down from 50 the mayor originally had proposed:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/city_budget_deal_spare_fdnny_AsgJaldCRFywY4KtDOnM8M

After years of resisting, Orlando (FL) has reversed its position on using firefighters to transport sick and injured residents to the hospital. For more than two decades, Orlando residents and visitors unlucky enough to need emergency care have received initial treatment from firefighters — and then were taken to the hospital by Rural/Metro Ambulance, a private company. Firefighters resisted any change in that arrangement. And just last year, a consultant hired by the city concluded it would be too expensive to have firefighters transport patients in city ambulances:

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/orange/os-orlando-ambulance-transport-20100625%2C0%2C7514878.story>

A Los Angeles County (CA) fire station in the City of El Monte that was shut down last year for budgetary reasons could reopen in two months thanks to a recently approved federal grant. But to receive the grant, El Monte has to come up with \$540,000 to pay a portion of operations, and officials aren't sure the cash-strapped city can afford even that: http://www.sgvtribune.com/ci_15361802

Among the measures the Stockton (CA) City Council approved Tuesday to close its \$23 million budget deficit is a plan to temporarily shutter a central Stockton truck company. In the fall of 2008, it was the same unit - Truck Co. 4, stationed off Robinhood Drive near San Joaquin Delta College - that was set for closure as Stockton grappled with another multimillion-dollar shortfall. At the time, firefighters agreed to a variety of concessions to save the truck. Today, they say they are willing to take the city to court over the impending closure. That's because it is in large part the 2008 labor agreement struck to keep Truck 4 open - which delayed scheduled pay raises but also mandated no firefighter layoffs or company closures - that has set the stage for the current dispute:

http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100624/A_SPECIAL0267/6240314

More cops on the streets, fewer fire rigs on call and a ballot measure to tax pot. - just another budget at cash-strapped Sacramento (CA) City Hall. In a marathon budget session Tuesday, the City Council agreed to add 30 cops to the streets over the next three years, close two Fire Department units on a rotating basis and direct the city attorney to draft a November ballot measure that would create a local marijuana tax and increase fees paid by businesses in the city. The police and fire moves were part of the city's efforts to erase a \$43 million deficit for the 2010-11 fiscal year that begins July 1: <http://www.sacbee.com/2010/06/23/2841724/sacramento-council-budget-adds.html>

Faced with a deadline to agree to 10 percent pay cuts, three of San Jose's (CA) largest employee unions opted for a showdown with Mayor Chuck Reed, who says the only alternative is hundreds of layoffs. Unions representing police, firefighters, librarians, custodians and other workers had until the end of Monday to agree to the wage and benefit cuts, sought by Reed to balance a record \$118.5 million deficit. Now that the clock has run out, the City Council will pass a budget including the layoffs, which will start July 1: http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_15346450

The Ventura (CA) City Council on Monday showed fiscal restraint, unanimously adopting the smallest city budget in years. The budget will eliminate vacant police positions and leave empty Fire Station 4 in the city's east end: <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/jun/21/ventura-passes-budget-that-eliminates-positions/>

Pasadena (CA) Firefighters' response times could increase with the suspension of a four-person ladder company taken out of service as part of the city's spending cuts, officials said. The ladder company based at Fire Station 32, 2424 E. Villa St. - comprised of a ladder truck, a fire engine, and a rescue ambulance - has been taken out of service for the remainder of this month and for at least 160 days of the fiscal year that begins July 1: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci_15338304

Despite appeals and even demands from residents to reconsider, directors of far East Contra Costa's (CA) fire district this week decided to close two stations. The East Contra Costa Fire District board voted 6-2 in favor of a 2010-11 spending plan that calls for Byron's fire station and one of the two in Discovery Bay to close as of 8 a.m. July 16. Residents in the overflow crowd at Oakley City Hall pleaded with directors to keep the stations open at least while they explored ways to generate more revenue. East Contra Costa Fire District, which serves approximately 105,000 people from Brentwood and Oakley to Bethel Island and Byron, is projecting \$11 million in expenses in the fiscal year starting July 1 but just over \$8 million in income. The agency has been squeezed by a precipitous drop in property tax revenue over the past two years. Even with the \$1.3 million in cuts that the 2010-11 budget represents, it still will run out of money in three years: http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_15409382?nclick_check=1

The city of Sparks (NV) might not be able to accept a \$2.3 million federal grant because economic times are just too hard. The grant would hire 11 more firefighters, but to get the grant the city has to promise not to lay off any additional firefighter for two fiscal years — a promise city leaders might not be able to keep: http://dailysparktribune.com/view/full_story/8091762/article-Sparks-could-turn-down-firefighter-grant?instance=lead_story_left_column

