



FIRE & EMS NEWS

February 20, 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.

ENTRY LEVEL FIREFIGHTER WORKSHOP:

Entry Level Firefighter's Workshop!!!

Where: Las Positas College - "Multimedia Theater" Building
2400 (Livermore, CA)
Date: February 28, 2010
Cost: \$12 (Lunch & Certificate included)

Keynote Speaker:

Paul Lepore - Division Chief
Redondo Beach Fire Department

Topics will include:

- Being the Ideal Candidate
- Chiefs Interviews
- Code and Honor
- Interviews
- Applications & Resumes
- Education
- Paramedic School
- Physical Fitness
- Preparation for the Job
- Reserve & Volunteer Programs
- Rookie expectations

*** Reservations are required by February 21, 2010***

Contact: Batlas@pstgonline.com

Or register at: www.pstgonline.com

Selected participants will receive a practice interview given by Certified Oral Board Raters

Bring your resume!!

**RESERVE FIREFIGHTER OPPORTUNITY –
MANTECA, CA:**

The [Manteca \(CA\) Fire Department](#) is looking for **Reserve Firefighters!**

Although this is a continuous recruitment, the cutoff for the first round of hiring will be 5 pm on March 1, 2010.

Job Requirements:

- 18 years of age
- High school diploma or GED
- California State Firefighter I or Academy Graduation Certificate
- Valid CPAT within 1 year of March 1, 2010
- Live within 20 air miles of Manteca, CA
- Be able to respond to at least 25% of emergency callbacks a year.
- Be able to attend trainings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.
- Be able to complete a minimum of 12 hours and a max of 24 hours of paid ride time on an engine or truck company a month.

More information is available at www.mantecafire.org or www.ci.manteca.ca.us/fire

For more information, you may contact Engineer Travis Gooch at tgooch@ci.manteca.ca.us or 209-456-8300.

Applications may be picked up and dropped off at Manteca Fire Station 2, 1154 South Union Road, Manteca, CA 95337.

FEBRUARY 2010 EVERYONE GOES HOME **NEWSLETTER:**



February 2010
E-Newsletter

[One Team, One Passion - Be an Advocate](#)

The Advocate Outreach Program is a proven success. From personal experience, it was gratifying to sit with strangers in the fire service and create a dialogue they obviously had been waiting for. The time commitment was minimal and the reward was inspirational.

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

[Firefighting Is NOT Safe](#)

Reducing firefighter injuries and fatalities is a worthwhile, necessary, and noble cause. I am a very motivated and positive person and enjoy setting high goals and expectations for myself, and the organizations I am associated with, but these goals and expectations must be realistic and attainable. Nothing would make me happier than if the last line-of-duty death (LODD) funeral I went to was the last one ever.


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

More February 2010 Articles:


- [93](#)
- [Everyone Goes Home® - A Risk Management Program](#)
- [A Sprinkler Story](#)
- [The Plot Thickens](#)

» **More:** [View the Complete February 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** 

» For More Information Visit: www.everyonegoeshome.com

TRAINING & SAFETY OPPORTUNITY AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:



[Register Today for the Everyone Goes Home® Safety Summit](#)

The [Everyone Goes Home® Safety Summit](#) will take place on **March 5 - 7, 2010** at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Md. Please [take a moment to register](#), as a limited number of seats are available.

Sessions Include:

- **NIOSH Investigations and Recommendations to Prevent Vehicle Related LODDs and Injuries**
Virginia Lutz
 - **Serious Gaming for Incident Mgmt. & Training**
Michael Pak, Director of CATT Lab - University of Md.
 - **IAFC "NEW" Rules of Engagement for Firefighter Safety and Risk Management, Best Practices**
Gary Morris - Chairman, IAFC ROG Task Force
 - **Fire Behavior and Wind Driven Fires**
Dan Madrzykowski, NIST
 - **Light Weight Construction**
Chris Hasbrook, Underwriters Laboratories
- ...And More! [Click Here to View the Full Schedule](#)

EMS C.E. OPPORTUNITIES AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:

USFA to Issue Continuing Education Credits for On-Campus EMS Courses

Emmitsburg, MD.- Students who need continuing education (CE) credits to maintain Emergency Medical Services (EMS) certification now can earn CE credits for each National Fire Academy (NFA) EMS on-campus course they attend in Emmitsburg, Maryland. EMS CE credits are accredited by the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS). It is estimated that this new NFA effort will benefit up to 750

students each year. Beginning January 1, 2010, students who attend any NFA resident EMS course receive 35 to 60 CE credits, in varying categories, for each course completion. The number of CEs will be granted based on the length and content of the courses. The CE credits will be printed on a Continuing Education certificate, so that students will have immediate documentation of their work. **Please note: CE credits cannot be granted for on-campus courses taken before January 1, 2010.**

“It is evident that continuing education better prepares our EMTs and paramedics to meet the needs of their community,” said National Fire Academy Superintendent Dr. Denis Onieal. “By receiving accreditation for continuing education in Emergency Medical Services courses, the United States Fire Administration reaffirms its commitment to provide professional development that increases the abilities of our nation’s fire and emergency medical services.” In addition to the CECBEMS CE credits, the NFA will continue to issue International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) continuing education units for its traditional classroom courses, as well as its online training programs, through [NFA Online](#).

Questions about the CE program can be directed to [Julie Davis](#) at (301) 447-1084 or [Michael Stern](#) at (301) 447-1253.

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

USFA Releases Residential Building Heating Fires and Portable Heater Fires Topical Reports

EMMITSBURG, MD. – The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) announces the release of two special reports regarding heating fires and portable heater fires in residential buildings. An estimated average of 54,500 heating fires in residential buildings occurs each year in the United States. Annually, these fires are responsible for an estimated 190 civilian fire deaths, 625 civilian fire injuries, and \$286 million in property loss. Heating is the second leading cause of all residential building fires, following cooking, and is most prevalent during the winter when the use of central heating systems, portable heaters, and fireplaces is most common. Portable heaters account for an estimated average of 3,800 fires in residential buildings and result in 115 deaths, 250 injuries, and \$98 million in property damage each year. Fifty percent of portable heater fires occur because the heat source is too close to combustibles.


The reports, *Heating Fires in Residential Buildings* and *Portable Heater Fires in Residential Buildings*, were developed by the USFA’s National Fire Data Center as part of its Topical Fire Report Series and are based on data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for 2005 to 2007. The reports examine the causes and characteristics of all heating fires and portable heater fires that occur in residential buildings.

Copies of the topical reports can be downloaded from:


<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/statistics/reports/>

TRAINING & SAFETY INFORMATION:

FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY LEARNING



Everyone Goes Home® Learning Media Center E-Alert - February 2, 2010



Ford Driving Skills FOR LIFE

Ford NHTSA

Driving Safety Is An Attitude


Tips for All Drivers Young & Old

This Month's Feature
[Driving Safety Is an Attitude](#)


This segment focuses on driving skills. While these clips were not developed specifically for emergency responders, they offer tips for both new and experienced drivers. These tips also apply whether you're driving apparatus, support vehicles, or a POV.

» [Click Here to View This Media Clip](#)


» Archive: [More Firefighter Life Safety Learning Media](#)



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
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www.everyonegoeshome.com

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:

Student Recruitment for the first PILOT offering of:

- ***Hazardous Materials / Special Operations Program Management***

February 20, 2010

www.chabotfire.com

6

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

The United States Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Academy (NFA), is conducting a pilot course at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, Maryland for the newly developed 6-day course **Hazardous Materials / Special Operations Program Management (P254)**. The NFA will be delivering this pilot offering May 9-14, 2010, with students to arrive Saturday May 8 and depart Saturday May 15, 2010.

Course Description: The Hazardous Materials / Special Operations Program Management course is designed to guide students in gaining and sharing the knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively develop, manage and lead hazardous materials and/or other specific all hazards special operations response capabilities involved in specialized emergency response. Upon completion of the course, students learn how to analyze the complexities, dynamics, and inter-relationships of the components of special operations. Through interactive lecture, group activities and testing, the students will study:

1. Identification of special operations components.
2. Identification of the inter-relationships between each discipline and then demonstrate how the manager balances the influences of diverse components.
3. Manage all related disciplines under the same operational procedures.
4. Balancing the "spider web" with understanding all the unique internal and external demands and influences.

The course utilizes lessons learned on how to identify the needs, develop, implement and sustain a Hazardous Materials / Special Operations Program. Ensuring the program meets the needs of the community and the current standard of care. Included in the course materials are historical examples, current models and best practices for community risk based special response capability development and sustainment.

Student Selection Criteria: Hazardous Materials / Special Operations Teams coordinators, managers, and personnel aspiring to become coordinators and managers, Personnel responsible for training, equipping, and sustaining specialized response resources, Personnel responsible for the supervision or leadership of a hazardous materials or special operations team or company.

Class Size: 22

Length: 6 days

Prerequisites: ICS 100 level and ICS 200 level training. Preferred courses are Q462 and Q463 available through NFA Online at www.nfaonline.dhs.gov. Chief's signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training.

How to Apply: Students must complete a General Admissions Application (FEMA Form 75-5). An electronic application is available on our website at: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>

- Completed applications **must be postmarked by March 1, 2010** and sent to:

NETC Admissions Office
Building I, Room 216
16825 S. Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

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

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

Firenuggets.com

PRESENTS

Here are a number of fire service seminars being offered by FireNuggets.com in 2010 – sign up now as they will surely sell out and be very popular! For more information, go to their website at www.firenuggets.com

Seminar #1:

Thursday, March 25, 2010 — "Proper Firefighting Mindset Leads to Strategic and Tactical Success": Presented by District Chief Dave McGrail, Denver Fire Department

Because most of our emergency responses don't turn out to be major events, we as human beings can slowly succumb to the deadly disease of complacency, and bad habits can quickly take hold. Even with the best of intentions, and clearly knowing what the "right thing" to do is; we can find ourselves taking short cuts, and relying on luck to get us out of trouble. It is only through the application of good habits, at every incident, that we can begin to ensure the best possible outcome. This interactive workshop will help the attendee identify the direct correlation between the development and application of good daily habits, and success on the fireground. The concept of the "Proper Firefighting Mind-Set" will be introduced and reinforced throughout the day. Fireground operations, from a small vehicle fire, to a fast moving fire on the upper floors of a high-rise building will be discussed. Slides, videos, and various real life case studies will be used to illustrate the result of both good habits and bad.

Attendees will leave energized, with a renewed dedication to the development of good habits, and their consistent application on the fireground.

For details on this seminar, go to: <http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro10.htm>

Seminar #2:

Thursday, May 6, 2010 — "The Station Fire: An Incident Commander's Perspective":
Presented by Deputy Chief Mike Bryant, Los Angeles County Fire Department

What started out on August 26, 2009 as a 10-acre brush fire in the Angeles National Forest above the City of La Canada rapidly turned into the largest fire ever recorded in the history of Los Angeles County and the tenth largest in California history.

Deputy Chief Bryant was one of the Unified Incident Commanders on the Station Fire. His presentation will be in two parts. Part one will include an overview of the command challenges and accomplishments throughout the Station Incident. Part two will include an overview of the events leading up to the sad and tragic deaths of two Los Angeles County firefighters while performing fire fighting operations at Fire Camp 16.

For details on this seminar, go to: <http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro10.htm>

Seminar #3:

Thursday, November 4, 2010 — "Fireground Responsibility" and "Leadership Lessons for the Fire Service": Presented by Battalion Chief John Salka, Fire Department, City of New York

"Fireground Responsibility": This is a program that examines a firefighter line-of-duty death and the investigation and report that followed. Several important contributing factors were uncovered and are common factors in many firefighter fatalities. Chief Salka takes a look at the fire, the strategy and the tactics that were employed at this fire as well as the contributing factors. Each of the items that played a role in the fatality are examined and discussed and suggestions result that may prevent future fatalities on the fireground.

"Leadership Lessons for the Fire Service": This is a dynamic program that illustrates the importance of effective leadership in the fire service. There are many different elements that make leadership a powerful force in any organization and the fire service is no exception. Chief Salka will discuss Integrity, Inspiration, Innovation, Intensity and several other aspects of the effective and successful fire service leader. Whether you are an aspiring company officer or a chief, you will find this to be an inspiring and motivating program

For details on this seminar, go to: <http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro10.htm>

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

Carr Convention Center
4400 Rosewood Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588

PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION COURSE:

By popular demand, I have scheduled another **promotional preparation course** in Marin County in April 2010! It's never too early to start preparing for your next promotional exam!

Next Scheduled Class:

- Wednesday **April 14** and Thursday **April 15, 2010.**
- **Mill Valley, CA**

Class size is limited, so register early!

How To Excel At Fire Service Promotional Exams!

-
- **Tired of not getting promoted off of your last fire service promotional examination?**
 - **Preparing for an upcoming promotional process?**
 - **Want to do so well you won't have to take the promotional examination again?**
 - **Then this class is for you!**

TOPICS TO BE COVERED INCLUDE:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• So you want to promote in the fire service? An overview of what to expect & prepare for.• 11 steps for success in the promotional process.• Creating a value-added promotional resume!• What to expect on the written test• Ace your promotional interview!• Personnel counseling problems• In-Baskets / Writing Exercises• Teaching demonstrations / oral presentations• How to smoke the emergency simulation portion of the assessment center!• ICS, Strategy and tactics review• Preparing for the position, not just the test• Going from just checking the box to understanding what you're doing• Managing the incident, from beginning to end• Simulator practice and critiquing on various types of incidents, including: <u>Structure fires</u> (residential, high-rise, commercial, apartment, etc.), <u>Wildland fires</u>, <u>Mass-Casualty Incidents</u>, & <u>Haz Mat Incidents</u>.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Instructor: Steve Prziborowski, Battalion Chief and Master Instructor. Steve was recently named as the 2008 California Fire Instructor of the Year and has coached and mentored numerous personnel to get promoted or hired in the fire service.

To Register: Go to www.code3firetraining.com for secure payment with Pay Pal, and most major credit cards. Or, if paying by Cashier's Check, Money Order, or Personal Check, email me at sprziborowski@aol.com for more information.

More Info: Contact Steve Prziborowski, 408-205-9006 or sprziborowski@aol.com - Also, visit my websites at www.chabotfire.com and www.code3firetraining.com for more information to assist you with your next promotional examination or career development needs!

Class Details:

Mill Valley, CA	
Dates:	Wednesday April 14 , <u>and</u> Thursday April 15 , 2010
Location:	Southern Marin Fire District Headquarters Classroom 308 Reed Boulevard Mill Valley, CA 94941
Time of class:	0900 to 1700 hours each day
Cost:	\$220.00 for the two-day session

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

Firenuggets.com

PRESENTS

Deputy Chief Mike Bryant

Los Angeles County Fire Department

“COMMAND AND CONTROL”

- **March 11 & 12, 2010** - 09:00 -16:00 each day –

VACAVILLE, CA

Day 1: Risk Assessment and Decision Making Process: Have you ever asked yourself how could things have gone so wrong? Or, how could they not see the fatal fire event

coming? It is my observation that we (the fire service) are not providing our company and chief officers with the proper tools/training so they can be better equipped to make safe and effective fire ground decisions. Rather, we teach them the steps (check boxes) on how to successfully navigate a promotional examination. Once they are promoted they never fully understand how and why they made those decisions, this is called (seat of your pants fire fighting). This segment will take you on an informative journey by thoroughly examining a simple 5 step decision making process on how to make safe fire ground decisions while operating in very dynamic high stress emergency environments. Student interaction/participation is employed using DVD's, pictures, and actual real life emergency scenarios.

Day 2: Is a breakdown the 8 steps of the "Incident Action Plan" and Scenarios. Many fire ground incident commanders do not have an idea of how to develop and communicate an effective "plan." This segment presents a solid checklist that keeps the incident commander on task no matter how simple or complex the incident. As part of this program, task saturation is explored and how it hinders the incident commander from focusing on the "next" instead of the "now." Student interaction is used to build an effective and efficient incident action plan. Also employed are videos, pictures, and the use of the Fire Studio simulator program.

Total cost is \$225, and includes lunch each day, class materials and certificate.

Location:

Travis Federal Credit Union
1 Travis Way
Vacaville, CA

Deputy Fire Chief Mike Bryant is a 28-year veteran of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. He has held the ranks of Firefighter/Paramedic, Firefighter Specialist, Fire Prevention Inspector, Fire Captain, Training Captain, Training Program Developer, Fire Battalion Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. Chief Bryant currently manages and oversees the East Regional Operations Bureau. He provides leadership for 33 cities, 76 fire stations, 4 divisions, 10 battalions and 1,400 personnel. Chief Bryant holds a Bachelor of Science degree in occupational studies from California State University, Long Beach. He is a qualified Type II incident commander, operations section chief, safety officer and division/group supervisor. In addition, he is a certified Master Instructor from California State Fire Training.

