



FIRE & EMS NEWS

October 2, 2009

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.

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

2009 National Fallen Firefighters Candlelight and Memorial Services to be Broadcast Live October 3rd and 4th

Emmitsburg, MD – The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the United States Fire Administration announced today that two of the major events taking place during the 2009 Memorial Weekend (October 3-4, 2009) will be available live via satellite and Internet, for easy viewing. The URL for this broadcast is <http://mfile.akamai.com/22330/live/reflector:40154.asx?bkup=37484>. The broadcast is in the public domain and can be recorded for repurposing as desired. The fire service is encouraged to let their local media outlets know the availability of the broadcast.

In addition, the satellite coordinates for the National Candlelight Service (October 3) and the Memorial Service (October 4) are provided below. The Memorial Weekend will honor 103 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2008, and 19 firefighters who died in previous years.

The **National Candlelight Service** will feature musical selections by members of the fire service and survivors of fallen firefighters and a video tribute to 2008 fallen firefighters. Families of fallen firefighters will light luminary candles for each fallen firefighter. Luminaria decorated by the children attending Family Day will be displayed during the ceremony. As the ceremony closes, survivors of firefighters lost in previous years will light the remembrance candles, a symbol of the hope and enduring friendship shared by all who have lost a firefighter.

The **Memorial Service** will remember America's firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2008. Thousands of people are expected to attend and celebrate the lives of these firefighters. The ceremony will begin with an honor guard procession. Families receive American flags flown over the United States Capitol and the Emmitsburg monument. The

tribute will conclude with the unveiling of the memorial plaque listing the names of the 2008 fallen firefighters and those honored from earlier years.

2009 National Fallen Firefighters Candlelight Service

Saturday, October 3, 2009 6:15 pm - 7:30 pm (EST)

Satellite feed begins at 5:30 pm (EST)

2009 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service

Sunday, October 4, 2009 9:30am - 12:30pm (EST)

Satellite feed begins at 9:00am (EST)

This year, you can view both major Memorial Weekend events live via satellite and Internet.

The Foundation will broadcast both the National Candlelight Service and the National Memorial Service. We encourage you to contact your local cable provider and ask them to broadcast these Services on one of the public access channels.

Both the National Candlelight and Memorial Services are free to air broadcasts and are available on C-Band and Digital KU-Band Satellite.

The receive specifications are as follows:

C-Band

Satellite: New Skies 319.5 Degrees East (806)
Transponder: 14A/14A
Uplink Frequency: 6205.5 MHz
Downlink Frequency: 3980.5 MHz
FEC: 3/4
Symbol Rate: 17.8 MSym/s
Typical L-band Frequency: 1169.5 MHz
Downlink Polarization: RHC
Network ID: 2
Video Format: NTSC/PAL
C-Band Technical Trouble # PREPnet 800-500-5164

Digital KU-Band

Digital KU Satellite- AMC 5-K8H Ch. A
Uplink Frequency: 14212.50 V
Downlink Frequency: 11912.50 H
FEC 3/4
Symbol Rate: 6.1113
Data Rate: 8.448
4:2:0 compression rate
KU-Band Tech Trouble # - PREPnet 800-500-5164

All broadcast materials are in the public domain and are available for repurposing and use. If there are questions or problems with the connection, contact Jeff Elliott at 202-257-3035 at the USFA's PREPnet studios.

October 2, 2009

www.chabotfire.com

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

Registration for the 2009 Fresno Training Officers Symposium is now open!!!

- The Fresno Symposium is being co-sponsored by the Northern California Training Officers Association and the Southern California Training Officers Associations.
- This year's [Fresno Training Officers Symposium](#) will be held **Monday November 16, 2009** through **Friday November 20, 2009** in Fresno, California!

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

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

- Fire Command 1C - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- S-230/231 (Crew/Engine Boss) - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- S-430 (Operations Section Chief – All Risk) - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Fire Management 2C - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Rescue Systems 1 - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Low Angle Rope Rescue -*(CSFM certificate class)*
- Trench Rescue Technician - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Regional Instructor Orientation - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Ethical Leadership in the Classroom - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Auto Extrication - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Emergency Response to Alternative Fuels Vehicles - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Fire Control 3A and 3B – Train-the-trainer - *(CSFM certificate class)*
- Truck Academy – Commercial Ventilation Practices
- Truck Academy – RIC Operations
- Truck Academy – Forcible Entry Operations
- Thermal Imaging Camera
- Fireground Search Operations for Big Box, Multi-Story and High-Rise Occupancies
- Read and React: Calling the Mayday
- The Lost Art of the First Line
- The Art of Reading Smoke
- The Fireline Mind
- Improving Safety Officer Effectiveness
- “A Time to Share” – Recent California Near Miss Discussion
- Red Flags for Operational Conditions
- Strategy and Tactics – Situational Awareness
- NIOSH
- Calm the Chaos! Secrets to Mastering Fireground Command
- Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center

- Fire Officer Survival
- Company & Command Cohesion
- PowerPoint Basics and Advanced
- Building Construction for Today's Fire Service.
- Maximizing the use of your Strike Team
- Preventing Command Dysfunction
- Suicide by Ego...A leadership guide to avoiding incident and career casualties
- 50 Ways to Kill your Brother & The Fire Service Perfect Storm
- Company Officer Development Academy
- Executive Leadership Institute: The Fire Chief
- Conflict Resolution & the Discipline Process.
- Real Leadership is not for Wimps!
- First-due: Mission Focused Tactics for First-Due Officers
- Professional Promotional Workshop
- Enhancing AFG Grant Writing Skills / Training Mandates for the Fire Service
- Realistic and Relevant Training that fits your budget: Drill ground props, training evolutions, classroom computer simulations and training DVD production
- And many more - see the website for more details.

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

Application Period to Open

- Fiscal Year 2009 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants

The Department of Homeland Security has posted the FY2009 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grants Program Guidance on the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) Program Website. The application period is scheduled to begin on September 21, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). Applications for these grants must be received by October 23, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

FP&S grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and fire-related hazards. The grants are competitive, and their primary goal is to target high-risk populations. Grant awards are made in order to mitigate high incidences of death and injury and to carry out research for improving firefighter safety. Examples of the types of fire prevention projects that are supported by FP&S include smoke alarm installation, fire prevention and public safety education campaigns, juvenile fire setter interventions, media campaigns, and arson prevention and awareness programs. Organizations that are eligible to apply under the research activity should consult the Program Guidance for detailed information on priorities and areas of emphasis.

An applicant tutorial for the fire prevention activity will be available through the www.firegrantsupport.com Website. The tutorial provides you with valuable grant information and will walk you through the preparation and submittal of competitive applications. In addition, the applicant tutorial will provide an overview of the fire prevention funding priorities and evaluation criteria. Applicants who have questions regarding the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants opportunity should contact the help desk as soon as possible at 1-866-274-0960 or at firegrants@dhs.gov. During the application period, the help desk will operate Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EST), but is prepared to revise hours of operation based on volume, demand, holidays and urgency to complete the FP&S Grants application period and processing for FY09.

The AFG Program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration. FY09 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants Program Guidance – visit www.firegrantsupport.com/fps/guidance/

FY09 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants FAQs – visit www.firegrantsupport.com/fps/faq/09/

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

Firenuggets.com

PRESENTS

Deputy Chief Mike Bryant

Los Angeles County Fire Department

“COMMAND AND CONTROL”

- December 3 *and* 4, 2009 - 09:00 -16:00 each day -

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:

Petaluma Community Center
320 North McDowell Blvd.
Petaluma, 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.

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



Cooking is the leading cause of residential structure fires and injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading factor contributing to cooking-related fires. For these reasons and many others, the theme for **Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2009** is *Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned!* In addition to cooking fires, a special emphasis is placed on burn awareness and prevention and keeping homes fire safe.

For tips you can follow to stay fire smart, visit this month's [Focus on Fire Safety](#) on the USFA's Web site.

FIRE SERVICE WEBSITE RESOURCE:

Visit www.californiafirefighter.com for your statewide source for media, training and networking. California Firefighters is a **free** site dedicated to you for discussion and information sharing. Thank you!

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:

Las Vegas (NV) Fire & Rescue 2010 Firefighter Recruitment Information

- [The following information was taken from the City of Las Vegas website:](#)

Welcome and thank you for taking the time to consider Las Vegas Fire & Rescue as a career opportunity. We share your enthusiasm for the fire service. Built on tradition and dedicated to public service, our department contributes significantly to the quality of life and safety of our citizens. Given the amount of trust the public places on our profession, we always strive to hire the most suitable individuals as firefighters. We are committed to selecting the most prepared and competent individuals who will bring *pride* to our profession, *strength* to our department, and *quality* service to our community.

In seeking top candidates, Las Vegas Fire & Rescue has developed a specialized and highly competitive recruitment process. We have addressed some of the most frequently asked questions about our recruitment process below.

When will you be accepting firefighter applications?

The Las Vegas Fire & Rescue offers a testing opportunity every two years, from which a list of prospective candidates is created and utilized for a two-year period. We will be accepting applications for firefighter trainee beginning **8:00 a.m. on September 28, 2009**. The filing deadline for Firefighter Trainee applications is **4:30 p.m. on October 16, 2009**.

Where can I pick up an application?

You can pick up an application in person, or you can download an application off of their website - www.lasvegasnevada.gov. Human Resources is located on the 2nd floor of City Hall, 400 Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada on the corner of Stewart Avenue and Las Vegas Boulevard. **Please note that we only accept applications for Firefighter Trainee during the open recruitment period (see FAQ above).**

How will I send in my application?

If you live in the local area you MUST deliver your application to Human Resources in person. Applicants who live outside of the local area may mail their application to City of Las

Vegas, Human Resources, 400 Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89101. Due to the large number of application received, we do not accept faxed applications for Firefighter Trainee. **Your application must be received and time stamped by Human Resources within the application period. We do not use post marked dates in determining whether an application is timely.**

What are the minimum qualifications on the date of application?

- High School Diploma or GED
- Current Valid Driver's License
- Must be 18 years old.

Are there any other requirements?

Yes. On the date of conditional job offer a candidate must have an EMT-Basic certification and must meet current physical condition requirements. You do not have to meet these requirements on the date of application.

Does that have to be a Nevada EMT-Basic certification?

No. Your EMT-Basic certification can be from any state. National Registry certification is also acceptable. Please note that any certification must be current and valid at the time of conditional job offer.

What is your testing process?

Those candidates that meet the minimum requirements are scheduled for a Written Examination. Those applicants who score 90% or better on the written examination are scheduled for the Candidate Physical Ability Test – CPAT. This is a pass/fail test. The links below provide more information about this test.

When will you give the written exam for this recruitment?

The written exam will be held on **January 12, 2010** at the Texas Station Convention Center located at:

2101 Texas Star Lane - North Las Vegas, NV 89032 - (702) 631-1000

Can the written examination be taken at another time?

No. All applicants must take the written examination as scheduled or wait until the next recruitment period.

How do I study for the written exam?

You can download the Fire & Police Selection, Inc. (FPSI) study guide on their website - www.lasvegasnevada.gov. This is the only study guide we recommend.

What other information should I know about the written exam?

- There is a fifteen-dollar (\$15) administrative fee required at the time of the written exam (exact amount in CASH only).
- The written exam process is estimated to last approximately three (3) hours.
- You will receive your appointment time for the written exam by mail.
- No adjustments will be made to accommodate candidates exam dates and times.

When will you give the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT)? Spring 2010.

I recently passed the CPAT with another agency. May I use my passing score on the CPAT to avoid taking the CPAT with the City of Las Vegas?

In lieu of taking the Candidate Physical Ability Test with the city of Las Vegas, the city of Las Vegas will accept a "Card of Completion" from the (CFFJAC) CPAT Center dated no earlier than **September 28, 2009**. We do not recognize any other CPAT completion cards or letters.

Is there more testing involved after the written exam and the CPAT?

Yes. Candidates who pass the physical ability examination will move to the second phase of testing which is completed over a 4 – 5 month period. Candidates should note that these events are not pre-scheduled and candidates typically receive approximately 2 weeks, or less, notice of each event. The candidate's personal schedule must be flexible during this phase. The department will select from the most qualified candidates during this period and make conditional job offers. Those candidates not selected initially, will remain on the list and may be considered for any future openings during the two year period. The testing for this second phase may consist of:

- Oral Interview
- Criminal & Personal Background Check
- Suitability Assessment
- Medical Exam (upon conditional job offer)

I do not live in Las Vegas. May I still apply?

