



# ***FIRE & EMS NEWS***

**September 11, 2009**

---

**W**elcome 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.

**T**his edition is dedicated to all of those first responders that were murdered on September 11, 2001, a day that has changed our lives and a day I hope we will never forget and never have happen to the fire service and our country again. Unfortunately in today's world, we cannot assume that tragic day will never occur again, due to a variety of reasons. If we let our guards down, complacency may get the best of us.

**N**umerous first responders, including the 343 Fire Department New York (FDNY) personnel and numerous law enforcement and Emergency Medical Service personnel lost their lives (in addition to the numerous civilians) on that tragic day. Before we get to the information within this latest newsletter, please let's have a moment of silence for all of those who lost their lives on 9/11/01, and for those whose lives have been altered forever, based on the events that occurred.

---

## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT INFO – FREMONT, CA:**

**T**he [Fremont Fire Department](#) will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter/Paramedic** (Lateral) – the first review will occur on September 25, 2009.

**F**or more information about the **City of Fremont**, visit their website at: [www.fremont.gov](http://www.fremont.gov)

**F**or more information about the **Fremont Fire Department**, visit their website at: [www.fremont.gov/index.aspx?nid=96](http://www.fremont.gov/index.aspx?nid=96)

**F**or more information about the **Fremont Firefighters Association, I.A.F.F. Local 1689**, visit our website at [www.fremontfire.org/](http://www.fremontfire.org/)

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

- The following information was provided by the City of Fremont and you can find the information on their website – [www.fremont.gov](http://www.fremont.gov) - specifically the Human Resources section.

Monthly Salary: \$7,139 - \$8,509 DOQ

A tradition of excellence! Come be a part of a nationally recognized department!

The City of Fremont Fire Department is nationally recognized for excellence. Our state of the art rolling stock includes 11 front line engines, 2 ladder trucks and 3 specialty rigs stationed at 11 modern fire houses nearing completion after a \$51 million rebuild and renovation project. The Fire Department maintains an innovative and cutting edge paramedic program; community disaster preparedness training; a State-certified rescue team at the “heavy” level; hazardous materials management services for over 1,000 facilities; Urban Search and Rescue services with California Task Force 4; and is one of 124 Metropolitan Medical Response System Cities nationwide with enhanced terrorism response plans and capabilities.

**The Position**

Under direct supervision, the Firefighter-Paramedic will perform first responder Advanced Life Support in a pre-hospital emergency care setting and provide emergency medical assistance to victims of accidents, injuries or illness; participate in fire suppression, fire prevention and fire administration activities; respond to fire, hazardous material and rescue emergencies; maintain, test and operate tools and equipment; perform fire station maintenance; drill and train; participate in public relations activities; and perform related duties as required. The probationary period for this position is twenty-four (24) months.

**Qualifications & Skills**

*Highly Desirable*

- Two (2) years experience as a full-time, paid firefighter-paramedic with a federal, state or municipal fire department within the state of California or graduation from the XAL Academy and continuous employment since graduation as a firefighter-paramedic in a federal, state or municipal fire department within California.
- Current accreditation as a paramedic in the County in which the applicant is now employed.

*Minimum Requirements*

- Minimum of six (6) months experience as an Advanced Life Support provider.
- California Paramedic License with current certifications in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS or PEPP) and Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) or Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS), or equivalent.
- Alameda County Paramedic Accreditation by the completion of the City of Fremont EMS Preceptor Program.
- Ability to obtain a California State Accredited Firefighter I certificate within the first year of the probationary period.

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

- Ability to obtain a California State Accredited Firefighter II certificate and complete the Fremont Fire department acting Engineer program by the end of the probationary period.
- Have, or ability to obtain, a valid Class C California Driver's License by time of appointment.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a valid Class B California Driver's License with tank endorsement by completion of the probationary period.
- Any combination of education and/or experience that has provided the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for satisfactory job performance would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge, skills, and abilities would be graduation from High School.
- Pass an extensive background check.
- Pass job-related psychological and medical examinations, which will include a drug screen.
- Vision requirements: Not less than 20/100 in each eye correctable to not less than 20/30 in each eye with glasses; without functional color blindness or impairment. Limitations in the field of vision may be disqualifying.

### **Selection Process**

Based on a review of application materials submitted, only those candidates who have the best combination of qualifications in relation to the highly desired and required elements of the position will continue in the selection process. The process will begin as soon as a sufficient number of qualified candidates are identified, but not sooner than September 25, 2009. Meeting the minimum qualifications does not guarantee an invitation to participate in the process. This process may consist of an interview by a panel, a paramedic skills assessment or other related components. Candidates who pass this phase may be asked to participate in a background investigation and have the opportunity to be placed on an eligibility list and continue to the Chief's interview.

Candidates are expected to be in a physical condition that will allow them to perform all essential functions of the position.

### **Recruitment Period**

Application materials will be accepted until a sufficient number of qualified candidates are received. The first review date is September 25, 2009. This recruitment may close without notice after the first review date.

### **Application Instructions**

To be considered for this position, submit a completed City application and photocopies of California Paramedic License, Class C California Driver's License and paramedic credentials/certifications to the Human Resources Department or place in the Employment Application drop box (located near the entrance to City Hall). City applications may be obtained from our website at [www.fremont.gov/employment](http://www.fremont.gov/employment) - by calling 510-494-4660, or from the Human Resources Department at 3300 Capitol Ave, Fremont, CA 94538.

Application materials will be accepted until a sufficient number of qualified candidates are received. The first review date is September 25, 2009. This recruitment may close without notice after the review date. Date of hire is anticipated to be January 25, 2010.

**Compensation & Benefits**

The monthly salary range is \$7,139 to \$8,509 depending on qualifications.

**Benefits include:**

- California Public Employees' Retirement System, 3% at 50 plan; the 9% employee paid portion of the PERS retirement contribution is tax deferred pursuant to IRC 414(h)(2).
- Annual vacation of 158 hours for years 1 through 5, increasing to a maximum of 295 hours after 20 years.
- 12 hours of sick leave per month, with Sick Leave Incentive Plan.
- Cafeteria Benefit Plan for full or partial payment of medical insurance or a cash option, including coverage for domestic partners.
- \$2,500 bonus upon re-licensure as a paramedic.
- 144 hours of holiday pay, with pay out options.
- Education incentive pay program, longevity pay, specialty pays, an employee assistance plan, and Credit Union membership available.
- City-paid \$50,000 term life insurance.

Contact the City:

Phone: (510) 494-4660

Job Hotline: (510) 494-4669

Website: [www.fremont.gov/employment](http://www.fremont.gov/employment)

---

**FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION – 28<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL  
FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL WEEKEND:**

**28th National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend to be Held  
October 2 - 4, 2009**

Emmitsburg, MD - The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Fire Administration announce that the 28th annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend will be held October 2-4, 2009. A plaque with the names of 103 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2008 will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, located here on the National Fire Academy campus. The names of 19 firefighters who died in previous years will also be added. The plaques surrounding the Memorial, which was established in 1981, will contain the names of more than 3,300 firefighters.

Thirty-six states experienced line-of-duty deaths in 2008. Deaths resulted from many causes, including vehicle accidents while enroute to or returning from emergency calls, training incidents, building collapses, diving incidents, natural disaster response, being struck by objects (vehicles, trees, waterway from aerial devices, and gunshot wounds) at the incident scene, falls, heart attacks, helicopter/air tanker crashes, and burns. Five multiple fatality incidents accounted for 17 deaths. Two multiple fatality incidents occurred at structural fires, one in an apparatus crash after a bridge collapse during heavy smoke conditions at a wildland fire, one helicopter crash during a wildland fire, and one air tanker that crashed on take-off. Wildland fires, controlled burns and training/certification for wildland protection resulted in 15 fatalities. Oregon and North Carolina suffered the Nation's greatest number of line-of-duty firefighter deaths in 2008 with 9 in each state, while Pennsylvania and New York had 8, Missouri had 7, and California had 6.

Chief Dennis Compton, Chairman of the NFFF Board of Directors, stated: "Our country's firefighters make a commitment day in and day out to protect others from the ravages of fire and many other life threatening hazards. Each year we gather at the site of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland, to pay tribute to those firefighters who paid the ultimate price in the performance of their duties. The fire service is honored and humbled to memorialize these fallen heroes and show our sincere appreciation for the sacrifices made by those they left behind."

For more information about the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend visit [Weekend.FireHero.org](http://Weekend.FireHero.org).

---

## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT INFO – BAKERSFIELD, CA:**

**T**he [Bakersfield Fire Department](http://Bakersfield Fire Department) will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter** until September 17, 2009.

**F**or more information about the **City of Bakersfield**, visit their website at: [www.bakersfieldcity.us](http://www.bakersfieldcity.us)

**F**or more information about the **Bakersfield Fire Department**, visit their website at: [www.bakersfieldcity.us/fire/index.htm](http://www.bakersfieldcity.us/fire/index.htm)

**F**or more information about the **Bakersfield Firefighters Association, I.A.F.F. Local 246**, visit our website at [www.bakersfieldfirefighters.com](http://www.bakersfieldfirefighters.com)

- The following information was taken from the City of Bakersfield website – [www.bakersfieldcity.us](http://www.bakersfieldcity.us) - specifically the employment section.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

**Job Title:** Firefighter

**Closing Date/Time:** Thu. 09/17/09 4:00 PM Pacific Time

**Salary:** \$24.28 - \$29.57 Hourly - \$4,209.29 - \$5,124.63 Monthly

**Job Type:** Full-Time Regular

**Location:** Bakersfield, CA, California

[Description](#) [Benefits](#) [Supplemental Questions](#)

APPLICATION FILING DATE & LOCATION: A COMPLETED City Application and required Certificates/Letter must be hand delivered by the applicant or his/her designee on September 16 or 17, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Olive Drive Fire Training Facility, Classroom C-D, 5642 Victor Street, Bakersfield, CA 93308, (661)391-7106. An Official City Application Packet may be printed off of the City website at <http://www.bakersfieldcity.us> or obtained in person from the Human Resources Office, 1600 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

\*\*\*NOTE: Applications for FIREFIGHTER will NOT be accepted by the Human Resources Office. An application submitted or received by the Human Resources Office before or after the filing date & time, through the mail, by a delivery service, e-mail, or via fax will not be accepted.

**Representative Duties:**

EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS MUST BE PROPERLY COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS ON THE FACE OF APPLICATION FORM; OTHERWISE, THE APPLICATION WILL BE REJECTED. RESUMES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF COMPLETED APPLICATION.

Applicants are hired as a Firefighter Trainee (\$2,827/mo) and assigned to the Firefighter Academy and must successfully complete all of the requirements that lead to the appointment as a probationary Firefighter (\$4,209/mo) or be terminated from the position.

Applicants must attach one of the following Firefighter I certificates or letter with their application:

FIREFIGHTER I CERTIFICATE/ACADEMY:

1. A California State Fire Marshal Firefighter I Certificate; ~OR~
2. A California State Fire Marshal certified Firefighter I Academy Certificate; ~OR~
3. A letter from the Academy Director certifying current enrollment and attendance in a California State Fire Marshal certified Firefighter I Academy with a completion date no later than December 11, 2009. Letter must be on official letterhead and must include the name of Firefighter Academy, Academy Director's name and signature, phone number, applicants name and social security number, and date of completion.

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT):

4. Applicants will be required to possess a CPAT card no later than October 26, 2009 issued by a certified California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFFJAC) Testing agency. A CPAT card must be dated within the past twelve (12) months at the time of filing application. If you currently possess a CPAT card, attach a copy with your application when filing. For more information about CPAT and testing schedule, visit their website at [www.cpatonline.org](http://www.cpatonline.org) or contact them at (877)648-2728.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

**NON-SMOKING REQUIREMENT:** Prospective employees will be required to sign an affidavit indicating that they have not smoked during the twelve (12) month period prior to hiring by the City. Further, they will agree that they will not smoke, either on or off duty, during the term of their employment with the City. Violation of the non-smoking agreement will result in disciplinary action.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

**AGE:** Must be 18 years of age at time of written exam.

**EDUCATION:** High School Diploma or G.E.D.

**LICENSE:** Possess a valid driver's license. All firefighters will be required to obtain the Class B California driver's license and certifications by the end of their probationary period.

**EMT:** Possession of a valid EMT 1 Certificate (candidates who do not have their certificate must obtain it within six (6) months of their appointment)

***DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:*** Paramedic Certificate and completed college level coursework and/or degree in Fire Science or related field.

**Supplemental Information:**

**EXAMINATIONS:**

**Written Exam:** (Pass/Fail) September 24, 2009 (Tentative) The written exam is the first phase of the examination process. The written exam may consist of a reading comprehension, public relations, interpersonal skills, mechanical aptitude, mathematical ability and cognitive mapping. A minimum passing score of 70% is required.

**Background Investigation:** (Pass/Fail) Prior to appointment, applicant must successfully complete an investigation of their personal history and background to determine suitability for the position of Firefighter with the Bakersfield Fire Department.

**Oral Appraisal Interview:** (Weighted 100%) October 26 – October 30, 2009 (Tentative) An appraisal will be made of applicants training, education, experience, communication skills and personal qualifications for the position. A minimum rating of 70% is required to qualify for the eligible list.

**\*\*NOTE: APPLICANTS RECEIVING A CONDITIONAL OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT MUST SUCCESSFULLY PASS A PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION AND A PRE-PLACEMENT MEDICAL EXAMINATION WHICH WILL INCLUDE A SUBSTANCE ABUSE SCREENING.**



---

## **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!

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

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

- Fire Command 1C - *(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.

---

## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT INFO:**

- ***FIREHIRE* - APPLICATION PERIOD ENDING SOON!!!!**

**The next application cut-off date is October 2, 2009.**

Please remember that they **MUST** have your application packet and payment postmarked by the posted application cut-off date. If it is not received by that date, your application will be carried over to the next application period.

Applications are available to download from [www.firehire.com/downloads.htm](http://www.firehire.com/downloads.htm)

You can also get an application mailed to you by calling their office at (800) 755-5891

- **OVER 20 DIFFERENT FIRE DEPARTMENTS WILL BE HIRING OFF THIS LIST!!!**

**I**f you don't make this application cut-off date, you'll have to wait for future application filing deadlines:

- May 1, 2010
- October 2, 2010
- May 7, 2011

**B**enefits of taking this test include:

- You're only taking one test (as opposed to separate tests for each fire department)
- The hiring list will be in effect for one year
- There is a chance other fire departments will hire off of this list

**Y**ou may be wondering, is any fire department going to be hiring? Of course! While the California budget crisis has impacted a number of their clients, and there are some agencies that do not have or do not anticipate any openings in the next year, there are always going to be some departments that will be hiring.

**W**hy then would a department participate if they were not planning on hiring? Well, number one, things can and do change. Just because a department does not have any openings as of this moment, does not mean that situation cannot change over night. Firefighters retire, firefighters get injured, firefighters quit (usually to go to other departments), many times without any advance notice to the department. Number two, many fire departments are required to keep a current, active hiring list because of their civil service rules or union contract. Even if they do not anticipate hiring, many departments still have to have a current list. Why is that so? Well, just like number one, things can and do change. Additionally, it allows them to get the most current "best-of-the-best" candidates out there. Even though fire departments are facing severe (or potentially severe) budget shortfalls, it does not mean they won't ever hire again. Departments will have to hire at some time in the future to fill vacancies from retirements, permanent injuries, etc. The question is when, and **the bottom line is that if you are not actively testing and on the current hiring list, you do not stand a chance at getting a badge!**

**T**he financial situation in the State is very dynamic and it is just a matter of time when it gets better (when exactly is anyone's guess). If you decide not to test because of the budget problems, that is your choice. Many departments **ONLY** hire candidates from the [Firehire](#) testing process. So, if you don't take the test, you don't stand a chance.

**S**ome of the fire departments might have other requirements (view the Firehire web site at [www.firehire.com](http://www.firehire.com) for more specific information) such as:

- EMT
- Paramedic
- Firefighter – 1 Academy
- Firefighter – 1 Certificate

**F**or application materials or more information, visit their website at [www.firehire.com](http://www.firehire.com) or if you do not have internet access, call them at 1-800-755-5891.