Go to www.firenuggets.com for registration and more detailed information.

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"> - Thursday March 18, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (San Ramon, CA) - Friday March 19, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (San Ramon, CA) - Wednesday April 21, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (Berkeley, CA) - Thursday April 22, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (Berkeley, CA) - Tuesday May 18, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (Berkeley, CA) - Wednesday May 19, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (Berkeley, CA) - Tuesday June 15, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (Sausalito, CA) - Wednesday June 16, 2010 from 1200 to 1700 hours (Sausalito, CA) <p align="center">**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"> - Monday March 22, 2010 from 1230 to 1700 hours - Tuesday March 23, 2010 from 1030 to 1700 hours - Monday May 10, 2010 from 1230 to 1700 hours - Tuesday May 11, 2010 from 1030 to 1700 hours <p align="center">**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> <p align="center">NOTE: <i>All of the above classes will be held at the S.F. Paramedic Association Offices in San Francisco – 657 Mission Street, Suite 302)</i></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 medical 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

FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES BY CHUCK WILSON:

- **Assessment Center and Fire Simulation Workshops**
- **Instructor: Chuck Wilson**

Assessment Center Workshop –

Designed for those who will participate in an Assessment Center on their Promotional Exam.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Written Multiple Choice Exercises
- Leaderless Group Exercises
- In-Basket Exercises
- Oral Presentations
- Written Exercises
- Subordinate Counseling
- Practice Exercises
- NEW Student Workbook

Simulator Workshop -

Designed for those who will have a Simulation on their Promotional exam.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Strategy & Tactics
- S.P.A.R.S. Technique
- Initial Report Exercises
- Raters Sheets
- Exam Situations
- "Hot-Seat" For All
- Practice Simulation Exercises
- The "No-Zone"

Class Locations and Dates:

Santa Barbara, CA	Fremont, CA	Ontario, CA
<u>March 10, 2010</u> <i>Assessment Center</i>	<u>March 13, 2010</u> <i>Assessment Center</i>	<u>March 16, 2010</u> <i>Assessment Center</i>
<u>March 11, 2010</u> <i>Simulator Workshop</i>	<u>March 14, 2010</u> <i>Simulator Workshop</i>	<u>March 17, 2010</u> <i>Simulator Workshop</i>
Santa Barbara County Fire Department 4410 Cathedral Oaks Road Santa Barbara, CA 93110	Fremont Fire Training Center 3300 Capital Avenue Fremont, CA 94537	Ontario Fire Department Ontario, CA

Register at: www.promotionalworkshops.com

Classes are \$110.00 per day, per class, Pre-registered

\$120.00 per day per class at the door

3% Credit Card fee

* Now Accepting Visa and Master Card *

Instructor: CHUCK WILSON

Chuck is recognized as one of the nation's leading instructors in Fire Department Promotional Testing. Most recently honored as the recipient of the Ed Bent Award as California Fire Instructor of the year for 2007. A Southern California Chief Officer with a Bachelor Degree from San Diego State. Senior Master Instructor in the California Fire Training System, Adjunct Instructor for 14 Colleges including Cal State, Los Angeles, and Texas A&M WMD Programs. An editorial contributor to The IFSTA 5th and 6th Edition Fire Instructor Textbook. This will NOT be a dry or boring class. Chuck has taught these classes to over 2500 students and proves you can have fun while learning. Exercises, Rating Sheets and Key Performance Elements are stressed.

For More Information, contact:

CHUCK WILSON
77-263 Maliko Street
Kailua Kona, Hawaii 96740-4468
(808) 987-0038 Cell
cwilson@promotionalworkshops.com

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

CALM THE CHAOS!
MASTERING FIREGROUND COMMAND
2-DAY SIMULATION WORKSHOP

TODAY'S FIREGROUND SHOULD BE A CALM AND ORCHESTRATED EVENT, BUT OFTEN IT IS NOT!

FEWER FIRES, MASS ATTRITION, AND LITTLE OR NO COMMAND TRAINING HAVE CREATED AN ERA IN TODAY'S FIRE SERVICE WHERE THE SIMPLE "BREAD AND BUTTER" HOUSE FIRE IS A SENTINEL EVENT.

THE NIOSH TOP 5 LINE OF DUTY DEATH CAUSES ON THE FIREGROUND SURROUND SIZE UP, COMMAND, COMMUNICATIONS, ACCOUNTABILITY AND SOP'S.

PARTICIPATE IN SIMULATIONS FOR HOUSE FIRES, GARDEN/CENTER HALL APARTMENTS, COMMERCIAL, HIGHRISE, WILDLAND, MCI, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS AND REVIEW ACTUAL INCIDENTS TO GET ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS...

- HOW DO I SET CLEAR TACTICAL OBJECTIVES, HAVE CLEAR COMMUNICATIONS AND ESTABLISH COMMAND PRESENCE ON MY FIRES?
- HOW DO I CREATE A PERSONAL SYSTEM THAT BLENDS ALL OF MY CLASSES, CERTIFICATIONS, SOP'S, ICS, AND TACTICAL FUNDAMENTALS INTO A SIMPLE, STREET SMART AND EFFECTIVE WAY?
- WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SIZE UPS AND ARRIVAL REPORTS AND HOW DO I BECOME GREAT AT BOTH?
- WHAT ARE THE TRIGGER POINTS AND SAFETY ISSUES OF OFFENSIVE, DEFENSIVE AND COMBINATION STRATEGIES?

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- WHAT ARE THE KEY POINTS TO RESCUE, EXPOSURES, CONFINEMENT, EXTINGUISHMENT, OVERHAUL, VENTILATION AND SALVAGE?
- HOW DO I REALLY USE ICS DAY-TO-DAY AND GET BEYOND "CHECKING THE BOXES"?
- HOW DO WE GET SOP'S/SOG'S WORKING IN MY DEPARTMENT?
- WHEN DO WE CALL AN AUDIBLE ON THE SOP'S?
- WHAT COULD HURT ME OR MY CREW TONIGHT?

THIS INTENSE, HANDS-ON AND INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP HITS THESE ISSUES HEAD ON AND WILL SIMPLIFY THE COMPONENTS OF TACTICS & STRATEGY, SOP'S AND ICS. WE SYNTHESIZE THESE 3 KEY INGREDIENTS TO HELP YOU DRASTICALLY IMPROVE THE WAY YOU COMMAND YOUR NEXT INCIDENT OR HANDLE YOUR UPCOMING ASSESSMENT CENTER! **DON'T BELIEVE THE LIE THAT YOU CANNOT PREPARE FOR THE TEST AND THE JOB AT THE SAME TIME. THE MILITARY, AIRLINES, AND NASA DO IT, AND IT'S ABOUT TIME THE FIRE SERVICE DID!**

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- ✓ **CURRENT OFFICERS WHO DESIRE TO DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE THEIR FIREGROUND COMMAND ABILITIES**
- ✓ **ASPIRING OFFICERS WHO DESIRE TO DEVELOP A SYSTEM FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE FOR THE ASSESSMENT CENTER TEST AND THE JOB**
- ✓ **TRAINING OFFICERS WHO DESIRE THE LATEST IN TACTICAL TRAINING**

ANTHONY KASTROS IS A 22-YEAR VETERAN OF THE FIRE SERVICE. HE IS A BATTALION CHIEF WITH SACRAMENTO METRO FIRE DISTRICT. HE IS AUTHOR OF THE BOOK AND VIDEO SERIES, "MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER", BY FIRE ENGINEERING THAT FOCUSES ON SIMULATION STRATEGY AND TACTICS. CHIEF KASTROS IS AN FDIC INSTRUCTOR, TEACHING FIREGROUND TACTICS AND LEADERSHIP/TEAM BUILDING FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. ANTHONY IS THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR THE SACRAMENTO METRO FIRE COMMAND TRAINING CENTER AND CURRENTLY A LINE BATTALION CHIEF SUPERVISING 10 COMPANIES.

MARCH 22 AND 23, 2010 – ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT - \$250.00
Go To www.trainfirefighters.com FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION

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



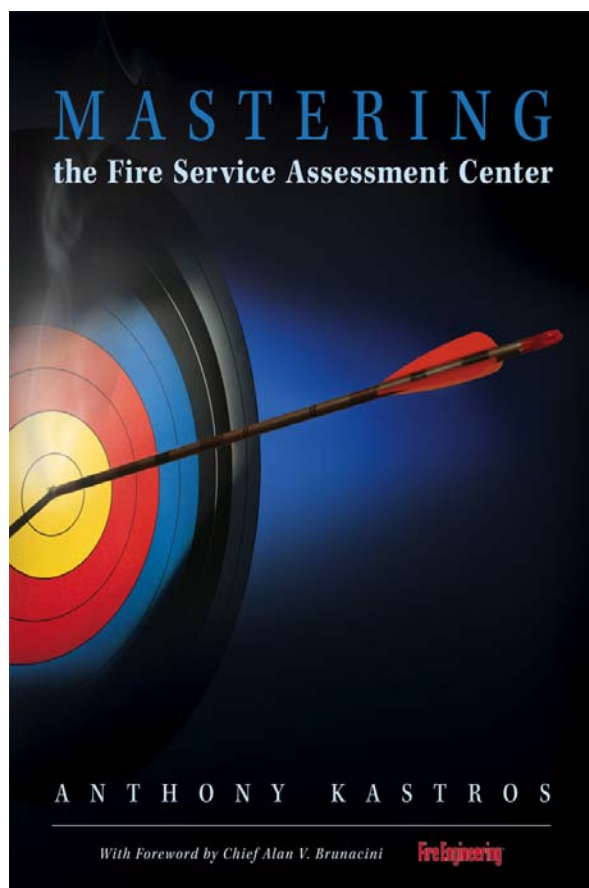
MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER

4-DAY WORKSHOP

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

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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



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

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

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

ANTHONY KASTROS IS A 22-YEAR VETERAN OF THE FIRE SERVICE. HE IS A BATTALION CHIEF WITH SACRAMENTO METRO FIRE DISTRICT. HE IS AUTHOR OF THE BOOK AND VIDEO SERIES, "MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER", BY FIRE ENGINEERING THAT FOCUSES ON ASSESSMENT CENTERS AND SIMULATIONS. CHIEF KASTROS IS AN FDIC INSTRUCTOR, TEACHING FIREGROUND TACTICS AND LEADERSHIP/TEAM BUILDING FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 18 - 21, 2010 - ANAHEIM, CA. - \$495.00*
GO TO WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION
CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO DUE TO DEPTH OF INSTRUCTION

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

The [San Francisco Paramedic Association](#) is hosting the following leadership course:

“ Leadership Under Pressure Successful Leadership Practices”

Description: Hosted by the San Francisco Paramedic Association, Viking Tactics Lead Instructor LTC (R) Tom Di Tomasso will present a cutting-edge seminar on the development of qualities essential for successful leadership practices. This seminar will cover leadership principles which have been “battle” tested. No matter what your occupation, if you lead people or may be in charge of people during a stressful event, this seminar is for you. LTC Di Tomasso will use extreme vignettes and draw upon lessons learned from his personal experience as a leader in the Battle of Mogadishu (depicted in the book and movie Blackhawk Down). Tom also draws from his current experience leading people during combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Sign up NOW for this seminar, as space is extremely limited.

On October 3, 1993, Task Force Ranger launched an operation in Mogadishu, Somalia aimed at capturing key members of the Somali National Alliance. The operation succeeded in apprehending twenty-four suspects, including two key aides to General Aideed. During the course of the operation, two U.S. helicopters were shot down igniting an eighteen-hour firefight that would leave eighteen Americans and hundreds of Somalis dead, which include two Medal of Honor recipients. The tactical success of Task Force Ranger against a numerically superior enemy can be attributed to their initiative, training, endurance, valor and leadership. Although a strategic failure, the tactical and leadership lessons learned from the Battle of the Black Sea will serve us well. As a participant and leader in the Battle of Mogadishu, recently retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Tom Di Tomasso describes enduring leadership lessons useful to current and future small unit leaders of any organization. He describes what it takes to lead men in combat - the greatest responsibility anyone could have - and how that leadership model can be used in any organization. Although this battlefield vignette concentrates on the Battle of the Black Sea in Mogadishu Somalia, he also draws on personal lessons learned from recent battles fought in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Lieutenant Colonel (R) Tom Di Tomasso served in the US Army for twenty years leading soldiers in combat and training. His assignments include the 10th Mountain Division, 1st Infantry Division and the 3rd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment where he served as a member of Task Force Ranger in Mogadishu Somalia in 1993; some of his exploits later depicted in the movie Black Hawk Down. In 1998, he was selected and assigned to the United States Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, where he served as a Troop Commander, Operations Officer, Squadron Commander and Deputy Commander. He has multiple combat deployments to Somalia, Bosnia, Afghanistan and Iraq. Most recently, LTC Di Tomasso served as a Joint Task Force Commander in Iraq responsible for more than twelve hundred special operations forces and government agency personnel. Upon retirement, LTC Di Tomasso joined Viking Tactics, Inc. where he provides tactical firearms instruction, leadership training and consulting services.

Category: Special Classes

Member Cost: \$65.00

Non-member Cost: \$85.00

- For more information, visit their website at www.sfparamedics.org

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The ***Clovis (CA) Fire Department*** will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter** until March 31, 2010!

MINIMUM TESTING REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: These are entrance requirements to the competitive examination and do not assure a place on the eligibility list.

An applicant must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or its equivalent and possess either a record of training on official letterhead verifying training or a current certification by the State of California in at least one of the following categories **by the Final Filing Date:**

- California State Fire Marshal Certified Firefighter I (FF-1) **OR;**
- Proof of completion (provide Certified Training Record or Letter) of a training program necessary to obtain a FF-1 certificate **OR;**
- Proof of satisfactory current attendance (provide letter from school) in a training program necessary to obtain a FF-1. The candidate must have their Fire Academy training **completed by June 30, 2010.**
- Possession of a valid California Emergency Medical Technician 1 (EMT).
- A completed City of Clovis Job Application and Supplemental Questionnaire.
- The CPAT (Candidate Physical Ability Test) certificate is required and must be submitted to the Personnel Office no later than **3:00 p.m. April 29, 2010. If you have successfully completed the CPAT exam it must be dated within one year of the final filing date.**
- Possession of a California Driver's License with a good driving record is required. However, it is not required that you submit a copy of your driver's license by the final filing date. The driver's license will be verified during the background process. If selected for the Firefighter position the incumbent must successfully obtain a California Class B Driver's License within 9 months of employment.

For more information about the **City of Clovis** and to obtain information about how to apply, visit their website at: www.cityofclovis.com

For more information about the **Clovis Fire Department**, visit their website at: www.cityofclovis.com/ServicesAndDepartments/Fire/Pages/FireDepartment.aspx

For more information about the **Clovis Fire Department Firefighters Association**, *International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 1695*, visit their website at: www.clovisfirefighters.org

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

U.S. Fire Administrator Attends WMD Incident Command Course

Anniston, AL - U.S. Fire Administrator Kelvin J. Cochran attended the ***Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Incident Command: Capabilities, Planning and Response Actions (IC)*** course at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) on February 1-3. This course focuses community planning towards the preparedness effort in response to a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE) event. Administrator Cochran attended the course to refresh his training and skills and to share his 30 years of knowledge as an emergency responder.

“This is an opportunity for me to stay current and relevant,” said Cochran. “This training course also provides the opportunity for me to stay in touch with first responders from various disciplines, and stay connected to the issues of incident management.”

The 24-hour course culminates with a six-hour exercise that requires the most seasoned responder to share information. Administrator Cochran has challenged all fire service leaders across the nation to remain engaged in training and professional development. “I want to set an example for our leadership, and to remain credible. I want to encourage leaders that no matter how far up you are in the organizational chart at the local, state, or federal level you need to make it part of your professional development agenda to attend a course at the CDP.”

The CDP is located in Anniston, Alabama and funds courses for tribal, state, and local response personnel, including travel, meals, and lodging. Learn more about other training opportunities at <http://cdp.dhs.gov> or call 866-213-9553.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

NOTE:

The information listed below is meant to make you aware of the challenges and forces that are out there for our fire service administrators, chief officers, company officers, firefighters and union/association leadership members. In tough economic times like the ones we are in today, elected/appointed officials and city/county/state administrators are constantly looking at ways to make cuts to balance their budgets – and the fire service is fair game as is the police department and every other governmental agency. While police and fire are usually the last to be cut, times like this are showing us that we are not immune to those cuts – good, bad or indifferent.