Yes. Please note, however, that the selection process involves many steps. Out-of-state applicants should plan on at least 3 trips to Las Vegas to complete the entire process. All travel is at the applicant's own expense.

I am already a firefighter. Do I have to take the written exam?

Yes. We do not have any lateral positions for firefighter. You will have to complete the entire testing process and complete the academy if selected.

Is there a maximum age limit for applicants?

No, but you do have to be 18 years of age to apply.

Do I have to be a US citizen to apply?

No. However, you must have the legal right to work in the United States.

How many firefighters will you hire in the next recruitment period?

The exact count is unknown. The number of people hired varies from year to year, depending on the number of employees retiring, employee turnover, and the number of new stations opened.

What is the salary for firefighter trainee?

The monthly salary for firefighter trainee while in the academy is approximately \$3,593. The monthly salary for firefighter is approximately \$4,178.

How long is the firefighter trainee academy?

The academy is approximately 16 weeks in length.

EMT-Basic Training

The city of Las Vegas does not provide Emergency Medical Technician – Basic training, nor do we endorse any training by any specific organization. As a courtesy, we are aware of three community organizations that provide this training and have provided their contact information below. You must contact the organization directly for further information.

American Medical Response
www.ncti-online.com (click on Las Vegas)

College of Southern Nevada
www.ccsn.edu/health (click on Emergency Medical Technician)

EMS Training Center of Southern Nevada
www.emstrainingcenter.com
(702) 651-9111

Who can I contact for adult training assistance?

The Las Vegas Clark County Library District offers Adult Reading Tutoring individually or in a group setting. For more information contact Sebastian Gonzalez, Computer Assisted Literacy in Libraries (C.A.L.L.) Program Coordinator at (702) 507-3532 or visit www.lvcclld.org/cardsservices/call.cfm.

For more information about the City of Las Vegas, the Las Vegas Fire-Rescue Department, and the testing process, go to their website at: <http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov>

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

A Message from the U.S. Fire Administrator about Smoking Related Fire Fatalities and Fire-Safe Cigarettes

Smoking is the leading cause of home fire fatalities in the United States despite the fact that the numbers of smokers continue to decline. The victims of the fires are not only the smokers but their children, spouses or partners, and even neighbors or friends. The United States Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Data Center reported 2007 estimates for residential fires related to smoking-materials:

- **18,900** Residential Fires
- **595** Residential Fire Deaths
- **1,200** Residential Fire Injuries
- **\$327** Million in Residential Property Loss

A promising effort to diminish the loss of life and property caused by smoking-material fires is the development of the fire-safe cigarette. Technically referred to as reduced ignition propensity cigarettes, they are designed to reduce the probability of a cigarette burning

through its wrapper (paper). This minimizes the risk of the cigarette igniting materials if it is accidentally dropped or left on a flammable or combustible surface. Behaviors associated with smoking-material fires, such as falling asleep, impairments from alcohol or drug use, and age emphasize the importance of fire-safe cigarettes.

New York was the first state to adopt fire-safe cigarette legislation in 2004. As of August 31, 2009, an additional twenty-nine states, plus the District of Columbia, require any cigarettes being sold to meet the fire-safe standard. New York reports an estimated 33% reduction in fire fatalities due to smoking-material fires since they started collecting the data. However, it is still too early to see a statistical trend in all states that have adopted the legislation.

The National Fire Protection Association coordinates a fire-safe cigarette support group, the Coalition for Fire-Safe Cigarettes, www.firesafecigarettes.org. Their effort calls for tobacco manufacturers to produce and market only fire-safe cigarettes.

The USFA joins with its national partners to encourage every member of the fire service to support local, state, and Federal initiatives to replace traditional cigarettes with fire-safe cigarettes.

Kelvin J. Cochran
Assistant Administrator
U. S. Fire Administration

PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION COURSE:

Class size is limited, so register early!

How To Excel At Fire Service Promotional Exams!

Upcoming Classes Include:

- San Ramon, CA – October 6, 7 & 8, 2009

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- *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!*

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

TOPICS TO BE COVERED INCLUDE:

- 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: Structure fires (residential, high-rise, commercial, apartment, etc.), Wildland fires, Mass-Casualty Incidents, & Haz Mat Incidents.

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:

| San Ramon, CA | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Dates: | Tuesday October 6, Wednesday October 7 <u>and</u> Thursday October 8, 2009 |
| Location: | San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District Administration Classroom 1500 Bollinger Canyon Road. San Ramon, CA 94583 (Park on Bollinger, <u>not</u> in parking lot) |
| Time of class: | 0900 to 1700 hours each day |
| Cost: | \$330.00 for the three-day session |

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa is looking for a Fire Chief!

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Annual salary range: \$98,654 – \$135,657

- Can you meet the challenge of managing one of the most progressive Fire Departments in the Midwest?
- Are you interested in leading a high performing team?
- Are you innovative and adaptable enough to serve the needs of a diverse community?

If so the City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa is interested in hearing from you!

We are currently recruiting for a highly motivated, professional Fire Chief. The Chief is responsible for planning and directing the long-term programs and activities of the Fire Department and directing the department toward the employee created mission statement "...to mitigate threats to the health and property of our community through emergency response, quality education and prevention programs".

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate strong communication, bridge-building and team management skills. He/She will have a history as an efficient and responsible steward of taxpayer funds and experience with developing performance measurements.

Minimum criteria for consideration:

- Currently hold the rank of Captain or higher
- 15 years of continuous full-time, paid service in any fire department
- BA from an accredited educational institute in fire science, business or public administration, or a related field
- Valid Iowa drivers' license at time of hire

Preferred criteria:

- Experience in a City with a population greater than or equal to 50,000
- Experience with high risk environments (high volume freight of hazardous materials or manufacturing of such materials within city limits).
- Supervision of greater than or equal to 100 firefighters

Details on qualifications and job duties for this position can be found at our website: <http://www.cedar-rapids.org/hr>.

To learn more about our Fire Department and the services they offer visit: <http://www.cedar-rapids.org/fire/index.asp>

Not sure about living and working in Cedar Rapids?

Cedar Rapids is the second largest city in Iowa, which translates to a stimulating work environment that offers room to grow and develop professionally. The City of Cedar Rapids offers a supervisory training curriculum and professional development courses throughout the year.

Cedar Rapids is the kind of community where *you* belong.

- Low cost of living (purchasing a home costs 40% less than the national average)
- Low property and violent crime rates
- Short commute times
- Nationally recognized healthcare system (Institute for Healthcare Improvement)
- Nationally recognized school systems

We offer a generous benefits package that includes: free employee dental care and low cost family dental care, low cost health and prescription coverage, flexible benefits plans, 11 paid holidays, a comprehensive wellness program with free annual screenings for you and your spouse, deferred compensation, flexible leave, tuition reimbursement, and a municipal fire and police retirement (for details on the retirement package visit: <http://www.mfprsi.org/>).

All of this adds up to one great place to live, work and play.

For more information on what it is like to live in the Cedar Rapids or the Corridor area visit www.cedarrapids.org/liveworkplay.asp or www.culturalcorridor.org/index.asp

To download an application: www.cedar-rapids.org/hr.

Submit your completed application to: hr@cedar-rapids.org

Approximate position start date: March 1, 2010.

Applications must be submitted by 4 pm CST on November 6, 2009. Late applications may be considered at the discretion of the Human Resources Director or City Manager only.

Pre-employment drug screen required.

Assistance provided to disabled individuals upon request

Equal Opportunity Employer

FIREFIGHTER HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION:

U.S. Fire Administrator Urges H1N1 Vaccinations for Fire and EMS Personnel

Washington D.C. - With the first deliveries of the H1N1 vaccine already underway, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as part of its mission to support first responders, joins the United States Fire Administration (USFA) in recommending that firefighters who provide emergency medical services (EMS) and EMS workers receive the H1N1 vaccination as soon as it becomes available in their local jurisdiction.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has recommended that certain groups of the population receive the 2009 H1N1 vaccine when it first becomes available. These target groups include:

- pregnant women
- people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- healthcare and **emergency medical services personnel**
- persons between the ages of 6 months and 24 years old, and
- people ages 25 through 64 years who are at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

"Given that firefighters and EMS personnel who provide direct patient care are eligible for early vaccination, their first responder agencies should be contacting their local doctors' offices, clinics, local health department or other agencies to make arrangements now for their workforces to be vaccinated as soon as supplies of the H1N1 vaccine are received in their jurisdictions," said U.S. Fire Administrator Kelvin J. Cochran.

"Being vaccinated for both seasonal influenza and the H1N1 influenza represents an important way to assure the well being of our first responder workforces, their families, and most importantly the patients to whom they provide emergency medical care. It also enhances their agencies' ability to continue to provide critical services to their communities during periods when they may encounter an increased demand for emergency medical care resulting from the H1N1 virus," Cochran said.

First responders and agencies seeking additional information on the H1N1 influenza are encouraged to visit these Web sites:

- www.flu.gov
- www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu
- www.usfa.dhs.gov
- www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance_ems.htm

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:**

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

April 19 through 24, 2010

Go to www.fdic.com for more information.

Firehouse World – San Diego, CA

February 28 through March 4, 2010

Go to www.firehouseworld.com for more information.

Firehouse Expo – Baltimore, MD

July 20 through 25, 2010

Go to www.firehouseexpo.com

EMS Today Conference – Baltimore, MD

March 2 through 6, 2010

Go to www.emstodayconference.com for more information.

Fire Rescue International – Chicago, IL

August 24 through 28, 2010

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

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

Dear Fire Safety & Prevention Partners,

Over the last several years, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control has been working closely with the U. S. Fire Administration (USFA) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to redevelop and enhance the resources and tools offered to the media and to fire service spokespeople on the FireSafety.gov website. FireSafety.gov is a federally operated website, co-sponsored by these three agencies, that serves as a clearinghouse for fire-related information.

One of the newest tools on the site is a "Fire Spokesperson's Pocket Media Guide" that explains how Public Information Officers (PIOs) and other fire spokespeople can maximize the impact of a fire safety message in interviews with local and national news media. Doing so will help communities take preventive measures to reduce the tragic loss of life and injuries from residential fires.

In observance of Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2009, we are pleased to promote these resources and offer the "Fire Spokesperson's Pocket Media Guide" for ordering at no cost. We encourage you to share these resources and perhaps include information about them in your own announcements, thereby increasing their reach.

All of these resources can be accessed and downloaded from the following Web page:
www.cdc.gov/HomeandRecreationalSafety/Fire-Prevention/tools.html

Thank you for your valuable contributions to this work and for your continued efforts to reduce residential fire deaths and injuries.

Sincerely,

Grant Baldwin
Director, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING & SAFETY INFORMATION:

FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY

LEARNING

Media CENTER

Everyone Goes Home® Learning Media Center E-Alert - September 15, 2009



This Month's Feature
[Mayday and Rapid Intervention Teams](#)

This segment asks "Are you ready for a mayday?" Materials that are discussed include handling a mayday, Personnel Accountability Reports (PAR), communication, and Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT).

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» Archive: [More 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.



www.everyonegoeshome.com

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

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

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The [Anaheim Fire Department](http://www.anaheim.net) will be accepting applications for the positions of **Part Time Fire Inspector I / II** on a continuous basis – the first review will occur on October 16, 2009.

For more information about the **City of Anaheim**, visit their website at: www.anaheim.net

For more information about the **Anaheim Fire Department**, visit their website at: www.anaheim.net/section.asp?id=73

- The following information was provided by the City of Anaheim and you can find the information on their website – <http://www.anaheim.net/jobs/>

PART TIME FIRE INSPECTOR I/II

Employment Type: Part-Time

Description

The City of Anaheim is seeking an independent, highly motivated individual to fill the position of Part Time Fire Inspector I/II with the Anaheim Fire Department. We value teamwork, integrity and diversity. We welcome anyone who shares our commitment to excellence.

Fire Inspector I

- Conducts routine fire inspections of commercial, residential, and some industrial occupancies.
- Must recognize the need for a fire permit.
- Investigates common complaints and takes appropriate action.

Fire Inspector II

- Conducts inspections of all types of complex occupancies for compliance with State and local fire codes.
- Issue fire permits.
- Handles all types of complaints.
- Analyzes new and existing structures for compliance to applicable construction, occupancy, and fire protection codes and standards.
- Develops written correspondence to communicate fire prevention requirements.
- Conducts field inspections for verification of plans for new construction and fire protection systems.