**T**he following fire departments are expected to be participating (based on the information I had available at the time I printed this document) in this recruitment and will be using the list that is established to hire for open positions:

**Fire Department**

- [Albany Fire Department](#) –
- [American Canyon F.P.D.](#) –

**Positions available**

Firefighter/Paramedic  
Firefighter/EMT

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

- [Big Bear Lake F.P.D.](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Central County Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Cosumnes Community Services F.P.D.](#) Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [El Cerrito Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Kentfield Fire Protection District](#) – Firefighter/EMT
- [Larkspur Fire Protection District](#) – Firefighter/EMT
- [Millbrae Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Mill Valley Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Mountain View Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [North County Fire Authority](#) – Brisbane Firefighter/EMT
- [North County Fire Authority](#) – Daly City Firefighter/EMT
- [North County Fire Authority](#) – Pacifica Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Petaluma Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Piedmont Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Redwood City Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Rio Vista Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Ross Valley Fire Authority](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [San Bruno Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT
- [San Mateo Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [South Lake Tahoe Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Vallejo Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Woodside Fire District](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic

**CPAT – Physical Ability Test Information**

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

**The CPAT card/certificate must be dated LESS THAN ONE YEAR OLD from the date of the written examination that you are participating in.**

**FIREHIRE Written Examination Study Guide**

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

**WRITTEN EXAMINATION DATES/TIMES**

The written examinations will be held at the Barbara Morse Wackford Community Center at 9014 Bruceville Road in Elk Grove, California. The written test is weighted 100%.

**Upcoming written test dates include:**

- October 13, 2009
- May 17, 2010

## **ALS ASSESSMENT CENTER EXAMINATION**

If you are applying for a paramedic position, you must successfully complete the Advanced Life Support (ALS) assessment center.

### **Upcoming ALS assessment center dates include:**

- October 23 – 24, 2009
- May 29 -30, 2010

## **HIRING AND THE ECONOMY-PART 2**

Yes, the economy is hurting the fire service. There are numerous agencies that are not hiring what they anticipated or not hiring at all. It is unfortunate, but most fire agencies realize that it is cheaper to pay overtime than it is to hire new employees. It's all cyclic and it will turn itself around. **SO DON'T GIVE UP.**

---

## **FIRE SERVICE CHARITY EVENT HOSTED BY OUR BROTHERS AT FIRENUGGETS.COM:**

Greetings to everyone,

It is that time of the year again and so I extend to all of you an invitation to attend the 8th Annual Andy Fredericks Memorial Golf Tournament. This comes to you with mixed emotion as I have held off sending this, out of respect for the late Chief Bennie Crane, Chicago Fire Department, who passed away July 4. He was a Fire Service icon, legend, friend, mentor, and true class act. Should any of you wish to share your thoughts with the readers of Firenuggets.com or have any photos of Bennie you would like to have us post please feel free to send them my way.

Now to the business at hand. As most of you know, you **DO NOT** need to play golf to attend the golf tournament. It is an outstanding opportunity to meet leaders of our great profession to network and just have a good time, while keeping in mind the theme and purpose of the event, to honor Andy Fredericks and raise money for scholarships in his name. This annual event is attended by firefighters, training officers, and chief officers from all around the country, and representatives from some of the most generous apparatus and equipment manufactureres in our profession.

The golf tournament is scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2009 at Greenhorn Creek Resort in Angels Camp, California. ([www.greenhorncreek.com](http://www.greenhorncreek.com)) As we have always done in the past, there will be a pizza and beer night the day before the tournament.

- Please note – this will be the last golf tournament, so take the opportunity to take part in history and more importantly, pay tribute to a couple of fire service legends.

**THE REGISTRATION FORM FOUND ON THE WEBSITE – [www.firenuggets.com](http://www.firenuggets.com) SHOULD ANSWER MOST OF YOUR QUESTIONS. PLEASE READ IT THOROUGHLY BEFORE**

**FILLING OUT AND SUBMITTING. YOU WILL PREVENT MUCH GRIEF AND HEARTACHE BY GIVING IT YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION BEFORE SUBMITTING.**

If you have questions please feel free to e-mail me at [tedcorp@mlode.com](mailto:tedcorp@mlode.com) or call my cell phone at (209) 743-6205.

Thank you,  
Ted Corporandy  
Firenuggets.com ([www.firenuggets.com](http://www.firenuggets.com))

---

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

**Firenuggets.com**

In Cooperation With

**Modesto City Firefighters Association L1289**

**PRESENTS**

*Deputy Chief Mike Bryant*

Los Angeles County Fire Department

**“COMMAND AND CONTROL”**

**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:

Modesto Centre Plaza - **September 29 and 30**, 2009 - 09:00 -16:00 each day  
1000 L Street  
Modesto, 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](http://www.firenuggets.com) for registration and more detailed information.

---

## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT INFO – HAYWARD, CA:**

The [Hayward Fire Department](http://www.haywardfire.org) will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter Trainee** until September 25, 2009.

**F**or more information about the **City of Hayward**, visit their website at: [www.hayward-ca.gov/](http://www.hayward-ca.gov/)

**F**or more information about the **Hayward Fire Department**, visit their website at: [www.hayward-ca.gov/departments/fire/sfire.shtm](http://www.hayward-ca.gov/departments/fire/sfire.shtm)

**F**or more information about the **Hayward Firefighters Association, I.A.F.F. Local 1909**, visit our website at [www.haywardfirefighters.org/](http://www.haywardfirefighters.org/)

- The following information was taken from the City of Hayward website – [www.hayward-ca.gov/](http://www.hayward-ca.gov/) - specifically the employment section.

**Close Date:** Sep 25, 2009

**Salary:** \$5,938.00 Monthly

**Firefighter Trainee - Monthly Salary Range: \$5,938**

**Firefighter - Monthly Salary Range: \$6,530 - \$7,915**

The Firefighter Trainee position transitions into the position of Firefighter. The Firefighter Trainee is hired into a civilian position for the period during the time they are assigned to the fire academy. Upon successful completion of training at the academy Trainees will then be sworn in and appointed to the classification of Firefighter. Firefighter Trainee benefits are limited to those of a civilian employee.

The position of Firefighter responds to emergency alarms, lays lines, directs streams of water and other extinguishers. Carries and sets up ladders, ventilate buildings, rescues persons and animals. The Firefighter attends to victims in emergency situations using prescribed paramedic techniques; provides medical aid; administers drugs; gives injections; starts intravenous solutions; takes and monitors vital signs; takes appropriate action to preserve life as prescribed by Alameda County protocols, the Base Hospital, via direct radio or telephone contact or physician on scene. In addition a firefighter may be required to drive department ambulance and transport emergency patients.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. 18 years of age at time of initial interview.
2. Education equivalent to completion of the 12th grade (High School diploma or GED)
3. Vision correctable to at least 20/30 in each eye.
4. Possession of a valid Class C California drivers license at time of appointment.
5. Possession of and the ability to maintain local accreditation certificate from Alameda County as a paramedic upon completion of the 16-week Recruit Academy.
6. Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification. **(COPY of certificate must be attached to application for consideration).**
7. Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) or Basic Trauma Life Support Certificate (BTLS). **(COPY of certificate must be attached to application for consideration).**
8. Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certificate or a valid Pediatric Education for Pre-hospital Professional (PEPP) certification. **(COPY of certificate must be attached to application for consideration).**



**NOTE:** Candidates currently in Paramedic Programs may apply and compete for placement on Eligibility List. However, before candidate can be considered for the position, candidate must possess a valid California Paramedic License.

**SELECTION PROCEDURE:**

**Written Exam:** (Pass/Fail) Tentatively scheduled for **5:30 PM, October 8, 2009**. Candidates must pass written to qualify for the physical performance test.

**Physical Performance Test:** (Pass/Fail) Tentatively scheduled for **October 30 and 31, 2009**, (alternate date in case of inclement weather will be scheduled on **November 2, 2009**), at the Training Center at 1401 West Winton, Hayward. All parts of this event must be passed.

**Oral Interview:** Interview before a qualifications appraisal panel to determine ranking on the Firefighter eligible list. Candidates must achieve a score of 70% or better to be placed on the list. Tentatively scheduled for **November 18, 19, and 20, 2009**.

**Selection Interview:** Interview before a qualifications appraisal panel comprised of chief officers. Candidates will be required to successfully climb an aerial ladder.

**Comprehensive Background Investigation:** Includes personal history, prior job performance and activities that may negatively affect job performance.

**Medical Examination.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE CITY'S DISCRETION.

**APPLICATIONS:** To obtain a City of Hayward employment application:

1) File online at: [www.hayward-ca.gov](http://www.hayward-ca.gov) or [www.CalOpps.org](http://www.CalOpps.org)

2) Visit the Human Resources Department at Hayward City Hall located at 777 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541-5007, or call for an application to be mailed (510) 583-4500. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

---

**ARE YOU A FIREFIGHTER WHO HAS BEEN LAID OFF?**

**I**f so, I want to extend to you a free, 2 hour oral interview private coaching session to help you get back on your feet. Included in this session will be free resume evaluation and critiquing for improvement.

**W**hile lay offs used to be unheard of in the fire service, we are starting to see more and more communities being forced to lay off firefighters due to the tough economic times. While some laid off firefighters are fortunate to get picked up rather quickly by other fire departments (our department picked up three laid off firefighters from a neighboring department), many find themselves in a very tough situation, due to a variety of reasons such as the lack of local openings and the fact that they may not be on top of their game when it comes to competing with the thousands of other firefighter candidates.

**J**ust because you are laid off, it doesn't mean you automatically go to the top of the hiring list without having to participate in a testing process. Every fire department and governing body has different rules as to how to hire firefighters, so it is not guaranteed that a laid off firefighter gets a 100% score and ranks #1 on the hiring list, without having participated in a written exam, an oral interview, and the other typical components of a fire department testing process.

**O**ne of the challenges of being laid off is that you may have been on the job for a few years and the last thing you have been doing is staying on top of your oral interview skills, not to mention keeping your resume up-to-date.

**F**or more information, please email me at [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) and I will provide you with more details, including what is required.

---

## **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](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov). Human Resources is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.ncti-online.com) (click on Las Vegas)

College of Southern Nevada

[www.ccsn.edu/health](http://www.ccsn.edu/health) (click on Emergency Medical Technician)

EMS Training Center of Southern Nevada

[www.emstrainingcenter.com](http://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.lvccld.org/cardservices/call.cfm](http://www.lvccld.org/cardservices/call.cfm).

**F**or 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>

---

## **PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION COURSE:**

**B**y popular demand, I have added a 3rd day to my promotional preparation course to allow more time for hands-on practice at various promotional related exercises!

### **Next Scheduled Class:**

- Tuesday **October 6** and Wednesday **October 7** and Thursday **October 8**, 2009
- **San Ramon, CA**

*Class size is limited, so register early!*

## **How To Excel At Fire Service Promotional Exams!**

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

### TOPICS TO BE COVERED INCLUDE:

- 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.

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

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

**To Register:** Go to [www.code3firetraining.com](http://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](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) for more information.

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

**Class Details:**

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

Is your fire department interested in hosting one of these classes? If so, feel free to contact me at [sprziborowski@aol.com](mailto:sprziborowski@aol.com) for more information on how easy it is to do so; I will make it as turn-key as possible, and require only the use of a classroom. I will even handle registration!

---

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

**USFA Releases Technical Report on Fire Departments and Maritime Interface Area Preparedness**

Emmitsburg, MD - The United States Fire Administration (USFA) released today, as part of the Technical Report Series, a new report entitled [Fire Departments and Maritime Interface Area Preparedness](#) (PDF, 937 Kb). This report addresses fire department preparedness for incidents in maritime areas and the importance of establishing a multiagency response capability that includes law enforcement, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), port authorities, the private sector, emergency medical services, and emergency management agencies. Stakeholders in maritime emergency preparedness include Federal, State, and local governments as well as commercial private-sector entities and labor organizations.



“The fire service is always seeking ways to improve its operations and preparedness activities. The fire service continues to be reminded as to the importance of multiagency planning and conducting those actions that prepare fire departments for working with other levels of government in response to very complex infrastructures,” said U.S. Deputy Fire Administrator Glenn A. Gaines. “Lessons are learned from each response to an emergency incident. Feedback on incident and command actions shared with the fire service becomes a valuable learning opportunity and enhances everyone’s preparedness for such emergencies.”

The USFA develops reports on selected major fires throughout the country. Under this project, the USFA also develops special reports addressing a variety of issues that affect the fire service such as homeland security and disaster preparedness, new technologies, training, fireground tactics, and firefighter health and safety. This body of work provides detailed information on the nature of the fire problem and the many types of services provided by fire departments. The information informs policymakers – who must decide on allocations of resources between fire and other pressing problems – and personnel within the fire service, who must decide on how best to improve codes and code enforcement, training, public fire education, building technology, and other related areas.

“These reports provide detailed information for policymakers and individuals within the fire service who can use the information to improve preparedness activities throughout their organizations and communities,” continued Gaines.

To download this report, or other USFA Technical Reports, visit the [Publications](#) section of the USFA Web site.

---

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES – FREE!**

### **BACK TO SCHOOL TIME – NFA ONLINE IS HERE!**

While many of us are busy getting our children ready for another school year, it is important to remember to schedule time for training for ourselves! NFA Online offers FREE training at your fingertips 24 hours a day online! Courses are available in 11 different subject areas including Incident Management, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Prevention, Wildland Fire, and Information Management.

- Looking for an introduction to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)? Check out our Q494 – NFIRS 5.0 Self Study course.
- Looking for a Leadership course? Check out our Q318 – Fire Service Supervision course.
- You may be familiar with the National Fire Academy’s (NFA) weekly issues of Coffee Break Training. Did you know that we have taken the weekly issues and compiled them into Volumes and offer each Volume as a stand-alone course? There are currently 10 Volumes of Coffee Break Training available for self study through NFA Online!

**Added Benefit!** Need Continuing Education Units (CEUs)? Successful completion of any NFA Online course will earn you CEUs ranging from 0.1 CEU to 1.5 CEUs. The NFA works with the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) to provide the CEUs.

Visit the NFA Online webpage at [www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov) for more information on these and many other courses all available to you, right now, at no cost!

---

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

### **Secretary Napolitano, FEMA Administrator Fugate Swear In Kelvin Cochran As Fire Administrator**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Fire Administrator Kelvin Cochran was sworn into office today by U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate at the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) 2009 Fire-Rescue International Conference in Dallas, Texas. Cochran will oversee and lead the coordination and direction of national efforts to prevent fires and improve fire response. Cochran will supervise fire prevention and safety education programs and professional development opportunities for emergency responders at all levels of government.

"Our first responders are an essential component in our effort to assist Americans in the wake of major disasters," said Fugate. "Kelvin's extensive experience as former fire chief in Atlanta and Shreveport, makes him the ideal candidate to take over this important post. I congratulate him and look forward to working together as we continue to expand our national emergency response team, a team that includes federal agency partners, members of the private sector, volunteer organizations and most importantly, the public."

Cochran has twenty-eight years of experience in the fire service including fire fighting, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, public education, personnel management, and administration, with a specialization in training and strategic planning.

Prior to joining FEMA, Cochran served as Fire Chief for the City of Atlanta Fire Rescue Department, where he coordinated homeland security and emergency preparedness initiatives between the City of Atlanta and the Atlanta Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA) and oversaw 35 fire stations providing fire, rescue and emergency medical services.

Previously, he served in the Shreveport, La. Fire Department as a firefighter, Assistant Chief Training Officer, and Fire Chief. Cochran also served as President of the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), and Vice Chairman of Volunteers of America (VOA).

For more information please visit: [www.fema.gov/about/bios/kcochran.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/about/bios/kcochran.shtm)

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

---

## **FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:**



September 2009 marks the sixth annual National Preparedness Month. This year's focus is on changing perceptions about emergency preparedness and helping Americans understand what it truly means to be *Ready*.

When preparing for a possible emergency situation, it's important to prepare an emergency supply kit that includes basic needs for survival, develop a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that may occur where you live and the appropriate ways to respond to them.

In most types of disaster related emergencies, the risk of fire is increased due to loose electrical wires, flooding, broken gas lines, or the lack of electricity.

Be fire wise ... **Prepare, Plan and Stay Informed!**

[» Learn More](#)

---

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**



*Exclusive Webcast*

**REGISTER NOW**

[Live Fire Training: Conducting Safe & Effective Burns](#)



Photo: Gert Zoutendijk/IFPA

September 24, 2009 / 2 p.m. ET

**Do you know how to stage a *safe burn*?**

Conducting live fire training has always been a controversial subject and raises concerns for safety, but it's a **must** for the complete development of firefighters. This program will present methods to conduct effective burns while following NFPA 1403, without compromising firefighter safety.

**Topics covered will include:**

- Lessons learned from past live fire training tragedies
- Critical aspects of NFPA 1403, ***Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions***
- Live fire training indiscretions
- Maximizing the burn structure (acquired, fixed, and mobile facilities)
- Importance of live fire training in the development of firefighters

***This program is dedicated to those who have fallen before us during live fire training evolutions.***

[Register Here](#)

**Speaker:**



**Troy Webster** is a 19-year member of the fire and emergency services, currently serving as a captain with the Florence (Ky.) Fire/EMS Department; he has led numerous live-fire training burns in acquired structures and fixed facilities throughout the course of his career. Troy currently teaches as a field instructor for Kentucky State Fire/Rescue Training and is a lead instructor for the state's flashover recognition and survival program.