After months of wrangling — and even declaring an impasse in May — Las Vegas (NV) firefighters and the city reached a tentative pact late Tuesday afternoon that's expected to save the city \$6.5 million during the next two years. The tentative agreement will next go before the Las Vegas City Council and must also be ratified by the union membership, according to a joint statement released this afternoon by the city and the International Association of Firefighters Local 1285: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/jun/29/las-vegas-firefighters-reach-tentative-pact/>

The city of Lawrence (MA) laid off 23 firefighters yesterday in the latest move by Mayor William Lantigua to balance the budget. In addition to the layoffs, several high-ranking fire officials were demoted and the Engine 9 firehouse at 161 Bailey St., was closed — the third fire station in the city that has been shut down due to the city's financial crisis: <http://www.eagletribune.com/latestnews/x739948917/Lawrence-lays-off-23-firefighters-closes-third-station>

The San Jose (CA) Fire Department is set to close the Communications Hill Fire Station on Aug. 1 and make Station 30 on Auzerais Avenue a "posting station," fire leaders said. The moves are part of a new program to spread firefighters more efficiently throughout the city. Because of city budget cuts and stalled union negotiations, the department is set to lose several dozen firefighters in five engine companies, and it plans to shuffle ladder and truck companies at several stations. Separately, the fire department is set to launch a new "dynamic deployment" software system that essentially makes firefighters more mobile between stations. During current large emergencies, San Jose fire dispatchers use magnets on a paper map to track ladder trucks and fire engines as they respond to calls. The new system will track firefighters and equipment electronically, and it can make recommendations on when to backfill the stations that firefighters left behind. "We're losing five engine companies. Dynamic deployment is not going to replace those companies, but it will help mitigate those effects," said Interim San Jose Fire Chief Teresa Deloach-Reed. A new fire chief is set to start in August, and attempts to reduce San Jose firefighters' retirement and benefits have been stalled at the bargaining table. Barring an unlikely new agreement this summer on firefighters' benefits, the city is set to eliminate the equivalent of 53 full-time positions from the department: http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_15472173?nclick_check=1

Yuma's (AZ) police and fire chiefs are hopeful city voters will agree that a public safety tax needs to be extended when they go to the polls in November's general election. While the tax isn't due to expire until about 2015, Fire Chief Jack McArthur and Police Chief Jerry Geier say its extension now is critical to the sustainability of improvements made to the city's public safety infrastructure since the special tax was first approved in 1994. Revenue from it has funded several projects, including the new police headquarters, Municipal Court, four new fire stations and public safety communication systems: <http://www.yumasun.com/news/tax-62296-fire-city.html>

Portland (OR) City commissioners Dan Saltzman and Randy Leonard have a quarrel with each other over how much to spend to replace aging Portland Fire Bureau trucks, and to upgrade fire stations and dispatch technology. Big numbers were being thrown around before a city council final decision coming up, adding up to as much as \$80 million. If it's all put into one bond measure in November and passes, average property tax bills could go up \$33 a year. Saltzman doesn't think this is a good time to be asking voters for millions of dollars to modernize public safety: <http://www.kgw.com/news/Portland-City-Commissioners-debate-possible-72-million-public-safety-request-to-voters-98210219.html>

Forty years ago, after a police and firefighter strike, Vallejo became the first California city to let arbitrators — private judges for hire — settle pay and benefit disputes with its unionized work force. In June, voters made the city of 120,000 the state's first to repeal that provision as it struggles to emerge from bankruptcy driven by runaway employee costs. That vote — and the experience in Vallejo, once known for its bustling naval shipyard — has been closely watched in San Jose and other cities where costs for police, firefighters and other unionized employees are outpacing revenues and devouring funds for roads, libraries and other public services. Vallejo's successful repeal has emboldened San Jose city, business and neighborhood leaders to consider a similar ballot measure. And if they succeed, San Jose's labor leaders will be bracing for a similar fight. "Something has got to change," said Jerry Mungai, president of San Jose's Almaden Valley Community Association, whose board this month will consider asking the City Council for a November ballot measure repealing the arbitration rights city police and firefighters won in 1980. "It was sold on the idea that we'd have labor peace, and what it's done is given us something more than maybe we bargained for." http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_15481015

The Reno (NV) City Council on Wednesday will consider putting an advisory question on the Nov. 2 ballot on whether the public wants fewer firefighters in a crew or more closed fire stations: <http://www.rgj.com/article/20100712/NEWS/7120324>

The drumbeat of hard economic times continued to roll as Maple Valley (WA) Fire and Life Safety announced Deputy Chief Larry Rude had been laid off: http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/south_king/cmv/news/98083799.html

While Camden (NJ) has made progress in cutting overtime, fiscal watchdogs say costs will mount again if officials don't take a harsher stand against generous firefighter contracts. State law allows firefighters to work up to an average of 56 hours in a standard work week because the nature of the job entails significant downtime. That's fairly common among South Jersey towns like Cherry Hill, which schedules firefighters to work one 24-hour shift followed by a two-day break, said Bob Brower, vice president of the New Jersey Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association. Camden firefighters used to work that schedule but moved to an average of 42 hours a week more than three decades ago: <http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20100712/NEWS01/7120322/Auditors-urge-Camden-to-adopt-longer-workweek-for-firefighters>