Note: This is a part time position averaging 30 hours per week, however no minimum number of weekly hours is guaranteed.

SALARY RANGE

I - \$22.30 - &28.46 Per Hour

II - \$26.23 - \$33.48 Per Hour

Position Requirements

This Position Requires:

- Experience in public contact work involving investigative or inspection skills.
- Extensive knowledge of fire codes and ordinances including the interrelationship between codes and regulations.
- The ability to obtain a level 3 P.C. 832 Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T) certificate.
- The ability to obtain certification as a Fire Inspector I or II with the International Code Council.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- The ability to prepare routine inspection reports whereas the Fire Inspector II prepares correspondence to clearly express code requirements in writing in a logical and complete format.
- The Fire Inspector II, in addition to the above will have equivalent to journey level experience in a variety of related inspection work that includes working with fire prevention regulations.

Note: Appointments may be made at either level. The two classes are distinguished by level of experience. The department has sole discretion to appoint at either level.

Special Instructions

All candidates must complete a "Supplemental Information" form along with the City Application found on the website above.

Applications and supplemental information forms will be accepted by the Human Resources Department on a **CONTINUOUS BASIS** with a first review date of **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009.**

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: Terry Sharon
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 60
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 1
Date of Incident: 09/13/2009
Time of Incident: 0033hrs
Date of Death: 09/13/2009
Fire Department: Monterey Fire Department
Address: 340 Sawdridge Creek RD, Owenton, KY 40359-8706
Fire Department Chief: Larry House
F.D. Website: <http://www.owencountymercyservices.com/montereyfire.htm>

Incident Description: Incident Description: Firefighter Sharon was operating fire department apparatus, a 1978 Ford F350 Mini Pumper, and returning from a motor vehicle accident. As Sharon approached the fire department, he suffered a medical emergency. Subsequently, the apparatus left the roadway traveling approximately 150 feet before coming to a final resting position when the vehicle struck an unoccupied fifth-wheel camper trailer parked on the property neighboring the fire station. Firefighter Sharon was taken to New Horizons Medical Center by the Owen County EMS where he was later pronounced dead. The cause of the medical emergency and vehicle accident are still under investigation by the state police. Incident Location: Initial MVA, intersection of US Hwy 127 & Claxton Ridge RD. Medical emergency & subsequent MVA @ 340 Sawdridge Creek RD.

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter Terry Sharon, c/o Monterey Fire Department, 340 Sawdridge Creek RD, Owenton, KY 40359-8706

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

To date, 71 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 69 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and two from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Ricky Christiana

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Rank: Firefighter/Operator
Age: 44
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 20
Date of Incident: 09/11/2009
Time of Incident: 2130hrs
Date of Death: 09/11/2009
Fire Department: David Crockett Volunteer Fire Company #2
Address: PO Box 217, 1136 Lafayette Street, Gretna, LA 70054-0217
Fire Department Chief: George Burnetz, Jr.

Incident Description: Firefighter Christiana was performing fire suppression operations at a structure fire when he suddenly collapsed from an apparent heart attack. Care was initiated on scene and he was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. Incident Location: 202 Hamilton ST

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation hours will be 09/15/2009 from 1800-2200hrs at Mothe Funeral Home, 2100 West Bank Expressway, Harvey. Visitation will continue 09/16/2009 from 0900-1100hrs and a procession to Westlawn Cemeteries, at 1225 Whitney Ave., will pass the fire station.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter/Operator Ricky Christiana, c/o David Crockett Volunteer Fire Company #2, PO Box 217, Gretna, LA 70054-0217

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

To date, 72 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 70 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and two from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Patrick Joyce
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 39
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 16
Date of Incident: 10/02/2009
Time of Incident: 0100hrs
Date of Death: 10/02/2009
Fire Department: Yonkers Fire Department
Address: 5-7 New School ST, Yonkers, NY 10701
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner Anthony H. Pagano
Fire Department Website: <http://www.yfd.org/>

Incident Description: Firefighter Joyce, along with two other firefighters, was forced by rapidly progressing fire conditions to jump from the third story of a residence. Firefighter Joyce did not survive the injuries he sustained as a result of the fall and the other two firefighters are reported to be in the hospital in critical condition. All residents of the home escaped the fire. The fire has been deemed "suspicious" and officials are continuing to investigate.

Incident Location: 148 Waverly Street

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter Patrick Joyce, c/o Yonkers Fire Department, 5-7 New School ST, Yonkers, NY 10701.

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

To date, 73 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 71 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and two from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

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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

OWEN COUNTY, KY LODD

We regret to advise you of the Line of Duty Death of a 60 year old member of the Monterrey VFD in Owen County, KY. Preliminary reports indicate that the member suffered a medical emergency while driving an apparatus returning from a run. More details will be posted to our home page as they become available. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 9/10/09 1531hrs

AND:

It is with deep regret that we notify you of the line of duty death of Monterey, Kentucky VFD Firefighter Terry Sharon. Firefighter Sharon and members of the Monterey Fire Department cleared from a call early Sunday morning. As Firefighter Sharon was driving a piece of equipment back to the station, he apparently suffered a medical emergency and crashed. He was transported to a hospital where he was later pronounced dead. Our sincere condolences to all affected. (Monterey is in Owen County approximately 20 miles north of Frankfort.)

England Apparatus Crash:

Thanks to Dave Statter (www.Statter911.com) for this video from an apparatus crash in Luton, England http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6roiCJHgrKU&feature=player_embedded

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 9/14/09 1931hrs

AND:

Hey,

We could run stories about short sighted budget decisions affecting fire departments everyday. We don't-at least not on The Secret List. We normally post them and related states right here:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/staffing.php>

But when a story smacks us in the head, and especially when we think it can help you, we do TSL'it.

This comment was passed on to us regarding WHAT the public expects fire and EMS personnel to do-and how budget cuts related to services, stations and staffing **WILL ALWAYS** affect services.

In this case, a baby in the water:

"....Let me see if I have this right. Baby falls into 12 feet of murky water, someone calls 911, firefighters arrive within minutes and risk their lives to dive in and rescue the infant in cardiac arrest and then successfully revive her? Did I miss anything? Hey to all the city council members and mayors out there who say that closing stations and laying off firefighters will have no effect on public safety, READ this (below) article. To all you conservative think tanks who think that firefighters all just sit around all day long and get paid to sleep and watch TV READ this article. To all you newspaper editorial writers who think that firefighters need to stop using the "people will die if you cut positions" theme then you should READ this article. Why? Because layoffs, station closures, brown outs and budget cuts DO increase response times and WILL cost people's lives. So stop worrying about your own re-election and worry about how this story could have had a very different (not so happy) ending if it weren't for these firefighters...."

Here is the original story. <http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/09/rewarding-save-in-muskegon-michigan.html> Thanks to DaveStatter911 for that head-smacker.

9/11 FOLLOWUP:

We want to also pass this piece on to you by original TSL member, Dennis Smith. As he says, and we couldn't agree more that **"Painting park benches or tutoring in schools is not a worthwhile tribute to those lost on 9/11"**

http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2009/09/11/2009-09-11_new_national_day_of_service_is_no_way_to_honor_the_dead.html#ixzz0Qoj8IDjp

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-14-09 / 1549 hours

AND:

LOUISIANA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-HEART ATTACK AT STRUCTURAL FIRE

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a fire Friday night at the Gretna (LA) city building official's home took the life of one Firefighter and sent several other members to the hospital. FF Ricky Christiana, 44, a 20-year veteran, died of a heart attack in the Line of Duty. FF Christiana had served as a career Firefighter at the David Crockett Steam Fire Company No. 1.

This is the 2nd FF LODD in Gretna within a year. Last September 29, Gretna FF Ralph Arabie was killed in the Line of Duty outside his fire station-he was a 30-year veteran of the David Crockett Volunteer Fire Company. FF Arabie, 48, was crushed to death while he was lowering a boom attached to one of their aerial (snorkel) trucks. A bucket at the end of the boom pinned FF Arabie against the control panel he was operating. Arabie was the first Line of Duty Death at the department 30 years. On Friday, FF Christiana suffered the heart attack while he was operating at a 3 alarm fire around 2130 hours. FF Christiana had been helping pull hose lines and had walked off to take a break. He went down a few minutes later and while life saving measures were attempted, they were to no avail.

As always, our sincere condolences to all affected, especially the family and friends of FF Christiana and the members of the David Crockett Steam Fire Company No.1. Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-14-09 / 1900 hours

AND:

Hey,

Some of you have written that you were confused, or lost The Secret List issue where we discussed how your agency can be considered to display a piece of the World Trade Center steel at a memorial site. Below is the original issue of The Secret List we sent out previously. There is also a LINK below to the TSL article below.

Thanks-Billy

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR DEPT TO DISPLAY A PIECE OF WORLD TRADE CENTER STEEL

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?92608>

Hey,

As we approach 9/11/09, we have been asked to share this information with you. It is a rare opportunity to allow ALL fire departments, police departments, EMS agencies and related community based organizations to further insure their community **never forgets 9/11-and do so not just in "words"- but in action.**

The following message is from FDNY FF Lee Ielpi (Ret), the Father of FDNY FF Jonathan Ielpi who was murdered in the Line of Duty on 9/11/01.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is accepting requests from organizations that would like to request a piece of World Trade Center steel. The steel was recovered from the World Trade Center site after September 11, 2001 and secured at JFK Airport by The Port Authority of NY and NJ until now.

The September 11th Families Association is proud to be part of this great effort to distribute steel to organizations interested in creating memorials. **The steel withstood the most horrific attack on American soil that took the lives of 2,973 innocent people - one of whom was my son Jonathan Ielpi a Firefighter with FDNY Squad 288.** This is an extraordinary opportunity to obtain a piece of World Trade Center steel.

The steel **MUST** be used in a memorial open to the general public such as in parks, fire/EMS/police stations, emergency service training grounds for uniformed personnel or places of public assembly. **The steel is not intended for and may not be used in personal collections, sold or used for fundraising.** All requests for steel MUST be in writing on official letterhead from an officer of the requesting agency, or a not for profit organization and will be verified.

Requests from departments outside the United States are welcome.

This is a rare opportunity to create a **lasting memorial IN YOUR COMMUNITY** honoring the lives lost and educating future generations about the events of September 11, 2001. Everyday, your service as a Firefighter, Police Officer, EMT or related emergency personnel demonstrates the power of good. **A public memorial in YOUR community to the victims and heroes of 9/11 is a powerful way to insure their memory lives on.**

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

INSTRUCTIONS

HERE: <http://www.911families.org/WTC%20Steel%20Public%20Memorials.pdf>

SAMPLE LETTER

HERE: <http://www.911families.org/WTC%20Steel%20Sample%20Letter%20Form.pdf>

As we are just days from 9/11/09-take the emotions and energies you feel and take advantage of this opportunity to honor those who gave their lives on 9/11/01-and remember WHY 9/11/01 must be remembered in every community, in every possible way. There are few better ways for your community members to connect to 9/11 than this. **Frustrated that some have forgotten? This will help your community ALWAYS REMEMBER.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-8-09 /1200 Hours **(Re-sent on 9-15-09 / 1245 hours)**

AND:

Hey,

Yesterday in California, an afternoon commuter train struck a car stopped on the tracks in Redwood City Tuesday afternoon, killing the driver. **The driver had stopped on the railroad tracks as traffic yielded to fire apparatus responding to a structure fire.** The driver was unable to move his car off the tracks as the train approached. The train was traveling at about 60 mph and was unable to stop in time. While obviously **unavoidable** by the FD, its hard not to think of the Firefighters affected-and of course the family of the victim, when unusual events like this occur.

BRAKE LINES CUT ON EMS UNIT IN PENNSYLVANIA:

A mutt cut the brake lines on an ambulance belonging to Pike County Advanced Life Support in Pennsylvania. It happened sometime between 2330 Monday and 0700 Tuesday. The vehicle was parked but discovered by staff and the ambulance was not driven. This was the second time this year PCALS was the victim of vandals. In April, an arson fire destroyed their new substation in Delaware Township. Hopefully the dirt bag will be caught soon.