---

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

### **USFA's Chuck Burkell Receives the IAFC President's Recognition Award**

Congratulations to the National Fire Academy's Chuck Burkell, recipient of the International Association of Fire Chiefs' (IAFC) 2009 President's Recognition Award.

Chuck was recognized by the IAFC for his long-standing commitment to enhancing fire service leadership. He was presented the award last week at the Fire-Rescue International conference held in Dallas.

In announcing Chuck as the award recipient, IAFC President Chief Larry Grorud said, "Through your dedication and service as an educator, mentor, friend and champion of emerging fire and emergency service leaders, you have made a difference in the lives of an exponential number of officers, the firefighters and EMTs they lead, and the communities they serve. You are truly a leader of leaders and are therefore, rightly honored."

Chuck is a Training Specialist with the NFA, responsible for the Executive Development curriculum, the Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP), the EFOP Applied Research Project process, and the Harvard Fellowship Program.

Congratulations Chuck!

---

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

[Firehouse Magazine's](#) 2010 Firehouse World Training & Education Conference will occur February 28 through March 4, 2010 in San Diego, CA – registration is now open!

**[Online Registration is Now Available!](#)**

### ***Whatever the Call Are You Ready?***

Here are just some of the reasons why you don't want to miss out on Firehouse World 2010:

- NEW co-location with **[CSFA's Annual Meeting](#)**
- **[Over 350 Exhibitors](#)** - meet face-to-face with some of the most important companies in the industry.
- **[Featuring more EMS content](#)**
- **[Over 90 conference sessions](#)** and **[hands-on training](#)**
- Networking opportunities

**Register today and save!**

For full event details and to register visit **[www.FirehouseWorld.com](http://www.FirehouseWorld.com)**.



[WWW.FIREHOUSEWORLD.COM](http://WWW.FIREHOUSEWORLD.COM)

**FEB. 28 - MAR. 4, 2010  
SAN DIEGO, CA**

©2009 Cygnus Business Media - 801 Cliff Road East, Suite201, Burnsville, MN 55337 - 800.827.8009

---

## **FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

**H**ere is an opportunity to take one firefighter examination and be eligible to be hired by one of over 10 fire departments in the **Denver, Colorado** area!

**T**he following information was found on their website, which also includes an online application: <http://www.drcog.org/index.cfm?page=FIRE>

**T**he next application filing deadline is Wednesday September 30 at noon, Mountain Standard Time, to be eligible to take the next test on November 2, 2009!

**T**he Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), on behalf of the member [districts/departments](#), manages the Firefighter Intraregional Recruitment and Employment (FIRE) program. Testing occurs twice a year. Candidates take one written exam and the results then determine an eligibility pool of qualified candidates for our 13 member departments. Files may be reviewed throughout the year as openings occur.

### **Minimum Employment Requirements**

- Be legally entitled to work in the United States and able to obtain a Colorado driver's license.
- Some departments hire candidates 18 years of age or older--others require applicants to be at least 21. There is no maximum age.
- Have a high school diploma or GED; having some college credits is desirable as are EMT/firefighter/paramedic certifications. Departments prefer applicants acquire an EMT certification prior to being hired, although not required to test.
- Some departments will train hires with out-of-state firefighter certification for Colorado certification, but smaller departments require candidates to go through the reciprocity process with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC)--call (720) 852-6735.

### **Fire Departments Participating**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Black Hawk Fire Department</a>             | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">North Metro Fire Rescue District</a>          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Boulder Fire &amp; Rescue</a>              | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">North Washington Fire Protection District</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Federal Heights Fire Department</a>        | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Parker Fire District</a>                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Littleton Fire Rescue</a>                  | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Southwest Adams County Fire Rescue</a>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Longmont Fire Department</a>               | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Thornton Fire Department</a>                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Louisville Fire Department</a>             | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Westminster Fire Department</a>               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Mountain View Fire Protection District</a> |  |

### **Online Application Process**



Completing the application and paying the \$50 non-refundable fee confirms your seat. Candidates will receive special testing instructions via e-mail about a month before the test.

### Deferrals

You may request to defer your payment (one-time) to the next test. You must call 303-480-6730 at least three business days prior to your test date to defer. Don't defer unless it's unavoidable because you may miss out on a recruitment process.

### What Happens Next

You must score at least 70 percent (overall) to pass, but departments may set a higher score for their recruitments. Departments could contact you for further testing throughout the year so keep your contact information current within your online application.

### Written Exam Used

DRCOG administers the New Generation CWH Management Solutions Exam to identify individuals who are most likely to be successful in the fire service. The test assesses skills and abilities that Denver-area firefighters know are essential for their jobs. The exam has 150 questions; applicants have three hours and 15 minutes to complete it. The test measures:

- **Basic educational skills (reading, writing and math),**
- **Practical skills (judgment and common sense),**
- **Interpersonal skills, and**
- **Emotional outlook (ethics, motivation and effectiveness under stress).**

If you are ready to begin your application, go to [online application](#) and begin!

[Information](#) is available for departments interested in taking part in the FIRE program.

If you have questions, contact [Suzi Walker](#) at 303-480-6730.

---

## **FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:**

### **Secretary Napolitano and FEMA Administrator Fugate Unveil New Ads to Encourage Emergency Preparedness**

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano today joined with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Craig Fugate and the Ad Council to launch a new series of *Ready Campaign* public service advertisements (PSAs) designed to encourage all Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies, kicking off September's National Preparedness Month. "Preparedness is a shared responsibility that begins with the American people," said Secretary Napolitano. "These public service advertisements highlight the simple steps everyone can take to prepare for disasters, enhancing the safety and security of our country."



“Emergency response is a team effort, and the most important member of that team is the public,” said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. “The truth is, the more the public does now to prepare, the better we can respond in the future. That’s why we are launching PSAs, encouraging Americans to visit Ready.gov and learn how they can do their part to prepare.” Produced *pro bono* by advertising agency Cramer-Krasselt in conjunction with the Ad Council, the new Ready PSAs—produced for television, radio, print, outdoor and the Web—direct audiences to visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) to find national and local preparedness information and resources.

The *Ready Campaign* encourages Americans to take three simple steps to prepare for emergencies: (1) Put together an emergency supply kit; (2) Make a family emergency plan; and (3) Get informed about the types of emergencies that could take place in their communities and appropriate responses. Secretary Napolitano unveiled the new PSAs at an event in New York City’s Times Square, joined by New York City Office of Emergency Management Commissioner Joseph Bruno, American Red Cross President and CEO Gail McGovern, American Red Cross of Greater New York CEO Theresa Bischoff and Ad Council President and CEO Peggy Conlon.

“Ready has made significant progress, but the farther we get from a major disaster, the more difficult the challenge in motivating Americans to prepare,” said Ad Council President and CEO Peggy Conlon, “Our new PSAs, developed in partnership with DHS, are engaging and motivating and will go a long way in increasing our country’s level of preparedness.”

In addition to the national Ready PSAs launched today, New York City’s new public service campaign—*Ready New York*—was also announced to encourage all New Yorkers to prepare for emergencies. The national Ready ads have also been localized for a number of other cities, including Austin, Texas, Atlanta, Chicago, Eugene, Ore., Houston, Kansas City, Mo., Los Angeles, and San Francisco—as well as the states of Utah and Virginia and the U.S. Navy and U.S. Virgin Islands. Initiated in 2003, the *Ready Campaign* is a national public service advertising campaign designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to all emergencies in order to raise the level of basic preparedness across the nation.

In addition to outreach via traditional media, *Ready* also provides a series of social media tools to help Americans prepare for emergencies, including a downloadable family emergency plan, an interactive widget that provides users with updates on emergency situations, emergency kit checklists, and preparedness guidelines. To view the PSAs and for more information on the *Ready Campaign*, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or follow “ReadydotGov” on Twitter.

---

## **WILDLAND CERTIFIED FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

***Emergency Management Consultants, NWCG, SFM & CSTI Qualified Instructors.***

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Incident Command, Wildland Fire, Hazardous Materials & Emergency Response Consulting. Classes from those who have been there done that, we do not even need the book!

**Patrick V. Shreffler**  
**PO BOX 177**  
**POSEY, CA 93260**

**Classes for Training season of November 2009 – June 2010:**

11/9-13	S290 Fremont / Alameda CO TOs
11/30-12/4	S290 Visalia Tulare/Kings TOs
12/14-17	S290 McClellan, CRFRTA
1/4-8	CSTI Hazmat Industry Technician, Grimmway Farms
01/11-15	S290 Visalia, Tulare/Kings TOs
01/25-29	S290 McClellan, CFRTA
02/1-5	S290 Bakersfield, SQF/KRN
02/8-11	S390 Fremont / Alameda CO TO
02/15-19	Confined Space RX, Grimmway Farms
02/22-25	S390 Hanford, Tulare/Kings TOs
02/22-25	S290 El Cajon, Heartland Fire Training
03/1-5	S290 Elk Grove, Consumes Fire District
03/8-12	S390 Bakersfield, SQF/KRN
03/22-26	S244/245 El Cajon, Heartland Fire Training
04/4-14	S290 Santa Clara Co. (Shift schedule)
04/19-23	S244/245 Bakersfield, SQF/KRN
04/26-29	S390 McClellan, CRFRTA
05/12-16	S290 Kalispell, MT (Vol. Schedule)
05/24-28	S244/245 McClellan, CRFRTA

EMC can assist you with your all risk incident management preparation needs. We instruct S215, S244/5, S290, S330, S339, S345, S390, S404, ICS I300-400. CSTI Hazmat IC, CSTI Hazmat Tech for Industry and Hazmat Tech C, D & F. We also develop custom courses, exercises and refresher courses for Fire Behavior, Strike Teams, Incident management, Hazmat, Industrial Rescue and Map, Compass & GPS.

Telephone (661)536-8477 email: [firecouple@aol.com](mailto:firecouple@aol.com) Web site: <http://sites.google.com/a/wildblue.net/emc>

If you would like to hold a class during one of these weeks we do have great instructors and can often conduct more than one class a week. Many of our students say our classes are the best they have ever taken!

---

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

### **Public Safety Training Group**

#### **2009 COURSE SCHEDULE**

- Level 1 State Fire Officers Courses - \$325 Per Class
- Classes located in Brentwood, CA

<b>COURSE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DATES</b>
ICS 300	PSTG Facility	October 5 – 7
ICS 400	PSTG Facility	October 8 – 9
Training Instructor 1C	PSTG Facility	October 19 – 23
Fire Command 1C	PSTG Facility	October 26 – 30
CPR	PSTG Facility	See Website for Details
Promotional Coaching	PSTG Facility	See Website for Details
Entry Level Coaching	PSTG Facility	See Website for Details

- For more information, including how to register, go to [www.pstgonline.com](http://www.pstgonline.com)

---

## **FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:**

***SUNNYVALE FIRE***  
PRESENTS the 13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
***AUTO EXTRICATION***  
***WORKSHOP 2009***

**TWO FULL DAYS OF EXTRICATION TRAINING**

- California State Fire Marshal Certification
- Recognized Instructors
- New Car Technology/Air Bags
- Hands On Extrication
- EMS/Patient Considerations
- Rescue Equipment Vendors
- Lunch Included Saturday & Sunday

- Great Local Accommodations Available

**IN COOPERATION WITH**



**WHEN:** OCTOBER 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 **COST:** Only \$275.00 + \$25.00 CE Units

**WHERE:** SUNNYVALE FIRE TRAINING GROUNDS (WOLFE ROAD at ARQUES)

**HURRY:** REGISTRATION IS LIMITED and FILLS FAST

*For more information or to register, go to:*

<http://secure.lenos.com/lenos/signal/snyextricationworkshop09/home.htm>

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Rooms have been arranged / reserved:

Corporate Inn // Sunnyvale  
805 East El Camino Real  
Sunnyvale, Ca 94087

**Hotel Reservations:** 408-220-1000 Mention “Sunnyvale Auto-Extrication Workshop” for group rate price - Refer questions to Sales Manager Richard Dillon

\*\*This course is sponsored by the Southbay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium which will offer ½ unit of college credit. Course fee includes registration, materials, and State Fire Marshal Certificate and Registration. ***This workshop qualifies for 14 hours of Instructor Based Continuing Education for EMT’s and Paramedics issued by the City of Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety California CE Provider #43-2005.***

---

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

**T**he Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) is a must have for any person planning on becoming a firefighter. More and more departments are requiring a candidate to possess a CPAT completion card (no older than one year) just to apply for their department. If you do not possess a current CPAT, you do not pass go, you do not collect two hundred dollars, and

you miss out on the opportunity to compete for a firefighter position at many departments. The CPAT does not guarantee that you will be a successful firefighter.

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

**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

**T**o see the **available dates** to take the CPAT at any of the above three locations, visit their website at [www.cpatonline.org](http://www.cpatonline.org)

---

**FIRE SERVICE TRAINING & SAFETY INFO FROM  
THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:**

**USFA Announces the Release of a Report on Emergency Vehicle  
Visibility and Conspicuity**

Emmitsburg, MD – The United States Fire Administration (USFA), in partnership with the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA), announces the release of the [Emergency Vehicle Visibility and Conspicuity Study](#) (PDF, 2.2 Mb). The study report highlights the results of a U.S. Department of Justice - National Institute of Justice (NIJ) supported project intended to enhance emergency vehicle and roadway operations safety for firefighters, law enforcement officers, and other emergency responders.

“With vehicle crashes and emergency responders being struck on the roadway being a major cause of on-duty fatalities, it is important to examine all technologies to reduce this tragic cause of death,” said USFA Deputy Fire Administrator Glenn A. Gaines. “We are grateful for the U.S. Department of Justice’s NIJ support of this study that will benefit the fire and emergency services and law enforcement alike.”

“IFSTA was proud to work with USFA and the U.S. Department of Justice in this study to improve emergency vehicle and roadway operations safety,” said Mike Wieder, IFSTA Assistant Director. “We believe that the results of this study will enhance the safety of the fire service, law enforcement, and other emergency responders.”

The study report discusses best practices in emergency vehicle visibility and conspicuity, including cutting edge international efforts. It covers retroreflective striping and chevrons,

high-visibility paint, built-in passive light, and other reflectors for law enforcement patrol vehicles, fire apparatus, ambulances and other EMS vehicles, and motorcycles.

The **Emergency Vehicle Visibility and Conspicuity Study** and further information on USFA's emergency vehicle safety projects may be found on the USFA Web site at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/research/safety/vehicle.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/research/safety/vehicle.shtm)

---

## **FIRE SERVICE RELATED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

The Angeles National Forest will be filling 14 fire positions ranging from grades GS-6 through 9. If interested, please apply by **September 28, 2009** to the appropriate vacancy announcement numbers and identify which AVUE locations you are interested in. The attached document lists current vacancies, announcement numbers, locations and contact phone number.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please apply to the vacancy announcements in AVUE Digital Services <http://www.avuedigitalservices.com/usfs/applicant.html> or you may also access the vacancy announcements through USAJOBS – <http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/> and you will be redirected to apply through the AVUE website.

Although a position may not currently be vacant but becomes vacant during the hiring process, we will be doing **backfills** during this same time. Apply to any location/position you are interested in whether it is currently vacant or not.

**For a complete list of current vacant positions in California, access this site. Note - duty locations are identified:** <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/fire/trackingdb/postings.html>

Please share this notice with your networks or with others you know who may be interested. Thank you.

best,

Sarah Majdiak  
Forest Civil Rights Officer  
Los Padres & Angeles National Forest's  
6755 Hollister Ave Ste 150  
Goleta, CA 93117

Voice- 805.961-5748  
Cell- 805.680-4559  
Fax- 805.685-5354  
Email- [smajdiak@fs.fed.us](mailto:smajdiak@fs.fed.us)

---

## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

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

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

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

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

---

## **FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:**

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

Name:	Jimmie Zeeks
Rank:	Fire Chief
Age:	54
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	31
Date of Incident:	08/15/2009
Time of Incident:	2006hrs
Date of Death:	08/15/2009
Fire Department:	Marion Township Rural Fire Department
Address:	PO Box 598, 4632 State Road 37, Mitchell, IN 47446-0598
Fire Department Chief:	Pending

**Incident Description:** Fire Chief Zeeks passed away from an apparent heart attack while in command at the scene of a serious motor vehicle accident. Members of the fire department  
August 14, 2009 [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)



**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

immediately started life saving efforts. Chief Zeeks was rushed to a local hospital where he succumbed to his injury.