The International City Managers Association (ICMA) is hosting this seminar (one of many) and it is critical that we are aware of the issues our Fire Chiefs and labor representatives are having to deal with when they go against their governing bodies (city council, county council, etc.) and have to justify why we do what we do and how service levels will be affected if we have a reduction in our budgets. Elected/appointed officials are sick and tired of hearing us say that “people will die, babies will die, public safety will suffer,” etc., without being able to back those claims up with statistical data and rational responses that are void of any emotion or passion – which is extremely hard for anyone to do, especially when we are so passionate about what we do and why we do what we do.

Asking Your Police and Fire Chief the Right Questions—To Get the Right Answers

An ICMA University Webconference

Thursday, March 4, 2010 • 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. ET

REGISTER NOW:

[ICMA Members](#) | [Nonmembers](#)

How many police and firefighters do you really need? How well are your public safety departments performing? Are "officers per 1,000" and "number of calls" really meaningful measures?

As a city manager, when your policy decisions could have such huge public safety implications, they need to be data-driven. But the toughest departments to get accurate, measurable information from are the police and fire departments. Police and fire chiefs have their own jargon—and few city managers have training in emergency services management.



Meet Your Expert Speaker...

Leonard Matarese, ICMA-CM, IPMA-CP, SPHR, is director of public safety services for ICMA Consulting Services. He oversees all

comprehensive studies for public safety in large and small cities across the country. The public safety consultant team he directs includes public safety professionals who act as subject matter experts in the areas of police, fire and emergency management services. He has 37 years of public service experience, having served as police officer, deputy sheriff, police chief, director of public safety, city manager, and commissioner of human resources in five states. As police chief and municipal manager in Florida, Leonard was

The key is asking the right questions so that you get the right answers.

In this eye-opening 90-minute webconference, Leonard Matarese, hands you specific ways for you to understand the actual needs of your jurisdiction's public safety agencies, and methods to evaluate their performance. Leonard shows you how to:

- Establish goals and priorities and know what you need to analyze
- Quantify what the workloads are in the police and fire departments—and identify whether personnel is allocated correctly to meet the workload demands
- Get the metrics you need from police departments (such as the percentage of police officers' time actually tied up on calls)
- Identify the number of firefighters and amount of equipment that is really necessary
- Deal with low firefighter utilization
- Set measurable goals, identify performance problems, and apply strategies to follow the path of continuous improvement.
- And much more!

Then, during the Q/A session, you'll get an opportunity to ask Leonard your toughest questions about managing public safety departments. Don't miss this great opportunity to get advice directly from a nationally known public safety expert with a unique combination of experience as a city manager and public safety professional.

Sign Up Today and Your Entire Staff Can Listen In for One Fee

The registration fee is \$149 (ICMA members) or \$249 (nonmembers). If you are an ICMA member, you'll need your Member ID to get the member price.

elected president of the Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police. He has also served as chairman of the U.S. Customs Service, Blue Lightning Strike Force, a 71-agency drug interdiction / anti-terrorism task force in Southeast Florida.

Sponsor

ICMA Consulting Services is your trusted partner and advisor for unbiased, expert advice to help cut costs, improve performance, and keep the support of your elected officials and residents. Our team of local government experts provides assistance on a broad array of issues with a collective focus on using data-driven decision-making techniques to improve efficiency and services delivery.

How the Webconference Works

Before the event date, you'll get an e-mail reminder that includes a toll-free number and your unique access code, and link to the web component. This e-mail will also include a link that you can click on to test your connection and make sure you have the latest version of Flash player on your computer. On the day of the webconference, your staff will listen to the webconference on speakerphone and watch the presentation on the Internet. In the last 30 minutes, you'll get a chance to ask questions directly to the speakers during the Q/A session.

Cancellation Policy

You may cancel your registration up to 48 hours in advance of the webconference, and transfer your registration to a future webconference without penalty. If you do not transfer your registration, you must cancel no later than one week prior to the webconference date to receive a full refund

There is no limit to the number of staff from your office participating in this webconference. In the room where staff will participate, you'll need a speaker phone and a computer. Prior to the event, you will get instructions on how you will link to the webconference by telephone and on the Internet. One registration fee gives you a unique access code for one phone line and a link to the Web component. As many of your staff that you can pack into a room can attend and listen in by speakerphone.

Please note: Additional phones lines require additional access codes, which means separate registrations for each additional access code you need.

Your fee also includes the presentation materials and free online access for your staff to listen to the recording of the entire webconference at their convenience for 30 days.

Only online registrations are accepted to sign up for this webconference. For assistance (such as to get your member ID), please call our customer care center at 202-289-ICMA (4262), or email us at customerservices@icma.org.

Register Today!

ICMA Members: [Click here](#) to register today. Your ICMA Member ID will automatically appear in the Member ID field. Then you'll need to complete the rest of the form.

If this email was forwarded to you, [click here](#) to register. You can select either member or nonmember. If you select "member," you'll need your member number to get the member price. (If you don't have your member number, you can contact our customer care center at 202-289-ICMA (4262), or email us at customerservices@icma.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 World – San Diego, CA

February 28 through March 4, 2010

Go to www.firehouseworld.com for more information.

EMS Today Conference – Baltimore, MD

March 2 through 6, 2010

Go to www.emstodayconference.com for more information.

Fire Department Instructor's Conference (FDIC) – Indianapolis, IN

April 19 through 24, 2010

Go to www.fdic.com for more information.

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.

Firehouse Central – Dallas, TX

September 27 through October 1, 2010

Go to www.firehousecentral.com for more information.

TRAINING INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:

The National Fire Academy (Emmitsburg, Maryland) Completes A Management Science Curriculum Overhaul

Emmitsburg, MD - The United States Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Academy (NFA) has completed a top-to-bottom review and update of its Management Science

curriculum. This comprehensive review includes new course content, addressing emerging issues and challenges faced by the nation's fire and emergency medical services. Course names now reflect the increasingly diverse role contemporary fire and emergency medical services leaders play in their communities.

"Emergency services management skills have changed over the last few years, and the USFA's NFA is modernizing several of its more popular courses to stay on top of this trend," said NFA Superintendent Dr. Denis Onieal. "The Management Science curriculum now offers some of the leading courses that prepare today's fire service leaders to better handle the challenges of managing organizations in today's rapidly changing economic, political, regulatory and social climates."

Located on the campus of the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland, the NFA has trained more than 120,000 students in 2009 through face-to-face deliveries; long-standing partnerships with State and metropolitan fire service training organizations, colleges and universities; and online learning. More than 8,000 students attend classes at the Emmitsburg facility each year.

"We are particularly pleased with the efforts of Management Science training staff, who so diligently contributed to these curriculum revisions and modernization," said United States Fire Administrator Kelvin J. Cochran. "The creativity and vision of NFA leadership resulted in content designed to challenge students."

New on-campus course titles include *R107 - Communications for Emergency Services Success* (formerly Fire Service Communications), *R331 - Strategic Organizational Issues in Fire and EMS* (formerly Organizational Theory in Practice), and *R332 - Effective Leadership Skills for Fire and EMS Organizations* (formerly Interpersonal Dynamics in Fire Service Organizations).

Three other courses in the Management Science curriculum were updated to include lessons learned and activities emphasizing the NFA's Congressionally-mandated role to expand its presence in fire-based emergency medical services management training and education. The popular two-day courses *Leadership I, II and III* also have been re-titled to *Leadership I, II and III for Fire and EMS* to recognize the increasingly important role of emergency medical services in fire service delivery.

For more information about the new Management Science curriculum or other United States Fire Administration programs and offerings, visit www.usfa.dhs.gov. You can also follow USFA updates on Twitter at twitter.com/usfire.

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The **Denver (CO) Fire Department** will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter** until February 26, 2010 and will be open until all testing slots have been filled; then, walk-ins will be accepted if any slots open up. Thus, it is critical to apply online ASAP if you are interested, to ensure you get the best testing time slot in early 2010.

- To view additional information about the testing process and to apply, go to: <http://www.denvergov.org/civilservice/FirefighterTestInformation/tabid/435126/Default.aspx>
- To view overview of what to expect as a Denver Firefighter, including requirements to apply, salary and benefits, and career opportunities, go to: <http://www.denvergov.org/Recruit/EmploymentDenverFirefighter/tabid/393407/Default.aspx>

For more information about the **City of Denver**, visit their website at: www.denvergov.org/

For more information about the **Denver Fire Department**, visit their website at: www.denvergov.org/Default.aspx?alias=www.denvergov.org/FireDepartment

For more information about the **Denver Fire Department Firefighters Association, International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 858**, visit their website at: www.iaff858.org/

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY & PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) Releases Hotel and Motel Fires Topical Report

EMMITSBURG, MD - The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued a special report, part of its Topical Fire Report Series, examining the causes and characteristics of fires in hotels and motels. An estimated average of 3,900 fires occur each year in hotels and motels, which are a subset of residential buildings. Annually, these fires are also responsible for 15 deaths, 150 civilian injuries, and \$76 million in property loss. The report, [Hotel and Motel Fires](#) (PDF, 932 Kb), was developed by the National Fire Data Center, part of FEMA's U.S. Fire Administration (USFA). The report is based on 2005 to 2007 data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).

Hotel and motel fires occur mainly in the evening hours, peaking from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Seventeen percent of the fires occur during this time. The number of hotel and motel fires is higher during the winter months when heating fires are more prevalent. Cooking, electrical malfunctions, and heating are the leading causes of hotel and motel fires. Forty-six percent of hotel and motel fires are caused by cooking with electrical malfunctions and heating each causing an additional 7 percent of fires. Ninety-seven percent of the cooking fires are confined cooking fires, those confined to the container and resulting in limited damage.

Seventy-three percent of hotel and motel fires are confined to the object of origin and an additional 18 percent are confined to the room of fire origin. The remaining 9 percent of fires extend beyond the room of origin.

The topical reports are designed to explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS. Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information. Also included are recent examples of fire incidents that demonstrate some of the issues addressed in the report or that put the report topic in context.

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

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:	Henry Sandy
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	52
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	9
Date of Incident:	01/26/2010
Time of Incident:	1159hrs
Date of Death:	01/26/2010
Fire Department:	Northside Volunteer Fire Department
Address:	PO Box 2521, 3455 N St Louis St, Batesville, AR 72503-2521
Fire Department Chief:	Karrel Fleetwood

Incident Description: Firefighter Sandy was working water supply and pumper operations at the scene of a residential structure fire when he collapsed from an apparent heart attack moments after refueling one of the motors. Firefighters and other responders worked to resuscitate Firefighter Sandy, but he succumbed to his injury.

Incident Location: 2516 E Main ST, Batesville, AR 72503

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter Henry Sandy, c/o Northside Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 2521, Batesville, AR 72503-2521

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

To date, six firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; five from incidents that occurred in 2010 and one 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: Stanley L. Giles
Rank: Fire Chief
Age: 69
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 15
Date of Incident: 02/10/2010
Time of Incident: 1545hrs
Date of Death: 02/10/2010
Fire Department: Linn Valley Lakes Fire Department
Address: 1794 Lakeview Lane, Linn Valley, KS 66040
Fire Department Chief: Todd Stone

Incident Description: Fire Chief Giles passed away from injuries sustained when he was pinned between a fire apparatus backing into the station after returning from a fire call and another fire department vehicle.

Incident Location: 1794 Lakeview Lane, Linn Valley, KS 66040

Funeral Arrangements: 02/26/2010 – Private family service at Ft. Leavenworth, KS.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In lieu of flowers, donations in honor of Fire Chief Stanley L. Giles may be made to the Linn Valley Lakes Fire Department Auxiliary, c/o Linn Valley Lakes Fire Department, 1794 Lakeview Lane, Linn Valley, KS 66040.

Tribute is being paid to Fire Chief Stanley L. Giles at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 9 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 8 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 1 from a previous year incident. 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:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Name: John Coyle
Rank: Assistant Fire Chief
Age: 63
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 35+
Date of Incident: 02/08/2010
Time of Incident: 1500hrs
Date of Death: 02/08/2010
Fire Department: West Pend Oreille Fire District
Address: PO Box 1267, 1104 Ninth ST, Priest River, ID 83856
Fire Department Chief: Les Kokanos

Incident Description: Assistant Fire Chief Coyle passed away from an apparent heart attack while working at the department's new fire station that is under construction.

Incident Location: 4458 Old Priest River Road, Priest River, ID 83856

Funeral Arrangements: 02/13/2010

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Donations can be made in honor of Assistant Fire Chief Coyle to the West Pend Oreille Fire District for the new fire station, PO Box 1267, 1104 Ninth ST, Priest River, ID 83856

Tribute is being paid to Assistant Fire Chief John Coyle at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 8 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 7 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 1 from a previous year incident. 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: Donald G. Mellott
Rank: Fire Police Captain
Age: 62
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 44
Date of Incident: 02/12/2010
Time of Incident: 1330hrs
Date of Death: 02/12/2010
Fire Department: Woolrich Volunteer Fire Company No. 1
Address: PO Box 22, 26 Cemetery ST, Woolrich, PA 17779
Fire Department Chief: Brandon Coleman

Incident Description: After establishing and working traffic control and scene protection for more than an hour at the scene of a motor vehicle accident, Fire Police Captain Mellott was struck and killed by an approaching civilian vehicle. The fatal incident is still under investigation by both local and state authorities.

Incident Location: Lusk Run Road & Fairpoint Road, Bald Eagle Twp.

Funeral Arrangements: The Funeral Services will be held at the Castanea Fire Company Picnic Grounds, 859 Lower Creek Road, Lock Haven, PA on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at 11:30 am. The Rev. Fred Fields will officiate. Burial will be in Rest Haven Memorial Park. Arrangements are under direction of the Donald G. Walker Funeral Home Inc. 231 High St., Flemington, PA 17745.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Donald G. Mellott Memorial Fund through the Donald G. Walker Funeral Home Inc. 231 High St., Flemington, PA 17745.

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Fire Police Captain Donald G. Mellott at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 7 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 6 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 1 from a previous year incident. 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

Hey,

There is a very good reason the **9/11 Memorial in NY** now under construction has had no praise from many 9/11 families-that's because there are so few distinctions made among those murdered. Those behind the memorial apparently believe that there is an absolute equality in death and will not acknowledge the murders of the Fire, Police and EMS members killed in the Line of Duty in comparison to those who were tragically murdered. **HERE** is a piece Dennis Smith wrote, well worth your time: <http://tinyurl.com/yawyr2o>

=REMEMBERING 9 CHICAGO FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

At 6:23 AM on a bitter cold January 28, 1961 Chicago's Main Fire Alarm Office received a direct call from the CPD advising a factory on fire at Hubbard and Desplaines Streets, on the city's near North Side. A box alarm was quickly sounded after an additional call. 2-11 and 3-11 alarms were quickly called as the 7 story building became fully involved. By 6:43 AM the fire had escalated to a 5-11 plus 2 Special Alarms (For 5 engines each). Battalion Chief George Kuhn and Candidate FF Robert Burns became trapped behind a barred window in the exposure building by a partial collapse of the original building. 1st. Division Fire Marshal John Meighan and 20 to 25 members went to the rear where Kuhn and Burns were trapped. At about 7:03 AM time ran out on rescuer and trapped alike as the building collapsed. 14 members were injured and the following were killed in the Line of Duty:

Chief George E. Kuhn-Battalion 5
Chief George Rees-Battalion 1
Lt. Louis Repkin-Truck 19
Lt. Charles Rauch-Engine 114
CFF Robert Burns-Squad 2
FF Hillard Augustine-Squad 10
FF William Hillistad-Engine 44
FF Ciro Zuccarello-Engine 26
FF Stanley Sliwinski-Engine 25
R.I.P.

=SENATE GETS INVOLVED IN SUPPORTING FIRE SPRINKLERS:

On January 22nd, Senators Tom Carper (DE) and Susan Collins (ME) introduced the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act in the Senate. This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to classify automatic fire sprinkler systems as 5-year property for purposes of depreciation. The bill, S. 2947, was referred to the Senate Finance Committee for consideration. Both Senator Carper and Senator Collins are co-chairs of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus.