EMS DUI IN PENNSYLVANIA:

A member of the Eagles Mere Ambulance Association was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol after the ambulance he was driving crashed over the weekend while transporting a patient to a hospital. **HERE** is more:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?93019>

FIRE APPARATUS VS POLICE CAR:

A Rome (GA) police car and a Rome FD Quint 5, collided last night while responding to a call. The Rome police unit and the Quint were looking for a house where a man was apparently injured from some fallen tree limbs in his yard. The police car was turning around when the Quint hit the police cruiser on the driver's side.

HERE is more and a pic:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?93055>

AND lastly, another huge layoff notice has been issued - this time in Akron (Ohio) where 38 Firefighters (some recruits) may incredibly lose their jobs at the end of this month. **More HERE:**

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

Updates on national FF layoffs HERE: <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/staffing.php>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-16-09 / 1348 Hours

AND:

3 RUSSIAN FIREFIGHTERS DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY-BLAST CAUGHT ON VIDEO

Three Russian Firefighters died in the Line of Duty in a fire at an oil tank in Siberia late Saturday. The fire was triggered by an explosion of a 20,000-cubic-meter oil tank which was hit by a bolt of lightning in the Khanty-Mansi area. The fire spread to neighboring tanks and an area of more than 2,000 square meters was set ablaze. It was reported earlier that one firefighter died when extinguishing the fire, five others were injured and two missing. "After the fire was put out, remains of the body of the third missing fire-fighter were discovered. Representatives of the prosecutor's office are working at the scene. There is no threat of new explosions nor threats to life and health of the nearby population. Our condolences to all affected.

HERE are videos of the blasts:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=url4W2W7Yzc>

<http://www.rian.ru/video/20090824/182159478.html>

FATAL EMS CRASH IN TENN:

A fatal wreck occurred last night in Johnson County involving a car, whose driver is suspected of being on drugs, and a rescue squad ambulance. The civilian crossed the center lane of Highway 67, and hit a Johnson County Rescue Squad ambulance. The hit pushed the ambulance off the road. It came back onto the road, but the ambulance's rear tire caught the edge, and flipped it over an embankment. A female patient in the ambulance died at the scene, and three others were air-lifted by Wings to JCMC. The driver of the car that hit the ambulance, 51 year old Brenda J. Buchanan was probably was on dope. The THP said that drugs may have been a factor in the crash, so they're treating this as a criminal investigation. We wish the rescue squad members a quick recovery. We have a photo on our home page.

PARAMEDIC STRIKE UPDATE AND VIDEO:

There's hope a 5 month strike by British Columbia (CN) Ambulance Paramedics may soon come to an end. The Ambulance Paramedics of BC says they're not sure what the province is

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looking for but is hopeful for a little slack considering the particularly hard effects on service in rural areas. Paramedics have been maintaining essential services since the union went on strike April 1st. The union is unsure of how the government's freeze on public sector wages will affect them...if the government wants they could just legislate the paramedics back to work.

HERE is a video from the Paramedics Union: <http://www.saveourparamedics.com/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-16-09 / 2000 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Here is an excellent article related to the Oregon-based Firefighting helicopter multi-LODD crash last year. The helicopter was 2,000 pounds heavier than U.S. Forest Service guidelines. Instead of climbing up, the helicopter went forward, clipping the tops of trees and crashing back to the ground, the report found. **Seven firefighters from Oregon, the pilot, also from Oregon, and a Forest Service inspector pilot from California were killed.** Four other Oregonians were injured in one of the **worst firefighting air crashes** in U.S. history.

HERE is the article:

http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/09/feds_say_helicopter_that_crash.html

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-17-09 / 1319 hours

AND

Hey,

In a live fire training **CLOSE CALL**, Oregon's Jackson County Fire District No. 3 faces a \$5,000 fine for a spring training exercise where 3 Firefighters suffered minor burns and melted some of their gear. The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division cited the fire district for having what it termed "serious violations" at a training exercise April 25 at a house. The FF's were exposed to the risk of flash over, the citation said, but the room did not flash. **(Scroll down for links and reports)**

Among the points cited by state OSHA:

=Training objectives weren't followed correctly.

=Communication with the attack team was inadequate at times.

=The chain of command wasn't adhered to properly.

=The exercise wasn't stopped immediately when hazards were observed.

The reports stated: "If the training objectives had been followed, communication with the attack team had been maintained, if the chain of command had been followed during the training exercise and/or the exercise was halted when hazards were observed by supervision, this accident would not have occurred"

The district, which had voluntarily reported the injuries, is appealing the citation and penalty,

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

arguing that it had responded vigorously to the incident to ensure the safety of their firefighters.

A decision on the appeal is expected soon. Fire Chief Dave Hard said the district temporarily suspended live-fire training until a team that included outside experts could evaluate the accident. Then it updated and reinforced policies and training, and upgraded equipment before successfully staging three more burning exercises this summer. "We made some mistakes and that's why we called in outside experts," said the Chief.

The house was scheduled for demolition and was donated to the district to burn for training. Wood pallets were stacked in a room to simulate furnishings, then lit, but crews initially thought the fire was too small, Hard said. They added more pallets.

An OSHA report said an attack team consisting of volunteer FF Matt Brite, FF Eric Merrill, volunteer FF Brexson Engle and Instructor Jon Brite, a district employee and Matt Brite's father, had gone into the house and put the fire out once.

As they repeated the exercise, the team crawled down a hallway filled with thick, black smoke. The report indicated that a thermal camera gave readings of temperatures in the smoke topping 800 degrees, so interior Safety Officer Stephen Ede ordered the fire knocked down immediately. But the team didn't get that message and watched the fire grow for about a minute as smoke filled the room to within about 2 feet of the floor and roiled down the hallway.

Jon Brite told the OSHA investigator that he had the team wait and watch and stated, "They need to feel the heat," the OSHA report said.

Merrill felt the air in his breathing apparatus growing warmer and decided to grab the nozzle from Matt Brite to extinguish the fire. The movement caused Matt Brite, who told investigators that he had been waiting for instructions from Jon Brite like those given in the first exercise, to put out the fire.

When the fire extinguished, the team went outside and noticed that the face shields of their helmets were melting and warping and their protective clothing had charred. Later examination by experts indicated the firefighters had prolonged exposure to temperatures between 500 and 600 degrees.

Matt Brite had redness and several small blisters on his right arm and hand where his protective coat had touched his skin, Hard said. Merrill had redness of a first-degree burn on his arm and Engle had red first-degree burns on the back of his neck. All three went to the hospital to be examined.

Hard said the district launched an investigation April 27 by its safety committee and officials from fire departments in Medford and Josephine and Clackamas counties. It also notified OSHA, even though the incident didn't meet the legal definition of a catastrophe - three or more employees admitted to a hospital - in which reporting is required, he said.

The OSHA investigation identified communication problems, including a voice amplifier that

was not turned on and one that had dead batteries, heavy smoke that kept people from seeing, and changing objectives. The investigation pointed out that the team deviated from the objective of putting out the fire by waiting and watching it. The report also indicates instructor Jon Brite didn't attend a pre-burn briefing, though the district contends that he did.

Hard said the district reaffirmed policies related to training with live fire, including not allowing people to supervise relatives and requiring everyone involved to go to pre-training briefings and complete standard checks of equipment. It held meetings to reinforce those procedures and new ones were adopted, such as moving the instructor closer to the front of the team working a hose. It also sent district officials to additional training on teaching crews with fire.

The district spent \$3,432 on new communication gear mounted on breathing apparatuses even though it claimed that the amplifiers weren't needed for communication, which generally is done over radios, according to documents submitted to OSHA.

When the district resumed live-fire training two weeks after the accident, crews were careful to follow all rules, and have had three safe exercises this summer, Hard said.

"I was pleased with what I saw as everyone was more attentive to procedure," he said. "The biggest thing is don't get complacent," he added. "This could have happened to anybody."

An excellent point and good leadership shown by the Chief. It can and has happened to many, many FD's. Their burn was a CLOSE CALL and one where there are some lessons of value to all Firefighters. Some may blow this off but those who do need to become familiar with past training burns that went worse-when Firefighters were killed-READ below. Firefighters absolutely need good solid no nonsense and tough hands on training - the standards help minimize unnecessary risk and injury.

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES WHERE FIREFIGHTERS WERE SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED AT LIVE FIRE TRAINING:

- Feb 09, 2007-Prob. FF dies while at a live-fire training evolution at an acquired structure-**Maryland**
- Oct 23, 2005-Fire officer injured during a live fire evolution at academy dies two days later-**Pennsylvania**
- Oct 17, 2003-Live-fire exercise in mobile flashover training simulator injures 5 FF's-**Maine**
- Aug 08, 2003-Live-fire training exercise claims the life of 1 recruit fire fighter and injures 4 others-**Florida**
- Jul 30, 2002-Lieutenant and FF die in a flashover during a live-fire training evolution-**Florida**
- Sep 25, 2001-FF dies and two others are injured during live-burn training-**New York**
- Apr 30, 2000-Assistant chief dies during a controlled-burn training evolution-**Delaware**

READ ALL OF THE ABOVE FIRE REPORTS HERE:

http://www2a.cdc.gov/NIOSH-fire-fighter-face/state.asp?state=ALL&Incident_Year=ALL&Medical_Related=ALL&Trauma_Related=0024&Submit=Submit

HERE IS HOW TO MINIMIZE THE RISK WHILE STILL HAVING NO NONSENSE, HANDS ON TRAINING:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/wp-solutions/2005-102/>

(Preventing Deaths & Injury to Firefighters during Live-Fire Training in Acquired Structures)

Some of the above information from the Mailtribune.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-17-09 / 2134 Hours

AND

Hey,

Once again, and as totally expected, the **National Association of Home Builders** are working against Firefighters, by trying to have residential fire sprinkler requirements repealed from the IRC's next cycle. The NAHB's misguided and profit based efforts continue to disregard the FACTS that fire sprinklers save lives of civilians - and Firefighters - and are an investment in the very folks who buy and live in the home.

HOWEVER-some BUILDERS DO get it! Check THIS:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Oopso3qudc>

The home builders association "**shell game**"

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XY_1812N7M0 of trying to confuse the public and public officials with myths of sprinklers "going off" for no reason, home costs skyrocketing, and smoke detectors being the only solution, is well known. Very confusing!

THIS VIDEO (our absolute favorite, in this category) makes much more sense and is NOT confusing! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qqlE5lnsGrw>

So, to protect the public and Firefighters, we all must, once again take them on.

Proposals to delete residential fire sprinkler requirements are expected to be heard at the International Code Council's (ICC) upcoming public hearing in Baltimore, MD, on Wednesday, October 28th (it is possible, but unlikely that the vote could carry over until the morning of the 29th). Other proposals considered at this hearing include recommendations to require protection of lightweight structural members. **Your attendance and vote are essential to keeping fire sprinkler requirements in the IRC.**

How Important is the Baltimore Vote? How do YOU and your FD get involved?

GO HERE for more information: <http://www.ircfiresprinkler.org/>

HERE is some related information:

http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/sprinklers/facts.shtm

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?74998>

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?92077>

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

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-18-09 / 1332 Hours

AND

TENNESSEE RESCUE SQUAD MEMBER LODD-DIES FROM CRASH INJURIES

It is with deep regret that we advise you that Johnson County (TN) Rescue Squad member Joseph R. Barlow has died in the Line of Duty.

As we previously posted on Tuesday, a civilian driver crossed the center line of a northeast Tennessee highway, crashing into the rescue squad's ambulance, killing the patient being transported. The civilian fatality was Alicia McCoy, 57. McCoy was the patient being transported to a hospital by the Johnson County Rescue Squad. When the crash occurred, Rescue Squad Member Joe Barlow, who was the driver, was thrown out when the vehicle ran into a ditch and overturned after being struck in the front by the sedan. **Barlow, who was reported in critical condition Wednesday morning-passed away this afternoon.**

Seriously injured was rescue squad member Kevin Colson (who has NLT injuries) and the driver of the car, Barbara Buchanan. **Criminal charges are expected.** We have no official confirmation related to seat belt or other details.

As always, our most sincere condolences to the members of the Johnson County Rescue Squad and the family and friends of Rescue Squad Member Joseph Barlow. Details to follow. Take Care-BE CAREFUL. MAKE SURE ALL Members Are Secure and Belted In.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-18-09 / 1745 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A **North Carolina Firefighter** suffered serious injuries yesterday when he was struck by a vehicle while helping victims of a tractor-trailer crash on I-40. As of late last evening, we were advised that **Crooked Creek FF Kirk Lunsford** had been in surgery for several hours. Both of his legs were crushed and he sustained head injuries when the car spun out and hit him.