The Haverhill (MA) Police Department says it will not discipline an officer who allowed a former firefighter to walk away from a car crash without verifying that he had a driver's license. Kevin Thompson, who did not have a driver's license for nearly two decades while working at the Fire Department, was in an accident in 2005 in which his automobile was destroyed. However, the Haverhill police officer who responded to the accident, Patrolman Thomas Howell, never verified the status of Thompson's driver's license or checked his driving history as required, Deputy police Chief Donald Thompson said: http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20100712police_failed_to_verify_firefighter_in_crash_had_no_license/

New brownouts are now in effect in Sacramento (CA), leaving four fewer firefighters on the streets. One of Sacramento's eight fire trucks is being browned out on a rotating basis, saving about \$1.5 million per year. The city continues to brown out one fire engine each day to save money. A battalion chief position has also been eliminated:

<http://cbs13.com/local/sacramento.brownout.firefighters.2.1791799.html>

Budget problems in the city of Palo Alto (CA) could lead to a showdown with firefighters on Monday. The City Council takes up a firefighter-backed measure that could prevent fire crews from being laid off. After gathering more than 6,000 signatures, the Palo Alto firefighter measure goes before the City Council Monday night for approval, but council members have been critical of the proposal that aims to save firefighter jobs. According to the Chronicle, Mayor Pat Burt called the initiative "inappropriate on behalf of the firefighters." "The staffing level that we currently have would be locked into the charter. The only way you could reduce one fire person would be for the entire city to vote and change the city charter. That's how extreme this measure is," said Burt. Others are opposed to putting the cost of the measure on the ballot estimated at \$190,000: <http://cbs5.com/local/palo.alto.firefighters.2.1799660.html>

A Redwood City (CA) fire engine company will be taken out of service and parks maintenance will be reduced in Redwood City after the city council approved \$6.1 million in budget cuts Monday night. Council members said the cuts in the \$75.4 million budget for the 2010-11 fiscal year — including the elimination of 20 vacant positions and 15 filled jobs out of a work force of 560 — represented their best efforts to make the city live within its means and fix most of a \$6.8 million deficit. "The result really is a budget that is very difficult," Council Member Barbara Pierce said. "It balances, but there's certainly nothing to be terribly happy about in it."

http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_15503217?nclick_check=1

With a \$10 million deficit looming, about 105 city of Vancouver (WA) workers could lose their jobs at the end of this year, said City Manager Pat McDonnell. Although the numbers are preliminary at this point, initial plans show that 15 filled and three vacant firefighter positions will be cut. Fire Station 6 at Burton will be closed, adding an estimated two minutes to response times around the station on Northeast 112th, placing greater strain on central Vancouver stations and adding about 30 seconds to all emergency calls, Fire Chief Don Bivins said. Also, indications are that at least 11 positions in the police department will be cut — and if a federal grant doesn't go through, it could be as many as 22 cops, Police Chief Cliff Cook said. The rank of lieutenant will be eliminated and other command levels will shrink to bolster front-line patrols: <http://www.columbian.com/news/2010/jul/13/cuts-may-hit-vancouver-police-fire/>

High firefighter salaries and declining tax revenue could leave Laughlin with a \$3.7 million deficit within a year. Recognizing Clark County (NV) would be on the hook to keep the town solvent, county officials are moving forward with a plan to allow Laughlin's neighbor, Bullhead City, Ariz., to take over some emergency services. Clark County Fire Chief Steve Smith said under the proposal Bullhead City's Fire Department would respond to calls currently handled by one Laughlin truck, Truck 76, which requires 12 people to staff around the clock. The move would save about \$3 million, he said: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/jul/15/why-reids-dukes-are-down/>

Union representatives from the San Luis Obispo (CA) police and fire departments, citing concerns about elite special interests, have publicly withdrawn from a newly formed budget task force launched by City Manager Katie Lichtig. The 32-member Financial Sustainability Task Force was handpicked by Lichtig, who was hired in December, to advise her on the city's finances leading up to the beginning of the city's two-year budget-setting process. Erik Baskin, president of the San Luis Obispo City Firefighters Association, said the task force's makeup doesn't fairly represent the community:

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2010/07/13/1213320/san-luis-obispo-budget-task-force.html>

When asked directly by city leaders if Vallejo (CA) would remain safe after a fourth fire engine company is closed Monday morning, Interim Fire Chief Doug Robertson replied simply. "No. (But) we're going to try to make it as safe as we can," Robertson told the council Tuesday night: http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_15521347

