

FIRE & EMS NEWS

October 2004

Volume 3 – Issue 4

Welcome to the latest issue of the Fire & EMS News! My goal is to provide you with information about your Chabot College Fire Technology Program, the local Fire Departments, in addition to other information that might be beneficial to you in your pursuit of better preparing yourself for the career of your dreams! Some of the highlights of this issue include:

- Thanks to Fire Chief Jim Christansen and the City of Alameda Fire Department for donating a fire engine to the college for future use in our fire technology program!
- Volunteer opportunity – Fremont Fire Department is hosting a WMD drill
- Volunteers needed around the Bay Area – EMS classes
- FREE Firefighter Oral Interview Seminar with Captain Bob on October 24, 2004!
- FREE Firefighter Preparation Seminars with Captain Greg Vitz of the Stockton Fire Department
- Paramedic school entrance exams – classes being held around Northern California!
- Firefighter employment opportunity – Woodland Fire Department

THANK YOU CHIEF CHRISTIANSEN, & THE CITY OF ALAMEDA
FIRE DEPARTMENT!.....

For donating one of your reserve fire engines to Chabot College, we really appreciate it! [The City of Alameda Fire Department](#) was in the process of purchasing a replacement fire engine for their fleet, and had a reserve fire engine that was going to be disposed of. Captain Bob Buell of the [City of Alameda Fire Department](#) (as well as an adjunct faculty member at Chabot in our fire technology program) advised me of this excellent opportunity when it became available late last year, and we took advantage of it. Presently we are storing it at Chabot College with hopes for future assignment as either a classroom training prop and/or an apparatus for our firefighter 1 academy. Pictured below is the engine:



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Fremont Fire Department WMD Drill:

City of Fremont

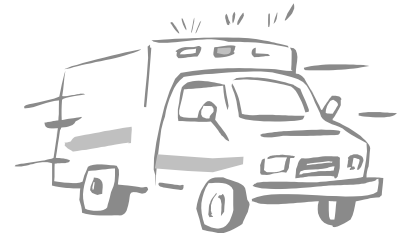
BIOTERRORISM RESPONSE EXERCISE:



What's in it for you?
Participate in Mass Prophylaxis Exercise:



Serve your community
Learn
Build your Resume
Get Some Experience
Have Fun



Place: Fremont Teen Center, 39770 Paseo Padre Parkway

Date: **October 19, 2004**

Time: 0800-1400 hours

What to Wear:

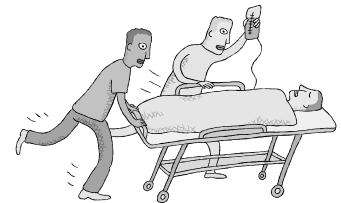
Comfortable clothing. Some actors will undergo moulage and be made up with stage makeup to simulate illness.

What You Will Need:

Nothing; Food, Training, and Certificates will be provided

How to Sign Up:

Please contact Division Chief Vic Valdes at (510) 494-4295 or email at vvaldes@ci.fremont.ca.us



Important:

This is a multi agency (cities, county, state) event. ***If you sign up, show up***

Directions:

Exit Hwy 880 in Fremont at the Stevenson Blvd. Exit.
Go East (toward the Fremont hills) on Stevenson Blvd.
Turn Right (south) on Paseo Padre Pkwy.
Turn Left on Sailway Drive, proceed to the Fremont Teen Center at 39770
Paseo Padre Parkway.

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

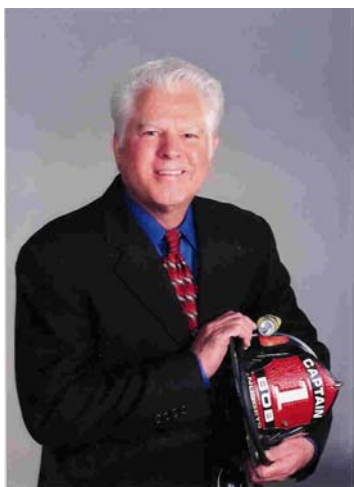
Dates / Locations / Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wednesday October 13 from 0700 to 0930 hours- Thursday October 14 from 1230 to 1730 hours- Wednesday November 17 from 0700 to 0930 hours- Thursday November 18 from 1230 to 1730 hours- Tuesday December 14 from 0700 to 0930 hours- Wednesday December 15 from 1230 to 1730 hours <p>NOTE: All of the above classes will be held at the Bay Model in Sausalito</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 and your choice of an SFPA rescue key chain or ALS field guide.
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.
Contact person(s):	Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or email them at director@sfparamedics.org or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sfparamedics.org/volunteer.htm