A tractor-trailer was speeding down eastbound Interstate 40 about 2.5 miles west of Old Fort when he lost control and struck the concrete median barrier. The tractor-trailer rode the barrier for about 800 feet before it overturned, spilling some of its produce load. The speed was 65 mph but speed limit for tractor-trailers there is 35 mph. FF Lunsford was driving west on I-40 and saw the crash. After Lunsford exited his vehicle, a westbound vehicle slammed on his brakes and swerved to avoid a slow-moving vehicle in front of him- the driver lost control and struck FF Lunsford, pinning him against the median. The civilian in the car as well as the one driving the tractor trailer were cited.

We wish FF Lunsford a rapid recovery.

GROUND LADDER CLOSE CALL & PHOTOS:

Check out the pictures related to a ground ladder CLOSE CALL in PA last week. They show a 24' ladder at a working fire in Lock Haven. While members were operating, gun powder went off on side B inside on the first floor and heavy fire blew out the window, hitting the ladder. Fortunately, no members were on the ladder at the time. The pictures were submitted by a Veteran FF who wanted to pass it on as he had never seen that happen. Neither have we.

Check it out HERE:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?93195>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-19-09 / 1639 hours

AND:

Hey,

A Firefighter from the **Clearfield Fire Department** (PA) was struck by a passing motorist in Clearfield Borough this evening around 2000 Hours. The Firefighter is being transported by medical helicopter to Altoona Hospital for a serious but non-life threatening head injury. Details will follow.

5" HOSE FAILS IN PA DURING LIVE FIRE TRAINING:

During a live fire evolution last Friday at the PA. State Fire Academy, they experienced a failure of a section 5" hose. The hose separated from the coupling. Fortunately, there was no one was injured after the failure occurred. Post incident investigation revealed no signs as to why the failure may have occurred. **PHOTOS and more details are on our home page and we will have more details soon.**

REMINDER-hose and the related dangers are often taken for granted by all of us. It's important to remember annual hose testing is critical as is remembering that during testing-or on a run-it's under high pressure and can be hazardous. **MORE details on our home page.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-21-09 / 2105 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A Firefighter was critically injured at the Silver Fire in Plumas County (CA) late Monday evening. FF Rebecca Quigley was hit by a vehicle around 2230 hours Monday night while she was in camp. The fire started Saturday, was contained earlier in the evening. Quigley and the Salmon River (CA) hotshots were assigned to the 300 acre fire. Quigley was taken to Enloe Hospital in Chico where at last report, she was listed in critical but stable condition. The Salmon River Hot Shots are from the Klamath National Forest and are based out of Fort Jones. **More details HERE:**

<http://www.wildlandfire.com/hotlist/showthread.php?p=56079>

FIREFIGHTER/PUMP OPERATOR INJURED IN CANADA:

October 2, 2009

www.chabotfire.com

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

The Winnipeg Fire Department had some Firefighters injured yesterday at a working fire in a commercial/industrial building. A connection blew off an engine company and the operator took that full force and was struck. The two Firefighters that were assisting him caught him and that's what caused their injuries. The pump operator was treated on scene by paramedics and taken to the hospital for further assessment-but all were non-life threatening injuries including possible fractures. The fire was in a warehouse where workers had been doing some roofing work. We will have more details on exactly what happened when available.

UPDATE-NEW JERSEY FIRE COMPANY AND EMS ISSUE:

DaveStatter911 has more coverage related to the incident last week where an ambulance was involved in a crash-claiming the responding fire company ran'm off the road. The Quakertown Fire Co. Web site (www.quakertownfire.org) gives an account that differs from the account given to police by ambulance squad members. "The rescue truck was following the ambulance for almost a mile before attempting to pass the ambulance after the ambulance failed to yield," it reads. **More HERE:**

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/09/quakertown-fire-company-believes.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-23-09 / 0805 hours

AND

Hey,

The law requires the American flag be lowered in tribute on only a few days each year. Very appropriately, one of these days is the observance of the **National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service, this year, on October 4, 2009. We hope to see you there but if not, hopefully at minimum, your flag will be lowered.**

On October 16, 2001, President George W. Bush approved legislation requiring the American flag to be lowered to half-staff on all Federal buildings to memorialize fallen firefighters. Public Law 107-51 requires this action to occur annually in conjunction with observance of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service.

Encourage your local community to follow the Federal Government's example. When you lower your flag this year, you will recognize the brave men and women who died in the Line of Duty.

You may also want to ask your local officials to include lowering the flag in a proclamation recognizing the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. **Thanks to veteran TSL member and very Senior Firefighter "Red Man" for that important reminder.**

WHO WAS JIM Y?

Jim was a Deputy Fire Chief with the Berwyn Heights (PG County, MD) VFD and a nationally recognized author and editor in the fields of fire, haz-mat and EMS. He died in the Line of Duty when he was struck by a car on Interstate 95 near Washington, D.C., in January 1988. His memory lives on thru this program of FREE MONEY. Keep reading. The annual scholarship awards competition for Yvorra Leadership Development Foundation (YLD) is now

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open to all active members of the fire & rescue and EMS. In 2008 YLD gave away five - \$1,500 scholarships including the Donald E. Sellers scholarship for Emergency Medical Services and the Chief John Eversole scholarship for Hazardous Materials Responders. The deadline for applications is October 5th. **Applicants can fill out an application on line or download an application and fax or mail it in.** For more information go to www.yld.org
Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-23-09 / 2133 hours

AND:

Hey,

In our effort to try and minimize how many TSL's we sent out about lay-off's, here is another worthy of note. NOTE the Chiefs comments along with the Councilmans comments:

"...Will they, the citizens of our city, notice a difference when we lay off 17 Firefighters? Fort Myers Deputy Fire Chief Trenton Bowen says: you can bet on it...."

An honest Chief. Bet on it. And now a word from a Fort Myers Council Member **who voted for the cuts:**

"When I see that we're keeping open a museum and we're losing firefighters, to me that borders on insane," said Councilman Warren Wright. "I'm absolutely frustrated."

Seventeen (17) Fort Myers (Florida) Firefighters were laid off last night. Actually, according to one TSL members, the actual number cut to the FMFD is 27, 21 FF's, 4 vacant, 4 inspectors, 1 Operations Chief, and 1 secretary. So will they, the citizen, notice a difference due to the cuts? Fort Myers Deputy Fire Chief Trenton Bowen says **you can bet on it.** He says 2 rescue trucks and a ladder truck will now be pulled from service because of the decision. They are shutting down companies and are going to have to pick and choose some calls, expect delays and less service-and they are being honest about it.

Fort Myers City Councilman Warren Wright voted for the budget, but says the city should have cut elsewhere. **"When I see that we're keeping open a museum and we're losing firefighters, to me that borders on insane," he said. "I'm absolutely frustrated."** But...he voted for it....WTF!?

Scroll down **HERE:** <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/staffing.php> for more national layoff and cut stats.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-24-09 / 1230 hours

AND:

MEDICAL HELICOPTER CRASH LODD - SOUTH CAROLINA

A medical flight helicopter crashed late Friday in a wooded area of Georgetown County, SC killing three people on board, according to Georgetown County Coroner Kenny Johnson. The helicopter operated by Omniflight Helicopters, Inc., was not on a call when its base lost contact with the crew at 11:16 p.m. Friday as they made their way back to their base, October 2, 2009
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Johnson said. A pilot, flight nurse and flight medic were aboard the helicopter when it crashed and there were no survivors, he said. Our condolences to the family members and co-workers of those involved.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-26-09 / 0940 hours

AND:

Hey...

As they do each year, the US Fire Administration releases their complete report on how we died in the Line of Duty. **We look forward to seeing many of you next weekend at the National Fire Academy for the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Weekend and Service, honoring those killed in 2008.**

More details on that HERE: <http://weekend.firehero.org/>

The LINK to the entire 2008 LODD document is below, but in summary, 118 Firefighters died while on duty in 2008. The total break down included 66 volunteer, 34 career, and 18 wildland agency Firefighters. There were 5 Firefighter fatality incidents where 2 or more Firefighters were killed, claiming a total of 18 Firefighters' lives. **Note also the below WILDLAND number-which has doubled.**

-26 Firefighters were killed during activities involving brush, grass or wildland Firefighting, more than twice the number killed the previous year.

-Activities related to emergency incidents resulted in the deaths of 75 Firefighters.

-28 Firefighters died while engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.

-21 Firefighters died while responding to, and 3 while returning from, emergency incidents.

-12 Firefighters died while they were engaged in training activities.

-13 Firefighters died after the conclusion of their on-duty activity.

-Heart attacks were the most frequent cause of death for 2008 with 45 Firefighter deaths.

The 2008 report on Firefighter fatalities in the United States may be downloaded HERE: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/report.shtm>

See you in Emmitsburg.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-27-09 / 0735 Hours

AND:

Hey,

It doesn't take long for us to be somewhere and have a Firefighter start busting chops about "the safety stuff" and that's OK, we **love** the banter knowing that NO FIREFIGHTER wants to

get hurt unless it matters-and that **NO FIREFIGHTER** wants to hurt anyone for any reason. Otherwise, they wouldn't be a Firefighter. It's in our job description. Do good. Help people. Cause no harm. Stuff like that. And that's why so many try so hard to do whatever it takes to **not allow** any Firefighter to experience one of the "nightmare" sides of being a Firefighter.

A very tragic example of one continuing is the wrongful death lawsuit filed in Massillon (OH) where in May of 2008, a responding fire apparatus struck a minivan and killed 2 civilians: a man and his grandson. The suit **alleges** that a Massillon Firefighter and her Officer violated multiple traffic and FD policies. It happened in a 4 way stop/red flashing light intersection. The FF driving was actually a distant relative to the 2 civilians who were killed in the crash.

Among the allegations in the civil lawsuit are that the driver of the apparatus was traveling at an "excessive, unsafe" speed - of which the Ohio State Patrol totally disagreed - they issued no charges. But the FF was approaching the intersection between 44 and 50 miles per hour, according to the lawsuit. The posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour.

The attorneys are now asking questions such as:

"There is no question the speed of the truck was between 44 and 50 mph. The question (the attorney) poses is, is that reasonable?" He further states: "... The law is not that you can violate the traffic laws. You have to travel in a reasonable manner to get to the destination."

In addition to speeding, the lawsuit states:

The FF failed to stop for the flashing light, she failed to yield the right of way and she drove left of center.

The lawsuit also indicates that she failed to apply the brakes and was holding her foot on the accelerator as she drove through the intersection.

The lawsuit, filed Tuesday seeks compensatory damages, including funeral expenses, in excess of \$25,000. The Fire Captain who was riding in the passenger seat, and the city also are named as defendants.

Companies had been dispatched to a car fire with exposures with all emergency lights and sirens on. The **Ohio State Patrol determined that the elderly civilian pulled into the path of the truck. The FF was traveling at a "reasonable" speed of 45 to 50 mph, according to the patrol and no criminal charges were filed.**

But the elderly and hearing impaired civilian had the right of way and drove into the intersection, **the lawsuit alleges.** It continues to state that the FF also violated the MFD's SOP by failing to bring the quint to a complete stop. The Captain, who was the Officer in the front seat, was required to "ensure that the driver is operating the vehicle in a safe and prudent manner at all times." The suit claims that the Captain acted recklessly by allowing the FF to drive the truck without proper training, the lawsuit alleges. **In October 2007, the same FF notified the city in writing that, "I do not feel at this time I will be able to operate this truck in an emergency at this time," court papers show.**

We have more information and some news video about this crash on our home page. But the point of us passing this on is that, without question, the MFD, the FF, the Officer and all the members are Firefighters **meaning** to do good. Just like you or I. And the **LAST THING**

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anyone in the MFD ever wanted to do that day was to hurt, no less contribute to, the injury or deaths of anyone. They were going to help someone who had a vehicle fire. Just like you and I do and have done. But on that day, for a variety of reasons (that now the courts will determine) a nightmare started for everyone involved which includes the affected families, the survivors and MFD Firefighters: **whose only intent was to do good.**

While we can only hope for some sort of a positive outcome for those involved, the value right now-today-is for any of us, which means us too, is to take a look and read about what happened and determine if there are any "warning signs" that can be applied now at our own FD and EMS Departments.