Stockton (CA) firefighters have gone to federal court to force the city of Stockton to reinstate a ladder truck company disbanded to help bridge the city's \$23 million deficit. Firefighters assigned to Ladder Truck Company #4 at 5525 Pacific Avenue were reassigned to help staff other stations to cut down on overtime. Fire Station 4 is still staffed by a fire engine crew but Stockton Professional Firefighters Local 456 President Dave Macedo said there have already been delayed response times to structure fires in the station's service area:

<http://www.news10.net/news/story.aspx?storyid=86273&catid=2>

The Vallejo (CA) Fire Department says even though it's closing two fire stations Monday because of budget cuts, its station relocation plan will allow them to cover emergencies with limited resources:

<http://www.news10.net/news/story.aspx?storyid=86872&catid=2>

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

A Haverhill (MA) firefighter who allegedly collected money from and obtained the signatures of colleagues who were then recertified as emergency medical technicians without taking the required training has been placed on paid administrative leave:

<http://www.eagletribune.com/haverhill/x657340100/Haverhill-suspends-firefighter-for-role-in-recertifying-EMTs>

Former Sheridan (CO) Fire Chief Ron Carter pleaded guilty Thursday afternoon to Official Misconduct, a misdemeanor charge, and agreed to pay a \$500 fine. The charge and fine are in connection with accusations he falsified training records and exam results for Sheridan firefighters. In exchange for the guilty plea, Arapahoe County prosecutors dropped 16 other felony charges Carter was facing:

<http://cbs4denver.com/news/sheridan.fire.ron.2.1771331.html>

Philip Caron, a former Westbrook (ME) firefighter who has been convicted multiple times of arson, was sentenced to 18 years in prison on Wednesday:

<http://www.myfoxmaine.com/news/97575124.html>

A Haverhill (MA) firefighter is under fire after reportedly serving time behind bars without telling anyone. Kevin Thompson, who has been on the job since 1983, apparently served four months in a New Hampshire jail while fellow firefighters covered his shifts, and he collected a full paycheck. Court documents label him a habitual offender. His lengthy driving record shows he hasn't had a license in New Hampshire since 1992. Massachusetts took his license away in 1987. Police are now investigating whether he was driving fire trucks without a license, as well as who knew what and when. "I'm not talking cover up. I'm just talking about did anybody know where he was and did everybody go through the right chain of command," said Deputy Chief Donald Thompson of the Haverhill Police Department:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/37859685>

A volunteer firefighter has been charged with drunken driving and accused of yelling obscenities while driving a fire truck through a campground at Lake Billy Chinook in central Oregon. Police said 34-year-old Kristopher Wood of Redmond was also charged with reckless driving, criminal mischief, disorderly conduct and failure to perform the duties of a driver:

<http://www.mycentraloregon.com/news/state/ap/1239007/Ore-firefighter-charged-with-driving-engine-drunk.html>

A Bronx (NY) FDNY firehouse is feeling the heat after officials discovered an image of President Obama was painted on a toolbox - and then defaced with the word "hustler." An iconic picture of the President above the word "BELIEVE" appears to have been stenciled on a large toolbox visible inside Engine 45, Ladder 58 in East Tremont. Right across Obama's face is the word "HUSTLER" in big red letters. And underneath the image, someone scrawled "Allah Akbar" - "God is great" in Arabic - in black ink. Lt. Kenneth Durante refused to comment on the images when questioned at the firehouse Monday. FDNY officials said last night they launched an internal probe after the Daily News brought the images to their attention:

http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2010/06/22/2010-06-22_defaced_image_of_president_obama_placed_next_to_unabomber_on_toolbox_at_bronx_fi.html

A Milwaukee (WI) firefighter was charged Monday with eleven felonies in connection with the alleged sexual assault of a 14-year-old girl he met online. Robert D. Johnson, 43, was suspended with pay from the Milwaukee Fire Department:

<http://www.todaystmj4.com/news/local/97327224.html>

The 30 Haverhill (MA) firefighters caught up in the EMT recertification scandal are taking a hit to their wallets. They will lose the extra pay they were to receive as emergency medical technicians, Mayor James Fiorentini said. Fiorentini also said that as the investigation continues, he is not ruling out other disciplinary action against the firefighters. The 30 firefighters had their EMT licenses suspended by the state Department of Public Health earlier this month for obtaining recertification without taking the proper training. They were among 207 firefighters and ambulance workers statewide, including some from Trinity EMS in Haverhill, who had their licenses suspended by the state: <http://www.eagletribune.com/local/x657348196/Firefighters-in-EMT-scandal-lose-extra-pay>

Orange County (FL) firefighters will have to pay a \$200,000 legal settlement for dropping a patient. In 2006, Orange County firefighters tried to carry a man out of his second floor apartment in a wooden chair, and the chair broke. The man broke his back in that fall and says he broke his hip, shoulders and had spinal fractures:
<http://www.wftv.com/news/24045408/detail.html>