Advanced Medical Life Support Classes - Volunteers Needed

Dates / Locations / Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Monday November 1 from 1230 to 1700 hours- Tuesday November 2 from 1030 to 1630 hours <p>Both of the above classes will be held at the <u>San Jose Fire Department</u></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Thursday November 11 from 1230 to 1700 hours- Friday November 12 from 1030 to 1630 hours <p>Both of the above classes will be held at the <u>San Francisco Paramedic Association.</u></p>
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You will receive:	Valuable experience watching paramedic level (or higher) students perform patient assessments. Learn from their pluses and minuses. You will also receive a free San Francisco Paramedic Association t-shirt and your choice of an SFPA rescue key chain or ALS field guide.
Your role:	As a volunteer, you will be 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.
Contact person(s):	Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) , register via email at director@sfparamedics.org or register and see more information on their website at www.sfparamedics.org/volunteer.htm

WHAT IS KEEPING YOU FROM GETTING YOUR FIREFIGHTER BADGE?



On Sunday October 24, from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm, “Captain Bob” Smith will be providing a **FREE** Oral Interview seminar. This will occur at **Chabot College** in **room 916**. Captain Bob is a retired Captain from the Hayward Fire Department who has been on numerous interview panels and has helped countless candidates obtain their badges.

He will provide you with tips on how to better prepare yourself for the oral interviews you will be taking or have already taken and not done as well as you possibly could have on. Remember that the oral interview is probably the **MOST** important phase of the firefighter hiring process since most fire departments score this portion 100% of your total score.

Register early – seats will fill up fast!

Why should you attend? To learn step by step, everything you need to know in the process, starting with the application, written, physical, oral interview, psych interview, background, polygraph, and medical to gain a badge. You will find the inside “Nuggets”, tips and resources you can’t get anywhere else to shorten the learning curve and the distance between you and that badge. This is information that has helped over 2100 candidates nail their badges!

For more information about Captain Bob, visit his website at www.eatstress.com He has numerous free tips and suggestions to score better on the oral interview. To register for this unique and excellent

opportunity, email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and let me know how many people plan to attend. Hurry, seats are limited!

Oral interviews are the toughest thing for most people (going for jobs in any line of work, not just the fire department). Why not take this free opportunity to learn at least one new thing? If you learn something that even just raises your score by 1%, it was worth your time to attend!

THIS MONTH'S TESTING TIPS

- Keep copies of everything you submit to a fire department (application, resume, etc.) as well as every piece of information you obtain about a fire department you are testing for (annual report, website information, department/city statistics, job flyer, etc.). Trust me, they will come in handy at some point. Create a file folder system for each department you test for.
- Make a goal for yourself to be updating your resume at least once a month. That means you must be doing something worth updating your resume. Some of the things you can do that will merit updating your resume include:
 - a. More volunteer experience hours completed (you are volunteering your time doing something, aren't you? – if not, what are you waiting for?)
 - b. Another certification class completed
 - c. An additional experience or skill you have acquired
- On the subject of resumes, remember to **KEEP THEM TO ONE (1) PAGE!**

MORE FREE FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION SEMINARS!

Become a better firefighter candidate!

*****You are invited to attend four FREE seminars to help learn how to better prepare yourself to become a firefighter!*****

DATES:

**Tuesday October 5, 2004 and
Tuesday October 26, 2004 and
Tuesday November 30, 2004**

(You are invited to attend one night, two nights, or all nights - each night will be different).

- TOPICS:**
- October 5** - Written Examination Preparation
 - Test taking strategies
 - Resources to improve your scores
 - Mechanical ability / aptitude information
 - Physical Ability Preparation
 - How to properly prepare yourself
 - Overview of the CPAT
 - October 26** - Oral Interview related information
 - Typical types of questions asked in an oral
 - How to properly prepare yourself
 - Do's and don'ts
 - What the oral board is looking for
 - Paramedic school preparation and overview
 - Surviving the probationary period
 - November 30** - Firefighter Background Investigation Process
 - How to prepare for your background
 - Items that will eliminate you from the process
 - Documentation / information required

NOTE: Topics listed above subject to change.

TIME: 6 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. each night

LOCATION: Chabot College: Room 1908 (In building 1900)
25555 Hesperian Boulevard
Hayward, CA 94545

INSTRUCTOR(S): Greg Vitz – Captain / Paramedic with the Stockton Fire Department (October 5 and 26 seminars) and a past graduate of the Chabot College Fire Technology program (including the EMT program and the Firefighter 1 academy).