Be it training, policies, enforcement of policies, slowing down, stopping at red lights or whatever, rest assured, those involved wish they could turn back the hands of time and eliminate this continuing nightmare. Watch, listen and take action when there are warning signs. Good intent is the basis of why we joined, but past history shows that we need more than good intent to wake up from some of these nightmares. Watch, listen and **take action** when there are warning signs, at any of our departments. It helps good sleep.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-25-09 / 2000 hours

AND

FIRE SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS ICON PASSES

We are deeply saddened to report the passing of C. Peter "Pete" Jorgensen, Publisher and Editor of Fire Apparatus and Equipment Magazine. <http://www.fireapparatusmagazine.com/> Pete died comfortably at his home in Vermont the night of Saturday, September 26th. Among his many contributions to the fire and emergency services industry, Pete also served on the FEMSA Board of Directors from 1998 through 2001. Pete was never ever shy to "tell it like it is" when it came to his passion: fire apparatus and equipment and the related fire business industry. Few Firefighters that we know of didn't enjoy it when that large style "FIRE APPARATUS MAGAZINE" arrived! I know personally, I always go to Pete's column first to see what the latest was-and what his opinion on "it" was. Without a doubt, Pete and his magazine made a huge difference to not only the business side, but to those he felt were his real customers, the FIREFIGHTERS who purchased and operated the equipment he passionately wrote about. Additional details will be provided as they become available. Please keep Pete's wife, Kay, his family, and his colleagues at the magazine in your thoughts and prayers. We appreciate the notification from the folks at FAMA. <http://www.fama.org/>

Rest in Peace Pete.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-27-09 / 2238 hours

AND

Hey,

This weekend will be the annual National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial service and commemoration. **We hope to see you there.**

For those of you who are not able to attend, the weekend's events will be live-stream
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broadcast over the Internet by a collaboration with WUSA-TV in DC and Firehouse.com. WUSA-TV's Dave Statter (Statter911) and his wife Hillary Howard from WTOP News, will be hosting the broadcasts and conducting interviews between program events.

There will be two webcasts. The first will be on Saturday evening beginning at 1815 hours (EDT) and will cover the Candlelight Memorial Service in the chapel. On Sunday beginning at 0930 Hours (EDT) and running until later in the afternoon, they will be presenting the dedication ceremonies where 103 firefighters who died in the Line of Duty in 2008, along with 19 others who gave their lives in previous years will be honored. You can view the live webcasts at either www.STATter911.com or at www.Firehouse.com .

More information regarding the memorial service is **HERE:** <http://weekend.firehero.org/>

MEDIA KIT HERE: http://weekend.firehero.org/media/kit/PressKit_Full.pdf

ITEM OF INTEREST AND IMPORTANCE TO LONG ISLAND (N.Y.) FIREFIGHTERS:
<http://mlfd.com/seminar/ExCaptSeminarFlyer.pdf>

SOME OUTSTANDING HISTORICAL FIRE & RESCUE VIDEOS OF INTEREST:

Once in a while, we like to pass on some "not so bad news" and especially some videos of interest. These absolutely incredible movies, found and then converted digitally, help all of us remember where we came from. Here are several excellent links for you:

LOS ANGELES FD COMPANY OPERATIONS:

<http://www.archive.org/details/Pa2112Compan>

FDNY 1920's:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQLIJVagmOs&feature=PlayList&p=9DD64FF241E5B4D6>

WORKING COMMERCIAL BUILDING FIRE-BIRMINGHAM (AL) 1965:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_lefjse7RE

NUMEROUS HISTORICAL CHICAGO FIRE VIDEOS:

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

THE HISTORY OF MODERN EMS: (Featuring the late Fire Chief, Jim Page)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqD_w4gFa0E

AN AMAZING FIRE SERVICE VIDEO COLLECTION:

And lastly, here are links to numerous historical fire videos from the Timothy G. Stillman Collection. Tim was and old friend and was actually one of the original members of The Secret List way back when. Tim was a noted authority on fire protection, firefighting and was very active on numerous NFPA committees. Chief Stillman passed away in 2002. R.I.P.

NOT TO MISS (As shown above) HERE is a sample of what is in this file:

<http://www.archive.org/details/Pa2112Compan>

(This historical training film for Firefighters goes over the basic things the COMPANY OFFICER needs to go over before going to a fire, in order to ensure that things go smoothly

and efficiently-**including knowing the location!** From Los Angeles).

HERE is the entire file:

<http://www.archive.org/search.php?query=Stillman%20fires%20collection>

Take Care and Enjoy,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-29-09 / 1547 Hours

AND

YONKERS (N.Y.) FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-OTHERS INJURED

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a Firefighter from the Yonkers FD has been killed in the Line of Duty. 2 others Firefighters are reported to have critical injuries. Initial reports are that there may have been a flashover and a forced bailout by the members from an upper floor of what was a 3rd alarm fire. Killed in the Line of Duty was Patrick Joyce, 39, a 16 year member of the YFD. Joyce leaves behind a wife and two children. We will have an update later. As always, our most sincere condolences go out to all affected at the YFD.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-2-09 / 0650 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.

The budget woes continue, in various forms and fashions:

Denver (CO) Mayor John Hickenlooper on Tuesday presented plans to cut \$120 million from the city budget, including eliminating 176 city jobs. Hickenlooper said that with the cuts, the city budget will be balanced, but by Nov. 16, 176 people across 13 city departments will not have jobs. The departments affected include Human Services and Parks and Recreation but does not include the police or fire departments. However, if the city and fire unions don't make concessions about pay raises, the number of layoffs will be even higher. On top of that, another 191 police officers, firefighters and sheriff's deputies could lose their jobs if they don't agree to forgo raises:

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/20926613/detail.html>

Denver's firefighters union voted to forgo about \$7 million in raises and benefits in an effort they said to help the city balance its budget. The Denver (CO) Fire Fighters Local 858 approved the concessions by 84 percent, the union said in a news release. "After careful consideration fire fighters elected to forgo our previously agreed upon pay raises for the next two years as well as modify our healthcare benefits," Local 858 President Pat Rhoades said. "This personal sacrifice is a painful one to make, but the firefighters feel that the safety of the community and their fellow firefighters must take precedent especially in this time of economic uncertainty."

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/20934103/detail.html>

Baltimore City (MD) Fire Chief James Clack met with the fire union behind closed doors Tuesday night regarding the department's budget. Union officials said there is no more fat in their budget to trim, leaving the fire chief with the tough task of trying to find whatever he can to make this work:

<http://www.wbaltv.com/money/21073062/detail.html>

Baltimore (MD) plans to lay off 27 employees and contract workers, including a Fire Department commander, to help plug a hole in the city's budget created by declining tax revenues, according to a draft agenda for today's Board of Estimates meeting. Fire Chief James S. Clack announced the cuts on a Fire Department message board and planned to speak at a union meeting Tuesday night. "I had the unpleasant task of laying off several members today," Clack wrote. The assistant chief who is being let go was in charge of administration:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-city/bal-md.ci.layoffs23sep23%2C0%2C2821845.story>

A combination of several economic factors has forced the Ramona (CA) Municipal Water District (RMWD) to seek ways to cut the budgets in every department, including the fire department, much to the concern of some firefighters and residents. John Winder, Division Chief of CalFire's Central Division, said RMWD originally asked the fire agency to cut 20 percent from its budget which "wasn't achievable." With a budget of \$5 million, a 20 percent cut would amount to \$1 million, which could mean closing a fire station, he said. According to Winder, none of the options were great but they needed to find some place to make cuts. Winder said CalFire recommended eliminating staffing on the rescue rig, and called this cut the "best of the bad." Doing this would save \$350,000 per year. They also recommended cutting Ramona's reserve firefighter program, which would save \$100,000 per year. McIntosh explained that the district will now pay for 10 full-time fire personnel per day instead of 11 per day. With the elimination of the Ramona reserve program, which supplemented that staffing, that equates to losing two people per day:

http://www.ramonasentinel.com/article/News/News/Fire_department_cuts_draw_concerns/19351

Volunteer firefighters in Kirkland (WA) to lose funding if utility tax increase voted down: http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/east_king/kir/news/62752347.html

The Spokane (WA) Fire Department needs 20 people to take early retirement, so far only 7 people have taken the department up on its offer. Firefighters respond to law office fire in Spokane Valley. The department needs to cut 4% of its budget, or about \$800,000. The department is offering early retirement instead of layoffs, but unless the 20 people take it, layoffs may come anyway:

<http://www.krem.com/news/local/stories/krem2-092209-Spokane-Fire-Budget.1a829b1ca.html>

Welcome to Denver (CO) – the newly appointed Denver Fire Chief has his hands full with significant budget issues facing his fire department, and there are no easy answers or solutions:

http://cdn.optmd.com/V2/78671/177776/index.html?q=Af////8=&r=www.denverpost.com/ci_13353940

Edison (NJ) officials have voted to rehire six firefighters, two months after laying them off as the town struggled financially. But the Edison fire union vows to continue fighting the town in court, claiming that the layoffs were the result of political retribution. Edison Mayor Jun Choi laid off the men in July after announcing the state's fifth-largest town faced an \$8.4 million budget gap. He said he imposed the layoffs after the fire union refused to negotiate with town officials on ways to slash spending:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/labor-issues/articles/589557-NJ-city-to-rehire-firefighters-court-fight-looms/>

Jackson's main fire station was closed for about two and a half hours Tuesday morning due to unresolved budget and staff issues. Jackson (MI) Fire Chief Larry Bosell said he closed Station 1 at 518 N. Jackson St. from 8 to 10:30 a.m. because he needs a staff of eight and he had only six — two people were on vacation and two called in sick — and he has been told to stop paying overtime. "It's not a comfortable situation for anybody," Bosell said. Bosell said he received the directive to stop overtime pay from City Manager William Ross, who could not be reached for comment. Bosell said his department had a staff of 42 two years ago but is now down to 31 with five vacant positions because the city will not let him hire anyone. "Our priority is staffing," Bosell said. "It's a little frustrating." Bosell said it would have cost about \$2,000 to call in a captain and a firefighter Tuesday to staff Station 1:

<http://dailydispatch.com/DDR.asp?st=CO&lk=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Emlive%2Ecom%2Fn%2Fnews%2Fjackson%2Findex%2Essf%2F2009%2F09%2Fjackson%5Ffire%5Fchief%5Fshuts%5Fdown%2Ehtml>

The city manager and mayor have not praised Jackson (MI) Fire Chief Larry Bosell in his last days (see related article above), but firefighters and other community members said they appreciate the work Bosell did in Jackson. "He's been a very good fire chief, a very good leader of the department," said Fire Capt. Doug Millican, the firefighters union vice president. "He stood up for us and what we needed. He disagreed with closing fire stations and losing staff and, unfortunately, it cost him his job in the end:"

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2009/09/outgoing_jackson_fire_chiefs_e.html

Akron (OH) has issued layoff notices to 201 employees -- and more than half are police officers or firefighters. The 14-day notices went to 96 police officers, though this includes 21 high-ranking employees who are eligible to bump down into lower

positions. Thirty-eight (38) firefighters -- including the entire rookie class hired last September -- also got notices: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Akron--Ohio-Lays-Off-38-Firefighters/46\\$65560](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Akron--Ohio-Lays-Off-38-Firefighters/46$65560)

The president of the East St. Louis (IL) firefighters union says he will challenge the scheduled layoffs of 13 firefighters that Mayor Alvin Parks Jr. announced Monday: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Illinois-Firefighters-Contest-Planned-Layoffs/46\\$65535](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Illinois-Firefighters-Contest-Planned-Layoffs/46$65535)

The East St. Louis (IL) Financial Advisory Authority on Monday afternoon unanimously rejected a city plan to lay off eleven (11) firefighters and keep two spots vacant: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Illinois-Firefighters-Win-Layoff-Reprieve/46\\$65682](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Illinois-Firefighters-Win-Layoff-Reprieve/46$65682)

Yesterday's last-minute protests were not enough to convince Lower Burrell Council to keep Braeview (PA) Volunteer Fire Department open. Council agreed, 4-1, to begin the process of severing ties with the department: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Budget-Forces-Closure-of-Pa-Vol-Department/46\\$65565](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Budget-Forces-Closure-of-Pa-Vol-Department/46$65565)

The Grand Junction (CO) Fire Department and the Clifton Fire Protection District have opened talks about consolidating some fire and emergency medical services, a maneuver that could benefit both agencies as they provide service to growing areas with limited funds: http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/content/news/stories/2009/09/17/091809_Clifton_fire.html