**Incident Location:** State Road 37 and Woodville Road.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Viewing from 1400-2000hrs on 08/18/2009 @ Mitchell 1<sup>st</sup> Church of God, 12th Street and Oak Street. Services will be held at 1300hrs on 08/19/2009 @ Mitchell 1<sup>st</sup> Church of God.

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Memorials may be made in Jimmie's name to Marion Township Fire Department, c/o Chastain Funeral Home, 705 W. Warren Street, Mitchell, IN 47446

**Tribute** is being paid to Fire Chief Jimmie Zeeks at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 63 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 61 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](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name:	David Jamsa
Rank:	Pilot
Age:	45
Gender:	Male
Status:	Wildland Contract
Years of Service:	4
Date of Incident:	08/20/2009
Time of Incident:	1545hrs
Date of Death:	08/20/2009
Fire Department:	U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management - Nevada State Office
Address:	1340 Financial BLVD, Reno, NV 89502
Fire Department Chief:	Director Ron Wenker

**Incident Description:** A single engine air tanker (SEAT) crashed in the Clan Alpine Mountains of Churchill County on Thursday (8/20) dropping fire retardant on the Hoyt Fire. The pilot, Dave Jamsa, was transported by helicopter to medical facilities in Lovelock, Nevada, where he was pronounced dead. The aircraft was an Air Tractor AT-802A, owned by Minuteman Aerial Application, Inc., of Missoula, Montana. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) have an investigation team in-route.

**Incident Location:** Clan Alpine Mountains, Churchill County Nevada

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Pilot David Jamsa at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 64 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 62 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](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Charles "Chip" McCarthy  
Rank: Lieutenant  
Age: 45  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: 22  
Date of Incident: 08/24/2009  
Time of Incident: 0349hrs  
Date of Death: 08/24/2009

Name: Jonathan Croom  
Rank: Firefighter  
Age: 34  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: 10  
Date of Incident: 08/24/2009  
Time of Incident: 0349hrs  
Date of Death: 08/24/2009

Fire Department: Buffalo Fire Department  
Address: 195 Court Street, Buffalo, NY 14202  
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner Michael Lombardo

**Incident Description:** Lieutenant McCarthy and Firefighter Croom were killed while searching a burning commercial structure when the main floor collapsed and trapped the firefighters. Investigation into the cause of the fire and firefighter deaths continues.

**Incident Location:** 1815 Genesee Street

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Lieutenant Charles "Chip" McCarthy and Firefighter Jonathan Croom at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

To date, 66 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 64 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and two from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name:	Kenneth Frizzell Jr.
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	55
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	34
Date of Incident:	08/30/2009
Time of Incident:	1311hrs
Date of Death:	08/30/2009
Fire Department:	Charleston Volunteer Fire Department
Address:	PO Box 106, 7113 VT RT 105, East Charleston, VT 05833-0106
Fire Department Chief:	Duane Moulton

**Incident Description:** While returning from a structure fire incident and coming down and near the bottom of a very steep hill, the tanker apparatus Firefighter Frizzell was operating struck a telephone pole and crashed off of the roadway. Firefighter Frizzell, the only occupant of the truck, was reportedly ejected and died from injuries sustained during the crash.

**Incident Location:** Dane Hill Road

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** In honor of Firefighter Kenneth Frizzell Jr., c/o Charleston Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 106, East Charleston, VT 05833-0106.

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

To date, 67 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 65 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](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name:	Tedmund "Ted" Hall
Rank:	Captain
Age:	47
Gender:	Male
Status:	Career

September 11, 2009

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

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Years of Service: 26  
Date of Incident: 08/30/2009  
Time of Incident: 1430hrs  
Date of Death: 08/30/2009

Name: Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones  
Rank: Firefighter Specialist  
Age: 34  
Gender: Male  
Status: Career  
Years of Service: 8  
Date of Incident: 08/30/2009  
Time of Incident: 1430hrs  
Date of Death: 08/30/2009

Fire Department: Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Address: 1320 N Eastern AVE, Los Angeles, CA 90063-3244  
Fire Department Chief: P. Michael Freeman

**Incident Description:** Captain Hall and Firefighter Specialist Quinones suffered fatal injuries when they drove off the side of a treacherous road in the Mt. Gleason area, south of Acton. Investigation of the incident continues, but heavy smoke and fire conditions are thought to have contributed to the accident.

**Incident Location:** Vicinity of Mt. Gleason (USNG: 11S LU 9175 0454)

**Funeral Arrangements:** Pending

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

**Tribute** is being paid to Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall and Firefighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 69 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 67 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and two from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

**AND:**

Name: Richard Holst  
Rank: Firefighter/Chaplain  
Age: 60  
Gender: Male  
Status: Volunteer  
Years of Service: 31  
Date of Incident: 09/09/2009

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Time of Incident: 0302hrs  
Date of Death: 09/09/2009  
Fire Department: Huntington Manor Fire Department  
Address: 1 Leverich Place, Huntington, NY 11743  
Telephone: (631) 427-3030  
Fire Department Chief: Robert J. Herley III  
Fire Department Website: <http://www.hmfd.org/>

**Incident Description:** After smelling smoke and reporting a fire at an eating establishment located near his home, Firefighter Holst walked around the burning structure to investigate. While performing his Fire Police duties, Firefighter Holst collapsed and was transported to Huntington Hospital where he was later pronounced dead. The official cause of death has not yet been determined.

**Incident Location:** 334 Depot Road, Huntington Station, NY 11746

**Funeral Arrangements:** Viewing, Saturday, 09/12/09 and Sunday, 09/13/09, Huntington Manor Fire Department Headquarters; Internment, Monday, 09/14/09

**Memorial Fund Contact and Address:** Pending

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

To date, 70 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 68 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and two from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ [http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff\\_stats.shtm](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

=====

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](http://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](http://www.firehero.org)) for names added each subsequent year to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD, they are the beginning of a research process for each firefighter fatality reported so that such determinations can be made.**

---

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

Hey,

A Kentucky EMT has been **charged with murder and driving under the influence** in a crash that killed a patient being taken to the hospital last year. A grand jury indicted **Louisville EMT/Driver Tammy Renee Brewer** yesterday. Patient Vickey Whobrey was being taken to the hospital for a nose bleed when the ambulance crashed in the Louisville suburb of Shively, back in April of 2008. A different ambulance took the 57-year-old to a hospital from the EMS crash, where she was pronounced dead. EMT Brewer told them that she was turning off the emergency lights when she looked up and saw a pedestrian, then swerved and hit a utility pole. Another EMS worker told investigators that EMT Brewer had been taking narcotics and appeared "loopy" before the crash.

**WTF?! Perhaps, just PERHAPS, if we ever notice any of our own members appearing loopy, or taking narcotics, that it just MAY be a good idea to do something about that. We're just say'n.**

**ALL FIREFIGHTERS BELTED IN-OHIO RESPONDING APPARATUS CRASH:**

In the Westerville (OH) apparatus responding crash yesterday, all members were belted in.

**HERE** is the story:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?91276>

**UPDATE: PHOENIX FD APPARATUS CRASH:**

Several of you have written asking for more details on the Phoenix FD responding crash earlier this week, specifically as to the use of a seatbelt by Captain Crystal Rezzonico. Officially, based upon our personal discussion with some PFD brass, there has **not** been an official statement released-so there may be some unusual circumstances-as she was ejected after the civilian car struck the officers side door. While it appears that she may not have been belted in, we are awaiting the facts. The good news is that Captain Rezzonico is doing well and has an excellent prognosis for recovery.

**In the meantime, just belt in before responding and just avoid ejection in nearly all cases.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-14-09 / 2015 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Search efforts are underway for the pilot of a Firefighting helicopter that crashed in southwestern B.C. Canada. The RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) says the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as well as Hope Search and Rescue have boats on the

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Fraser River. They will be joined by an RCMP helicopter today. The Bell 212 was operating a waterbucket on the 12-square kilometre Intlpam fire near Lytton when it went down late yesterday afternoon in the river near where it joins the Thompson River. The submerged wreckage has been located, but there is no sign of the pilot, who was the only person on board the helicopter. An RCMP dive team is on the scene again this morning, but given the current of about 16 kilometres per hour, and the 15 metre depth of the river, they're not involved so far in the search today.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-15-09 1315 Hours

**AND:**

Hey-

A passenger car collided with a responding fire apparatus in Chicago, sending five Firefighters and the car's two occupants to local hospitals. The car's female passenger was "very critically injured" in the accident Saturday, and the driver was in serious condition. 4 Firefighters were treated and released Saturday evening, while one was being kept overnight for observation. The crash happened just after 1700 hours on the city's South Side. The apparatus was responding to a call when it was struck by the vehicle. Details to follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-16-09 / 0707 hours

**AND:**

**INDIANA FIRE CHIEF LINE OF DUTY DEATH-HEART ATTACK AT SCENE**

**Marion Township (Lawrence County, IN) Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief Jim Zeeks died in the Line of Duty** following heart-related issues while at a car crash scene this morning. Following a car crash near Mitchell (IN) in which a vehicle flipped numerous times, Chief Zeeks and his Firefighters arrived at the scene of the wreck, when Chief Zeeks reportedly suffered a heart attack. Members immediately started life saving efforts and he was rushed to a local hospital emergency room by EMS where he passed away. As always, our most sincere condolences to all affected by the loss of Chief Zeeks.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-16-09 / 0953 Hours

**AND:**

Hey...

Take a few minutes to remember-or learn about and share details on 3 fires that lead to the Line of Duty Deaths of **MULTIPLE** Firefighters. **Also note the FF Danger/Close Call warning below.**

In August 18th, 1959 the **Kansas City Fire Department** was hit with their largest loss of life in a multi- Line of Duty deaths. A a 25,000 gallon gas tank exploded during a fire on



Southwest Boulevard killed 5 Firefighters in the Line of Duty. This was the first time BLEVE was used to describe a burning fuel tank.

**DaveStatter911** has some excellent coverage, photos and video **HERE:**

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/08/look-back-to-august-18-1959-50th.html>

### **MANHATTAN-2 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:**

On August 18th, 2007, FDNY Firefighters Joseph Graffagnino and Robert Beddia were killed in the Line of Duty at what is now known as the "Deutsche Bank fire" at 130 Liberty Street in Manhattan. FF's Beddia and Graffagnino succumbed to smoke on the 14th floor of the city's most "infamous" toxic building, just 100 or so feet from where 343 of their brothers gave their lives, 6 years earlier. Numerous issues came out publicly following that horrific loss. More coverage **HERE:** <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?88288>

### **BROOKLYN-6 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:**

And while the anniversary was a few weeks ago, on August 2, 1978, we remembering listening to the fire radio during **THE WALDBAUMS FIRE** in Brooklyn from the I.S.O. Offices in Manhattan as 6 FDNY Firefighters died in the Line of Duty that day. The fire began in a hallway near the compressor room as crews were renovating the Brooklyn supermarket, and quickly escalated to a fourth-alarm. Less than an hour after the fire was first reported, nearly 20 firefighters were on the roof when the central portion gave way, plunging 12 into the flames. The 6 Firefighters who were killed were Lt. James E. Cutillo, Battalion 33; Firefighter Charles S. Bouton, Ladder Company 156; Firefighter Harold F. Hastings, Battalion 42; Firefighter James P. McManus, Ladder Company 153; Firefighter William O'Connor, Ladder Company 156; and Firefighter George S. Rice, Ladder Company 153. Additionally, 34 firefighters, one emergency medical technician and one NYPD Emergency Services police officer were injured in the fire. **HERE** is a link to photos and excellent information from Steve Spak: <http://stevespak.com/waldbaums.html>

### **FIREFIGHTER DANGER WARNING: FIREFIGHTERS AND BED BUGS:**

A few days ago, FIREFIGHTERS responded to the smell of gasoline in an apartment building.

### **A CLOSE CALL AND WARNING FOR FIREFIGHTERS:**

Upon checking the door with the combustible gas meter we had a higher reading at the door and a strong odor of gasoline. The occupant opened the door and the meter reading was indicating a strong combustible gas reading. The occupant was a female of Far-Eastern decent. She stated that she was doing something using medicine for her children. The FF's entered the apartment and had a stronger odor of gasoline and higher meter readings. FF's began an investigation and were in the process of venting the apartment. The bedroom off the kitchen had all of the doors closed. When the FF's opened the doors to that room , they had meter readings that were bringing the meter toward the top of its range. The woman's husband appeared and stated that he had sprayed gasoline on the mattress to kill bed bugs. He produced a spray bottle and a two gallon gas can and stated that he had read on the Internet that gasoline will kill bed bugs. Naturally, the FF's informed him that the pilot light on his stove might cause an explosion and fire that might have injured or killed his wife and children if the gas vapor had come into the dangerous levels. The FF's stressed that the pilot light was a fire and the gas vapor might explode, if the condition were right. He gave the

FF's the gas can and spray bottle and asked us to throw them out because he did not want to hurt his family. How 'bout that. **FFCCP? Firefighter Close Call Potential? Ya think?!**

The information is out on the Internet (below) and being passed throughout some unknowing communities-so we will pass it on to you below. Firefighters **ANYWHERE** can expect to have some incidents involving this type of extermination efforts by people who cannot afford a licensed exterminator. Some effort to educate the community just might be warranted due to the increase of bed bugs in some areas.

**RELATED LINKS:**

<http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20090218181327AAhC5Hy>

[http://gothamist.com/2006/06/30/mattress\\_gasoli.php](http://gothamist.com/2006/06/30/mattress_gasoli.php)

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?91465>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-17-09 / 2123 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

It didn't take a few minutes for some of you to remind us of yet **another** massive and historic loss of Firefighters lives. This reminder of "where we came from" is from Philadelphia. The fire was on August 17, 1975 specifically (links below). 8 Philly Firefighters died in the line of Duty. **In these times when short sighted budget cuts to FIRE departments continue all over, it is especially important to remember all who give their lives as Firefighters.**

3 Philadelphia Firefighters were caught in a sudden flash of flames during a spectacular refinery blaze were turned into human torches. All three died in the Line of Duty-but that was just the start. At least 3 more Firefighters were missing and 5 Firefighters were among the 13 people injured in the fire that started Sunday and burned at the Gulf Oil Co. Refinery.

The fire at the second largest refinery on the East Coast could be seen for 20 miles. Fire covering an area about a half-mile square created a massive cloud of black smoke. The fire started that Sunday at dawn when an 80,000-barrel storage tank ignited while being filled with oil from a tanker. The ship was not damaged and the fire was brought under control by 0900 hours. Clean-up crews moved in. They spent the day pouring chemical foam onto the smoldering tank. The firemen were relaxed. There was no apparent danger.

But then the facility's sewage system failed to drain off oil that was spilled from the first fire. Fumes backed up-and it flashed at 1600 hours, when the area was crowded with equipment and men, a bowl of flame erupted. There was one explosion, then another. Fire was everywhere. Within minutes the fire jumped to 11 alarms, calling in 600 fire fighters. In the refinery at the time of the fire was crude oils, jet fuel and naptha, an explosive. Of course, all 3 were fueling the fire.

**The Philadelphia Firefighters who died in the Line of Duty:**

JOHN ANDREWS, 49, Engine 49.

JOSEPH WILEY, 33, Ladder 27.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

ROGER PARKER, 28, Ladder 27.  
HUGH McINTYRE, 53, Engine 56.  
ROBERT FISHER, 43, Engine 33.  
RALPH CAMPANA, 41, Ladder 19.  
JAMES POULIOT, 35, Engine 20. (Died 8-24-1975).  
CARROLL BRENEK, 30, Engine 57. (Died 8-30-1975).  
Rest in peace.  
Take Care-Be Careful,  
BillyG  
The Secret List 8-18-09 / 0810 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

We normally don't send stuff out like this. We try to stay solid to our mission, as it was and has been since 1998, to send you timely info related to Firefighter, safety, health, survival and related info.

**But this morning, we read this and thought two things:**

**1-This is some funny stuff. Really.**

**2-Someone will think it is real. Really.**

So-in our mission to keep you and your FD out of City Hall as much as possible, take a look (below is an excerpt, the link is below) enjoy, and be ready for some "city hall dweller" to agree with this. **Seriously.**

Consider this your formal invitation to join in THE fight for the future of American freedom. **I'm referring to the fight to abolish public firefighting.** For too long we have endured the socialistic nightmare of tyrannical laws that incite our neighbors to call 911 and report us TO THE GOVERNMENT when our homes are on fire. Americans are so brainwashed that only a tiny, patriotic sliver of us have truly understood the fascist flood that gushes from taxpayer-funded fire hoses every day in these United States.