"Senator Carper and Senator Collins are to be commended for introducing the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act in the Senate," said **CFSI Executive Director Bill Webb**. "Passage of this legislation can have a significant impact in reducing the number of deaths and injuries caused by fire." On February 25, 2009, Congressman Jim Langevin (RI-2) introduced similar legislation, H.R. 1194, in the House of Representatives. The House version currently has 111 co-sponsors and was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. **CFSI** will continue to provide updates as this legislation moves through the legislative process. www.CFSI.org

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 1-26-10 / 1145 Hours

AND:

Hey,
A Clearwater (MN) Firefighter operating at a vehicle fire on Interstate 94 was struck by a vehicle this morning. The crash happened at 0717 hours west of Clearwater. A vehicle traveling east bound struck the Firefighter and a Clearwater fire apparatus as well. The Firefighter, Cory Broich, 28 years old, was airlifted to St. Cloud Hospital and is in **critical condition**. The driver of the striking vehicle was treated and released.
We'll post more updates later.
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 1-26-10 / 1257 Hours

AND:

Hey,
In Hopewell Township, Huntingdon County (PA) just a little while ago, a Firefighter went down (unknown particulars) and is reported now in critical condition at the hospital. The actual conditions at that scene are currently unknown other than command transmitted a Firefighter down, CPR in progress and it was occurring during operations at a motor vehicle accident. Our latest report is that the Firefighter HAS been revived in critical condition. We'll posted updates on our home page.
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 1-26-10 / 1328 Hours

AND:

ARKANSAS FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY - HEART ATTACK AT FIRE SCENE

Today (January 26th) Firefighter Henry Sandy,52, of the Northside Fire Dept. was on the scene of a structure fire and while working outside at the incident, he collapsed. Efforts by members on the scene and EMS to revive him were unsuccessful-he died in the Line of Duty. Funeral arrangements are not yet known at this time other than it will be a fire department line of duty funeral. The Northside F.D. is located just outside of Batesville, Arkansas. As always, our sincere condolences.
Take Care-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 1-26-10 / 2038 hours

AND:

Hey,
While not determined to be line of duty, rescue divers have recovered the bodies of 2
February 20, 2010 www.chabotfire.com 33

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

teenagers, believed to be Seneca Valley High School seniors, from a lake early this morning and dive teams were searching for a 3rd teen. **The 3 were reported missing last night after the teens, all members of the Zelienople Volunteer FD, did not show up for a department meeting.** A fire captain says two bodies so far pulled from a pond are in fact, those of the missing teenage volunteer Firefighters. Fire Capt. Tyler Murray says 2 of the people found in the pond were members of the department A police officer found tire tracks near the lake around 0400 hours and discovered an SUV in the lake which borders Butler and Beaver counties-about 30 minutes north of Pittsburgh. Police have not yet identified the 2 who died, but officials are expected to hold a news conference later this morning to provide more details. **HERE** is the ZFD Facebook page: <http://tinyurl.com/yd6oxg5>
Our sincere condolences to all affected.

NEW JERSEY CLOSE CALL-RESPONDING CRASH-TRAGIC OUTCOME:

An ambulance in Middle Township, Cape May County, New Jersey was involved in a responding crash yesterday. **The driver of the ambulance was en route to a structure fire in the neighboring township at his parents' home. His father was entrapped in the building and was pronounced dead after an unsuccessful attempt to rescue him.**

You'll notice in one article that there was responses by "Court House Rescue" "Rio Grande Rescue" and "Belleplain Rescue". Court House and Rio Grande make up the Middle Township Ambulance Corps, Squad 14-1 (CH) and Squad 14-2 (RG). The involved Ambulance was 1409 from Squad 14-1. The Belleplain Rescue ambulance is from the neighboring township of Dennis, but happened to be clearing the county hospital in Court House at the time of the incident and responded to assist.

HERE are the articles:

<http://www.capemaycountyherald.com/article/58560-motor+vehicle+accident+shuts+down+route+9>

<http://www.capemaycountyherald.com/article/58558-erma+house+fire+possible+entrapment>

http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article_3c4d75b0-0ac4-11df-a967-001cc4c03286.html

Our condolences to those affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-27-10 / 1048 hours

AND:

Hey,

In **Bradford, PA** this afternoon, a working house fire left 2 FF's injured-1 critical with burns. The 2nd alarm fire resulted in 1 Firefighter falling approximately 10 ft from a ladder, ending up with minor injuries but a 2nd Firefighter, who was making an interior attack on the well involved 2nd floor, was burned. One unconfirmed report is that the Firefighters mask dislodged and he then inhaled large amounts of superheated air and smoke. Firefighter Todd McClain was treated and removed to the hospital but was then transferred to Erie County Medical Center-Buffalo Burn Unit with severe respiratory burns. He is sedated and intubated. Updates to follow.

WOMAN DIES AFTER BEING STRUCK BY RESPONDING APPARATUS HOSE LINE:

An 82-year-old woman who was struck by a hose line from the back of a Cambridge (MA) fire apparatus has died. She died today after that hose on the side of the Cambridge engine struck her on Tuesday. The apparatus was responding to a call at about 1140 hours when one of the lines apparently slipped and then became dislodged - trailing behind the rig. When the engine company turned, the trailing hose struck the woman who was standing on the median island allowing the apparatus to pass.

GEORGIA FIRE REPORT: Fire Officers Failed To Follow Procedures-Civilian Dies In House Fire

We have posted the official findings of the investigation where it identifies that DeKalb County Fire Officers, Acting Officers/Firefighters failed to do a thorough investigation on a reported house fire. Firefighters and Officers reported they found no signs of a fire when they arrived. Essentially they acknowledged that companies drove by the civilians home, didn't see smoke and that the Firefighters never got out of their apparatus to investigate further. The report states that "they drove around the cul-de-sac, slowly, command was never established, no one exited the apparatus or walked up the driveway to investigate further and then (they) left". **5 hours later-the house was a "working fire" and a civilian was killed.** Clearly-the fire and resulting loss of life was THE LAST THING these Firefighters meant to happen-but it did and there is a lot that can be learned from it by all of us. **The REPORT is linked on our home page.** www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

FIREFIGHTER FACE PROTECTION - ARE YOU AWARE OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES?

Goggles vs. Face shields - One of the proposals for the next edition of NFPA 1971 is to make goggles mandatory and faceshields optional-and it's an interesting debate. Some groups advocate that traditional face shields offer the best approach for us while others insist that goggles must be mandated.

HERE is an article: <http://tinyurl.com/yfbkuf5>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-28-10 / 1950 Hours

AND:

Hey,

It is with deep sadness that I pass on to you that Mount Horeb (WI) Fire Chief Charles "Chuck" Himsel passed away very suddenly this morning. While some of you may/may not know Chuck, odd's are, if you are an apparatus buff, you know him or at least his beloved and very unique Mount Horeb Volunteer Fire Department, in Wisconsin.

Clearly, "Fire Truck Chuck" was one of a kind who was born and died as a Firefighter. Some people in our business LOVE being a Firefighter-24/7/365-and that was Chuck. One who would never have a problem telling you how he felt about literally anything, he was most proud of his department, the Firefighters and EMT's of Mount Horeb. His enthusiasm and love of being a Firefighter was infectious and the incredible "**high visibility black**" MHVFD apparatus and their firehouse (literally a living museum of antique fire memorabilia, a huge toy fire engine collection, vintage fire fighting equipment, framed prints and original paintings) was unlike most have ever seen. (Photo links below)

Chief Himsel and the Mount Horeb FD was even featured world wide in the popular **Duluth Trading Company catalog** a few years ago. **Check this out:** <http://tinyurl.com/yzr9rp6>

We'll pass on more details when we have them-but in the meantime, please enjoy the below links. Chief Chuck Himsel lived and breathed 24/7 as a Firefighter (following in his Dad's footsteps as Chief, his Dad serving from 1960-1978 and Chuck from 1978 until today) and beamed with pride whenever someone would visit his department, see the firehouse, the equipment and especially meet his members-amongst the best trained and gung ho anywhere. The motto of the MHVFD is "Share in The Pride" - they do and he did.

Rest In Peace Fire Chief Chuck Himsel, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 2-1-10 / 1554 Hours

www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

Mount Horeb VFD WEBSITE: <http://www.fdmh.org/>

Mount Horeb's Heavy Squad: <http://fire-engine-photos.com.s3.amazonaws.com/6215.jpg>

These are Ambulances-Not Squads: <http://www.fdmh.org/id7.html>

Mount Horeb Engine 4: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ltpWDluZ40>

Mount Horeb Heavy Squad Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22-hlKfSGIk>

AND:

Hey,

A civilian was killed following a crash between a responding fire apparatus and a car in Vaughan (Ontario, CN) this morning. At around 1030 this morning, a Toyota Camry was struck by the responding a fire truck with lights and sirens activated, pushing it into the traffic signal. The driver of the car, a man in his fifties, was treated but was pronounced dead. The Firefighters suffered minor injuries. We have some photos posted on our home page and will post more details as they become available.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. USE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN RESPONDING.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-2-10 / 1520 Hours

AND

Hey,

A tree covered in ice came down on top of 2 Fayette County (TN) Firefighters during Friday's winter storm. One FF suffered minor injuries however another Firefighter ended up in the intensive care unit, This occurred last Friday around 2200 hours when Fayette County Firefighters stopped to help Tennessee DOT workers clear some of the brush from the road. They were using chainsaws, it was noisy and dark. The next thing they knew, a massive ice coated tree was on top of 2 of their Firefighters. The tree, approximately 18 inches in diameter, was too big to lift, so crews had to pull the Firefighters out from beneath it without causing further injury. The one Firefighter escaped with just a nasty bruise on his lower back but Firefighter Wilton "Bo" Boshers, however, wasn't so lucky. FF Boshers has several broken ribs, several fractured vertebrae, his collar bone and a damaged spleen and

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

has undergone three surgeries since Saturday. FF Boshers is a full-time firefighter in Collierville for ten years and a volunteer firefighter in Fayette County in his off-time. Doctors are optimistic he'll make a full recovery.

While the facts are not all out on the above incident as of yet, trees falling (for a variety of reasons) have injured and killed urban suburban, rural and wildland Firefighters in the past. There is rarely any rush or urgency when operating in this environment-use extreme caution as it is easy to let our guard down.

HERE are examples of past incidents (some avoidable, some not avoidable):

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?83876> (LODD while Training)

<http://home.nps.gov/applications/digest/headline.cfm?type=Incidents&id=4060> (LODD-Wildland Operations)

http://www.i-women.org/in_memoriam.php?person=15 (LODD-Sitting in an EMS Unit-Hydrant Duty)

LET THE GAMES BEGIN.

PRESIDENT OBAMA PROPOSES CUTS TO THE FEDERAL FIRE GRANT PROGRAMS.

It's THAT time of the year again. Yesterday the Obama Administration released its Fiscal Year 2011 budget proposal, detailing requested funding levels in the federal budget.

Nothing new as this has been typical in the past, (with different numbers and different Presidents) and Congress has increased the funding above the President's budget numbers.

But this is also no time for the FIRE SERVICE TO ASSUME this will happen again-don't hesitate to reach out to your Federally elected officials to express your CONCERN.

(See below)

As well stated by IAFF's General President Harold Schaitberger ""We treat the president's proposal as a baseline," explains Schaitberger. "Our job is now to make the case to congressional appropriators why we need even more money than the White House recommends."

HERE is more:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?101216>

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs082/1101882174017/archive/1102986163611.html> (CFS I)

<http://www.iafc.org/displayindustryarticle.cfm?articlenbr=41856> (IAFC)

<http://www.iaff.org/10News/020110SAFER.htm> (IAFF)

===CONTACT YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS:

<https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml>

===CONTACT YOUR UNITED STATES SENATOR:

http://www.senate.gov/reference/common/faq/How_to_contact_senators.htm

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-2-10 / 1103 Hours

AND

Hey,

Two Salina (KS) Fire Department members were hospitalized and numerous other people

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

were treated at the hospital last night after being overcome by carbon monoxide poisoning in a townhouse. A civilian is also reported dead from this run. The civilian victim was reported to be unconscious and not breathing when SFD firefighters were called to his home around 1900 hours Wednesday. A woman who had been trying unsuccessfully to reach the man called the SFD when she went to his home and discovered him unconscious. She was sickened by carbon monoxide when she entered the townhouse, but was able to get out and call for help. However, an SFD paramedic and firefighter who went into the house upon arrival were quickly overcome, and they collapsed. The Captain and FF/driver who were on the apparatus with them had to go in and pull them out.

Additional help was requested, and before the night was over, a total of seven Salina Fire Department members ended up being treated at the hospital for elevated carbon monoxide levels. A Salina police officer also was treated, he said, as was the woman who called 911. The hospital reported that one person had died-would not identify but it was likely the initial victim. The SFD paramedic and firefighter who were the first to enter the townhouse were admitted to the hospital for treatment. The source of the carbon monoxide was a car that had been left running in an attached garage. The car had run out of gas, and the battery also was run down, but SFD Fire Marshal Williams said the engine was still warm.

Take Care-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 2-4-10 / 0747 hours

AND

Hey,
A Duncanville (Alabama) Volunteer Firefighter is in the burn unit following serious injuries he received while operating at a dwelling fire Wednesday night. Firefighter Casey Hinsey, 29, was burned on his hands, arm, neck and face and remains at the UAB Burn Center in Birmingham as of this morning. Smoke was showing when Firefighters entered the house around 1800 (Wednesday night) and it reportedly flashed over while members were operating inside. FF Hinsey became disoriented and had to be pulled out of the house by other firefighters. Updates to follow on our home page.
Take Care-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 2-5-10 / 0120 Hours

AND:

NEW MEXICO EMS HELICOPTER CRASH-3 REPORTED LOST INCLUDING OFF-DUTY FF

A Southwest Medevac (Las Cruces) helicopter participating in a training detail at McGregor Range-Fort Bliss (New Mexico/Texas) crashed and caught fire around 2000 hours last night (Friday). Initial reports are that all 3 crew members were killed in the Line of Duty including a Captain of the Mesilla (New Mexico) Fire Department, who was fulltime with Southwest Medevac. More details will be posted. As always, our sincere condolences.

Take Care-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 2-6-10 / 0700 hours
February 20, 2010

AND:

Hey,

Late last night, Columbus Firefighters were operating at a basement fire in a dwelling on the city's northeast side, when a CFD Lieutenant in the basement collapsed. Firefighters immediately removed the fire officer from the basement and initiated life-saving measures at the scene and was taken to Riverside Methodist Hospital, where he is in critical, but stable condition. The 60-year-old Lieutenant from Station 16, is a 35-year veteran of the department who suffered cardiac arrest at the fire scene. The Lieutenant's station was first on the scene of the fire and he was supervising a crew in the basement of the dwelling. One of the members operating at the fire turned around and saw that the Lieutenant had collapsed. We'll post updates on our home page.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 2-7-10 / 0832 hours

AND:

Hey,

An off duty Leavenworth (KS) FD Driver/Operator sustained serious burns while attempting to rescue his 5 year old daughter from their own house fire last night around 1700 hours. The FF was at home and of course was not wearing any PPE. I was personally in Leavenworth last week and FF Mark Jacobson was on the shift that was on duty and present in the program. **FF Jacobson's 5 year old Daughter was killed in this tragic fire.**

Mark's son (13), along with Mark and his wife were transported to the hospital and are recovering. Another daughter (8) escaped with minor injuries and is being cared for by family members. The family was at home at the time of the fire. LFD Driver/Operator Mark Jacobson smelled smoke and investigated. He found an upstairs bedroom charged with smoke and made several attempts to search the room but was unable to find her. The fire at this point had taken off and he continued to search for his child but was unable to. Members of Leavenworth County Fire District # 1 with mutual aid from the City of Leavenworth FD were quickly able to extinguish the fire. After extinguishing the fire they did find Brother Jacobson's daughter in the bedroom. The home did have working smoke detectors in the hallways but the child's room door was closed when the fire started. Our hearts and deepest prayers go out to the family and the members of both LCFD 1 and especially the LFD during this horrible time.

AND IN WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND...On Arrival: Nothing Showing-Final Result-5 Killed

Fire Investigators are picking through a Rhode Island house trying to figure out how a sleep over weekend for a group of former star athletes turned into the state's deadliest fire since The Station nightclub burned in 2003. **Among the 5 killed in this fire on Saturday was the Son of an area Fire Chief. While companies initially arrived with nothing showing, upon further investigation there was a fire upstairs that may have been smoldering for hours.** There were no smoke detectors upstairs. State Fire Marshal John E. Chartier said all indications are that the fire Saturday morning that killed four adults and a seven-month-old baby was an accident, but he was awaiting results from the state's crime lab before saying it

for sure. None of the dead was older than 24, a fact that made the loss of life particularly hard for firefighters to take. Investigators found one working smoke alarm in the house, but it was in the basement, where the smoke never reached.