Police and fire services in Fort Collins (CO) will feel the squeeze of a tight 2010-11 city budget even if they don't suffer the cuts other departments are slated to endure: <http://www.coloradoan.com/article/20090923/NEWS01/90923006/Tight-budget-doesn-t-spare-cops--fire>

Palo Alto (CA) Firefighters decide not to put off raises: http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/nationalbreaking/ci_13400380

California's once-acclaimed mutual aid system among local fire departments, key to fighting the state's increasing number of massive brush fires, is being undercut by tight budgets, fire officials warned a legislative hearing Wednesday. Mutual aid response to the Station fire, the largest fire in Los Angeles County history, was down by a third over past Southland brush fires, officials told a session of the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-fire-hearing24-2009sep24%2C0%2C85152.story>

Cash-strapped Miami (FL) goes after firefighters' compensation: Miami firefighters enjoy lucrative pensions, perks and six-figure compensation. Now the cash-strapped city wants to trim those benefits to help erase a budget shortfall: <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/miami-dade/story/1248800.html>

Larry Bosell was Jackson's most praised fire chief in a long time. Bosell triumphed over labor troubles that crippled his two predecessors and managed to get rank-and-

file firefighters and their bosses working together. When a state law would have forced Bosell to retire, the Jackson (MI) City Council found a way for him to stay on. That the chief felt the need to step down abruptly last week says less about him than it does about the current state of affairs at City Hall. A week before the city manager leaves, this local government is hurt by a lack of collaboration and communication between city officials:

http://www.mlive.com/opinion/jackson/index.ssf/2009/09/chiefs_departure_a_sign_of_tro.html

The deputy fire chief job in Salem (MA), vacant since January, could likely stay that way into next year even though the person who fills that position oversees 70 percent of the department's business as head of the ambulance service:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-department-management/articles/591465-Mass-department-slashes-deputy-fire-chief-post/>

Tulare (CA) has paid its , but Hanford will likely not, as cities and towns in Tulare and Kings counties are being asked to shell out \$60,000 collectively to preserve full hazardous-materials emergency service until June 2010:

<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/article/20090929/NEWS01/909290316/Cities+work+to+save+Visalia+s+hazmat+unit>

The Madera County (CA) Board of Supervisors voted last week to close the Ahwahnee and Raymond Cal Fire Stations at the end of the current fire season, probably in December. When Madera County was forced to make a number of budget cuts last month, the Madera County Fire Department was not able to escape that process and the department was asked to research options for cutting costs by about \$273,000:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/wildland-fire-products/articles/593714-Budget-cuts-force-closure-of-Calif-fire-stations/>

The Akron (OH) Fire union president balks at concessions. Phil Gauer says 38 firefighters would be better to get layoffs now than next year in Akron:

http://www.ohio.com/news/break_news/62758982.html

Public Relations Nightmare Stories:

As the strains of the job pile up, Jason Brazinski feels the need to vent. When the veteran Hernando County (FL) firefighter and paramedic wants to get something off his chest, whether it is an uncooperative patient or a response to a domestic call involving a drunken, jealous husband, he often expresses himself on his Facebook page. Most Facebook pages are private and only viewed by those the users included on the "friends list." Brazinski, who is president of the union, has kept his page public. On Aug. 20, he posted two entries that referred to residents as "dirtbags." It was accessible to anyone with Internet:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/labor-issues/articles/591466-Fla-firefighters-Facebook-posts-draw-attention/>

Sixteen firefighters can't account for the training required for their emergency medical recertifications, city councilors were told Tuesday. The results of a two-month data collection effort by the Tulsa (OK) Fire Department were presented during a council committee meeting:

http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=16&articleid=20090930_11_A13_Sixtee898266

A San Francisco (CA) ladder truck swung around a corner with its lights and siren on and slammed into a 24-story building recently; luckily nobody was injured even though significant damage did occur:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/California-Ladder-Truck-Slams-into-Building/46\\$65834](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/California-Ladder-Truck-Slams-into-Building/46$65834)

The firefighters union in Boerne (MA) is taking steps to stop a planned veterinary clinic, offering affordable care to residents, from operating at their Sagamore Beach fire station:

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090926/NEWS/909260317/-1/NEWS11>

Firefighter sick-time 'abuse' soaks Allentown (PA) taxpayers - Department's overtime budget is depleted covering the absences. Mayor says contract must change:

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090926/NEWS/909260317/-1/NEWS11>

A new report by the U.S. Inspector General found Los Alamos County (NM) firefighters were inadequately trained in the last 11 years to handle the kinds of hazardous material fires possible at Los Alamos National Laboratory. The report, released Monday, said county firefighters also lacked adequate knowledge of LANL facilities and sometimes couldn't access the places they needed to fight fires, among other concerns:

<http://www.santafenewmexican.com/Local%20News/Los-Alamos-NATIONAL-LABORATORY-Report--Firefighters--training-i>

The arrest in Colorado earlier this year of three men from an irrigation ditch company on arson charges has raised the ire of farmers and firefighters who are looking at ground fires from opposite sides of the issue. The three men — Allen Letterly, 53, Lawrence Stewart, 61, and Grant Dilka, 26 — were arrested in July and charged with second-degree arson, a felony that could carry a prison sentence. The charges were dropped Thursday:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/urban-interface/articles/591361-Tempers-flare-in-rift-between-Colo-farmers-firefighters/>

A Minnesota Fire Chief is suspended over using a department fire truck for personal business – for wedding photos:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Minn-Chief-Suspended-Over-Fire-Truck-Wedding-Photos/46\\$65555](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Minn-Chief-Suspended-Over-Fire-Truck-Wedding-Photos/46$65555)

The Houston (TX) Fire Department notified a female firefighter late Tuesday she would not be returning to an airport fire station where she and another woman said they were subjected to racist and sexist graffiti two months ago:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Houston-FF-in-Graffiti-Case-Reassigned/46\\$65705](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Houston-FF-in-Graffiti-Case-Reassigned/46$65705)

The callers to 911 Thursday afternoon said there was a man bleeding from the face near the fire station in St. Petersburg, FL. Two firefighters piled into Rescue 5 to go help him. They opened the garage bay door, turned on the emergency lights and pulled forward. Then they heard a "thump." The firefighters accidentally ran over the very person they were sent to help. "They never even saw him," said St. Petersburg Fire Rescue Lt. Joel Granata. Authorities said the man who was run over is Ted Allen Lenox, a 41-year-old homeless man. He suffered life-threatening injuries and was at Bayfront Medical Center Thursday night:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-ems/articles/592949-Fla-firefighters-run-over-victim-at-firehouse/>

A Boston (MA) firefighter who alleged police brutality after cops charged him with assaulting his girlfriend was acquitted yesterday after a jury trial that raised questions about a potential cover-up by the arresting officers. Boston Police Internal Affairs has been investigating whether officers Brian Dunford and David Santosuosso beat firefighter Wayne Abron and then made up a story to explain his injuries, as the jake alleged. Dunford is the son of retired Superintendent-in-chief Robert Dunford:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/592805-cops-investigated-in-alleged-beating-of-boston-firefighter-cover-up/>

Glenoma (WA) Fire District 18 Chief Bob Matchett was put on administrative leave following an explosion in his truck last month, and said he'll take action after being bullied out of his position. Matchett went on medical leave when a spark in the back of his truck made a bucket full of resin explode on Aug. 3, sending a wall of flames into the cab and burning his body. When he came back, he claims commissioners told him the few members of his department are "against him," making him inefficient as chief:

<http://www.chronline.com/articles/2009/09/14/news/doc4aa94398755be079947383.txt>

A police cruiser and a fire truck collided last night in Rome (GA) while responding to a call; while there were no injuries, there was obviously property damage to city vehicles:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Responding-Georgia-Fire-Truck--Cruiser-Collide/46\\$65562](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Responding-Georgia-Fire-Truck--Cruiser-Collide/46$65562)

Fast Facts:

- There are no firefighters...and no police patrolling the streets of Jericho, Arkansas tonight.
- It's not because of budget cuts... But because of a disagreement that ended with a policeman shooting the fire chief.
- The issue has the town divided. Now they are looking to solve the dispute so they can be protected.

Don Payne was shot in the back by a Jericho police officer over two weeks ago now. He says he was planning on getting back to work as soon possible, until he received a termination letter from the mayor. "As it comes to my attention of the improper

behavior that you displayed as the assistant fire chief of the town of Jericho": Those are the words of Jericho mayor Helen Adams to Don Payne:

<http://www.wreg.com/wreg-jericho-fire-department%2C0%2C2367458.story>

A firetruck responding to a vehicle accident in Hunterdon County (NJ) illegally passed an ambulance headed to the same wreck, forcing the ambulance into a ditch when the truck swerved to avoid an oncoming car, an ambulance official said:

http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/hunterdon-county/express-times/index.ssf/2009/09/firetruck_passed_ambulance_ill.html

A Chicago (IL) firefighter has been charged for allegedly assaulting a police officer Sunday evening during an argument, officials said today. Scott Holland, 42, was charged with one count of aggravated battery to a peace officer and one count of resisting arrest, police said: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Chicago-Firefighter-Charged-in-Attack-on-Police-Officer/46\\$65650](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Chicago-Firefighter-Charged-in-Attack-on-Police-Officer/46$65650)

A Phoenix (AZ) Firefighter surrenders after a barricade situation. The suspect is a Phoenix firefighter who has been with the department for 20 years. Coworkers say he's a well respected member of their firefighter family. But friends of his girlfriend's sons said he has a history of drug use and abuse:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=65637§ionId=46>

Bay County (FL) officials say they terminated a white fire captain for using a racial slur against a black captain, but an advocate for the fired man said it is a case of reverse discrimination. According to documents released by the county at the request of The News Herald, Capt. Bobby Harrell is accused of calling Capt. Keith Capehart "Buckwheat," telling a fire chief that he needed to control his "boy," cursing at supervisors and saying he would become violent if a supervisor came to see him:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Florida-Fire-Captain-Fired-Over-Racial-Slur/46\\$65579](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Florida-Fire-Captain-Fired-Over-Racial-Slur/46$65579)

The Richland Township (IN) Volunteer Fire Department is reeling in the wake of news that one of its own (a convicted felon firefighter) has been arrested on suspicion of fondling a 14-year-old girl, according to fire officials:

http://www.theheraldbulletin.com/breakingnews/local_story_257225625.html

Rarely is a dispute as strange and grisly as the one that stemmed from what Travis Davis says he found under his bed. Florida firefighters bury a speaker, not the family dog as they had claimed to be doing for the family after their pet lost its life in a fire:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=65517>

Maryland Firefighter brawl caught on tape while home burns: Prince George's County officials say they'll look into possible criminal charges against firefighters who were allegedly fighting each other when they were supposed to be fighting a fire:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/16798-md-firefighter-brawl-caught-on-tape-while-home-burns/>

A wrongful death lawsuit has been filed against the city in the death of Ronald Anderson and Javarre Tate, who were killed when a Massillon (OH) Fire Department fire truck struck the vehicle Anderson was driving in 2008. Attorney Jim Mannos, of Tzangas, Plakas, Mannos and Raies, of Canton, said he filed the lawsuit Tuesday on behalf of Anderson's wife Cynthia, who is the administrator of her husband's and grandson's estates. Named in the suit is the city, the driver of the fire truck Susan Toles and Capt. Rick Annen, Toles' supervisor, who was riding in the passenger seat. "We have concluded our investigation and you can see in the allegations that we are making within the complaint as to what the cause of action we have against the city of Massillon, the driver of the truck and against her supervisor," Mannos said. "The complaint speaks for itself."