Steve Prziborowski - Fire Technology Coordinator at Chabot College and a Captain with the Santa Clara County Fire Department (November 30 seminar)

**REGISTRATION /
MORE INFO:**

Registration is not necessary – just show up! If you require additional information, email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu or if you do not have internet access, you can leave a message at (510) 723-6851. Thank you for your assistance; look forward to seeing you there!

For directions to Chabot College, [CLICK HERE](#).

Please visit the Chabot College Fire Technology website at www.chabotfire.com for more information on becoming a firefighter.

PARAMEDIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INFORMATION –Northern California Training Institute (Livermore, Roseville, Santa Barbara, Emeryville, and South Bay locations)

Northern California Training Institute (NCTI) is holding pre-entrance examinations for their upcoming Paramedic classes in:

- **Livermore** - courses to be held on *Tuesdays and Fridays*
- **Roseville** - courses to be held on *Tuesdays and Fridays*
- **Santa Barbara** - courses to be held on *Tuesdays and Fridays*
- **Emeryville** – courses to be held on *Wednesdays and Saturdays*
- **South Bay (San Jose area)** – courses to be held on *days TBA*

Here is more information I downloaded from their website:

NCTI holds the HOBET entrance exam for all paramedic program placements. NO late arrivals are allowed at the exam. Please make arrangements to arrive early. All application information is accessible from the NCTI homepage at www.ncti-online.com – ***Please return all materials prior to the test date!***

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course fulfills all of the training requirements set forth by the State of California for Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be eligible to take the National Registry Exam which NCTI hosts throughout the year at our Roseville Campus. This certification can lead to employment in a wide range of fields, to include ambulance or fire paramedic, E.R. technician, special functions paramedic, sporting events, concerts, etc. NCTI is owned by American Medical Response, Inc. (AMR) and direct employment referrals are a benefit reserved for NCTI students.

TO QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION APPLICANTS MUST:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have a high school diploma or GED certificate
- Complete an approved Anatomy and Physiology course within the last 5 years
- Possess a current CPR card and a current EMT-1 or EMT II certification
- Applicants whose certification expires less than twelve (12) months prior to the enrollment date are also eligible

SCHEDULE OF TRAINING

PHASE I - (Didactic & Lab)

400 Hours (approx. 6 months)

Course days and times will be announced at a later date.

PHASE II - (Clinical Rotations)

160 Hours (approx. 2 months)

individually, as arranged for each student, at one of several acute care hospitals in the area.

Guaranteed placement by NCTI.

PHASE III - (Field Internships)

480-720 Hours (approx. 4 months)

Depending on experience and performance individually, as arranged for each student. ***Guaranteed placement by NCTI. (This is a key selling point when shopping around for paramedic schools!)***

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

General knowledge of first aid and the ability to handles stressful situations and/or prior experience as an EMT with an ambulance or fire service provider agency.

ADMISSION TESTING

\$50.00 entrance exam fee (non-refundable / non-transferable)

COURSE FINANCING

Tuition may be paid by check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover.

TESTING DATES & TIMES

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in the South Bay (San Jose area), CA, and the examination dates are as follows:

- Wednesday November 17, 2004 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom
- Thursday November 18, 2004 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Livermore, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Wednesday March 2, 2005 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom
- Wednesday March 9, 2005 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Roseville, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Wednesday November 3, 2004 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday November 10, 2004 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday February 2, 2005 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday February 9, 2005 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Emeryville, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Wednesday January 5, 2005 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom
- Thursday January 12, 2005 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Santa Barbara, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Wednesday February 16, 2005 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Santa Barbara EMS Agency
- Thursday February 17, 2005 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Santa Barbara EMS Agency

FOR MORE INFORMATION - Visit their website at www.ncti-online.com – also, for links to those above tests and classes, [CLICK HERE](#).

This is not meant to be an endorsement or recommendation of their program. It is listed as a service and a resource for you to evaluate and determine on your own.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – **Woodland Fire Department**