Among those killed in the fire was Nicholas M. Jillson, 24, of North Smithfield. A fifth adult, Neil S. Leardi, 21, of Whitinsville, Mass., got out of the house and called 911. He was hospitalized after the fire. Besides his hockey fame, Jillson was the son of North Smithfield Fire Chief Joel Jillson.

The group had apparently been socializing at the house until about 0300 hours when they went to bed. Leardi told investigators he had slept on the first floor, the others on the second. He initially woke up at about 7 a.m. Saturday, but noticed nothing unusual and went back to sleep. He awoke again around noon to see part of the ceiling fall down. Unable to get upstairs to help the others, he called 911. When WFD Firefighters arrived at 1213 hours, there was no smoke or fire visible, no sign that anything was out of the ordinary-initially. But when they tried to go up to the second floor, they were met by a wall of smoke and flames above. It took about 15 minutes to bring the fire under control, but by then it had been burning for so long that the second floor was severely damaged by fire and full of smoke. One of the adults was found on a floor near a door and another person was half out of bed. The fire appeared to have started in the space between the ceiling of the first floor and the floor of the second story. Our condolences, especially to Chief Jillson and his family, and all affected by this horrible fire.

SEVERAL FIRE STATION ROOF COLLAPSE INCIDENTS:

There have been several CLOSE CALLS recently, related to fire station roof collapses due to snow buildup. Last week, Pinetop (AZ) Fire Dept. Station 120 had total roof collapse over apparatus bays. This occurred during a snow storm. They had warning signs enabling them to get all personnel and apparatus out safely. **We have pictures on our home page.**

And in Virginia, there was a collapse of the roof over the equipment bay at Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department Station 410. Now, there is a roof problem at a neighboring firehouse. Firefighters report sagging in the roof at Station 408 in Annandale, about three miles south on Columbia Pike. 18 firefighters were in the bunk room of Station 410 when they heard a loud noise coming from the bay area around 0300 Hours. Firefighters discovered the flat roof over all four bay areas collapsed under the weight of this weekend's heavy snowfall. After the collapse at Station 410, an alert went out to firefighters to do an evaluation of flat roofs at other fire stations. That's when sagging was noticed at Station 408 in Annandale.

Dave Statter has excellent coverage HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/ygvt7yk>

CT EXPLOSION FIRE RADIO TRAFFIC:

As you know, five workers are dead and two dozen injured following yesterdays explosion at the Kleen Energy Plant in Middletown, Conn. **HERE** is the fire radio traffic:

<http://tinyurl.com/yjpsc5d> (Part 1 of 2)

<http://tinyurl.com/yeacven> (Part 2 of 2)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS-PLACE THEM IN AND OUTSIDE OF ROOMS.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-8-10 / 1321 Hours

AND:

Hey,

It is with great sadness that we advise you that Chief Burton Phelps passed away today from cancer-related illness. As you know may know, Burt was a well known and popular Instructor at the National Fire Academy for several decades. Burt was one of the early "fire command and control" leaders, and there are literally thousands of firefighters from around the country who have him to thank for their knowledge of fire ground operations, through the classes he taught both at the NFA and around the country. Burt remained an active Instructor right up until his passing, and before that, he served as an Assistant Chief of Anne Arundel County, MD. HERE is his obituary and arrangement information: <http://tinyurl.com/yggkn4f>
RIP Chief Burton Phelps.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 2-8-10 / 1002 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Yesterday, the Texas State Fire Marshals Office made public their report on the Line of Duty Deaths of Houston FD Captain James Harlow and rookie Firefighter Damion Hobbs that occurred on 4/12/09 while operating at a single family dwelling fire. They suffered thermal injuries and smoke inhalation.

Amongst the issues cited that we can all learn from include:

- =No thermal imager used (it was removed from the rig but found in the front yard).
- =One attack team radio (The Captains) was left in the apparatus.
- =Another radio (The Firefighters) was off and on wrong channel.
- =Issues related to command and control.
- =Considerations of wind driven effect on fire in consideration on attack.
- =Ventilation of roof put firefighters between the fire and the vent opening.
- =The size-up didn't include a 360 size up.
- =Some Firefighters were fighting fire standing up in a high heat conditions.

HERE is the report: <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/reports/fire/documents/fmloddhouston09.pdf>

HERE is media video from the scene during the fire: <http://tinyurl.com/ydctlm>

Take a look at the video-and the report, print it, pass it along, post it etc. The report is loaded with photos, charts and graphs explaining the tragic loss of these 2 Firefighters. Also note the link in the report to **NIST Fire's** info related to the issues of wind driven fires: <http://www.fire.nist.gov/>

Captain James Harlow, 50, was hired by the HFD in August 1979 and had been a Captain at Fire Station 26 since 2004. Probationary Firefighter Damion Hobbs, 29, graduated from the HFD Val Jahnke Training Facility on March 3, 2009, with Class 2008C, and began his first assignment at Fire Station 26 on March 7. **R.I.P.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-10-10 / 1522 Hours

AND:

FIRE CHIEF KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY -

It is with deep regret that we advise you that the Linn Valley, KS Fire Chief has been killed in the Line of Duty. Initial reports are that he died after being struck in a fire house apparatus backing accident, late this afternoon. Linn Valley is about 50 miles south of Kansas City near Pleasanton, KS on US Highway 69. Additional details will follow. As always, our sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-10-10 / 1846 hours

AND:

IDAHO / WASHINGTON FD ASSISTANT CHIEF LINE OF DUTY DEATH-MEDICAL

It is with regret that we advise you that John Coyle, Assistant Chief of West Pend Oreille Fire Dept, (which reportedly covers an area on the Washington/Idaho border) passed away yesterday due to an apparent heart attack while working at their new fire station that is under construction. Our thoughts and condolences go out to his family and the department. John was one of the founders of that fire department.

DELAWARE FIREHOUSE ROOF COLLAPSES:

Below is a **VIDEO** link to the partial collapse of a Delaware firehouse-caught on tape. The collapse was reported this afternoon at the Townsend Fire Company in Townsend, New Castle County, Delaware. Firefighters, who were inside the firehouse, say they began to hear the roof creaking, got out and then watched as the ceiling over the engine bay fell to the ground. None of the equipment was damaged in the collapse as they removed it prior, the station has been taken out of operation and the apparatus moved to nearby stations.

VIDEO: <http://tinyurl.com/yI4cbv9>

OUR CONDOLENCES TO CAPTAIN MIKE DUGAN:

In the loss of his Mom, Jacqueline "Bunny" Dugan, 79, of Palm Harbor (FL) who passed away peacefully under the care of Hospice in Clearwater on Feb. 2, 2010. Bunny will be forever remembered by her beloved family and friends. Many of you know Mike, a Captain in FDNY (Ladder 123) and a long time Fire Service Instructor at FDIC, Firehouse Expo and World, IAFC's F.R.I. and many others. As a long time friend and an original TSL member, we wanted to reach out with our thoughts and prayers. Unfortunately, due to the weather, many family members along with Mike can't make it down to Florida for the service-but another will be held soon. **Mike can be reached at:** Duganfire@aol.com

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 2-10-10 / 2211 Hours

AND:

Hey,

As an update to yesterday, the Linn Valley Lakes Fire Department Fire Chief was killed in the Line of Duty Wednesday when he was pinned between a backing fire apparatus and a parked vehicle. **Fire Chief Stanley L. Giles, 69**, became trapped between a 1976 Ford fire apparatus, driven by FF Brian L. Hall, 47, and another fire department vehicle about 1545 hours. Hall was attempting to back the truck into the fire bay (following a fire call) when the Chief was struck and killed. Linn Valley is in Linn County about 100 miles southeast of Topeka.

ANOTHER MARYLAND FIREHOUSE ON FIRE-STORM RELATED: (HAPPENING RIGHT NOW)

Companies are currently on the scene of a 3rd alarm in Carroll County (MD) at the Sykesville-Freedom VFD firehouse. <http://www.sykesvillefire.org/> The firehouse is located north of the Howard County line and initial reports are that the roof of the social hall collapsed from snow and a fire started. This fire in Carroll County comes on the heels of that fire and roof collapse at the Dundalk Fire Station in Baltimore County. We have pics of this morning's incident as well as yesterdays on our home page.

CLICK HERE to listen to the current 3rd alarm radio traffic live-it is still an active gas fed fire as of this writing <http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?action=wp&feedId=3075>

Dave Statter has updates on this fire and other Balto/DC related storm details: <http://tinyurl.com/yldvcjo>

TERMINATED DEKALB FIREFIGHTERS SPEAK OUT:

Two of the fired DeKalb firefighters spoke out for the first time about a deadly fire in Dunwoody last month. Fire Apparatus Officer Jeff Greene and former Capt. Tony Motes defended their actions at the home of Ann Bartlett. The 74-year-old called 911 to report a fire at 1:03 a.m. Firefighters responded, but left the scene after seeing no signs of smoke or flames. They never went up to the house. Bartlett died when her home burned to the ground hours later. The county fired Green and Moats, saying they didn't try hard enough the first time to find the apparently smoldering fire that killed Bartlett.

"It's a tragedy," said Greene. "There's been a lot of hindsight into this case." The two firefighters said that crews had trouble finding Bartlett's house because it was not numbered. They said they scanned the immediate area, then left to search other streets for a possible fire. "This is serious, so we have to try and find something," said Motes. "If we can't locate it we have to, through experience, start going to other locations." Greene and Motes also said that 911 dispatchers never told firefighters that Bartlett called 911 from inside her home. They said crews would never have left the scene if they knew the call originated from the homeowner. "This information would have made all the difference in the world," said Greene. "I don't think there's a firefighter that goes to work that would leave an area if they thought there was something valid, or a person in distress." In all, DeKalb County fired five firefighters after the deadly blaze. The fire chief later resigned.

Motes, Greene and former Capt. Sell Caldwell are appealing the firings. No hearing dates have been set yet. It is not clear whether anyone in the 911 center will face disciplinary action. This info courtesy of CBS Atlanta.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 2-11-10 / 1019 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Firefighter was injured early this morning at a mobile home park fire in Savannah, GA. Around 0200 hours companies were dispatched to a mobile home with fire and smoke showing. A 37-year-old 8 year veteran Firefighter "attempted to engage the pump on a fire engine" when the apparatus "lurched forward," according to their PIO. The Firefighter tried to jump back in the cab to regain control of the engine, which rolled about 100 feet and struck a ladder truck and a police cruiser. The Firefighter became pinned against the ladder truck, suffering bruises and lacerations. He was taken to Memorial University Medical Center and was later released. The runaway fire apparatus came to rest in a patch of trees. We'll post some updates on exactly what happened when they become available.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-11-10 / 1220 Hours

AND:

PENN. FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-STRUCK BY A VEHICLE

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter with Woolrich Fire Company in Clinton County (PA) was killed in the line of Duty this afternoon. The Firefighter, who was in the process of setting up traffic control devices at the scene of an auto crash, was struck by a civilian vehicle. We will keep you advised as additional details are reported. As always our sincere condolences.

In California, A 69-year-old man was injured when the vehicle he was driving struck a fire apparatus on its way to a call in Menifee last night. The driver of the vehicle that struck the apparatus was trapped and suffered serious injuries. No firefighters were injured.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-12-10 / 1431 hours

AND:

Hey,

An **Orange County (FL) Firefighter** and 4 other people were seriously injured this morning when a car veered into an existing motorcycle crash scene as FF's were trying to treat a patient. As Orange County Fire-Medics were preparing to transport the patient from the motorcycle crash, a car veered into the scene, striking and seriously injuring four people and a Firefighter. The Firefighter and one other victim were airlifted to Orlando Regional Medical Center, the rest by ground. Firefighters had placed their apparatus in a blocking position. Details to follow.

GAS LEAK-THEN AN EXPLOSION IN OHIO:

Yesterday, Firefighters from the **Western Reserve Joint Fire District in Poland (Ohio)** responded to a reported gas leak-and there was nothing routine about it. Once again-a **CLOSE CALL** that we can all use to learn, remind and remember.

WRJFD Chief of Department Chip Comstock spoke to us and said that 4 of his Firefighters were near the front porch, and a 5th was trying to shut off the gas at the home about 0630 hours when the explosion occurred. The Firefighters had bumps, bruises and cuts, and a broken nose, but all were treated and released. "None of the big debris hit any of our guys," Comstock said. "Honestly, it was a miracle."

WRJFD Firefighters were called after the homeowner woke up to a cold home and went downstairs to check the furnace. She recently had work done on her furnace and when she checked it Saturday morning, she could smell gas and hear a hissing sound. She got her daughter, and they left the house. She called her son, who advised her to call 911. They waited while firefighters arrived and then gave them the keys to the house. 4 Firefighters went to the door while a fifth went to find the shutoff valve for the gas. Comstock said their gas meters told them something was not right as soon as they opened the door. **"The gas meters started screaming at them,"** Comstock said. The firefighters were backing up when the explosion happened, the house immediately caught fire and the remaining firefighters shifted to protecting the two adjacent homes as well as caring for the injured members.

REMEMBERING CHICAGO AND PITTSBURGH:

NOTE: We do our best to try and share "historic" and significant fires that killed Firefighters in the Line of Duty. The goal being that younger Firefighters understand and gain knowledge from us "passing it on" - about fire service history. TODAY is the anniversary of 2 such fires.

CHICAGO-2 CHIEFS KILLED IN COLLAPSE:

Today, February 14, 2010 is the 48th Anniversary of the Line of Duty deaths of Chicago Fire Battalion Chiefs Thomas Hoff and Robert O'Brien in a 4-11 fire on Chicago's South Side. As Jim Regan from Chicago wrote: "I can just imagine how proud Chief Hoff would be of his 2 sons who entered the CFD, Ray who retired as a Battalion Chief, Bob who is now CFD's 1st Deputy Fire Commissioner, and his grandson Andy Hoff, Bob's son, a member of the Downers Grove FD"

Chiefs Hoff and O'Brien were killed when a building collapsed during a fire at 70th and Dorchester in Chicago, Feb 14, 1962. The story of Thomas Hoff, Bob, and his older brother Ray, served as the basis for the movie "Backdraft".

WHAT HAPPENED:

On February 14, 1962, two Chicago Fire Department chiefs died in the line of duty at an apartment building fire on E. 70th Street. Chief Robert J. O'Brien, head of the fire prevention bureau, and Battalion Chief Thomas A. Hoff, the Assistant Drillmaster for the CFD training school, were killed when the fire-weakened building collapsed. A fire was reported in the basement of the apartment building shortly after 11:00 AM. Firefighters responded to the scene and successfully extinguished most of the flames. At approximately 12:35 PM, while firefighters were searching the apartments for trapped victims, the roof of the building began

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

to sag and the west wall started to lean inward. Fire Commissioner Robert J. Quinn ordered all firefighters to evacuate the building, but the roof caved in before all of the firefighters could escape.

Chiefs O'Brien, Hoff, and Firefighter Frank Conley were on the third floor of the building and were a few steps away from escaping onto an outside porch when the roof collapsed. They fell with the debris down to the basement where they were trapped in the wreckage. Firefighter Edward Stack, Hoff's driver, was also on the third floor when the building collapsed, but he was able to roll out a door on the first floor as he fell with the debris. Stack later described how they had seen the ceiling start to crack and had heard the shouts from outside to evacuate the building, but when the west wall buckled the third floor gave way and the ceiling collapsed on them before they could reach the porch.