Two Westbrook (ME) firefighters, including one with a 1983 felony robbery conviction, were arrested last week and placed on administrative leave. Another fireman who is accused of harassing a Portland social worker was suspended. Richard Dorr, a call firefighter, was placed on unpaid leave after his arrest on June 22. Dorr faces charges of domestic violence, criminal threatening, and obstructing the report of a crime. He is also named in a protection from harassment order obtained by his wife. In the process of serving Dorr with paperwork, police learned that his roommate, James Gammon, a full-time firefighter, had weapons in his possession. Gammon was arrested on June 25 and charged with possession of a firearm by a prohibited person. Gammon has a 1983 felony conviction for robbery, according to records at the state Bureau of Investigation. Gammon was placed on paid leave after his arrest. In an apparently unrelated incident, James Harbaugh, a part-time firefighter, was placed on unpaid leave after a woman who works with his wife obtained a protection from harassment order against him. The arrests come as the Fire and Rescue Department works to improve its public image in the wake of a sexual harassment problem that led to dismissals and other disciplinary actions against several department members:
<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/maine-dept-has-3-ffs-under-suspension>

An EMS lieutenant with a sick sense of humor is likely to lose his FDNY job thanks to a tasteless joke that violated federal medical-privacy law. Bozo boss Michael Palleschi, 36, posted details online of a 911 call he found hilarious — a woman complaining of a swollen vagina — without redacting the patient's name and address, sources said. FDNY top brass found nothing comical about Palleschi's behavior and pushed to get him fired. Even as his job hung in the balance, the pudgy prankster got into hot water again — this time for an alleged joke on a teenager in the EMS Explorer program at the Brooklyn EMS station in Canarsie, where Palleschi had been exiled on modified duty, sources said. The juvenile high jinks got Palleschi hauled in for a second investigation, the FDNY said: <http://www.firerescue1.com/labor-issues/articles/843371-FDNY-medic-likely-to-lose-job-for-joking-about-patient/>

The City of Los Angeles (CA) to pay \$2.5 million to two fire captains in the Tennie Pierce case - They successfully argued that their punishments after the black firefighter was fed dog food reflected racial bias. Their attorney says they would have settled before trial for \$250,000:
<http://firegeezer.com/2010/07/07/firefighters-ambushed-in-illinois/>

Doing the right thing - a Marin County (CA) Student Firefighter tosses a burning rat in a fire, and an anonymous complaint is lodged:
<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/calif-ff-tosses-rat-fire-complaint-lodged>

Chicago (IL) taxpayers are “hemorrhaging” money, thanks to a surge in overtime pay to Chicago Fire Department brass that coincided with — and wiped out savings generated by — mandatory furloughs, Inspector General Joe Ferguson has concluded. In a preliminary report issued Tuesday, Ferguson concluded that straight overtime payments to the Fire Department’s 50 “exempt” employees skyrocketed — from \$18,516 in 2008 to \$311,180 in 2009 and \$191,293 during the first three months of this year:

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/cityhall/2469716%2Cchicago-overtime-pay-070610.article>

Nine Spotsylvania (VA) Fire Department volunteers have been terminated, including a 20-year-old who was charged yesterday with sexual misconduct in an incident that involved a naked teenage girl in a shower at the Courthouse station:

http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2010/072010/07032010/559464/index_html?page=1

Every member of the Oliver, British Columbia Fire Department has been suspended following an incident where six kegs of beer were taken into “protective custody” at a building fire. It began on May 23 when a fire destroyed the Mesa Hotel and Bar in downtown Oliver. The firefighters on the scene felt that the kegs should be taken to the fire hall to be stored until “security was properly established” at the fire scene. They also felt that the pressurized tanks were a danger. It wasn’t a problem until two of the kegs were tapped, though. The first one had been damaged in handling from the fire and didn’t work. But the second keg flowed ok:

<Http://firegeezzer.com/2010/07/06/paying-for-free-beer/>

Public-safety labor unions and Goodyear business owners clashed over a short-lived boycott posted on Facebook last week. Tensions boiled over when a group of residents recommended some trims to the fiscal 2011 budget, including cutting the police uniform allowance by half and putting on hold a plan to replace city, police and fire vehicles at a cost of \$1.5 million. The United Goodyear Firefighters and the Goodyear Police Officers Association recently posted comments on public pages on Facebook targeting Ground Control, a restaurant, and Joshua Hong, a dentist:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2010/07/09/20100709goodyear-unions-facebook-boycott.html>

Fire department officials are investigating an incident in which a hangman's noose was found at the Rocky Mountain Fire Academy in Denver (CO):