**The facts are chilling. So wake up, America!**

FACT: When a neighbor reports your burning home to the government, you as the property owner are helpless. The **taxpayer-funded sirens** come ever closer, whether you like it or not, until finally the trucks arrive on your property. **Soon your door is bashed from its hinges, your windows are in shards, your belongings are soaked with the fluoridated poison that passes for a municipal water supply.**

FACT: You as the property owner get no say whatsoever as to who is sent to extinguish a blaze in your home. The government DOES NOT CARE about the sacred trust that is supposed to exist between an individual homeowner and the individual firefighter he would select to be the defender of his little piece of the American dream. No. **Instead, callous government bureaucrats DECIDE FOR US which masked, helmeted strangers will be dispatched to breach our supposedly sacred homes. Breathing taxpayer-funded oxygen from taxpayer-funded tanks, these strangers even have the authority to snatch our children from their beds. Our children! FROM THEIR BEDS!**

Again, I say: WAKE UP, AMERICA!

FACT: Government bureaucrats decide which firefighting services will be available and which will be rationed. Under a market-based system, we would be able to contract for firefighting that is tailored to our individual needs. Instead, we get this one-size-fits-all travesty of a system. **Just one example: Try calling 911 and asking for a firefighter to come blow out your birthday candles.** At best, the bureaucrats will laugh at you. At worst, the bureaucrats will send straightjacket-wielding thugs to your home.

**HERE is the ENTIRE COMMENTARY:**

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?91479>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-18-09 / 0957 Hours

**AND:**

While not a Line of Duty Death we feel this is important story for all of us to take notice to.

A mother and son, both volunteer firefighters, died early Monday after their east Monroe County, AR home caught fire while they were sleeping, officials said.

Gregory Davenport, 48, and his mother, Winifred "Winnie" Davenport, 71, died in their home near the Rich community 11 miles south of Brinkley, AR. Robert "Chick" Williams, chief of the East Monroe County Volunteer Fire Department, said Chucky Davenport was able to get out of the house. Williams said the Davenports, along with Winnie's late husband, Charles, were charter members of the East Monroe County Volunteer Fire Department, which started in 1990.

"When you lose a head man, a maintenance man, mechanic and firefighter who is trained to do the job, it's a major loss for us," Williams said. "Anytime we lose one of our brothers and sisters it hurts." Monroe County Coroner Bob Neal said he believes both victims died of smoke inhalation. He said their bodies would be sent to the State Crime Laboratory for autopsy. As always, our most sincere condolences to all affected by the loss Greg and Winifred Davenport.

**As a reminder, while we are not sure it would have made a difference in this incident, we must remember to take care of ourselves and make sure we have working smoke detectors!**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 8-18-09 / 2053 Hours

**AND**

Hey,

In what is one of the largest one time layoffs nationally so far, the Lehigh Acres fire district announced today that 35 firefighters and three administrative staffers have been laid off. Their EMS is being trimmed from five to three ambulances, and the district also is closing its

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

fire headquarters, Station No. 5. That station is not staffed today. A brush truck, an ambulance and a ladder truck were sitting idle there.

The fire district lost almost 49 percent of taxable property value this year because of plummeting property values. The cuts, they claim, are a way to make up for the lost tax dollars needed to operate the district. Firefighters learned about the layoffs when they reported for work around 0700. Battalion chiefs already were making arrangements to cover the shift, which started at 0800. "It got to the point where we have to let firefighters go to balance the budget," chief Don Adams said. Keeping the firefighters on hand until the next budget year begins Oct. 1 would cost the district about \$750,000 and made it hard to balance the budget at around \$12 million, he said. "It got to the point where we could not balance the budget," Adams said. The move leaves the department with 72 firefighters to cover four stations.

Response times are a concern, the chief and others said. "It's dangerous to have the cuts because of the response times. It's going to get dangerous for the guys who are working," said resident Robin Dunton of Lehigh, who lives near the closed station. Lehigh resident Heather Crespi wondered where her fire tax dollars are going. "There probably are other cuts that can be made in other places," Crespi said. But resident Towanna Mark said the district is good about keeping people informed. "I'm not worried about it. Until it becomes a problem I won't be concerned," Mark said.

More related details on our STAFFING page.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 8-18-09 / 1435 hours

**AND**

**FIREFIGHTING PILOT KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY IN NEVADA**

An air tanker operating at a wildfire crashed about 125 miles northeast of Reno late Thursday afternoon, killing the pilot. The pilot was taken to the Lovelock hospital, where he was pronounced dead in the Line of Duty. The Central Nevada Interagency Fire Dispatch Center says the plane was a converted one-seat crop duster used for fire suppression under BLM. The single-engine aircraft, an Air Tractor 802, is owned by Minuteman Aviation. Other aircraft continue to fight the 600-acre fire in the northern end of the Clan Alpine Range. As always, our sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-20-09 / 1105 hours

**AND**

Hey,

Perhaps you are following the issue down in Austin (Texas) where the Fire Chief wants members to briefly stop and make sure intersections are clear before proceeding through red lights, stop signs, things like that.

Some Austin Firefighters are concerned about the new policy ordered by Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr. Under the policy, Firefighters must drive the speed limit and come to a complete stop at intersections before proceeding during an emergency. They don't have to wait for the light to turn green-just make sure it is clear. **However not everyone agrees.**

"When we respond to an emergency we work as a team," said Steven Truesdell, President of the Austin Firefighters. "We have multiple sets of eyes surveying the traffic and the driver and officer work together to make sure they are proceeding through traffic safely." State law in Texas (**like just about everywhere else**) allows Firefighters responding to an emergency to drive over the speed limit and to go through red lights and stop signs.

**You just can't hit anyone.** And the only way to make sure that doesn't happen is to make sure it doesn't happen by briefly stopping-and then going thru when it is clear. That procedure works for thousands of FD's everyday across North America.

Some Austin Firefighters are concerned, saying the new policy is above and beyond the state law. "We feel state law is appropriate. It requires us to use necessary caution and to be very careful," said Truesdell. But Kerr says the policy is designed to reduce the number of crashes where she is the ultimate person responsible-along with the officer-along with the driver.

So is the Chief looking out for her members? **Absolutely.**

As she stated: "In today's world, there is so much going on in heavily-traveled streets. People are talking on their cell phones or texting or looking at their e-mails; we just want our Firefighters to have better control over hazardous situations"

So the order reduces Firefighter liability when driving apparatus.

So they don't hurt or kill someone who doesn't hear or see them coming.

So they don't potentially run into *one of their own family* as happened last year in Ohio when a Firefighter/Apparatus driver (who was doing nothing more than responding to help people with a vehicle fire)ran a controlled intersection without stopping, striking and killing 2 of her own relatives.

Literally a living nightmare for all affected. NO ONE wants to go thru that. EVER.

**HERE it is:**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ga\\_vHeGYQ34](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ga_vHeGYQ34)

**HERE are some other related examples:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPeyFND68Zs&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9zAOEGAdfs&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZQMeGW-hyY>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6l-BkRhcfE>

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

**Wanna reduce response times?**

A few tips include making sure your dispatch center processes and tones out serious calls in about 30 seconds. And make sure the members get out and are responding in less than a minute. And while we don't know if there are any underlying issues in this case (that has been



**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

known to happen at "some FD's) however, with about 30 or so of us killed in the Line of Duty each year, and many more seriously hurt in vehicular related crashes, it makes sense.

Fire apparatus in any FD is ultimately the Chiefs responsibility and anyone driving the truck needs to drive them in the manner that the chief wants. That's called following policy, training, orders and direction.

Stuff like that. No one likes to do that all the time, but we have to pick our battles. This one isn't worth fighting because the Chief is right. And NO firefighter WANTS to have a crash. But we have them and speed and/or intersections are the heart of almost all.

Fire service history has absolutely proven that the Chief is right and is attempting to help her own members stay out of court, out of intense mental stress counseling and out of attending the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend for one of their own.

Whenever responding to a life threatening emergency, EVERY Firefighter-from Chief to probie WANTS to get there "5 minutes ago"-but we have to *get* there. Our goal is to help people with a problem without becoming part of the problem. If we crash responding-we help no one and create a brand new emergency with a host of new problems-some life altering to all affected.

Quite often, a Chief MUST be **THE** Chief and it will undoubtedly reduce the members of any Chiefs fan club. That's OK, we save on postage. When you are a Chief Officer, a Company Officer or someone that establishes/enforces policy, we think it is better if your Firefighters don't like you in circumstances like this, as opposed to having them "like" you-and them then losing their life in a situation that **YOU KNOW** can be prevented-by being THE CHIEF.

**We have to pick our battles.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-21-09 / 0740 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

An EMT at Bristol Motor Speedway in Tennessee has been **critically injured**. The EMT was leaving the infield on foot near the pit entrance 30 minutes after the end of a race. At the same time, a tractor-trailer turned left out of the infield and scraped the side of an elevated camera platform. The impact twisted the platform and a steel ladder attached to the unit spun around and pinned the EMT against the infield retaining wall. We wish the EMT a rapid recovery. More details **HERE:** <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?91691>

**WHEN THE FIRE RADIO SYSTEM DOESN'T WORK, Fire Chiefs JUST SAY NO!**

3 SW York County (PA) FD's will stop using the county's new \$36 million Harris radio network at fires because of reliability concerns. Instead, they will instead rely on radios tied into the county's old analog network. Another FD plans to stop using the new radios at fires where firefighters operate inside a building. While many fire officials are generally pleased with the new network, those in southwestern York County have reported continuing problems that



include temporary blackouts when the system appears to malfunction, big gaps in coverage and unreliable communication between firefighters at incidents.

The folks who are heading the project for the county have said the new system is meeting or exceeding coverage expectations and their testing results in southwestern York County have been satisfactory. As we have voiced before, the BEST "new system tests" are to give the new radios to the FIREFIGHTERS and let them do the testing in THEIR 1st due area, in THEIR buildings under THEIR conditions. Nonetheless, the county is looking at whether it can improve system performance in the concerned and surrounding area.

One option discussed for firefighters to remedy the problem at incidents is to change settings so that they don't have to rely on the new network towers to transmit signals. The signal would instead transmit directly from one portable radio to another. **But the negative with that is then if there is an emergency in the fireground, the dispatch center will not hear it. That can be a problem.** As one York County Commissioner appropriately stated: "We paid a lot of money for the system, and they (the radios) need to work," he said. **nuff' said.**

For those of you who are young or new to The Secret List, here are 2 past pieces related to fire service radio systems and design:

**FIRE RADIO SYSTEMS: PREVENTING DEAD FIREFIGHTERS:**

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/maillist/archive.php?id=SecretList&issueID=19>

**KILLER FIRE RADIO SYSTEMS:**

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/maillist/archive.php?id=SecretList&issueID=18>

More news and related info on our Fire Radio Communications Page.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-22-09 / 1044 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

**8 U.S. Forest Service Firefighters suffered moderate to major injuries yesterday, after a semi truck collided with their wildland fire apparatus on Highway 99 in Northern California.**

The semi was southbound on Highway 99 when the big rig crossed onto the northbound lane of the highway for unknown reasons. The semi mirror struck the windshield and front pillar of the northbound fire apparatus, causing the Driver Engineer to lose control of the vehicle as a result of the collision. The fire apparatus spun counter-clockwise across traffic lanes before rolling into an orchard on the west side of the roadway. All FF's were injured with 1 suffering serious injuries-details to follow. The semi driver walked away. We wish the Firefighters a rapid recovery.

**RUSSIAN FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-2 OTHER FIREFIGHTERS MISSING**

A Siberian oil reservoir caught fire due to a lightening strike last night, killing a Firefighter and leaving two other Firefighters missing, As of this morning, the fire in the Siberian region of

Khanty-Mansiisk was under control. Nearly 100 Firefighters were dispatched to fight the fire. As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

**CONGRATS TO HAL BRUNO-IFBA FIRE BUFF OF THE YEAR!**

Hal Bruno, life long Firefighter, Journalist and Chairman of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, was honored last week by the IFBA (International Fire Buff Association) [www.ifba.org](http://www.ifba.org) as their 2009 Fire Buff of the Year at their convention in Washington, D.C.

As a tirelessly dedicated Firefighter, Journalist and SUPER Buff, Hal was always the "firefighters friend" in reporting as well as working the political scenes nationally.

As the deeply connected Political Director of ABC News, Hal was responsible for campaign and election coverage on the ABC television and radio networks for 19 years and as much as he loved his news career, his greatest love was ALWAYS The Fire Service. While well known in literally all fire service circles, Hal was especially known for his FIRE POLITICS column in FIREHOUSE Magazine as well as his research and writing about the OUR LADY OF ANGELS FIRE, Chicago, Dec 1, 1958, when a total of 92 kids and 3 nuns were killed in one of the worlds most "historic" fires. Hal was in Chicago and at that scene.

**HERE** is an outstanding article Hal wrote about that fire:

[http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/uploaded\\_images/Argosy-Bruno\\_0001-733249.jpg](http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/uploaded_images/Argosy-Bruno_0001-733249.jpg)

**HERE** are some related links about HAL and his award from Dave Statter911:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/08/hal-bruno-honored-as-fire-buff-of-year.html>

**WASHINGTON DCFD's Friendship Fire Association/Rehab Unit, the 2009 Convention Host:**

<http://www.friendshipfire.org/convention.html>

**Congrats to Hal Bruno on yet another very well deserved fire service award.**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-23-09 / 1000 Hours

**AND:**

**UPDATE: 2 BUFFALO (NY) FIREFIGHTERS DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY WHILE ATTEMPTING SEARCH**

**Buffalo Fire Commissioner Mike Lombardo** has confirmed that there was a 911 report of someone who may be trapped inside 1815 Genesee just before 0400 hours this morning. Buffalo Fire Departments Lt. Charles "Chip" McCarthy, 45 (22 years on the job) and FF Jonathan Croom, 34 (10 years on) went into the building to search for the possible victim. The bodies of the 2 Firefighters were found together in the basement of the structure and ave their live in the Line of Duty. **These men died in the Line of Duty as heroes in their attempt to locate reported trapped victims.**

Our sincere condolences to Comm Mike Lombardo, a long time Secret List member and a Firefighters Firefighter, the entire BFD and especially the family and friends of Lt McCarthy and FF Croom.

All additional updates will be posted on our News/Updates section.

Here are some links to this mornings tragic Double LODD in Buffalo:

**FIRE COMMISSIONERS VIDEO:**

Comm. Mike Lombardo interview:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9otHTbgH1c&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9otHTbgH1c&feature=player_embedded)

**FIRE SCENE VIDEO:**

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

**FIRE SCENE RADIO TRAFFIC:**

<http://www.ecfwire.com/page226.html>

<http://www.ohionewsalerts.com/audio/>

**UPDATED NEWS PIECE:**

<http://www.buffalonews.com/home/story/773342.html?imw=Y>

*May They Rest In Peace.*

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-24-09 / 1350 Hours

**AND**

Hey,

Kansas City (MO) Pumper 18 was involved in a fatal MVA early this morning just a couple of blocks from their quarters. A Camaro with three passengers went under the front of the apparatus. Two female occupants of the Camaro were killed. The third occupant is hospitalized in critical condition. No Firefighters were injured and more details will follow.

**DIRTBAG DEALINGS IN DELAWARE**

New Castle County (DE) Judge Jerome Herlihy indicated in a ruling Thursday that prosecutors may have trouble getting the murder charge against career criminal Joseph Taye to stick. You remember Mr. Taye, don't you? Why, he is the dirtbag paraplegic charged with driving a car with a stick (naturally, for hand control) that struck and killed Michelle Smith of the the Delaware City FD in the Line of Duty, last December. Under Delaware state law, a person who kills a Firefighter on duty can be charged with murder.

Attorneys are NOW arguing whether Smith, who attended fire school but never fought fires and worked as an emergency medical responder, met the definition of Firefighter. The judge said the question is one that must be answered at trial.

Here we go.

Take Care-Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-29-09 / 0811 hours

**AND:**

**VERMONT FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-APPARATUS CRASH**

September 11, 2009

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

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the Line of Duty Death of a **Charleston (Vermont)** Firefighter earlier today. Initial reports are that the apparatus struck a tree while returning from a run. Additional details will follow. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

**BUFFALO FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FUNDRAISER:**

Take a minute and click **here**: <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?92148> for information on ordering memorial t-shirts as a part of a fundraiser for the families of Fallen Buffalo Firefighters Lt. Charles McCarthy and Firefighter Jonathan Croom who died in the Line of Duty while battling a 3 Alarm fire early Monday August 24th, 2009. Pass it on, post it in your firehouse for group orders or order some on your own-your time and money is well worth it.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-30-09 / 1900 hours

**AND:**

**UPDATE: Charleston (VT) Firefighter Killed in the Line of Duty-Ejected in Apparatus Crash**

An apparatus crash in Vermont at 1311 hours today killed Volunteer Firefighter 55-year old FF Kenneth Frizzell of the Charleston VFD in the Line of Duty. He lost his life when the fire apparatus rolled as he was returning from a run, lost control on a steep hill and hit a telephone poll. FF Frizzell was tragically ejected from the apparatus and died at the scene. FF Frizzell was the only occupant in the vehicle. Witnesses of the crash observed the apparatus to be traveling at a unusual speed for the steep grade of the road prior to the crash.