Final Filing Date: **October 8, 2004**

The City of Woodland invites your Application for Firefighter

Salary: **\$3297 - \$4008 mo. FT w/benefits**

THE POSITION

To respond to fire alarms, medical emergency, and other emergency activities in the protection of life and property; and to participate in fire prevention, training and station and equipment maintenance activities.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Respond to fire alarms with assigned company; lay and connect hose lines; hold nozzles and direct water streams; raise and climb ladders. Provide basic life support during medical incidents, assessing and initiating patient care until relieved by proper medical personnel. Operate all types of portable fire extinguishers, hand tools, hose lines, power tools and appliances, salvage covers, forcible entry tools, emergency medical equipment and other rescue equipment. Participate in fire drills; serve as instructor as assigned; attends training sessions. Maintain regular and consistent attendance. Promote and maintain safety in the work place. Work cooperatively with others. Shut down natural gas and electrical services to structures. Respond to hazardous materials incidents. Participate in fire inspection activities and other fire prevention and public education activities as assigned; ensure that businesses are operating in compliance with the fire code. Participate in the Fire Prevention Program providing various public relations services, including facility tours, public education seminars and other public events. Respond to inquiries from the public. Assist in investigating fire origin and cause. May be requested to respond to fire calls during non-duty hours. Control traffic. Participate as member of County HazMat team. Inventory supplies; maintain records. Can serve as "acting positions" when certified. Clean station quarters and equipment and maintain a clean and orderly condition in and about the firehouse; perform minor building maintenance. Operate radio-telephone equipment. Assist in overhaul and salvage operations. Perform related duties as assigned. Test and maintain fire hoses and hydrants.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Any combination of education and experience that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Education: High school diploma or equivalent. College-level coursework in fire science, general management, or related field desirable.

Experience: Any experience that would likely provide the required ability is qualifying; fire fighting experience is desirable

Licenses or Certificates: Possession of a valid California Driver's License

Other Requirements / Conditions of Employment:

During the Probationary Period: Complete the Fire Service Basic Training Academy; complete the Woodland Fire Department Probationary Firefighter Program; acquire a California State Firefighter I Certificate; acquire an Emergency Medical Technician I Certificate (EMT - D); acquire a California Class B Driver's License (Firefighter restriction is satisfactory).

APPLICATION:

Apply with a City of Woodland application to the Human Resources Office, City Hall, 300 First Street, Woodland, CA 95695 by **3:00 p.m., Friday, October 8, 2004**. Résumés and cover letters are encouraged but will not be accepted in lieu of the application form. Postmarks will not be accepted.

Review Process:

Based on the information provided in the application documents, the best qualified applicants will be invited for further examination. All applicants meeting the minimum qualifications are not guaranteed advancement through any subsequent phase of the examination. Depending upon the number of applications received, the examination may consist of an application screening, written and/or practical exam, oral interview or any combination thereof. Persons claiming eligibility for veterans' preference must submit a copy of Form DD214 by the final filing date of the recruitment.

Applicants will be required to take and pass a medical examination by a City of Woodland physician to insure their physical suitability to perform the assigned duties. If you have a disability that requires accommodation during the selection process, please notify Human Resources at least seven days prior to the event.

The written test is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, November 3rd and Thursday, November 4th, 2004**. The Physical agility test is tentatively scheduled for **Thursday, November 18th and Friday, November 19th, 2004**. All applicants will be notified of their status via the mail.

BENEFITS

- Retirement:** PERS 3% at 50 Plan, employee contributes 4% of salary.
(City pays employee contribution to PERS up to 9% of salary).
The City does not participate in social security.
- Medical:** CalPERS Medical Insurance Plans.
- Dental/Vision:** City paid Delta Dental and Medical Eye Services.
- LTD:** Wage protection plan for long-term disabilities.
- Life Insurance:** City provides a \$30,000 life insurance policy.
- Vacation:** 10 hours per month during first three years of service.
- Holidays:** Paid for 134.4 hours per year in lieu of holiday's payable at the rate of 11.2 hours per month.
- Sick Leave:** 12 hours per month.

For more information about the City of Woodland Fire Department, visit their website at <http://www.cityofwoodland.org/fire/>

For more information about the City of Woodland, visit their website at <http://www.ci.woodland.ca.us>

CLOSING COMMENTS

I hope you have found this newsletter somewhat valuable. If you have learned one new thing, then I think I've done my job. I truly want to see everyone succeed, and I also really enjoy doing what I do. This program is your program. It can only get better with your assistance. There is an old saying, don't just give me problems – give me solutions! I can't read your minds, so please provide me with feedback. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or want me to clarify any rumors you might have heard. Thank you very much!

Steve Prziborowski, Fire Technology Coordinator - Chabot College

Office: 510-723-6851, Building 1500, Room 1556

Cellular: 408-205-9006

Fax: 510-782-9315

Email: sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu

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

Chabot College website: www.chabotcollege.edu

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

The Fine Print:

- If you would like to be added to our mailing list (no, I won't give your email address out to others), email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and I will add you to the list. Benefits of being on the mailing list include being notified when the latest Fire & EMS news is published, and being notified of firefighter testing opportunities, volunteer opportunities, or training opportunities.
- If you know of someone who wants to receive this newsletter (as well as other updates) email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and I will place them on the mailing list.
- If you want to take your name off of the mailing list, just send me an email at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and in the subject heading, and type in "unsubscribe from mailing list" and I will remove your name.