Firefighters immediately descended on the debris to try to rescue their colleagues. The rescue squads labored under a stream of water from hose lines, as the previously smoldering fire had rekindled and some of the debris was now burning furiously. Conley, who had fallen under a large beam that protected him from additional debris, was rescued thirty minutes after the collapse, having suffered some bruises and a broken finger. Chief O'Brien's body was recovered a short time later, but efforts to reach Chief Hoff's body were delayed over concerns about the weakened walls that were still standing. After wrecking equipment was brought in to take down the walls, Chief Hoff's body was recovered around 6 PM. This account is courtesy of the Illinois Fire Service Institute:

More Details HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/yzzc9fs> & <http://tinyurl.com/yadmpdh>

REMEMBERING 3 FF's: BRICELYN STREET IN PITTSBURGH:

It's been 15 years since 3 Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire Firefighters died in the Line of Duty on Feb. 14, 1995 in that house fire. On that date, just after midnight PBF's Captain Thomas Brooks of Engine 17 and Firefighters Patricia Conroy and Marc Kolenda of Engine 8 were sent to the now infamous Bricelyn Street fire. FF's Conroy and Kolenda were working from Engine 17 that day. Brooks, 42, Conroy, 43, and Kolenda, 27, became separated from other crews when a stairwell inside the home collapsed. At the time, other Firefighters and Officers didn't know the three were trapped and possibly unconscious until it was too late. According to reports, (see below) their SCBA's malfunctioned, they didn't all have radios to call for help, their low-air indicators on their tanks, PASS alarms did not work and there was no system to account for Firefighters operating at the scene. Much has been learned by the fire service since this tragic loss. Captain Brooks, a 13-year veteran, left behind two children. FF Conroy, an 8-year-veteran, and FF Kolenda, a Firefighter for 14 months, were each engaged at the time, but childless. **R.I.P.**

More Details HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/yhc3s3r>

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

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-14-10 / 1547 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.***

The D.C. fire department failed to include seniority pay in its fiscal 2010 budget proposal, is on pace to more than double its overtime spending and is projected to run nearly \$2 million short in fringe benefits -- setting up a \$11 million-plus shortfall for the year:

http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/local/D_C_-fire-running-millions-over-budget-82177247.html

The latest round of reductions at the city of Vancouver leaves 44 people out of work and city officials say citizens will feel the loss, too. Among the departments with the highest number of losses: Eleven people laid off in development review services; nine at the police department; eight in the fire department (no police officers or firefighters were lost); and five in transportation. The personnel reductions are expected to cover about 75 percent of the 2010 deficit:

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2010/jan/28/vancouver-job-cuts-include-44-layoffs/>

The economy may be sagging, but that could create a window of opportunity for Gig Harbor (WA) Fire District 5 to build a training campus near its Bujacich Road headquarters: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/northwest/story/1046447.html>

The Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department is looking at the possibility of a \$35 million budget cut because of the city's budget crisis. The city's fire department will lose nearly 1,400 full and part-time employees, including 144 firefighters:

<http://www.ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=1257629>

Storey County (NV) officials have ordered the closure of their newest fire station, a move that means a loss of 6 full-time and 12 reserve firefighters:

<http://www.kolotv.com/news/headlines/82745162.html>

Combining Reno and Washoe County (NV) fire districts would produce enough savings for two new fire companies, which could staff a proposed fire station in the ArrowCreek community south of Reno:

<http://www.rgj.com/article/20100127/NEWS/1270430/1321>

The city of Reno (NV) says it may have to layoff up to 109 more workers next fiscal year if it doesn't get pay and benefit concessions totaling up to 8-percent. The mayor also floated the idea of reducing fire engine company size from four to three firefighters: <http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=11884848>

Residents confront Reno (NV) council about firefighter layoffs:

<http://www.rgj.com/article/20100128/NEWS/1280350/1321>

The Reno (NV) City Council today delayed giving interim City Manager Donna Dreska authority to begin laying off nearly 110 city employees beginning next July, pending the outcome of negotiations with city unions. Mayor Bob Cashell though, did say if those negotiations fail, layoffs could begin much earlier to save even more money:

<http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=11891485>

Thirteen fire stations will take part in the San Diego (CA) Fire Department's plan to cut \$11.5 million from next year's budget. "This plan will involve the temporary closure of up to 8 fire engines a day from throughout the city's 47 fire stations," said Fire Chief Javier Mainar. The 13 stations involved were broken into two groups. The groups will alternate every other month. And up to eight engines could be closed on any given day: <http://www.fox5sandiego.com/news/kswb-fire-brownouts%2C0%2C5985566.story>

The conclusion of contract talks between Vallejo (CA) firefighters and city negotiators may be on the horizon, with five arbitration hearing dates set for mid-March. The new contract with the International Association of Firefighters, Local 1186, is to replace one dissolved last August in bankruptcy court. It would have expired in June:

http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_14269208?nclick_check=1

Reducing the number of sheriff's deputies and firefighters on city streets may be necessary to close Victorville's (CA) \$4.36 million deficit, according to City Manager Jim Cox. "No one wants to suggest that, no one wants to telegraph that, no one wants to go there," Cox told the council this week. "I think the reality is you may have to look at public safety." <http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/victorville-17281-close-deficit.html>

In the wake of two devastating wildfire seasons, Santa Cruz County (CA) leaders are considering asking voters for more money to pay for fire service. A tax increase, which could raise the cost of fire suppression as much as three times for some residents of the Santa Cruz Mountains, would support additional firefighters in the roughly six-month offseason when the state is not responsible for wildland fire protection. Voters shot down a proposed property assessment for fire protection in 2007. But with

thousands of acres charred since then and dozens of homes lost, many think the effort would have more success today: <http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/calif-mulls-tax-measure-fire-service>

Tulsa (OK) firefighters voted overwhelmingly to save 147 jobs by agreeing to a 5.2 percent pay cut and other benefit concessions, union officials announced Sunday night. "There's nobody else trained to do what we do," said Stan May, president of Tulsa Firefighters Local 176. "If we took 147 firefighters off the streets, we would put this city in serious risk." Union members voted 442 to 177 to accept the mayor's proposal, which includes a 5.2 percent salary cut for 17 months, eight unpaid furlough days in the next fiscal year and the elimination of benefits such as fitness pay and a clothing allowance. The announcement comes days after 124 Tulsa police officers and 59 civilian employees were laid off after both their unions turned down pay cuts in lieu of the job losses:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/careers/tulsa-firefighters-approve-pay-cuts-avoid-layoffs>

Public-safety leaders said a recent proposal to lay off about 500 sworn Phoenix (AZ) police officers and firefighters would affect the city's ability to respond to crimes, fires and medical emergencies. But the cuts would also delay investigations. The proposal calls for police and fire to eliminate more than 80 civilian-support positions. An additional 90 police and fire supervisors face demotions or reassignment. The fire marshal and fire-prevention inspectors are on the cut list. The city would lose six engines, a ladder truck and three ambulances - nearly an entire battalion:

<http://www.azcentral.com/12news/news/articles/2010/01/31/20100131phxsafetycuts0131-CP.html>

Massive layoffs of Nevada state employees, including firefighters, could induce many long-term workers to retire and potentially hurt the assets of the Public Employees Retirement System, its top official said Friday. "There might be a lot of retirements," if the state lays off thousands of employees, PERS executive officer Dana Bilyeu said. "I don't know yet what will happen. It is an open question."

<http://www.lvrj.com/news/state-employees-facing-layoffs-might-retain-hurt-pers-assets-83230457.html>

As the Los Angeles (CA) City Council weighed its options to address a \$208-million budget shortfall, Councilman Bernard C. Parks on Monday ordered the city's top budget analyst to prepare a plan that could include layoffs of police officers and firefighters:

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/02/councilman-parks-ask-city-to-prepare-plan-for-laying-of-police-and-firefighters-to-close-budget-shor.html>

The Los Angeles (CA) City Council faces tough decisions as it considers laying off 1,500 workers, including police and firefighters:

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=7255771

Financial hard times mean layoffs for firefighters across the country:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topic/funding-and-grants/financial-hard-times-means-layoffs-firefighters>

In an attempt to put off layoffs of police officers, firefighters and other city workers, Phoenix City Council members voted to approve a 2 percent tax on food purchases:

<http://www.abc15.com/content/financialsurvival/azstories/story/Phoenix-city-council-votes-for-2-sales-tax-on/2kSF5Dxkg0q9JU5bAM2fXw.csp>

\$881 million state budget shortfall could cost 300 Nevada public employees their jobs:

<http://www.examiner.com/x-33275-Las-Vegas-Business-and-Economy-Examiner~y2010m2d3-881-million-state-budget-shortfall-could-cost-300-Nevada-public-employees-their-jobs>

The depth of Flagstaff's (AZ) municipal budget problems came to light this week after City Manager Kevin Burke recommended closing a fire station and possibly laying off as many as 57 employees:

http://www.azdailysun.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_2aa3da9d-ea83-5704-9786-c8f0bd181c75.html

Facing a dire financial prognosis that could otherwise force layoffs, the Volusia County (FL) Council has decided to recruit 18 of the county's firefighters to become correctional officers. The lifesavers will be asked to move into the county's jail system, which is experiencing a shortage of workers. The council also agreed the county would pay the roughly \$1,700 each it will cost to put the firefighters through the 14-week training program and certification process they'll need. County Manager Jim Dinneen told council members as budget talks began Thursday that the discussion was "not an attack on fire services," but merely an attempt to save the jobs and prevent a major tax increase to residents in the unincorporated areas of the county:

<http://www.news-journalonline.com/NewsJournalOnline/News/Headlines/frtHEAD01020510.htm>

The Vancouver (WA) Fire Department is going to have to eliminate a busy paramedic unit to help balance their budget:

http://www.koinlocal6.com/content/news/topstories/story/Vancouver-Fire-Department-to-cut-busy-paramedic/L9Bi8a_JeEqELOo2_45V-w.csp

Starting Saturday, it could take longer for San Diego (CA) firefighters to respond to emergency calls, according to the city's new fire chief. The delay could occur because eight fire engines, including one in Rancho Penasquitos, will be on rolling "brown-out" status beginning Feb. 6 to save the city \$11.5 million annually:

http://www.mylocalnews.com/nws/index.php?/main/content/chief_cuts_may_delay_rb_response_times/

Labor Unions flexed their collective muscle at San Francisco (CA) City Hall Thursday, and beat back a charter proposal that would have lengthened the work week for firefighters. The supervisors chambers was packed to capacity as the board's rules committee considered a charter amendment for the June ballot that would have extended the firefighter work week from 48 to 52 hours. It was considered a pointed jab from those who don't feel the fire department is sharing the pain of the city's budget crisis: <http://www.kcbs.com/SF-Firefighters-Unions-Fend-Off-Longer-Work-Week/6290341>

New Utah state employees will not only have half the current benefits of current employees, their wages will likely stay stagnant for years and they'll be assuming all the risk in the investment market. And that'll be the good news if Wall Street melts down again in the next 10 years:

http://www.heraldextra.com/legislature/article_3543c91b-4a5a-532d-9d4b-5032b653b822.html

A regional fire agency serving Reno (NV) and Washoe County could free up fire companies and save the region much as \$800,000, according to study recommendations from a California consulting group:

<http://www.lvrj.com/news/study-urges-regional-fire-agency-for-reno-and-washoe-county-83787687.html>

San Diego (CA) is implementing brownouts at fire houses with more than one crew. As many as eight fire engines will be taken out of service each day. The plan was put in place to help fill the city's multi-million-dollar budget gap. Fire-Rescue Chief Javier Mainar says he understands peoples' concerns about the reduction in service:

<http://www.kpbs.org/news/2010/feb/08/sdfd-chief-talks-about-brownouts/>

Monday night, members of Arizona's Libertarian Party added the first of what they hope will eventually be thousands of signatures needed to potentially repeal the recently passed food tax in Phoenix. "The city government simply said we need to grab this money," said Joe Cobb, Libertarian Party Treasurer. "We the people think we should rise up and say 'no.'" Last week the Phoenix City Council approved a 2 percent tax on food. The money raised from the tax would help keep jobs in both the Phoenix Fire and Police Departments from being cut:

<http://www.abc15.com/content/financialsurvival/azstories/story/Arizona-Libertarian-Party-hoping-to-repeal/FpzH0xOzWUmazK7plGpZmw.csp>

At their first public meeting to talk about staff and service reductions, some Chandler (AZ) City Council members resisted recommended layoffs but appear to go along with postponing construction projects, hiking fees and raising property tax rates:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2010/02/09/20100209cr-budget0210.html>

A six-year property tax levy to help fund the City of Hoquiam's (WA) emergency medical services was just barely failing after Tuesday night's count. The levy was just short of a required supermajority, with 59.19 percent approval — 940 votes to 648. However, Hoquiam Fire Chief Ray Pumphrey still holds out hope the levy can reach the 60 percent required to pass the property tax measure:

http://www.thedailyworld.com/articles/2010/02/10/local_news/doc4b7300bc23dfc345163786.txt

Proposed cuts to deal with Gilbert's (AZ) budget shortfall include eliminating 125 of the town's approximately 1,200 jobs, mostly from the police and fire departments, as well as closing two pools and reducing library hours, the Town Council learned this week: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/150540>

Arizona State lawmakers want to make sure police, firefighters and other special interest groups can't force city officials to spend more money without knowing where the cash is coming from. Without dissent, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Tuesday approved a measure to require anyone proposing a local ballot initiative that boosts spending to include a source of funding:

http://www.azstarnet.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_752abdd0-3cc1-5f0a-8a42-352f80703ca6.html

The union representing most Phoenix (AZ) firefighters agreed tentatively Wednesday to a 3.2 percent salary cut, and the city's primary police union said it supported the same deal, to save a combined \$16 million annually over two years to spare public-safety jobs. City leaders announced the concessions one day after they estimated that a food tax that goes into effect in April would save as many as 180 sworn public-safety jobs slated to be cut through the city's \$140 million proposed budget cuts through fiscal year 2011. If approved, the union concessions would save an additional 110 police and fire jobs:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2010/02/11/20100211policeunions0211.html>

The current rift between the city of Davenport (FL) and its volunteer firefighters had Mayor Pete Rust questioning the economics of maintaining a separate paid fire department during a city commission workshop meeting Monday evening. "Is this town big enough to support a paid fire department?" Rust asked. "Could we save \$150,000 in salaries by going back to a volunteer fire department?"

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-department-management/articles/759186-Fla-mayor-questions-need-for-paid-fire-department/>

Voters will decide if the city's emergency medical service gets more cash. The Everett (WA) City Council voted unanimously Wednesday night to approve a special April election for a levy that would raise \$2 million a year by boosting property taxes:

<http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20100218/NEWS01/100219858/1067/NEWS07>

Fire District Number Five in Talent (OR) is used to putting out fires but their budget is proving to be an even tougher battle. Chief Dan Marshall said cutting costs at the fire department is especially difficult when they won't settle for sacrificing their service. Their budget: \$4.6 million, but the growing costs outweigh the hardly increasing budget. Those budget woes could cost them two firefighter positions -- openings that came up after two firefighters retired:

<http://www.ktvf.com/articles/talent-1193960-battle-tougher.html>

A new report by the Pew Center on the States said there are "serious concerns" with Nevada's public sector pension program, a finding disputed by the executive director of the Nevada Public Employees Retirement System:

<http://www.rgj.com/article/20100219/BIZ/2190378/1071/BIZ>

In what is being described as "devastating cuts to public safety," Mesa (AZ) city leaders are requesting that the fire department cut up to 10 percent of its budget, according to a memo released by Chief Harry Beck. Citing declining city revenues as a

result of the recession that the city expects to last three to five years, the pending cuts will have a "severe impact on our service level in the community and put jobs at risk," according to Beck. The city is asking for cuts of \$1.1 million to \$5.4 million for the fiscal year that starts July 1. According to Tuesday's memo, overtime in the fire department is immediately suspended, all current and future vacant positions will remain frozen and unfilled while engine and ladder companies are subject to suspension, or "brownouts," on a shift-by-shift basis to assist with filling vacancies: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/150820>

Risking their lives is part of the job for Clark County firefighters. They're considered the heroes who run into a burning building when everyone else runs out. But they're not going home empty handed.