This is a 2nd crash recently that involves Firefighters being ejected. While **still not officially confirmed** by Phoenix (AZ) FD authorities in relation to their crash that critically injured PFD Captain Crystal Rezzonico, a 21-year veteran, (if she was belted in or not) along with today's crash---these are grim reminders of the importance of seat belt policy and enforcement.

Our sincere condolences to the members of the CVFD and the friends and family of FF Frizzell.

More to follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. BELT IN.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-30-09 / 1950 hours

**AND:**

**2 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY - "The Station Fire"**

It is with deep regret that we advise you that 2 Firefighters have been reported killed in the Line of Duty in Los Angeles County at " The Station Fire". Additional Firefighters may be missing but that is **unconfirmed**. The area where this incident occurred was Mt.Gleason, the home of L.A. County Fire Camp # 16. Additional details will follow.

News and public info, photos and video of this reported out of control fire is posted at:

<http://inciweb.org/incident/1856/>

September 11, 2009

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

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

[www.cbs2.com](http://www.cbs2.com)  
[www.KTLA.com](http://www.KTLA.com)  
[www.myfoxla.com](http://www.myfoxla.com)  
[www.nbclosangeles.com](http://www.nbclosangeles.com)  
[www.abc7.com](http://www.abc7.com)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. Our condolences to all affected.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-30-09 / 2223 Hours

**AND:**

**UPDATE: 2 LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

2 Los Angeles County Firefighters gave their lives Sunday when they were driven off the side of a road in heavy smoke and into heavy fire conditions in the Mt. Gleason area, south of Acton, around 1430 Hours. Killed in the Line of Duty were **FF Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones, 35 and Captain Tedmund "Ted" Hall, 47.** Captain Hall had been with the LA County FD for 26 years and Arnie Quinones had been with the department 8 years.

**MUST SEE: LIVE FIRE CAM:**

<http://www.astro.ucla.edu/~obs/towercam.htm#imagetop>

From the Mount Wilson Observatory, Mt. Wilson, CA. (Image will automatically refresh every 2 minutes in most web browsers.)

**VIDEO:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvIWcvIZ6OA&feature=channel>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngOTx4Yb5ks>

**INTERACTIVE FIRE MAP:**

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-la-fire-map-html,0,7464337.htmlstory>

**News and public info, photos and video of this reported out of control fire is posted at:**

<http://inciweb.org/incident/1856/>

[www.cbs2.com](http://www.cbs2.com)

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

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

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

[www.abc7.com](http://www.abc7.com)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-31-09 / 0658 Hours

**AND**

Hey,

Here is an **UPDATE** on the fire and also below is a story about the 2 Firefighters who lost their lives yesterday. **NOTE** that 105,000 acres of mountainous brush across northern Los Angeles County is showing little sign of slowing down late this afternoon as it threatened 12,000 homes in suburban tracts and desert communities, along with a historic observatory and major array of television and radio transmission towers.

September 11, 2009

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

55

**FIRE INFORMATION-STATUS REPORT 1700 PDT:**

**-As per LA County** - 105,000 acres - 75 miles left to build - 3,670 firefighters on scene - no accurate number of buildings burnt - 2 comm sites damaged or destroyed (Mt Lukens & Mt Desperation) - Mt Wilson was OK as of 5 minutes ago - air attack said repeater (towers) were still standing - Santa Clarita will be a spike camp - have given permission to air group to use 747 if it can be effective - it will come from Sacramento (a 55 minute trip) - no change in weather expected for next 4 to 5 days

**-As Per LA County Chief** - 2 LODD Firefighters were protecting Camp 16 with 60 other firefighters - Camp 16 was destroyed - the 2 LODD were advised that the fire was coming fast - the two got into a vehicle and attempted to move it - they went 800 feet down - many FFs were injured attempting a rescue (not seriously) - fire is 5 miles from Agua Dulce - fire is 6 or 7 miles from Little Rock - hundred of homes have been saved so far.  
-Unified Command is - ANF + LA County + LA City  
-At 2021 it was reported that 53 homes destroyed at Sunnyvale  
-747 lining up to a drop now - 2033 Hours EDT

**ABOUT THE 2 FIREFIGHTERS WHO DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:**

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?92224>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 8-31-09 / 2139 hours

**AND**

Hey,

Vermont State Police believe a medical condition may have led to that fire apparatus crash that killed a Vermont Firefighter in the Line of Duty last weekend. Police say FF Kenneth Frizzell, 55, was returning from a fire call when he lost control on a steep hill Sunday and hit a telephone poll. According to the medical examiner, Firefighter Frizzell may have suffered a small seizure moments prior to the accident. A state inspection of the truck found no mechanical problems that would have contributed to the crash. FF Frizzell was on the town of Charleston Volunteer Fire Department and was the only person in the fire apparatus at the time of the fatal crash.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-2-09 / 1400 Hours

**AND**

Hey,

**A CLOSE CALL in Las Vegas today.** According to veteran Las Vegas Fire Rescue PIO Tim Szymanski, Fire dispatchers received calls that a house was on fire on Comstock Drive. Engine Co 3 was first on scene with Engine Co. 203 close behind.

As Engine 3 pulled up in front of the house, flames and smoke was showing. **As the captain**

radioed in his report, a male adult came from around the house with a gun and fired two times at the engine hitting it, one shot broke out the right rear cab window where two firefighters sit. The captain ordered the engine to take off and leave the area and he radioed that the crew was being shot at. **At the same time Engine 203 pulled up and saw the man with a gun and proceeded to leave the area behind Engine 3, but not before that engine was also shot.** It was hit just under the captain's door window and once in a window on the right rear where the two firefighters sit. Windows in both cabs were shot out. **The two engines left the scene, no one was injured.**

The Battalion Chief at the incident kept crews out of the area and advised Metro Police that firefighters were being shot at. Within minutes several police units from several different law enforcement agencies converged on scene. At 12:51 p.m. Metro advised the scene was safe and fire crews could enter the scene under escort. While firefighters fought the fire two SWAT crews stood by to make sure they were safe. The suspect that shot at the firefighters was shot by police prior to the crews being let back in. When firefighters arrived the second time, there was heavy fire inside the residence. Firefighters did a quick search to see if anyone needed to be rescued, they could not find anyone and quickly evacuated the building. Because of the progress of the fire, the fire was attacked in the defensive mode for the remainder of the incident. Neighbors told fire investigators that a woman lives in the house alone, she was at work and saw the fire on the TV and came to scene later. She lives alone, relatives are with her. **Police are working to determine who the suspect is and why he would be shooting at firefighters and police. There were no injuries of fire & rescue personnel during the incident.**

**Another grim reminder of the fact that "we never know" WHAT we may encounter upon approach and arrival at any scene.**

**REMEMBER:**

**Maplewood (MO) Fire/Medic Ryan Hummert**, 22, who was shot and killed in the Line of Duty after he got out of his fire apparatus at the scene of that working car fire, last year, when a lunatic shot and killed him and targeted other firefighters and cops.

**And in Lexington, Kentucky Lt Brenda Cowan** who was shot and died in the Line of Duty in 2004. On the first tour of duty after being formally promoted to Lieutenant, Cowan was shot and killed while responding to a domestic violence call. Cowan, the officer of E-18 was trying to help a citizen, who had been shot in the head outside her home-and died on the scene. Her husband barricaded himself for nearly six hours. Cops said they used 15 rounds of tear gas to smoke the murderer out of the house. He has been charged with two counts of murder and remains incompetent to stand for trial.

**BUFFALO:** Here is a much better link regarding the Buffalo FD's t-shirt memorial fundraiser:

<http://buffalosbravest.com/benefittee.htm>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-2-09 / 2200 Hours

**AND:**



**AN IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM THE SEPTEMBER 11th FAMILIES ASSOCIATION**

A week from tomorrow, Friday, will be the 8th Anniversary of 9/11/01. If your department and community has nothing planned, **it is still not too late.**

**GO HERE:** [http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/\\$9-11.shtml](http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/$9-11.shtml)  
**-for some simple guidelines.**

Earlier this year, the President signed a law that makes **September 11th a National Day of Service and Remembrance.** What this means is that we should all choose one good deed that we can do to honor the victims of 9/11. It doesn't matter what you do, just pick something close to your heart.

**Thank You.**

[www.911families.org](http://www.911families.org)  
[www.tributewtc.org](http://www.tributewtc.org)

**AND:**

Hey,

While it is clear that tough economic times have effected most of North America's fire service, there also seems to be an impression, in some communities that they can do "without" some "parts" of their fire department. But - - - WHICH parts?

WHICH roles?

WHICH tasks?

WHICH stations and most critically: WHICH people?

**What part of the FD is NOT needed?**

And then the issue further begs the question: WHOSE FIRE will be affected?

Which of the citizens in the community will have THAT fire where THOSE cuts matter? It is often very predictable where the fires will be-not always, but often.

Sure, sometimes it is a long shot but those making the decisions must keep in mind that their decisions may - but most often - **will not** affect them **personally.** Odd's are the ones making the decisions see themselves as the ones who will NOT have a fire. Not have a heart attack. Not have the need for a whole bunch of firefighters arriving in about 4 minutes and the members actually having a clue.

So the cuts are done and life goes on----until the next fire. or "THAT" fire. The one fire everyone will eventually talk about. History has proven there will be "THAT" fire.

But when it comes to self preservation, sometimes we are our own worst enemy.

We give "it" up-and hurt ourselves.

Yes, believe it or not-it's true.

**Settle down.**

For example, last June, a Chicago B/C slept through a fire run. Is that a problem? Absolutely for him, the firefighters and of course, for whoever is having the fire. We are on duty and

expected to respond to runs. Going to fires is a core value, primary mission, whatever word you call it, for a **FIRE** department. Do we sometimes sleep through runs? Yes, but we can't.

So, as you may have read (see article link below) last June, that Chicago chief did sleep thru a run. And it was a serious run according to accounts, a fire bombing of a building with rescues and related working fire tasks. Chiefs have proven to be quite helpful when that happens. Running those scenes is what Chiefs do.

**Chiefs must respond.**

But here is where "give it up" parts come in. A CFD spokesman told the media that there are "always at least two chiefs at a working fire," so the chiefs absence would have had no impact on how the emergency was handled. That is the impression the reporters were given- and that is what they printed and reported.

**We "give it up"**. The CFD Commissioner and those who run the show there obviously want 2 Chiefs on any 1st alarm fire. Quickly. And for excellent reasons. And in spite of what some think, say or feel, a 2nd chief missing a run is a serious problem and that position is NOT always easily replaced. Between the issues of command, control, size up, accountability, rescues, water, venting, safety, FF rescue and all the other stuff chiefs are expected in manage in about 10 seconds of getting out of the buggy, 2 chiefs arriving from as close as possible are critical in Chicago, and anywhere else.

**That's why the CFD dispatches it that way.**

While circumstances can potentially delay any unit - depending, the criticality of all companies and bosses arriving quickly and operating simultaneously is a focal point in the win or lose aspect of the fireground.

But when we, spokespeople, PIO's or anyone else gives the impression that a chief arriving as soon as possible **would NOT be critical**, we are "giving it up". The next thing you know, the PUBLIC starts to think:

**"well then, why are we paying for that? "**

**"why do we NEED so many chiefs" ??**

Or at the next council meeting, some suited city hall dweller will comment "Hey I have a brainstorm, why don't we CUT all these "extra" chiefs if you claim they are not critical-after all, times are tight and elections are right around the corner"

**Wonderful.**

And it is happening in many communities around the US right now.

Last week in a Florida community it was suggested by a consultant that they lay off 50+ Firefighters and just have the remaining members work more hours and more shifts. Another outstandingly ill advised idea so that, in this case, the community of West Palm Beach can balance the budget issues on the backs of the FD-and the FF's. Believe it or not, some consultants have actually been known to give "us" up from time to time-it's strictly business. Again, at some point, there will be "that" fire with the predictable results when those ideas will help repeat history. There will be that "tragic" event, where, like clock work, there will be the suited city hall dwellers doing their side stepping "moon walk"- at hospitals and funerals.

**Chabot College Fire & EMS News**

Times are tough and clearly, as always, FD's have to operate as effectively as possible (internally and externally) and provide nothing for anyone to unfairly target. And while these days, in almost every community, FD's are being "looked at", the last thing we wanna do is to "give it up" by failing to train, failing to follow the SOP's, failing to respond/turnout or failing to insure the media and the public FULLY understand why we are so critical to them.

**We ARE critical to them. All of them. They just don't know it yet.**

**HERE** is the Chicago news piece: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,545902,00.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-3-09 / 1558 hours

**AND**

Hey,

2 Oroville (CA) Firefighters are being treated for burns after they responded to an emergency landing by a small plane and the aircraft's fuel tank exploded-one of the Firefighters was airlifted to the University of California, Davis burn center in Sacramento with moderate to severe burns. The fuel tank exploded as the firefighters were approaching. The two civilians who were in the plane escaped with minor injuries-the plane crash-landed on an airport taxi-way this morning. Oroville is 70 miles north of Sacramento. Update to follow either here or on our home page.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-4-09 - 1630 hours

**AND:**

Hey,

A California Firefighter is in the hospital after being exposed to cyanide. Several Firefighters developed respiratory problems earlier this week while working the Station Fire burning above Los Angeles. Investigators determined the Firefighters were exposed to cyanide gas, probably from an old mining operation. Cyanide is also common in smoke and related off-gassing at most structural fires as well. A hazardous materials team secured the area.

As companies continued to operate at the massive fire, homicide and fire investigators were pursuing leads into who started the fire, which was the result of arson, making the deaths of two L.A. County Firefighters last weekend a homicide case. The Station Fire has burned over 154-thousand acres so far in Los Angeles County. As of last night the wildfire was 42% contained.

Take Care-Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-5-09 / 2055 hours

**AND:**

Hey,

Two firefighters were hurt this morning after the aerial ladder they were operating on collapsed in western Pennsylvania - the injuries are not life-threatening. The incident happened this morning at a fire scene in Monongahela, just outside Pittsburgh. The Firefighters were on the 100-foot ladder when it collapsed and they fell-actual details to follow. The fire started around 0515 hours at a pizzeria and then spread to two adjacent buildings and is now under control.

Take Care-Be Careful,  
Billy G  
The Secret List 9-6-09 / 1300 hours

**AND:**

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

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.**

**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

**AND:**

Hey,

A Hooverson Heights (W.VA) Firefighter, on his way to the scene of a reported house fire was injured in a vehicle rollover this afternoon. The Firefighter's vehicle crashed and overturned on state Route 2. The Firefighter was transported to Weirton Medical Center with minor injuries. We'll post an update later on our home page.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-8-09 / 2000 hours

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

**AND**

**Huntington Manor-Long Island, N.Y. FF LODD-Cardiac Arrest at Scene**

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a 58 year old Huntington Manor (Suffolk County, Long Island, New York) Firefighter died in the Line of Duty at the scene of a fire this morning. Initial reports are that this was a witnessed arrest and immediate life saving efforts were attempted. More details will be posted later. As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care-Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-9-09 / 0530 hours

**AND**

Hey,

2 Firefighters have been injured after they fell through the floor in a commercial building fire in Meaford, Ont.(Canada) around 0600 this morning. **One of the Firefighters has very serious**

September 11, 2009

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

62

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

**injuries.** Initial reports indicated there was an additional firefighter missing but that was unfounded. Reports from the scene are that ambulances are standing by and Firefighters are operating from the exterior at this time. Meaford is north of Collingwood, east of Owen Sound. The Meaford and District FD has 24 Volunteer Firefighters. More to follow. Keep them in your prayers.

Billy G

The Secret List 9-9-09 / 0950 Hours

**AND:**

Hey,

8 years ago. When we recall the World Trade Center attack, the Pentagon attack and the hijacked crash in Pennsylvania on the anniversary of Sept. 11, we get angry. Or we should. If we don't, that's a real problem. So first and foremost, we take time to remember all those murdered on 9/11 along with the Firefighters, Police Officers and EMS Members murdered in the Line of Duty. **We also take time to remember those who survived and those who are survivors of those murdered.**

There is also a group of THOUSANDS of Firefighters, Police Officers and EMS Members who live 9/11 every day. Most who it seems, have been forgotten. They along with other support workers, are suffering from major upper respiratory illnesses, some of them life threatening, that were contracted from inhaling the air at Ground Zero. It started with the first arriving company, police officer and EMT and continues today. **For me, I will NEVER FORGET the statements by "officials" claiming there was no harm being caused to those breathing the fumes. Elected and appointed idiots who think that we would believe their crap. Incredible.**

What's more incredible is that they were believed by the clueless majority-and those who might have to write checks or actually TAKE responsibility. WTF?!