<http://www.2thedeuce.com/news/kdvr-noose-fire-academy-txt%2C0%2C4593409.story>

Eleven New Haven (CT) firefighters have filed a new lawsuit over two 2003 promotional examinations that were at the center of a landmark 2009 U.S. Supreme Court case. Like the “New Haven 20” before them, the 11 new plaintiffs argue the city illegally denied them potential advancement — and ask the court to intervene. But unlike their predecessors who successfully challenged the city for throwing out the exam results in 2004, the newest plaintiff firefighters take issue with the city’s actions in 2009 when, under court order, it adopted the promotional lists and made promotions:

http://www.nhregister.com/articles/2010/07/15/news/new_haven/aa1_newhaven_fire11071510.txt

Two Former Orange County (FL) firefighters fought to get their jobs back Tuesday, but lost the battle. They were accused of making sexually explicit crank phone calls to their boss while she worked at a fire station:

<http://www.wftv.com/news/24242982/detail.html>

Menlo Park (CA) firefighters say they deserve overtime pay for the time they spend picking up uniforms and other gear before their shifts actually begin, according to a lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court on Thursday. The federal labor lawsuit brought against the Menlo Park Fire Protection District alleges the agency has refused to compensate firefighters for the time they spend before their shifts driving to one station to pick up equipment and then driving to a second station where they are assigned to work. The firefighters say they should be paid one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for the effort: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/california/ci_15530338

Stockton (CA) firefighters who cleaned up a fire union property while on duty Tuesday showed "poor judgment" and may be disciplined, city officials said Thursday:

http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100716/A_NEWS/7160316/1/a_news

Earlier this year the Albuquerque (NM) Fire Department required all of its uniformed officers to take a DWI course. Twenty-four sessions were offered to try to capture almost 700 employees. While it was certainly a proactive move, there's no question it was also reactive. Because like every other segment of the New Mexico population, AFD has members who make the bad decision to drink and drive. Eight since January '09. Most recently, the case of former AFD Capt. Joshua Ortega-Scheiner has been in the news. Stopped in September after allegedly ignoring signs in a construction zone on Interstate 40, the 16-year veteran of the department registered a .26 percent blood-alcohol concentration. He was demoted to firefighter:

http://www.fireengineering.com/index/articles/Wire_News_Display/1223194969.html

A Steubenville (OH) firefighter is now fighting a legal battle. Paul Bowman is in the middle of fighting his termination, and is now facing charges of making terroristic threats:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/ohio-ff-faces-termination-making-alleged-terroristic-threats>

The president of the Menlo Park (CA) Firefighters' Association said Friday the organization tried to avoid suing for overtime pay, but felt it had no choice after negotiations stalled:

http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_15537488?IADID=Search-www.mercurynews.com-www.mercurynews.com&nclick_check=1

An EMT worker who was involved in a controversial incident in which a pregnant woman died last year was shot and killed Sunday, New York police said:

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/07/18/new.york.emt.shot/index.html>

Positive Public Relations Items:

Firefighters put their lives on the line battling danger, but Saturday night, some of Clark County (NV) Fire's Bravest strutted their stuff for a good cause. More than five hundred were on hand for this year's Fire and Rain Bachelors Auction benefiting local charities. While the evening is meant to be fun, firefighters say raising money for charity is what its all about, affording young burn victims the chance for others to see them beyond their scars: <http://www.8newsnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=12679817>

Lewiston City (ID) and the local 1773 Firefighters Union announce Friday they have reached an agreement on a renewed contract, which states the firefighters will waive their right to a 2.6% cost of living increase. Firefighters Union Vice President Eric Kelly said the agreement was unanimous by the firefighters, with only three members unavailable for voting. He said they saw the need and wanted to help the city and the residents. "We're glad to see the significant savings for the city of Lewiston taxpayers," said Kelly. "The majority of us are city of Lewiston taxpayers as well. We enjoy working for the city, living here as well as recreating here. We're more than willing to step up and make that sacrifice." <http://www.klewtv.com/news/97204124.html>

Police and firefighters in Corona (CA) have agreed to forgo raises to help the city save an estimated \$4.1 million:
http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/PE_News_Local_D_wconcede08.23e4803.html

The Henderson (NV) City Council approved three union contracts Thursday night, none of which included base wage increases. The agreements between the city and the unions avoid layoffs. The Henderson Police Officers Association, International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1883 and Teamsters Local 14 presented their negotiated contracts before the council. Dan Pentkowski, president of the firefighters union, said he was glad negotiations in Henderson appeared smoother than fire union negotiations in other parts of the valley. "It has done nothing but degrade their relationships," he said. "The approach that's worked here is positive collaboration." "I'm very pleased with how my members have stood up when it was necessary for maintaining service in our community," Pentkowski said:
<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/jul/08/city-henderson-approves-union-contracts-avoids-lay/>