<http://www.indeonline.com/news/x2024000710/Lawsuit-filed-against-city-as-result-of-2008-fire-truck-fatality>

Jackson County (OR) Fire District No. 3 faces a \$5,000 fine for a spring training exercise that went awry, burning three firefighters and melting some of their protective gear. The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division cited the district for having what it termed "serious violations" at a burn-to-learn exercise April 25 at a house at 1860 E. Pine St., Central Point. Three firefighters — two volunteers and one district employee — received minor burns that were evaluated at Providence Medford Medical Center's emergency room after their protective gear warped and charred in intense heat, the citation said. "If the training objectives had been followed, communication with the attack team had been maintained, if the chain of command had been followed during the training exercise and/or the exercise was halted when hazards were observed by supervision, this accident would not have occurred," the state OSHA compliance officer wrote in his report:

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090917/NEWS/909170325>

A decorated volunteer firefighter in Prince George's County (MD) has been dismissed for workplace violence:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/16970-volunteer-md-firefighter-dismissed-for-workplace-violence/>

One of two city of Lawrence (MA) firehouses left vacant in the wake of last month's budget cuts and layoffs was broken into, police said. Thieves forced the front door of Engine 8 at 329 Ames St., some time Monday night and took several portable fire department radios, acting Chief Brian Murphy said yesterday. The fire apparatus has been moved to other locations:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/legislation-funding/articles/589174-Burglarized-firehouse-vacant-due-to-Mass-budget-cuts/>

A woman who worked for a rural fire district in Oregon is accused of stealing thousands of dollars. Heather Ritchie was an office administrator for the Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District for three years. She left the job in July:

<http://www.kptv.com/goodayoregon/20934782/detail.html>

Grand Junction (CO) Fire Station 4 has now reopened after having to close for a sewage leak: <http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/59618097.html>

A Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department inspector is facing six months in jail and a fine for accepting bribes: http://www.sacbee.com/state_wire/story/2208305.html

Lights, sirens and cherry-red paint screamed clues to the large vehicle's purpose on Garvin Avenue. Anyone in doubt needed only read the word "FIRE" emblazoned across the side. Neighbors watched the truck pull alongside a power pole smoldering east of Interstate 80 the morning of Sept. 12. People wearing familiar hats and jackets looked at flames licking dry wood atop the pole. Then, witnesses say, the engine drove away. The top burned off the pole, and the lights went out for a day. "A fireman in the front passenger seat of the engine got out and walked up to me and told me to stop calling them for the telephone pole fires," neighbor Mark Hembree wrote in a letter last week to Richmond (CA) Fire Chief Michael Banks. "He informed me that this was a PG&E issue and that I should call them for assistance."

http://www.sqtribune.com/california/ci_13396031

Five retired Las Vegas firefighters are suing the city of Las Vegas and the public retirement system, alleging that officials broke a contract when their retirement pay was cut. PERS says five had been overpaid, starts pay reductions, deductions:

<http://www.lvrj.com/news/ex-firefighters-sue-over-cut-in-retirement-62826487.html>

General Fire Service Related Stories:

Fire chief gets 4th ambulance on street without adding crew - Jackson Township (OH) Fire Chief Gilbert Sheets found that his ladder crew could also run a backup ambulance during downtime. Although not the preferred (or popular) way to staff apparatus, it's an example of a fire department doing the best they can with what they have to work with:

http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/09/12/newmedic.ART_ART_09-12-09_B1_2OF21SE.html?sid=101

The City of Las Vegas (NV) and the College of Southern Nevada are proud to invite members of the local media to attend the ceremonial groundbreaking of the new Fire Station/Instructional Center on Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 10 a.m. at the CSN Charleston campus. This unique, 15,400 square-foot building, to be located on the Southwest corner of the campus, will house Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Station 6, as well as 4,600 square feet of general classroom space for CSN students:

http://www.ktnv.com/Global/story.asp?S=11230379&nav=menu498_2

An ex-Firefighter, a Laurinburg (NC) man is accused of embezzling more than \$200,000 from the Scotland County Firefighters Association and the Stewartville Volunteer Fire Department: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Ex-Firefighter-Charged-with-Theft-from-NC-Fire-Groups/46\\$65727](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Ex-Firefighter-Charged-with-Theft-from-NC-Fire-Groups/46$65727)

Firefighters in Costa Mesa, California said they were called to a hospital for an unusual rescue — removing a metal ring from a man's penis:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/rescue-equipment/articles/592968-Calif-firefighters-keep-manhood-intact-during-delicate-rescue/>

Supreme Court case over firefighter promotion exam tests Westchester firm, founder. When New Haven (CT) firefighters sued for alleged reverse discrimination, the test designed by Industrial/Organizational Solutions landed in the spotlight:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-sun-firefighters-tests-0920sep20%2C0%2C7010310.story>

Never say never - Ohio Firefighters demonstrate customer service by rescuing an iguana from a tree:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Ohio-Firefighters-Rescue-Iguana-From-Tree/46\\$65827](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Ohio-Firefighters-Rescue-Iguana-From-Tree/46$65827)

Police said people in Roseville (CA) are at risk because thieves have been stealing fire hydrants. Police said the thieves know how to turn off the water to the hydrant and how to disassemble it. They take the hydrants in order to sell the metal inside, police said:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Thieves-Steal-Fire-Hydrants-in-Calif-/46\\$65755](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Thieves-Steal-Fire-Hydrants-in-Calif-/46$65755)

A Camarillo (CA) man who worked for a fire protection company has been charged with impersonating a fire investigator to swindle local businesses. Fire officials say Fernando Castillo was charged Monday with targeting mostly small and immigrant-owned businesses by saying he was a fire marshal and threatening to close the businesses down if the fire extinguishers were not immediately serviced:

<http://www.kcoy.com/Global/story.asp?S=11130444>

The New York City Fire Department (FDNY) is responding to fires faster than at any other time on record, Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta announced today, crediting new dispatch protocols and improved technology for helping firefighters get to emergencies more quickly than ever before. The city also has had 44 fire deaths so far this year – fewer than ever before. In 2008, there were 59 fire deaths from January to August; in 2007, there were 64. Fire deaths in the last seven years are the lowest ever recorded in city history:

<http://www.firefighternation.com/forum/topics/fdny-records-faster-response>

The FDNY Uniformed Fire Officers Association disputes the response times in the article above:

http://www.ny1.com/content/top_stories/105841/fdny-response-times-down--commish-says/Default.aspx

Firefighters in Oregon climb higher to raise money for cystic fibrosis fight:

http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/09/firefighters_climb_higher_to_r.html

Firefighters and safety advocates say they could triumph over the "last bastion of America's fire problem" — the family home — if officials require sprinklers in every new home. However, homebuilders warn it's not that simple and could prove a risky

decision during a recession, adding thousands to the cost of homes as the housing market starts to recover. State and local officials are now wrestling over whether to adopt building codes that would require sprinklers in every new home and townhome starting in 2011 amid intense lobbying from both sides. For those of us that oppose sprinklers (because they would reduce the number of fires, just like some folks don't think fire prevention is that important or glamorous, and may also put us out of business), think about this – if every home was sprinklered, the number of firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty may also reduce, since many of our line-of-duty-deaths are occurring in single-family homes. Food for thought:

<http://www.newsvine.com/news/2009/09/18/3285259-builders-firefighters-differ-on-sprinkler-rules>

Jay (ME) - Fire Rescue Chief Scott Shink resigns, saying the job is too tough. In his resignation letter, Shink wrote "As I have stated in several conversations with you (Town Manager Ruth Marden) over the past year that the position of a volunteer fire chief is becoming more difficult each year with mandates, training, and the declining number of volunteers. My passion to serve in this role has diminished and it has become just another time consuming job."

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Maine-Vol-Fire-Chief-Quits--Says-Its-Too-Much-Work/46\\$65548](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Maine-Vol-Fire-Chief-Quits--Says-Its-Too-Much-Work/46$65548)

A creative way to recruit personnel: due to the extremely low numbers of paramedics in the state of Tennessee, the Memphis Fire Department learned of a large supply of paramedics in the state of Ohio and has since hired over 100 paramedics to come work in their state and their fire department:

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2009/sep/14/supply-and-demand/>

Washington D.C. Fire & EMS (DCFD) addresses "frequent flyers" with a special unit, to help reduce the large workload of many of their engine companies and ambulances:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-ems/articles/589810-DC-Fire-EMS-addresses-frequent-flyers-with-special-unit/>

Two Franklin Township (IN) firefighters were hurt during a hose testing exercise Thursday morning. The metal coupling from that section of hose hit 29-year-old firefighter Sean Schembra in the head. Another firefighter, Justin Goff, suffered a knee injury. Not sure whether they were wearing helmets or other personal protective equipment, things some of us tend to not want to wear unless it is an actual fire or emergency incident – a good reminder that firefighters can get killed or injured even just doing routine work at the fire station, such as testing hose:

<http://www.firefighternation.com/forum/topics/indiana-firefighters-hurt>

15 Las Vegas (NV) firefighter openings draw hundreds of hopefuls:

<http://www.lvrj.com/news/15-lv-firefighter-openings-draw-hundreds-of-hopefuls-62542052.html>

A county judge on Monday denied an emergency petition by Braeview (PA) firefighters to block Lower Burrell Council's resolution to close their volunteer fire department:

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/valleynewsdispatch/lifestyles/s_645535.html

Lane County's commissioners sat down with the city council members of Eugene (OR) and Springfield Monday to continue talks about merging the cities' fire departments. The proposed merger would create one of the largest fire departments in the state. The idea is to save money by consolidating administrative positions. A number of people are retiring, and any redundant positions would be absorbed but the number of firefighters and paramedics would stay the same. Some expensive reserve equipment could be eliminated: http://www.kmtr.com/news/local/story/Talks-continue-over-fire-service-merger/pBh3_Y_QEE6pOF0j-NoiYQ.csp

Federal authorities are investigating a May 21 warehouse fire that seriously injured a San Francisco (CA) paramedic-firefighter. Investigators from the National Institute of Health and Safety launched the probe several weeks ago at the urging of firefighter union officials, said San Francisco Fire Department Deputy Chief of Operations Pat Gardner: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/Feds-called-in-to-investigate-May-blaze-that-hurt-firefighter-59081237.html>

An Oregon-based firefighting helicopter that crashed last year and killed nine men was 2,000 pounds heavier than U.S. Forest Service guidelines recommend, documents from the National Transportation Safety Board show. That put it near its maximum weight for a safe, vertical takeoff under the weather conditions, according to documents released by the agency Wednesday. That means the helicopter, laden with fuel, firefighters & equipment, required nearly the maximum power the engines could provide: www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/09/feds_say_helicopter_that_crash.html

Police officers in Lawrence (IN) have been told they should wait for firefighters to arrive at the scene of a burning building, even if they know someone is trapped inside. The policy change was prompted by a concern for officer safety, police officials told 6News' Jack Rinehart. "Whenever possible, we'll let those professionals deal with the fire who have the right equipment, and the ability to save themselves, as well as the victims," said Lawrence police Chief Paul Whitehead: <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/20949716/detail.html>

An Arizona Fire Chief addresses the facts about recent fire at Paradise Lake, after numerous citizens and the media apparently made uneducated and uninformed statements, something we have to deal with (tactfully and respectfully) on a regular basis; some fire departments do a great job at media relations, some do not. In this case, the Fire Chief seems to make a very rational statement (as opposed to emotional, which is often the case when people are on the defensive) as to why things occurred the way they did: http://www.trivalleycentral.com/articles/2009/09/17/arizona_city_independent/news/doc4aafd-eddb1367370983298.txt

The City of Salt Lake City (UT) is facing a potential gap in ambulance service: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/print/705333224/SL-facing-ambulance-service-gap.html>
The proposal to combine the Kansas City (MO) ambulance transport provider (MAST) with the Kansas City Fire Department appears to be a volatile issue: <http://www.kansascity.com/105/story/1450972.html>

Maricopa (AZ) firefighters are hoping to look pretty in pink. That's because starting Thursday and running throughout the month of October, firefighters in Maricopa are exchanging their navy blue shirts for pink ones to honor breast cancer awareness:

<http://www.abc15.com/content/news/centralsouthernarizona/maricopa/story/Maricopa-firefighters-will-be-pretty-in-pink-for/FyhSDHpgdEeAlakNfG6Lww.csp>

And last, but not definitely least, take a look at two reality shows relating to the fire service:

1. The first one is from the Orange County Fire Authority (CA)

FOX REALITY CHANNEL HEATS UP THIS FALL WITH THE ACADEMY: ORANGE COUNTY FIRE The Academy: Orange County Fire marks the third season of the Fox Reality Channel original series franchise, The Academy. Only the toughest can take the heat when California's Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) opens its doors to give viewers an unprecedented behind-the-scenes look at the training process for recruits of OCFA Recruit Academy 36. Watch as 28 recruits endure 18-weeks of grueling fire academy training in order to become Orange County Firefighters.

<http://www.thefutoncritic.com/news.aspx?id=20090910foxreality01>

2. The second one is from the Compton (CA) Fire Department. "First In" follows the CFD as they provide service to their community and bring you into the daily life of a Compton Firefighter:

<http://www.bet.com/ontv/betshows/firstin/>

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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