For now, responders receive federally funded monitoring and treatment, but this "system" is in a precarious situation. Funds are allotted annually, and next years funding could be cut or not granted at all, leaving many ill responders with nothing. Nothing. Congress is also considering a bill that would establish permanent Federal funding for 9/11 medical monitoring and treatment, giving workers and lower Manhattan residents some long-term health resources. Without that, some may have nothing. Congress needs to be held to the fire in TAKING CARE of those who responded, gave their lives-or are GIVING their lives in helping others. Ask your member of Congress where they are on the issue?

The James Zadroga Act, named for an NYPD Detective who died as a result of illnesses contracted while operating at Ground Zero, has support in both houses of Congress from the New York and New Jersey delegations and lobbying muscle from the unions, but it appears to inspire little action from other lawmakers. **It seems that some feel that it's a NY and NJ problem, not "their" problem. What happened to 9/11 being an AMERICAN PROBLEM? Make the call. Find out where YOUR elected officials are and what they are doing-and will do..**

You'll also LOVE the fact that the bill has also lost some of its supporters from last year; it

was shelved in October when Congress turned its attention to a \$700-billion bailout package for Wall Street. How'd that work out? We're just say'n.

If you are interested in the politics of this, GOOGLE the "9/11 Health" and you'll find plenty. I know there is ALOT to this issue and to some it is VERY complicated. But sadly, it reminds me of how we treat many war veterans and now, 9/11 survivors, and those who are dying a slow death-as they too were attacked on 9/11/01. They just didn't die soon enough for the politicians.

As far as we are concerned, we just wanted to remind all of The Secret List members that NEVER FORGETTING, as Rick L says, means NEVER FORGETTING. And as a part of that, it means never forgetting:

- who attacked us.
- why they attacked us.
- who gave their lives that day.
- who continues to suffer each and every day.
- and who, amongst all of our members of Congress and Senate actually care enough to support them.

There is a clear moral obligation on the part of the Federal Government to take care of all those genuinely affected by 9/11, both physically and mentally. 8 years later-how are your local Federally elected officials responding? **Ask'em.**

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 9/10/09

**To subscribe to the Secret List and get these emails for yourself, go to [www.firefighterclosecalls.com](http://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:**

Englewood's 2010 budget planning picture got clearer as the Englewood (CO) Firefighters Association ratified a request to accept a one-year wage freeze:

[http://coloradocommunitynewspapers.com/articles/2009/08/18/englewood\\_herald/news/21\\_tm\\_firefighters\\_en.txt](http://coloradocommunitynewspapers.com/articles/2009/08/18/englewood_herald/news/21_tm_firefighters_en.txt)



They've delivered babies, re-started hearts and patched up the young and old alike. But due to budget cuts, Lawrence (MA) city firefighters have stopped responding to most medical aid calls indefinitely. This reduction follows two firehouse closures and 10 firefighter layoffs last month:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/ems-supplies/articles/588731-Budget-cuts-keep-Mass-firefighters-from-medical-calls/>

Several local police and firefighters are now taking home much lighter paychecks. Those first responders are the economy's latest casualties. Somerton City Manager, Bill Lee, says desperate times called for desperate measures. It came down to lay-offs or pay cuts. "Sixty-percent of our employees thought that furlough and a reduction in pay was the best route to help balance the budget," says Lee. He started a furlough system where all non-public-safety workers took one day off every month. That includes Lee. Police and firefighters took a 2.3% cut:

<http://www.kswt.com/Global/story.asp?S=10983640>

After months of rancor and weeks of negotiations, the city of Sterling (IL) and the firefighters union came to an agreement Tuesday that brings back all six laid-off firefighters and reopens the Lynn Boulevard substation. The agreement between the City Council and Local 2301 of the International Association of Firefighters doesn't prevent the city from laying off firefighters in the next fiscal year, which begins in May. If a property tax levy increase isn't approved by the rural protection board, the layoffs could be reinstated. The city and the 18-member union agreed to publicly support an increase in the rural property tax levy for fire protection from 12 cents to 28 cents per \$100 of equalized assessed valuation. The tax, which would apply only to those living in the rural fire district, could raise up to \$230,000 a year for the city, which would use the money for the fire department and firefighter pensions. If the board approves the increase, the owner of a \$100,000 house would pay \$53 more a year in property taxes. The agreement included concessions by the firefighters. They will work 5 hours for free during each 2-week pay period and pay more for health insurance:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/III-FFs-to-Work-for-Free-to-Reverse-Layoffs/46\\$65415](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/III-FFs-to-Work-for-Free-to-Reverse-Layoffs/46$65415)

The Utah State Retirement System is facing a \$6.5 billion shortfall caused by one of the worst recessions in state history. The deficit could threaten retirement plans for 182,000 active and retired public employees, including firefighters, police officers, teachers and judges: <http://www.abc4.com/content/news/state/story/Utah-retirement-fund-facing-6-5-billion-shortfall/tWm4c9D5GkanElyE9-M2ZA.csp>

The price tag for fighting California wildfires during just the past few weeks has climbed to more than \$60 million, with the fire season's peak months still looming ahead. But in a state recently forced to make deep budget cuts, pay bills with IOUs and order workers to take furloughs to close a \$24.5 billion shortfall, funding to fight wildfires survived, and an emergency reserve fund even went up:

<http://cbs13.com/local/california.wildfire.budget.2.1132750.html>

Predicting public pension system failures and government bankruptcies in the near future, state and local leaders Monday called for reforms to retirement systems

statewide that are turning a growing number of public servants into "\$100,000 pension club" millionaires. The comments came as Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is expected to introduce a plan in the coming weeks that would revamp public retiree health benefits and pension formulas for new employees, saving the state an estimated \$93 billion by 2040: [http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci\\_13147447?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_13147447?nclick_check=1)

Thirty-five Lehigh Acres, Fla. firefighters were laid off this morning, according to WBBH-TV. The station reported that department spokesman Patrick Comer -- who was among those fired -- said three administrative staff members and a maintenance worker also were let go. All 39 employees are on administrative leave starting today through Aug. 31. As of Sept. 1, all of them will be off the payroll. Sources told WBBH-TV that Chief Don Adams is closing one firehouse and dropping one ambulance from another:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Florida-Department-Lays-Off-35-Firefighters/46\\$64994](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Florida-Department-Lays-Off-35-Firefighters/46$64994)

A consultant looking for cost-cutting measures says the city of West Palm Beach (FL) could fire 52 firefighters - about a quarter of the department - without compromising safety. Mayor Lois Frankel was not ready to say today whether she would support any such proposal:

[http://www.palmbeachpost.com/localnews/content/local\\_news/epaper/2009/08/31/0831wpbfirfighters.html](http://www.palmbeachpost.com/localnews/content/local_news/epaper/2009/08/31/0831wpbfirfighters.html)

The Eugene Fire Department may be forced to cut one of its medic programs. Randy Groves, Eugene's fire chief, says the non-emergency ambulance system in Eugene costs far more money to operate than it is bringing in, and this move will help narrow the gap: <http://www.kmtr.com/news/local/story/Eugene-to-cut-non-emergency-ambulance-program/DZGtDZLo4EewUs84s95snQ.csp>

Los Angeles (CA) city officials are reportedly trying to declare an impasse in contract negotiations with the city firefighters unions, despite assertions that compromises are in the works: [http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/california/ci\\_13241906](http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/california/ci_13241906)

A judge says furloughs in Prince George's County (MD) were unconstitutional, but the police and fire departments aren't exactly celebrating. The ruling could mean layoffs for both. County officials say they will appeal the decision that would force them to refund \$17 million to 5,900 employees. In the meantime, they're threatening "massive" layoffs: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/No-Furloughs-Could-Mean-Layoffs-in-Maryland/46\\$65039](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/No-Furloughs-Could-Mean-Layoffs-in-Maryland/46$65039)

Denver (CO) firefighters will vote on whether to ratify the deal next week. It would save the city an estimated \$7 million over the next two years, said Aaron Jonke, the secretary and treasurer of Denver Firefighters Local 858. If approved, firefighters would give back raises they were scheduled to receive in 2010 of 4 percent and in 2011 of 3.8 percent, Jonke said. The concessions will cost individual firefighters an average of \$7,625 over the two-year period, Jonke said:

<http://www.9news.com/news/local/article.aspx?storyid=122150&catid=222>

Union workers with Denver (CO) Firefighters Local 858 have been bargaining with city officials for about two months. All of their work will come to a head on Sept. 14 and 15. That's when firefighters will vote on whether to approve a request that would have firefighters delay their 2010 and 2011 pay raises in order to help the city save about \$7 million. "Our membership realizes this is a huge economic crisis," Denver Firefighters Local 858 Secretary Treasurer Aaron Jonke said. If the firefighters don't accept the offer, the city would lay off dozens of firefighters. For that reason, the firefighters' union is recommending that members accept the offer. "Simply for the fact that we're faced with losing nearly a hundred firefighters," Jonke said, "...we understand when the city hits hard times like this, we need to respond."

<http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=122621&catid=188>

A fire tax levy in north Spokane County failing; a District chief believes ballot wording may have confused voters: <http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2009/aug/19/fire-levy-north-spokane-county-failing/>

Vallejo (CA) city and fire union officials have agreed to a controversial plan to tear up the employees' contract and start negotiating a new one:

[http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci\\_13213471](http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_13213471)

The City of Spokane (WA) has taken another step toward meeting its 2010 budget and saving firefighters' jobs after Spokane Firefighters set up a salary reduction and early retirement plan – one of the Battalion Chiefs is also retiring to help save a possible lay off – a class act: [http://www.khq.com/Global/story.asp?S=11030382&nav=menu438\\_2\\_4](http://www.khq.com/Global/story.asp?S=11030382&nav=menu438_2_4)

In light of the Grand Junction (CO) City Council shunning the idea of seeking a sales-tax increase to pay for new police and fire buildings, administrators at the Grand Junction Fire Department are wrestling with alternatives:

[http://www.gjsentinel.com/hp/content/news/stories/2009/08/27/082809\\_1a\\_fire\\_stations.html](http://www.gjsentinel.com/hp/content/news/stories/2009/08/27/082809_1a_fire_stations.html)

More layoffs, intensified rolling closures and permanent rig shut downs could be on the way for the Anchorage (AK) Fire Department. AFD met with Anchorage Mayor Dan Sullivan Wednesday to talk about next year's budget. This year's budget shortfall meant eight layoffs from the fire department and next year could be a similar story. They are Anchorage's first responders and this year they were the first to feel the burn of a budget shortfall. "I think he's predicting about a \$20 million shortfall for next year," Tom Wescott, president of the firefighters union said. "I think they've asked departments to produce 2, 5 and 7 percent reductions." Reductions or risk more layoffs: <http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=10999519>

The Grand Forks (ND) Fire Department needs more firefighters and a new fire station if it is to respond to fires in a timely manner, Fire Chief Pete O'Neill told City Council members Wednesday. "We're basically a one-shot fire department," he said. "We have enough personnel at any one time to fight one fire."

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=65144&sectionId=46>

Good news: The controversial fee proposed by the Paradise (CA) fire chief for emergency medical calls is not moving forward! Bad news: It's not wholly going away, either: [http://www.paradisepost.com/opinion/ci\\_13210812](http://www.paradisepost.com/opinion/ci_13210812)

Omaha (NE) residents flooded City Hall with phone calls and e-mails — the vast majority calling on the City Council to revoke the Fire Department's minimum staffing ordinance: <http://omaha.com/article/20090826/NEWS01/708269918>

A city budget proposal to eliminate one of three Marine Safety rescue boats could jeopardize boating and water safety, the lifeguard union said Monday. Docking Rescue Boat 3 may hamper response times, said Shawn Parker, president of the Long Beach (CA) Lifeguard Association. "In effect, it would eliminate a third of the overall rescue-boat services to the city year-round," Parker said. The city's proposed fiscal 2010 budget proposes taking the boat out of service Oct. 1 for a savings of \$432,000: [http://www.insidebayarea.com/california/ci\\_13194920](http://www.insidebayarea.com/california/ci_13194920)

With budgets tight both Yakima and Union Gap (WA) Fire Departments are getting creative to save money. The departments have reached an agreement to share resources. Union Gap can't afford a new ladder truck, so they're pitching in \$100,000 towards Yakima's new truck. In return, the Yakima ladder truck will respond to commercial fires in Union Gap: [http://www.khq.com/Global/story.asp?S=11037361&nav=menu438\\_2\\_4](http://www.khq.com/Global/story.asp?S=11037361&nav=menu438_2_4)

The city of St. Petersburg (FL) will have to lay off five firefighters on Oct. 1. St. Petersburg Fire Rescue Chief James Large broke the news himself to those five on Tuesday. "It's probably my worst day as fire chief in 31/2 years," he said Wednesday. "I hired these guys, and had to tell them they're laid off." It could have been worse. St. Petersburg actually lost a total of 17 positions. Three were lost to budget cuts, Large said, and another 14 had to be cut because the city lost its annual \$2 million contract to provide service to Tierra Verde. The chief said that he was able to save 11 jobs thanks to retirements, attrition and extra funding. So six (6) firefighters were originally set to be laid off: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=65306&sectionId=46>

Manteca's fire department needs to cut \$1.7 million from its budget. In order to help fill the budget deficit, the Manteca (CA) City Council approved a measure that will require out-of-town visitors to pay the city if they need to be rescued in an emergency: <http://www.kcra.com/news/20716034/detail.html>

A dozen Los Angeles (CA) firefighters descended on City Hall Thursday to deliver about 5,000 mailer responses from the public, asking the mayor and City Council to rescind a cost-cutting measure which takes 15 fire trucks and nine ambulances out of service every day: [http://www.dailybulletin.com/elections/ci\\_13308434](http://www.dailybulletin.com/elections/ci_13308434)

---

**Public Relations Nightmare Stories:**

The city will pay a former Portland (OR) Fire Bureau employee \$25,000 and give her a used city laptop to settle a federal discrimination lawsuit the woman filed, saying she was passed over for promotions and denied training because she is black: [http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2009/08/city\\_settles\\_discrimination\\_cl.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2009/08/city_settles_discrimination_cl.html)

Twenty-five North Naples (FL) firefighters are no longer allowed to work as paramedics because they haven't met training requirements set by Collier County Medical Director Dr. Bob Tober: <http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2009/aug/25/collier-ems-director-pulls-certification-25-paramed/?partner=popular>

A \$119,064-a-year Chicago (IL) Fire Department battalion chief has been slapped with a 15-day suspension for sleeping through a South Side fire in June. The embarrassing incident happened after a fire bomb was apparently thrown into a home in the 8900 block of South University. Fire alarms sounded at Engine Company No. 72, 7982 S. South Chicago Ave. The 23rd battalion responded to the 4 a.m. call. When they got to the fire, they noticed that Chief DeKalb Walcott was not there to call the shots. He was back at the firehouse, sound asleep:  
<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/587374-chicago-battalion-chief-suspended-for-sleeping-through-fire/>

The Rodeo-Hercules (CA) Fire District has sent an embattled former chief a legal bill of more than \$7,000 for negotiations that led to his recent retirement, the ex-chief's new lawyer says. The district also is denying Gary Boyles some pay adjustments he believes he is entitled to under a June 25 settlement agreement, according to the lawyer, William Kelly: [http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci\\_13152102](http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_13152102)

Recently fired Shaker Heights (OH) Fire Chief Donald Barnes will drop his lawsuit against the city in return for more than \$80,000 in severance pay. Under a settlement passed by City Council, the firing will officially be called a layoff and he will receive nine months' severance pay, in addition to accrued vacation and sick pay:  
<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/585995-ex-fire-chief-ohio-city-settle-firing-over-budget-cuts/>

Fire safety inspections could be snuffed out by budget cuts. The Colorado Springs (CO) Fire Department may lose up to 22 jobs because of the city's budget shortfall. Those jobs could include Fire Code Inspectors, a team that eliminates hazards in your home and business each year. There are 20,000 businesses in Colorado Springs. But the department only has 5 inspectors. "Each inspector probably does somewhere between 1200 and 1500 inspections a year, there's just no way we can do that (20,000) in a year," stated John Shumaker, Fire Code Inspector:  
<http://www.krdotv.com/Global/story.asp?S=11101428>

San Diego (CA) County continues to allocate significantly less funding toward fire protection than its urban neighbors to the north, according to an updated report from a local think tank. The report, produced by the National University System Institute for Policy Research, criticizes the amount of money local government officials have spent on fire and emergency medical services, and says those services are understaffed:  
[http://www.voiceofsandiego.org/articles/2009/09/09/this\\_just\\_in/582firereport090909.txt](http://www.voiceofsandiego.org/articles/2009/09/09/this_just_in/582firereport090909.txt)

Former Salkum (WA) Fire Chief Phillip McDaniel was terminated for a multitude of factors, including misuse of sick and vacation time, lack of maintenance to fire equipment, lies to officers and an overall inability to perform his job duties, according



to documents released Friday from the district's board of commissioners. Also on Friday, McDaniel's attorney announced that the former chief will sue the district for a "breach of contract."