A 911 dispatch application puts emergency data in hands of citizens - Whenever there's an incident, residents in California's San Ramon Valley want information fast. Richard Price, chief of the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, knows this because visitors always flood the live dispatch section of the district's website, www.firedepartment.org "Traffic to our website really spikes," he said. "We know there is interest in what's causing the smoke or where the sirens are coming from. We wanted to take that information and put it in the field." Now, mobile technology will give residents an on-the-go glimpse into the district's 911 dispatch center. Touted as the first of its kind, the FireDepartment.org iPhone app arrived this week as a tool for users to have real-time access to information about emergencies and disasters in the community without needing a desktop computer:
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/911-Dispatch-App-Emergency-Data.html>

Idaho Falls (ID) firefighters are asking for the public's support in the fight against cancer. After Idaho Falls fire marshal Mike Sheets died of cancer four years ago, Idaho Falls firefighters started the Firefighters Remembered group in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Firefighters brought the city's newest and oldest fire engines for the kids to enjoy as they raised funds for the group. They even gave out free ice cream: <http://www.localnews8.com/news/24056373/detail.html>

Firefighters with Northwest Fire/Rescue District in Arizona can consider themselves pioneers or trail blazers. The members of IAFF Local 3572 have signed the National Seat Belt pledge. "This is the first IAFF union to achieve 100 percent," said Burt Clark, who established the seat belt pledge in honor of a former National Fire Academy student who was killed in a fire truck crash in Texas:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/ariz-union-signs-seat-belt-pledge>

Training & Safety Related Items:

An investigation has found basic mistakes contributed to the deaths of two Ohio firefighters who were responding to a house fire. Colerain Township Fire Department Capt. Robin Broxterman and Firefighter Brian Schira were killed April 4, 2008, after they became trapped in the basement of the home. Firefighters entered the burning home without water in their hose and tried to escape without following their hose line to an exit, the department report released Friday said. Speaking on behalf of the department, Capt. Steve Conn said the mistakes represented a "failure to adhere to fundamental firefighting practices" during a press conference. "In addition to distractions faced on the fireground, some basic strategic and tactical errors were encountered in the early moments of the fire," he said:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/832263-Basic-mistakes-cited-in-deaths-of-2-Ohio-firefighters/>

If you have not yet seen "Inside the Command Post," I encourage you to do so. This is actual emergency scene video shot by a San Bernardino (CA) Fire Department Battalion Chief, Mike Alder, as he arrives on scene to establish or assume command. A great series of training videos (free) on you tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/maldersbfd#p/u>

Six Farmington (OH) Firefighters were injured in an early morning accident Sunday on Route F at Best Road. According to the Missouri Highway Patrol, the accident occurred around 1:40 Sunday morning when Charles Farr, 30 was driving a 1990 Pierce Pumper Tanker in response to a structural fire with lights and sirens activated. The right side tires dropped off the right side of the roadway. Farr overcorrected to the left, went off the left side of the roadway, struck an embankment and overturned. Farr and the front seat passenger were ejected from the truck:

http://www.dailyjournalonline.com/news/local/article_113aec48-8230-11df-adac-001cc4c002e0.html

Two Tulare County (CA) firefighters are struck by a pickup while extinguishing an Alpaugh-area vehicle fire; the hit-and-run driver remains at large:

<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/article/20100627/NEWS01/100627001/Two-firefighters-struck-by-pickup-while-extinguishing-Alpaugh-area-vehicle-fire-hit-and-run-driver-remains-at-large>

Firefighters ambushed in Illinois: a mob of uncivilized folks in Alton (IL), set up a vile and disgusting form of entertainment for the residents of a public housing complex Sunday night. In what was obviously a planned stunt, there were a couple of trash fires set and simultaneously a hoax "shooting" call was dispatched to the police dept. When the Alton firefighters arrived and began putting out the fires, a mob of about 300 people began shooting fireworks, aiming roman candles and bottle rockets directly at the firefighters:

<http://firegeezer.com/2010/07/07/firefighters-ambushed-in-illinois/>

Sacramento (CA) Fire Department officials say they are investigating whether fire crew members followed proper procedures and were wearing appropriate protective gear before an explosion that destroyed an Oak Park house and injured four firefighters. Captain Jonathan Burgess, a Fire Department spokesman, said the investigation also will look at whether firefighters, who suffered burns to their faces and hands, should have been wearing protective masks and gloves. "As far as we know, they weren't wearing masks at the time the explosion occurred," Burgess said, but it has not been determined whether they were wearing gloves:

<http://www.sacbee.com/2010/07/14/2888671/sacramento-fire-department-investigates.html>

Sacramento (CA) Fire Department Chief Ray Jones told CBS13 he will make sure changes are made to department policy after firefighters were injured in a house explosion earlier this month while lacking crucial safety equipment.