"I have the utmost respect for the men and woman firefighters. But with that said, we cannot continue to pay them at the rate that we are paying them," said Clark County Commissioner Steve Sisolak. A new report shows on average, firefighters are making more than \$180,000 per year, including benefits. Geoffrey Lawrence with Nevada Policy Research Institute says county firefighters are making more than county attorneys: <http://www.lasvegasnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=11995369>

The president of the Clark County (NV) Firefighter's Union is speaking out after firefighters salaries were criticized, mainly for the overtime they're raking in. But Clark County Firefighters Local 1908 President Ryan Beaman says they seem to always get blamed for their salaries, but it's not them you should be upset with. He feels firefighters are being paid adequately for the services they provide but says the ultimate decision isn't theirs: <http://www.lasvegasnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=12001942>

In an effort to save Fire Department jobs, the financially struggling city of North Las Vegas (NV) is considering changing the way emergency patients get to the hospital. The Fire Department wants to transport more patients to hospitals itself instead of turning them over to private ambulance services. The department then could bill insurance companies for the service. But such revenue shouldn't come at the expense of private business, said John Wilson, local general manager of the private ambulance service that transports most of North Las Vegas' emergency patients. The city "is trying to fix their budget shortfall by taking revenue and jobs from the private sector and shifting it to the public sector to minimize the impact on public employees," Wilson said. "This is sending the wrong message to the business community." Now, most emergency ambulance calls in North Las Vegas are handled by American Medical Response and MedicWest, both of which are owned by the same parent company, Emergency Medical Services Corporation: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/nlv-fire-department-seeks-more-ambulance-duties-to-save-jobs-84562187.html>

What Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department firefighters have already given up to help the City of Los Angeles cope with it's budget deficit - Columnist Tim Rutten implores L.A. firefighters - and city residents, as a consequence - to make sacrifices, as if they haven't already accepted deep cuts: <http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/opinionla/la-oe-w-mcosker18-2010feb18%2C0%2C3667870.story>

Flint (MI) city leaders are preparing to hand out a large number of pink slips in an effort to battle the city's budget deficit. Mayor Dayne Walling announced during his weekly press briefing that 57 police officers and 23 firefighters will get the notice Thursday. The mayor said the layoff notices will go into effect in two weeks. Walling also said one or two of Flint's five remaining fire stations will close do to the cuts:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/mich-city-preps-massive-layoffs>

The Los Angeles (CA) City Council orders 3,000 more job cuts. To help address the city's budget crisis -- and after the threat of a credit downgrade -- the council tells agencies to act by July 1. The move is on top of 1,000 cuts already in the works:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-la-budget19-2010feb19%2C0%2C1667101.story>

Public Relations Nightmare Items:

Anger and weariness were the two most common responses Secaucus (NJ) residents exhibited when asked last week what they thought about the possible reinstatement of three firefighters who resigned amidst a local controversy in August 2008. The firefighters quit the department a year and a half ago after the town lost a \$4.8 million lawsuit brought by a gay couple who used to live next door to the North End firehouse. According to testimony given at trial, the gay couple was allegedly harassed by members of the department. This harassment allegedly culminated in one specific attack in which threats were yelled and items were allegedly thrown at the couple's house. In trial testimony, Snyder Sr., Snyder Jr., and Mutschler were accused of allegedly being involved, but the three men resigned rather than face an administrative hearing. They were never arrested and no criminal charges were brought against them:

http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/5637459/article-Enough-already-Residents-respond-to-new-chapter-in-gay-firefighter-saga-?instance=secondary_stories_left_column

A fire engine from Calvert County (MD) sideswiped an Anne Arundel County ladder truck Sunday afternoon in Galesville, knocked it into two other cars and did not stop to offer assistance, according to two witnesses:

<http://www.hometownannapolis.com/news/for/2010/02/17-21/Witnesses-Calvert-fire-engine-hit-county-ladder-truck-and-left.html>

A Somerset County (PA) firefighter is accused of stealing about \$285,000 from his own fire department's coffers. Police said Henry Swincinski served as president and controller of the Winder Volunteer Fire Department and Northern EMS. They said Swincinski is a trusted man who handled the department's accounting. However, police said the evidence indicates Swincinski wrote 284 checks to himself, his private business and for cash over the past seven years. They said the alleged crimes came to an end in January when a review of a hard drive showed the checks were entered into the computer program fraudulently and disguised as legitimate expenses:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/pa-ff-charged-stealing-280k>

Why is Detroit (MI) broke? Why are its books an unmitigated disaster? Why do things never seem to change no matter who occupies City Hall? Maybe something as simple as a screen door might explain it. Three firefighters were caught last year scavenging a screen door from an abandoned house. Why? Their firehouse didn't have one and the flies were getting in. The men were caught on video tape and disciplined. But the irony is that even in a city as broke as Detroit, \$7 million in no-bid contracts were handed out over the past eight years to repair things like screen doors in its fire houses: <http://statter911.com/2010/02/18/a-must-read-from-detroit-the-state-of-the-fire-departments-infrastructure-a-trail-that-shows-money-allocated-spent-but-facilities-not-fixed/>

A Clark County (NV) Firefighter seeks a contract for his side business - Public employee who made nearly \$200,000 in '09 co-owns a mortuary: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/feb/11/fireghter-seeks-contract-his-side-business/>

Police say a northeastern Indiana volunteer firefighter has admitted to setting three fires and then battling them with the fire department. The DeKalb County Sheriff's Department says Lee Yoder of Spencerville surrendered on three felony counts of arson and has been arrested: <http://www.wishtv.com/dpp/news/crime/firefighter-arrested-for-n.-ind.-arsons>

We (<http://statter911.com>) told you the other day that there was more to the story of the recent arrest of Memphis Fire Department Firefighter Lawrence Batiste on burglary, assault and drug charges. Batiste had been hired by Memphis despite being fired as a Shelby County firefighter because of a felony conviction he failed to disclose (Watch Parts 1 & 2 found in the link below from WLMT-TV). WLMT-TV has been looking closely at the Batiste case, but reporter Jeni DiPrizio has widened her investigation. In a follow-up report (Part 3 & 4) she shows how more than 80 firefighters have been arrested in the last five years and that many have stayed on the department despite some serious charges.

- Now this story ties to the Pittsburgh (PA) Fire Department.....

By contrast, Pittsburgh Fire Chief Darryl Jones has been quite vocal about the number of arrests involving his firefighters. As Statter 911 previously mentioned WTAE-TV “ran a criminal background check on all 630 Pittsburgh firefighters and found that, in addition to recent criminal cases that have made news, there are many others that have not.” Here 's what reporter Jim Parsons found in Pittsburgh: Court records reveal that a total of 53 Pittsburgh firefighters have faced criminal charges. Half of those cases — 26 in all — were drug or alcohol related. Some of those cases go back years. But Team 4 found 14 criminal cases against firefighters that are less than three years old, and 11 of those 14 cases are drug or alcohol related: <http://statter911.com/2010/01/24/reporters-look-closely-at-arrest-records-in-two-fire-departments-firefighters-brushes-with-the-law-are-being-scrutinized-in-memphis-pittsburgh/>

Memphis (TN) Firefighter Lawrence Batiste is off the job. He was fired February 1, 2010. Batiste is a convicted felon and is currently facing an aggravated burglary charge. He has also been convicted of resisting arrest and assault. Additionally he has been arrested for domestic violence. Batiste is one of more than 80 Memphis

firefighters who have been arrested in the past five years. The firefighters have been charged with everything from rape to assault to selling a hand grenade to an undercover agent. The list goes on and on:

<http://www.myeyewitnessnews.com/mostpopular/story/Convicted-Felon-Firefighter-Fired/H2nX5DTedkWKCMacF0oAuQ.csp>

A Chicago (IL) firefighter was sentenced Monday to three years of probation after being convicted of swiping a gas meter from a burned-out building while on duty and installing it at his own home; the department is currently in the process to relieve him of his duties and end his employment:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/fire-department-management/articles/749191-Chicago-firefighter-sentenced-for-stealing-gas-meter-from-fireground/>

A former Columbus (OH) firefighter who was fired for executing his two dogs walked out on his appeal hearing before it began yesterday. The three-member Civil Service Commission dismissed David Santuomo's appeal of the firing because he wasn't present for the hearing. The decision upholds his dismissal from the Fire Division:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/labor-issues/articles/749379-Ohio-firefighter-walks-out-of-appeal-of-firing/>

Former (after recently being fired for this incident – auto theft) Assistant Fire Chief Robert Manuel, 51, was arrested about 9:30 p.m. February 13 in the 6200 block of Stillwell Drive after a Pine Lawn officer noticed the 1995 Ford Crown Victoria Manuel was caught driving had an expired registration tag. Manuel was released on his own recognizance after being issued summonses for operating a vehicle with expired plates, displaying a license plate of another (owner) and driving while license suspended, Collins said. In addition, Manuel was fired February 16 by the Northeast Ambulance and Fire Protection District (MO) from his \$94,000 per year job:

<http://www.globe-democrat.com/news/2010/feb/18/stolen-car-returned-victim-over-three-years-later/>

Firefighters are added to more EMS runs in Pittsburgh (PA). This change follows the death of man during a snowstorm. Disciplinary action is being considered. Curtis Mitchell and his wife attempted to get help via 911 a total of 10 times over more than two days during the snow storm two weekends ago. He (Mitchell) died by the time an EMS crew got to him: <http://statter911.com/2010/02/18/firefighters-added-to-more-ems-runs-in-pittsburgh-change-follows-death-of-man-during-snowstorm/>

And a related story about the above Pittsburgh (PA) incident: ‘If he wants to ride to the hospital, he’s gonna have to come to the truck’ – Pittsburgh EMS crew talking about dying man during snowstorm. Public safety director – ‘... you get out of the damn truck and walk’: <http://statter911.com/2010/02/17/if-he-wants-to-ride-to-the-hospital-hes-gonna-have-to-come-to-the-truck-pittsburgh-ems-crew-talking-about-dying-man-during-snowstorm-public-safety-director-you-get-out-of-the-damn-tr/>

Residents of Lakeside (CA) directed heated criticism at the Lakeside Fire Protection District board. In a meeting last night, citizens charged that the Board failed to provide adequate explanation for the firing of Chief Mark Baker. “You guys are in serious

trouble, and you're accountable for your actions," Dennis Richardson, a lifetime Lakeside resident, told the board. "You guys need to be taken to the woodshed, because you did not listen to Lakeside." <http://eastcountymagazine.org/node/2652>

Several firefighters are facing arrest over a warehouse fire in Warwickshire (England) in which four of their colleagues were killed, a union has said. The Fire Brigades Union (FBU) said it had been told three will be questioned under caution over allegations of gross negligence manslaughter:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/coventry_warwickshire/8483075.stm

The California state Supreme Court threw out criminal charges against five former members of the San Diego city retirement board Monday, but it said San Diego (CA) firefighters union President Ronald Saathoff could still face trial:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/jan/25/supreme-court-dismisses-most-pension-case/?imw=Y>

The Anderson (CA) Fire Protection District will have to pay at least \$16,623 to reimburse the Record Searchlight for attorney's fees after the paper won a court fight to get copies of an investigative report detailing misconduct allegations surrounding a former fire chief:

<http://www.andersonvalleypost.com/news/2010/jan/25/anderson-fire-district-must-pay-papers-court-costs/>

Firefighters in Prince George's County (MD) removed a body from a car (who they believed to be dead), and found out he was breathing:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=96355&catid=158>

Former Wiggins (CO) firefighter John R. Hollis was sentenced Friday to 60 days in jail and two years probation for setting fires, one in an abandoned building and several grass fires, in the Wiggins area last fall. Fellow firefighters became suspicious when he was the first person to the fire hall on numerous calls, prosecutor Paul Wiese said:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/former-colo-ff-pleads-guilty-arson>

DeKalb County (GA) Firefighters are placed on Administrative Leave: Fire officials acknowledge that units responded to a 1:03 a.m. 911 call in which the caller reported a fire on Houghton Court. According to DeKalb County's Public Safety Director William Z. Miller, firefighters left when they found no signs of a fire. In a statement, Miller said that at 6:40 a.m., firefighters responded to another 911 call reporting a fire in the same area. When firefighters arrived that time, Bartlett's home was engulfed in flames and she was dead: <http://www.firehouse.com/topics/careers/ga-ffs-leave-after-fatal-fire>

DeKalb County (GA) authorities have released the findings of an internal investigation, which found that four firefighters failed to fully investigate Ann Bartlett's 911 call that her house was on fire. Bartlett, 74, was found dead five hours later in the garage of her burned-out home:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/probe-reveals-ga-ffs-never-checked-house-fire-later-claimed-woman>

Four DeKalb County (GA) firefighters were terminated Thursday and they are being investigated by police for their response to a house fire that killed an elderly woman. The DeKalb County firefighters responded to a 911 call from the home about 1 a.m. Sunday and left after they didn't see any signs of flames or smoke. But according to an investigative report, they didn't follow department procedure to approach the home, verify the address and make contact with the 911 caller. Most of the firefighters who responded to the call stayed in their vehicles, only getting out to help the trucks turn around in the cul-de-sac near the home, according to the report. About six hours later, a neighbor called 911 to report the same house was fully engulfed in flames. Ann Bartlett, 74, was found dead inside from smoke inhalation. "These officers didn't follow policy, and that's why they're being terminated," county public safety director William Z. Miller said Friday:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/probe-reveals-ga-ffs-never-checked-house-fire-later-claimed-woman>

DeKalb County (GA) Fire Rescue Chief David Foster resigned Monday, DeKalb County authorities said. Foster stepped down on the heels of a botched response in the early morning hours of Jan 24 to what would become a fatal Dunwoody home fire:

<http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/dekalb-fire-chief-resigns-288496.html>

Former Los Angeles County (CA) assistant fire chief Glynn Johnson, 55, was found guilty of felony animal cruelty and using a deadly weapon in Riverside County Superior Court today in the 2008 beating of his neighbor's puppy:

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/unleashed/2010/01/glynn-johnson-former-la-county-fire-official-found-guilty-of-animal-cruelty-for-beating-of-neighbors.html>

An 82-year-old Somerville (MA) woman was seriously injured yesterday when she was hit by a hose that came loose from a Cambridge fire engine responding to an emergency:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/01/27/woman_82_struck_by_errant_fire_hose_in_cambridge/

The firing of a top Prince George's County (MD) official brings scathing message from union president to his members. Local 1619's Pantelis says 'we now find it difficult to work in good faith' with the department leadership:

<http://statter911.com/2010/01/28/firing-of-top-pgfd-official-brings-scathing-message-from-union-president-to-his-members-local-1619s-pantelis-says-we-now-find-it-difficult-to-work-in-good-faith-with-the-department-leadership/>

Police chief says New Jersey ambulance driver was not on a legal response when he went to a fire in his own house. The ambulance crashed and the father died in the fire:

<http://statter911.com/2010/01/27/police-chief-says-new-jersey-ambulance-driver-was-not-on-a-legal-response-when-he-went-to-a-fire-in-his-own-house-ambulance-crashed-father-died-in-fire/>

Debate over whether Milwaukee (WI) is playing with fire by cutting Fire Department staff has led to criticism of suburban departments such as West Allis, which has decided to fire back with words of its own. The back-and-forth started with a leading

Milwaukee firefighter who suggested that suburban fire departments aren't capable of fighting urban fires, according to an open letter written by the West Allis Police and Fire Commission. The letter quotes comments made by David Seager, president of the Milwaukee firefighters union. He spoke Jan. 20 on Jeff Wagner's radio show on WTMJ-AM, according to the letter. Seager is quoted saying a number of suburban fire departments, including West Allis', don't have the ability to conduct "urban firefighting." <http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/wis-ffs-comments-sparks-feud>

Under fire, the Houston (TX) Fire Department tries to regroup: The department is on notice that discrimination won't be tolerated. Racist graffiti, threats, profanity and a noose hanging in a locker; claims of harassment and a culture of accepted sexism, evidenced in part by a topless female firefighter posing in panties on a widely distributed calendar. For the past year, the Houston Fire Department has been beset by inner turmoil, with critics pointing to problems within the management structure, one they say has become lax in disciplining workplace offenders and has let power shift from downtown to the fire stations. But as the HFD tries to regroup, how it will be fixed rests with a new mayor — who will appoint a new top commander (Fire Chief) — and the interim chief, both of whom insist that discrimination will not be tolerated and all firefighters will be held accountable for their workplace actions:

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/6844026.html>

Franklin Township (PA) Fire Chief Donald Stranger Sr. and Franklin Township Assistant Fire Chief Dale Douglas Stranger have been charged with disorderly conduct following a fire that destroyed the assistant chief's house on Sunday. Dale Stranger, 35, of Monroeton was charged with a third-degree misdemeanor of disorderly conduct, while the fire chief was charged with the summary offense of disorderly conduct, the state police at Towanda said in a press release that they issued on Monday. A third firefighter at the scene -- William J. Haney, 35, of Monroeton -- was also charged with the summary offense of disorderly conduct, state police said:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/pennsylvania-chiefs-charged-disorderly-conduct-fire-scene>

Seven firefighters were charged recently with the repeated indecent assault of a colleague at a fire station 20 years ago. The men - including five who still work for NSW Fire Brigades (Australia) - had been under investigation since March last year after complaints were made against them:

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/seven-fireys-on-sex-assault-charges/story-e6freuy9-1225826099322>

Three Atlanta (GA) firefighters disciplined over shooting at liquor store. The Atlanta Fire department says they didn't follow protocol for declaring a DOA:

<http://statter911.com/2010/02/06/three-atlanta-firefighters-disciplined-over-shooting-at-liquor-store-fire-department-says-they-didnt-follow-protocol-for-declaring-a-doa/>

Several firefighters are likely to be charged after a boozy brawl at a Brooklyn bar that sent a college soccer coach to the hospital with a busted eye, police sources said. Sinan Selmani, who works at St. Francis College, was clutching his broken eye socket as he was dragged by firefighters to a bathroom at the Salty Dog in Bay Ridge,

witnesses told police. Surveillance video shows firefighters, Selmani and three cousins throwing punches while other FDNY members tried to break it up, sources said:

http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ny_crime/2010/02/05/2010-02-05_fdny_fight_fury_charges_against_firefighters_will_be_levied_in_bar_brawl_cops_sa.html