<http://www.chronline.com/articles/2009/08/29/news/doc4a98d9c27ded2042366933.txt>

New details were released Wednesday about the firing of former Salkum (WA) fire Chief Phillip McDaniel early this month. Brian Snure, the attorney for Fire District 8's commissioners, released e-mails and letters from the commissioners to McDaniel, stating that "insubordination, inappropriate use of public resources and failure to adequately perform job duties" led to his termination:

<http://www.chronline.com/articles/2009/08/21/news/doc4a8d8eb5141a9879591730.txt>

West Virginia State Fire Marshal Sterling Lewis says he's delivering a "cease and desist" order to Coal City Volunteer Fire Department Wednesday evening. The order shuts down the department for the next 90 days so financial problems can be ironed out. If those problems aren't resolved, the department could be permanently closed:

<http://www.wvnstv.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=65861>

Many Chehalis (WA) city departments are suffering from budget cuts — some are forced to leave positions unfilled, some are considering layoffs. In a rare move, employees in one department chose to work some hours without pay instead of seeing one or more colleagues lose their jobs. Still, the firefighters aren't complaining. "Honestly, the city's hurting a little bit, so it's not out of the question to help a little," said Chehalis firefighter Mike Cooley. Rob Gebhart, a 21-year veteran at the department, agreed. "Sure there are mixed feelings," he said. "We knew the city was having financial issues, but at the end of the day the fire department has essentially reduced staffing":

<http://www.chronline.com/articles/2009/09/02/news/doc4a9ebcd2e9d2a010360771.txt>

Mequon (WI) - Two veteran city firefighters have lost their jobs after the Police and Fire Commission found they had failed to meet department training and fire response standards: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Wisconsin-Firefighters-Fired-for-Lax-Attendance/46\\$65038](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Wisconsin-Firefighters-Fired-for-Lax-Attendance/46$65038)

Austin (TX) firetrucks now must drive the speed limit and come to a complete stop at intersections while responding to calls, according to a new city policy that has upset the firefighters' union. Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr said the policy is intended to improve safety for firefighters and motorists:

<http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/stories/local/2009/08/20/0820firetrucks.html>

A member of the Reva Volunteer Fire Department faces a misdemeanor traffic charge after a Wednesday night accident involving a department fire engine. Sheriff's Office spokesman Sgt. Jim Fox said deputies charged Brent Emerson, 28, of Reva, with unlawfully stopping a vehicle on the highway:

<http://www.emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?id=10242&siteSection=1>

When the state asked San Francisco's Fire Department to send fire engines to help fight wildfires in Southern California last week, the city's fire chief said that after

fighting two large fires on the home front the day before, the department couldn't spare the few working backup engines it had. Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White said the department simply could not accommodate the request. On most days, San Francisco has just six backup engines. That's about half the number the department said it should have, especially with the city being earthquake country. The chief said the department is behind in its fleet replacement. "We have sounded the bell many times. We asked for \$14 million for rigs this year and received \$300,000. We are trying to do the best we can with what we have," said Hayes-White. In the last four years, the city has allotted more than \$2 million for replacements -- enough for five engines:

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/20805023/detail.html>

Four years ago this week, EMS providers here were scrambling to take care of residents as an unwelcome woman -- Katrina -- came to town. Boats replaced ambulances. Many providers lost their homes to Katrina's wrath. But, they remained on duty to do what they could to provide pre-hospital care to thousands of residents. New Orleans' EMS -- like thousands of others -- was left homeless. Since Katrina, they've been operating out of two FEMA trailers located under a bridge:

<http://emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?id=10361&siteSection=1>

In a likely test of the government's emergency authority, Jefferson Parish (LA) is facing a lawsuit filed by an Old Metairie family because firefighters sat idle in the station during Hurricane Gustav while a fire destroyed their house. The suit says the East Bank Consolidated Fire Department waited about an hour after the first call to roll to the Sept. 1, 2008, fire at 414 Dorrington Blvd. It responded only after "Sheriff Newell Normand and . . . Constable Dan Civello, who himself was a former fire chief, contacted the Fire Department and warned that this fire could destroy an entire block," the suit says:

<http://www.nola.com/news/t-p/eastjefferson/index.ssf?/base/news-7/125264714554580.xml&coll=1>

Two people are dead after the car they were riding in slammed into a Kansas City (MO) Fire Department truck returning to the fire station:

<http://www.fox4kc.com/wdaf-story-car-firetruck-082909%2C0%2C4179190.story>

After a three-year legal battle, Hermosa Beach (CA) firefighter Sheldon Osekowsky settled a \$300,000 lawsuit with the city and will rejoin the Fire Department later this month. In 2006, Osekowsky was arrested for driving under the influence in the Palm Springs area. He pleaded guilty, served his probation, and continued to work for the Hermosa Beach Fire Department with his driver's license revoked and with the full knowledge of department heads. But he was fired 10 months after the conviction and two months after his license was reissued, according his attorney, Steven Brock:

[http://www.tbrnews.com/articles/2009/09/11/hermosa\\_beach\\_news/news09.txt](http://www.tbrnews.com/articles/2009/09/11/hermosa_beach_news/news09.txt)

Cal Fire Chief Del Walters issued an apology Tuesday to his staff statewide after he was arrested in Plumas County last week and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol: <http://www.sacbee.com/politics/story/2139077.html>



**General Fire Service Related Stories:**

Some words to consider as they have some significance and relevance, especially given the state of the economy and society in general: Fire departments that only respond to fires will cease to exist within a few generations, suggested I. David Daniels, IAFC official and fire chief of Renton, Wash., during a weekend presentation at Fire-Rescue International. *If fire departments expect to maintain relevance over time, they're going to have to follow growth industries, he said.* "We advertise at the bottom of the pyramid -- we haven't been fire departments for at least the last 30 years," he said. "EMS -- that is my number one business. It's a growth industry. My other growth industry is emergency management," he said. By offering a suite of services and promoting that to the community, departments will meet the broader needs of a larger proportion of the community. Many of us do not want to admit or accept reality, but if we do not, we run the risk of being extinct and having the world pass our profession by and leave us in the dust wondering what happened:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Wash-Chief--Fire-Service-Future-Lies-in-EMS/46\\$65217](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Wash-Chief--Fire-Service-Future-Lies-in-EMS/46$65217)

There is no need to consult an optometrist if you see an odd-colored fire truck near South Joliet Street and East Iliff Avenue in Aurora, Colorado next week. The bright pink fire truck scheduled to be parked there at Aurora Fire Station No. 11, 2291 S. Joliet St., isn't miscolored at all. Instead, the trucks are part of a program that organizers say they hope helps raise awareness about cancer. "When you see these pink fire trucks, it's going to get people off the couch," said David Graybill, an Arizona firefighter and founder of the Pink Heals Tour:

[http://www.aurorasentinel.com/articles/2009/09/10/news/metro\\_aurora/doc4aa94a2d598d7392267232.txt](http://www.aurorasentinel.com/articles/2009/09/10/news/metro_aurora/doc4aa94a2d598d7392267232.txt)

Something more and more departments should look at doing, especially since most departments cannot adequately handle a first or second alarm incident (or even multiple simultaneous incidents) on their own. The Pocatello (ID) Fire Department Officials are pushing to get an automatic aid agreement between themselves and the Chubbuck Fire Department. Currently, there is a mutual aid agreement which means if something was to happen, a fire or accident for example, that Pocatello and Chubbuck would help each other out. But, they had to ask permission to help, something that does not help with reducing response times – which can make the difference between life and death: <http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=11110574>

A probationary Kern County (CA) firefighter dismissed after he criticized Mayor Harvey Hall has sued the county. The County Fire Department said it fired Jason Arvizu when superiors learned he had driven a county vehicle after he had been ordered not to: <http://www.kget.com/news/local/story/Firefighter-sues-over-dismissal/ixg4neRNKk2KTia8RtwZNQ.csp>

The Midvale (UT) Fire Department looks to decrease non-emergency responses. Americans who regularly abuse 911 for non-emergency calls are wasting billions of

dollars each year nationally and preventing emergency personnel from responding to legitimate emergencies, according to "CNN Money." The abuse is impacting local communities. During a recent council meeting, Midvale Fire Chief Stephen Higgs quoted a recent KSL report that 20 percent of all medical aid calls in Utah last year were non-life threatening. "I think that figure is fairly accurate," Higgs added:

[http://www.midvalejournal.com/pages/full\\_story/push?article-Fire+department+works+to+decrease+non-emergency+calls%20&id=3567106-Fire+department+works+to+decrease+non-emergency+calls&instance=news](http://www.midvalejournal.com/pages/full_story/push?article-Fire+department+works+to+decrease+non-emergency+calls%20&id=3567106-Fire+department+works+to+decrease+non-emergency+calls&instance=news)

New equipment, faster response times, better training -- those were but a few of the benefits Mayor Greg Ballard said Perry Township residents began enjoying when the township's fire department merged with the Indianapolis Fire Department last month. The mayor has been steadfast in his support for fire consolidation, and virtually everyone at the forum was on board. "You're getting the most appropriate, closest equipment able to respond throughout the city," said IFD Chief Brian Sanford. "Everybody is trained at the same level. Everybody's equipped at the same level of all the departments that have merged in." There have been no layoffs, and firefighter salaries have not changed. Residents could also see up to \$150 in tax savings in the next year, Ballard said:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=46&id=65326>

A group of elite firefighters got a disturbing welcome home Tuesday: while they were out protecting Alaskans from wildfires, they became crime victims as well. They're called the Pioneer Peak Hotshots, a Type I crew that's usually right in the thick of things when major wildfires break out. But when they returned after two weeks on the fire line near Fairbanks, they faced a man-made disaster. Vandals had broken into and completely trashed their headquarters while they were gone:

<http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=10953492>

The Los Angeles (CA) City Council is expected to confirm today the nomination of Battalion Chief Millage Peaks to head the Los Angeles Fire Department. The 33-year LAFD veteran would become only the second African-American chief in department history after Douglas Barry, who retired on Aug. 31. Peaks has been serving in an interim capacity since the beginning of this month. The salary range for the chief's job is \$217,945 to \$326,856 annually. Peaks, 56, would take charge at a critical time for the department, which, consistent with budget cuts, has been forced to reduce the number of firefighters on duty every day:

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local-beat/City-Council-Expected-to-Confirm-New-Fire-Chief-59017702.html>

Something more fire departments should consider, to help strengthen the relationship with the community and the local youth. A great way to recruit and prepare future firefighters: A group of 13 boys between the ages of 14 and 18 are learning the ropes of firefighting through an Explorer Post program formed by the Wickenburg (AZ) Fire Department. The fire department partnered with the Boy Scouts of America in the formation of the program, and the program has been up and running for about nine months: <http://www.wickenburgsun.com/articles/2009/08/19/news/news02.txt>

An off-duty Hillsboro (OR) firefighter is credited with saving the life of a Salem restaurant patron this past Wednesday: <http://www.katu.com/news/local/53741152.html>

A small Arkansas town is without their fire chief. He's recovering at The MED after he was shot in court by a police officer. The courtroom chaos happened Thursday, August 27, 2009 in Jericho, a tiny town of 200 just north of Marion. Crime scene tape still surrounds Jericho City Hall where Chief Don Payne was shot in court by officers while trying to argue a traffic ticket:

<http://www.myeyewitnessnews.com/news/local/story/Assistant-Fire-Chief-Shot-by-Police-Officer-in-Cou/ZDs3-7w3TUCm8VhLP37nJw.csp>

A Des Plaines (IL) battalion chief facing disciplinary action for an e-mail rallying fire department personnel against the city administration's call to curb expenses resigned his post this week. Battalion Chief Art Zern took a voluntary demotion to the rank of lieutenant after writing "the economic 'crisis' that our city and others face is being used as a weapon to intimidate our leadership and membership."

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=65311&sectionId=46>

Darlene Dukes struggled to speak as she called 911 from her cellphone. She could barely tell the operator her address: 602 Wales Drive. The operator, trying to understand Dukes, sent an ambulance to Wells Street in Atlanta — 28 miles from Dukes' apartment in Johns Creek, a suburb north of the city. That cellphone call was critical. If Dukes had called from a land-line telephone, her address would have immediately popped up on the 911 operator's screen, leaving no room for confusion. Dukes' case is like many others across the nation. For the millions of Americans giving up their land lines in favor of cellphones, dialing 911 may no longer mean a quick response. It can lead to misrouted calls, delayed information about the location of the caller and, most important, a slower emergency response:

[http://www.usatoday.com/tech/wireless/phones/2009-08-17-cellphones\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/tech/wireless/phones/2009-08-17-cellphones_N.htm)

Las Vegas (NV) police officers and firefighters will battle it out on the ice for charity in a tournament scheduled this Saturday, something more departments such be involved with (charity events) and publicize, especially in these challenging times when fire departments are under scrutiny and having to justify their existence; positive public relations is always better than negative public relations: <http://www.examiner.com/x-15011-Las-Vegas-Family-News-Examiner~y2009m8d21-Las-Vegas-police-vs-firefighters-in-charity-ice-hockey-game>

Responders never know what they may encounter when they show up on a scene. That's why it's essential that they know how to handle everything -- EMS, fire or HAZMAT, the department has decided. For that reason, D.C. Fire and EMS is making some major changes to the way they handle emergencies in the nation's capital. All personnel in the department will receive training in all hazards. Earlier this month, EMS supervisors raised their hands to take the same oath their fire service counterparts did many years ago: <http://www.emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?id=10242&siteSection=1>

The night of the annual police-firefighter softball game August 4, Boulder City (NV) Fire Department coach Walt West wasn't sure he would have nine players on the field. He recruited a couple of extras from the Henderson Fire Department Explorers program

just to be sure. When no position went unfilled, it was a relief. The reason: In the past year and a half, the Boulder City force has lost about one-third of its 42-member career and reserve firefighters to other squads, Fire Chief Kevin Nicholson said: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/aug/24/turnover-high-boulder-city-firefighters-lured-othel/>

Don't let this happen on your watch – SLOW DOWN and be responsible for your crew and the public you protect and serve! Surveillance video from a city bus shows what happened the day a Raleigh Fire truck flipped over on the way to a call. The new video released by the Raleigh Fire Department shows the driver going too fast around a corner, causing Ladder 4 to overturn. Chief John McGrath blames the crash on human error and speed: <http://www.firerescue1.com/vehicle-safety/articles/585796-Video-released-showing-NC-fire-truck-rollover/>

York County (PA) isn't the only place that has been having problems with a digital radio system. Such systems have been failing from Virginia, to California to Canada, according to a weblog compiled by a California telecommunications entrepreneur that lists 79 links to different news reports and other documents concerning problems with digital radio systems. The reports, listed by Daryl Jones on his site [blog.tcomeng.com](http://blog.tcomeng.com), date back to 2002. "There are a sufficient number of stories to establish reasonable doubt as to the suitability of these systems," Jones writes. "In fact, there is a clear pattern that would cause a reasonable and prudent person to entertain a strong and honest suspicion as to the suitability of this technology for mission-critical public safety radio communication." [http://www.eveningsun.com/ci\\_13277292](http://www.eveningsun.com/ci_13277292)

An FDNY Firefighter who was beaten is still in critical condition: An off-duty firefighter with ties to Staten Island is in critical condition today after he was severely beaten by as many as three people inside the Whitehall Ferry terminal in Manhattan early yesterday, authorities said: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/588755-beaten-ny-firefighter-critical/>

---

***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

<b>Bob Buell</b> <u>Fire Technology Coordinator</u> – Chabot College (510) 786-7565 - cellular phone <a href="mailto:bbuell@chabotcollege.edu">bbuell@chabotcollege.edu</a>	<b>Steve Prziborowski</b> <u>Fire Technology Instructor</u> - Chabot College <u>Editor / Publisher</u> - Chabot College Fire & EMS News (408) 205-9006 - cellular phone <a href="mailto:sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu">sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu</a>
---	--

**Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:** [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)  
**Chabot College web site:** [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://www.chabotcollege.edu)

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

**The Fine Print:**

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