Four firefighters from Station 6 were not wearing gloves or protective masks when they approached an Oak Park home after reports of a gas leak on the morning of July 5: <http://cbs13.com/local/sacramento.house.explosion.2.180542.html>

A freak accident sent an Osceola County (FL) firefighter to the hospital Thursday afternoon. The firefighter was doing a demonstration in front of a group of 30 kids at the Osceola County Sheriff's Adventure Camp near St. Cloud at the time. Investigators say the firefighter was shocked when a ladder he was lifting touched a power line:

<http://www.wftv.com/news/24277717/detail.html>

A detailed review of the Seattle (WA) Fire Department's response to an apartment fire last month in Fremont that killed five people, including four children, will not result in changes to the department's firefighting protocols, Fire Chief Gregory Dean told the City Council on Friday. Dean told council members that mechanical problems with an engine that delayed putting water on the fire have been addressed and that mistakes made by its operator are being dealt with through training. Both the chief and an independent analyst concluded that, while operator error contributed to the incident, the firefighters responsible acted according to their training and can't be blamed:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2012378399_fatafire17m.html

General Fire Service Related Items:

Two fire departments. Two squads of firefighters. Even two different colors of fire trucks – but one fire chief. Next week, the Eugene (OR) and Springfield fire departments will merge together many of their administrative operations. On July 1, the departments will consolidate many of their functions. Training, the fire marshals offices, emergency medical services program management and more will all be combined: <http://www.kval.com/news/local/96847699.html>

Palo Alto (CA) Police Chief Dennis Burns will take over the top job in the city's Fire Department while the city looks for a permanent replacement for retiring Fire Chief Nick Marinaro, City Manager James Keene announced Thursday afternoon. Burns will serve as the city's "public safety director" and take charge of both the police and fire departments until Keene finds a new fire chief -- a search Keene said he expects to take about six months: http://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/show_story.php?id=17349

Foster City (CA) has a new fire chief, and his arrival will put more than \$100,000 in the city's pocket. San Mateo Fire Chief Dan Belville will take over the Foster City Fire Department on July 1. The city councils of the neighboring cities voted unanimously on Monday at separate meetings to share the chief. The agreement will last 12 months, though it will automatically extend each July for up to four additional years unless one of the cities breaks the contract. Belville will remain a San Mateo employee, but the two cities will split his pay and benefits evenly, for a total of \$180,000 apiece, and he is expected to split his time equally between the departments. Foster City officials estimate this will save the city \$109,000 compared to hiring a new chief exclusively for its fire department, while San Mateo will save a similar amount: http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/nationalbreaking/ci_15354138

The City of Columbus (OH) has collected almost \$69 million over the seven years the city has charged patients for ambulance rides to the hospital. The program is generating more money than expected, and EMS crews want the cut they say they were promised to buy high-tech medicines and medical equipment. When first proposed in 2001, the plan to bill insurance companies to transport patients was expected to raise about \$5 million a year. Last year, ambulance fees brought in \$14.3 million, and revenue through June is \$6.6 million. The increase is attributed to conservative early estimates, higher charges for transporting and a soaring number of EMS runs over the years. The money goes into the city's general fund to pay for daily operations, including street repairs, workers' salaries, police cruisers, snow plows, new medic units and other equipment. The money also has helped hire more police and firefighters, officials said. "It's like any other revenue source," said Deputy Public Safety Director Dan Giangardella. "It's allocated in the budget process." The city charges each patient's health-insurance plan \$561 to \$965, based on the level of care needed, plus \$11.56 per mile to a hospital: http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2010/07/04/fire-division-wants-cut-of-cash-from-ems-rides.html?sid=101

While on a response, a thief raids a Chicago (IL) firehouse of its dinner:

<http://www.firefighternation.com/forum/topics/thief-raids-chicago-firehouse>

The lack of fire protection stuns and frustrates Delta (CA) island property owners as they watch their island burn without anything being done – a realization some folks don't understand, that there are many areas that are considered "unprotected" or "underserved" because they do not pay any taxes or fees for fire protection and life safety services: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/california/ci_15460140

The chief of Douglas County (OR) Fire District 2, who now oversees the Sutherlin Fire Department, says he thinks the agreement between the two districts is going to be beneficial to both. The two departments are now working together after the two districts agreed to a contract. Fire District 2 Chief Mike Hansen is now handling both departments. He says having the departments work together will be beneficial for the residents in both districts and says that it will make them more efficient:

<http://www.kpic.com/news/98026149.html>

The future of Mukilteo (WA) Fire could be a joint operation with Lynnwood Fire if everything pencils out as hoped. Such a collaboration would allow both departments to afford specialized services normally out of reach for smaller jurisdictions, according to Mukilteo Fire Chief Michael Springer. Springer showed the council Monday what the partnership could look like. "It comes down to, what is in the best interest of the public?" he said. "We're always looking to improve the quality of life for our residents now and in the future." The distant future could include regionalization, which essentially makes the area one large fire department or district, without regard to city or even county borders:

http://www.mukilteobeacon.com/city-government/article.exm/2010-07-15_mukilteo_lynnwood_fire_departments_could_merge

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

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

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

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Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site: www.chabotfire.com
Chabot College web site: www.chabotcollege.edu

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