Former Granite Falls (OR) Fire Chief Rick Hjelle said he was a good firefighter and a terrible drunk. Hjelle, 47, resigned his job Dec. 21 after serving Snohomish County Fire District 17 for nearly 32 years, 20 as its chief. He said his departure was hastened by allegations in early November from fire union officials that he was drinking on the job:

<http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20100201/NEWS01/702019910>

A nasty legal tiff in rural El Dorado County (CA) involving a gay firefighter, pornographic images on fire station computers and allegations of workplace discrimination culminated Tuesday in a win for the beleaguered fire district. But other legal actions are likely to extend the costly 2 1/2-year case, which an administrative law judge blamed on the "poor judgment and indiscretion" of one firefighter:

<http://www.wbaltv.com/news/22519090/detail.html>

Board members for the Cimarron Hills Fire district are deciding whether or not to ask voters for a mill levy increase. The idea was proposed at the last board meeting to possibly solve a problem uncovered by *NEWSCHANNEL 13*, who found documents from the Board's attorney stating previous board members may have illegally raised the tax rate in the district in 2005. The current mill rate is at 11.11; when it should be at 7.598. The issue has been something board members have been looking at since last year: <http://www.krdo.com/Global/story.asp?S=11961564>

Tarpon Springs' (FL) city manager today accepted the resignation of Fire Chief Stephen Moreno III after Moreno showed up at a fire scene last month with alcohol on his breath, according to city documents released this afternoon. Moreno submitted his letter of resignation after reviewing an investigative file on the incident and before a disciplinary hearing was to begin:

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/careers/fla-chief-resigns-accused-drinking-arriving-fire-scene>

The town of Chichester (NH) fire chief has taken a leave of absence as county officials investigate complaints and personnel problems, officials confirmed. During an emergency meeting with selectmen, Fire Chief Gilbert Vien took a leave of absence Friday pending the outcome of the investigation, said Steve MacCleery, selectmen chair: <http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/nh-chief-leave-probe-launched>

Citing concerns voiced by management, the Jackson County (OR) Fire District No. 3 Board of Directors placed Fire Chief David Hard on paid administrative leave Tuesday night. The board then followed district protocol by naming Operations Chief Greg Winfrey as acting chief. Board Vice President Lois Hawley Wilson would not delve into specifics about what led to the decision to place Hard on leave. "We have heard some concerns by some in management that went into this," Wilson said. Wilson did say Hard's decision to place another employee on administrative leave during a recent board meeting could have played a part in Tuesday's decision. In October, District No.

3 was hit with a \$2,500 fine by the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division after an April 25 training exercise that ended with three firefighters with minor burns:
<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100210/NEWS/2100317/1001/NEWS03>

A Memphis (TN) firefighter being is questioned for shooting his ex-girlfirend in a hospital parking lot in Southeast Memphis. In 2007, he was suspended for 144 hours over multiple domestic violence arrests involving his ex-wife. The letter details an arrest for hitting her and twisting her arm in a Wal-Mart parking lot in front of their two children: http://www.wreg.com/news/wreg-firefighterincustody-story_0,1287018.story

The Memphis (TN) firefighter accused of shooting a nurse in the parking lot of Delta Medical Center has been charged with first degree murder:
<http://www.myeyewitnessnews.com/news/local/story/Memphis-Firefighter-Charged-with-First-Degree/P3rtluQODUuOQH0ZZMEBwg.csp>

Supplemental pay added \$155 million to Clark County's labor costs last year while the economy sank into a deeper recession, according to a new report ordered by county commissioners. The added pay for the public employees includes overtime, callback, longevity, premium and a host of reimbursements for such things as clothing, tuition and jury duty: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/supplemental-pay-inflates-county-labor-costs-by-155-million-84427937.html>

A Boston (MA) Fire Department lieutenant was arrested Friday, accused of attacking a Braintree motorist and his family in a fit of drunken road rage. According to police, Paul Souza, 50, of Braintree, faces charges of operating under the influence, failure to stop for a police officer, malicious destruction of property, and three counts of assault and battery:
http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/02/16/boston_firefighter_charged_in_braintree_road_rage_incident/

And more on the story from Boston (MA) above: A Boston Fire Department lieutenant, who was arrested Friday in an alleged alcohol-fueled road rage incident, was previously arrested and charged with operating under the influence in 1996 and violated Fire Department policy by failing to report the incident to his superiors, according to a fire official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss personnel matters:
http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/02/17/arrested_boston_firefighther_was_previously_charged/

A state appellate court Thursday overturned a high-profile Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department harassment and discrimination case in which a black lesbian firefighter was awarded \$6.2 million after she was allegedly forced out:
<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/02/appeals-court-overturns-la-fire-department-bias-case.html>

Positive Public Relations Items:

Idaho Falls (ID) firefighters were blazing a trail Monday while reading to Edgemont Elementary students. Firefighters are visiting Idaho Falls District 91 all month reading to students hoping it will develop a love of reading. Now in its second year, "The Blazing Trail for Literacy" program puts Idaho Falls firefighters in the classroom: <http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=11878361>

A firefighter on a cruise vacation jumped into action when he saw a toddler choking and is being credited for saving the little boy's life. If he hadn't done what he did, I wouldn't be holding him right now. I know that," said Alisha Marchand, whose 14-month-old son Ian, started choking while the family ate dinner at a restaurant in the Bahamas last month. The Monroe family was on a Disney Cruise, the same one Harper Woods (MI) Fire Captain Charles Randles and his family happened to be on: <http://www.clickondetroit.com/news/22537098/detail.html>

South Kitsap (WA) Fire and Rescue Chief Wayne Senter got a buzz cut for the first time in 36 years. In 1974, Senter was shorn as a young man enlisting in the U.S. Army. Last week, the new haircut was the fulfillment of a promise. "It was worth it," he said, explaining that he agreed to sport the much shorter — and much colder — hairstyle if SKFR personnel finished the year without a "qualifying accident" involving a fire truck, ambulance or other vehicles: <http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/kitsap/poi/news/82700272.html>

The Spokane (WA) fire department is getting ready for 2010 Firefighter Stairclimb in Seattle to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. During the real race, coming up Sunday, March 7, they'll race up 69 flights of stairs in full gear-- that's 1,300 steps for anyone who's counting-- in the Columbia Center building. All the money raised by fire departments from around the country participating goes to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society: <http://www.krem.com/video/featured-videos/Spokane-firefighters-gearing-up-for-Seattle-Stairclimb-competition-84773842.html>

Smoke detectors save lives, it's a message we hear over and over, but the Yakima (WA) Fire Department says not everyone listens. That's why they've created new public service announcements centered around humor, the concept is, having a working smoke detector is like have a firefighter in your home: <http://www.kndo.com/Global/story.asp?S=12008611>

District of Columbia (DCFD) Fire and EMS personnel rescued three children from a burning building: <http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=96718&catid=187>

Cathedral City's (CA) 29 firefighters will contribute 3 percent more from their salaries toward their pensions in a deal their union made to help the city save about \$174,000: <http://www.mydesert.com/article/20100128/NEWS01/1280310/Firefighters++Cathedral+City+strike+pension+deal>

The Hillsboro (OR) Firefighters' Union donates to Brain Tumor Society:

<http://www.kuik.com/Article.asp?id=1674436&spid=>

Saturday, Boise (ID) firefighters hit the steps to fight cancer. Wearing their full firefighting garb, it was one step after another on a stair climber. In front of the Dillard's at the Boise Towne Square Mall, the firefighters climbed steps to raise money for cancer research and patient services:

<http://www.ktvb.com/home/Local-firefighters-hit-the-step-machines-to-raise-money-for-cancer-research-83171287.html>

Eight Navy Region Northwest (WA) firefighters are on a mission to battle blood cancer. Next month they'll travel to Seattle to take part in the Scott Firefighter Stairclimb, a fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society that involves a grueling 69-flight climb: <http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/whidbey/wnt/news/84519597.html>

A Clackamas (OR) Fire District # 1 fire captain helps restore a clinic in Haiti:

http://www.portlandtribune.com/metro_news/story.php?story_id=126634451954041500

The Reno (NV) Firefighters' Community Assistance Program has paid a \$680 veterinary bill for a dachshund named Tango firefighters rescued Thursday from a burning apartment: <http://www.rgj.com/article/20100202/NEWS/100202015>

Fire Department New York (FDNY) Firefighters rescued two people desperately perched on window ledges as fire raged on the top floor of a Harlem brownstone Monday:

http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2010/02/02/2010-02-02_firefighters_rescue_two_people_ready_to_jump_from_burning_harlem_brownstone.html

A behind-the-scenes look at how Central Pierce (WA) Fire and Rescue personnel prepare for the events that could cost them their lives:

<http://www.puyallupherald.com/100/story/4908.html>

Goodyear (AZ) firefighters helped free a dog that got stuck in a mud-filled hole:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/swvalley/articles/2010/02/04/20100204stuck-dog-rescued-goodyear.html>

A few firefighters from Eugene (OR) and Springfield were at Oakway Mall Sunday, climbing a stairmaster to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Firefighters took turns putting on all of their 50 pounds of gear, complete with oxygen tanks, and hopping on the stair master. They each climbed for about 20 minutes, or until their oxygen tanks ran low. Firefighters say it's a great way to stay in shape and raise awareness at the same time: <http://kdrv.com/news/local/161762>

The Goodyear (AZ) and Avondale fire departments will go door to door this month installing smoke alarms for free in older homes and mobile-home parks. The two departments are partnering with the Foundation for Burns and Trauma to distribute dual-sensor smoke alarms to homes in four Avondale trailer parks and Goodyear's historical neighborhood as part of the Smoke Alarm Walk on Feb. 20. The Phoenix-

based foundation is supplying more than 700 alarms for both departments, including 10-year lithium ion batteries for each alarm, worth approximately \$30 each:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2010/02/08/20100208swv-smokealarms0206.html>

The lure of milk chocolate helped Glendale (AZ) firefighters raise more than \$5,600 over the weekend for Haiti relief efforts and various local charities:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/glendale/articles/2010/02/09/20100209gl-firechocolate0209-ON.html>

Ten people -- including a 7-month-old child who was dangled from a fourth-floor window by her terrified cousin -- were plucked from a Bronx apartment inferno in a stunning series of rescues yesterday by the FDNY, authorities said. Firefighters rushed to the high-rise on Pelham Parkway and Wallace Avenue shortly after 2 p.m. to find several people trapped in a smoke-clogged, three-bedroom apartment and many at windows gasping for air:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/bronx/please_catch_my_baby_EYVUWaPlfbqMUbdOksjbVL

Training & Safety Related Items:

Two Phoenix (AZ) firefighters who fell through the roof of a burning home say they owe their lives to their protective gear:

<http://www.azfamily.com/news/local/Firefighters-who-fell-through-roof-of-burning-home-Our-gear-saved-our-lives-82679912.html>

Medical statistics obtained by the Channel 4 I-Team show about 69 current Nashville (TN) firefighters are battling cancer, and a leading researcher wonders if the firefighters' exposure to diesel fumes may be to blame:

<http://www.wsmv.com/iteam/22572024/detail.html>

It took two hours for a Santa Cruz (CA) bomb squad to detonate a pipe bomb that was brought to a Central Fire station on Monday. The device was discovered at about 10 a.m. along the beach near Central Fire Station No. 1 on 17th Avenue and was detonated at about 1 p.m.: <http://www.ksbw.com/news/22571244/detail.html>

A report into the deaths of two Houston firefighters at a house fire stresses the need to perform 360-degree assessments and follow standard fireground tactics at incidents. "There were several factors that, when combined, may have contributed to the deaths of Captain Harlow and Firefighter Hobbs," said the report released Tuesday by the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office. "It is important that we honor them by learning from the incident."

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-attack/articles/759318-Report-outlines-factors-in-Houston-LODDs/>

Bedbugs invade a fire station in Bridgeport (CT):

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/bedbugs-invade-conn-firehouse>

The President Obama Administration releases their Fiscal Year 2011 budget; proposes cuts include the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/official-announcements/755423-Administration-Releases-Fiscal-Year-2011-Budget-Proposes-Cuts-to-Assistance-to-Firefighters-Grant-Program/>

A great article for all firefighters – current and future, relating to fighting structure fires within townhomes: Nearly every department in the United States has some form of multi-family residences in their districts. Fires in townhouses pose a significant challenge from both rescue and fire attack perspectives. Many fires in townhouses are room and contents fires, but it is critical to know how they may impact your own responses and how quickly fire can spread in these types of residences:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-attack/articles/750116-Hazards-at-Townhouse-Fires/>

To go or not to go? That is the question asked by my friend Rich Gasaway – probably the most important question EVERY company officer and chief officers has to make in a very quick time frame – taking into account situational awareness, risk versus benefit, and actual victim survivability. Is it a body recovery or a rescue????

<http://thekitchentable.firerescue1.com/2010/02/to-go-or-not-to-go-that-is-question.html>

Anderson Cooper is never a victim of controversy, but an interior designer is about to change that. The CNN anchor is being sued by Killian O'Brien after she fell through a fire pole hole, falling 17 feet below to the first floor, inside his new home. Cooper is currently converting an old firehouse into a house and the designer is lucky to be alive. This story is included because fire poles are still in existence, and there have been many firefighters injured and even killed due to falling through pole holes while on duty; and a reminder to keep the public away from them while you are performing station tours. These can be very tempting (and dangerous) for all, especially little children: <http://www.newsoxy.com/cooper/decorator-sues-anderson-news-12636.html>

General Fire Service Related Items:

This is something certain law enforcement agencies are already doing - Firefighters in Northamptonshire (England) will no longer automatically turn out to every fire alarm from today. Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service has revealed it is changing the way it works because 98 per cent of the automatic fire alarm callouts it attends are false. The change will not apply to places like homes, hospitals, care homes and high-rise and unoccupied buildings but businesses have been advised firefighters may no longer automatically respond to their automatic fire alarms to ensure they are free to tackle real fires:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/fire-department-management/articles/749179-UK-firefighters-to-stop-answering-automatic-fire-alarms/>

Singing the praises of competition, Henderson (NV) City Council members approved a business license on Tuesday that will allow 3 city employees to launch a new private ambulance service: www.lvrj.com/news/new-ambulance-service-ok_d-83423252.html

Bremerton's (WA) firefighters are voting this week on which neighboring fire district — South Kitsap or Central Kitsap — they would prefer to consolidate with. All three fire agencies began an effort to establish a regional fire authority in 2007, with the goal of saving taxpayer money by ending duplicate services and pooling resources:
<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2010/jan/26/bremerton-firefighters-weigh-in-on-proposed-with/>

Responders cope as the Washington D.C. area as well as the east coast digs out from the snow. With many side streets and roads blocked by huge snow drifts, crews often have to walk blocks:
<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/responders-cope-blizzard-strengthens>

A federal gift to help build two Mesa fire stations has come wrapped in so much red tape that Mesa might just send some of the money back. Mesa clicked its heels in September when it announced the \$4 million grant from the Homeland Security Administration - part of the \$787 billion stimulus program passed a year ago:
<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2010/02/17/20100217mesa-fire-stations-meet-red-tape-mr.html>

Requiring all existing multifamily homes to install automatic fire sprinkler systems would go a long way toward helping Boulder's (CO) fire department meet national standards for efficiency, Fire Chief Larry Donner told the City Council on Tuesday night. That's one of the ideas tossed out Tuesday night when the City Council met with Donner for a study session about a draft Fire Master Plan, a document that outlines the goals and funding issues that will drive the department's operations for years to come. Donner told the council that the department isn't meeting national standards for arriving at the scene of emergency calls, and that the city's growth, increased traffic and lack of funding for the fire department are all contributing factors:
http://www.dailycamera.com/ci_14369881?source=most_viewed

University Place (WA) and Lakewood fire officials say merging the two districts makes financial sense: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/story/1056148.html>

The Baltimore County (MD) fire department lost a \$600,000 engine, among other items, in an overnight fire at one of its fire stations:
<http://www.wbaltv.com/news/22519090/detail.html>

Super Bowl + Mardi Gras Equals Big Challenges: New Orleans' first responders (fire, police, EMS) are used to parties, but Superbowl Sunday was unlike any other:
<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/super-bowl-mardi-gras-big-challenges>

It's a lengthy road ahead but the Eugene (OR) and Springfield Fire Departments are closer to their ultimate goal of becoming one agency. Both fire chiefs say they're entering the next phase to become a more efficient and effective operation:
<http://kezi.com/page/162605>

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

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

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