



FIRE & EMS NEWS

June 27, 2009

Welcome to the latest issue of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News! This latest issue is jam packed with fire service news stories, training opportunities, training and safety information, volunteer opportunities and employment opportunities.

SUMMER 2009 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE

Presently, the following fire-technology related courses are scheduled to be offered this summer:

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 95 (Work Experience) **Must also be registered in FT 96	TBA	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95 Note: Class only meets on the following dates: June 17, 24, July 1, July 29 & August 5	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (EMS First Responder – prerequisite class to get into the EMT program)	Mondays (am) & Wednesdays (am)	0900 – 1340 hours

Registration for the summer 2009 semester has begun!

NOTE: The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding Summer 2009 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at www.chabotcollege.org

FALL 2009 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE

Registration for the Fall 2009 semester has begun!

Presently, the following fire-technology related courses are going to be offered this Fall:

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (am)	0800 – 1150 hours
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
FT 51 (Fire Operations)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety/Public Education 1)	Tuesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety/Public Education 1)	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
FT 53 (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (pm)	1500 – 1750 hours
FT 54 (Fire Prevention Technology)	Thursday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
FT 56 (Building Construction for Fire Protection)	Wednesday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - October 14, 16 and 18 (Wed/Fri/Sun) - November 10, 12 and 14 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Mon & Wed (pm) <u>or</u> Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 91A (Wildland Interface Firefighting) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: December 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: November 17, 19, 21, 22	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: November 10, 12, 14 and 15	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours 0800 – 1750 hours
FT 95 (Work Experience) **Must also be registered in FT 96**	TBA	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95** Note: Class only meets on the following dates: August 19, September 2, October 7, November 4 and December 16	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)	1400 – 1750 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Friday (am)	0830 – 1220 hours
Health 81 (EMT) **Must also be registered in Health 83**	Wednesday (all day)	0800 – 1720 hours
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) **Must also be registered in Health 81**	Saturday (one day only – TBA)	0830 – 1620 hours
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: December 1, 3, 5, 8, 10 and 12	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2200 hours 0800 – 1700 hours

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Mon & Wed (mid)	1300 – 1415 hours
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours

NOTE: The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding Fall 2009 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at www.chabotcollege.org

My suggestion to everyone is to register as soon as you are eligible to. Classes fill up very quickly, and I with more people wanting to become firefighters, I don't see our numbers of students decreasing, only increasing. I would have liked to offer more classes in the summer time and in the fall; however the state budget crisis does not appear to be going away anytime soon. I think we are very fortunate if we get to keep the above courses that I have scheduled. Also, if you are registered in the Chabot College system, you are eligible to take classes at Las Positas College in Livermore as well. Just because one class is full (or does not fit your schedule) at Chabot doesn't mean it isn't being offered at Las Positas. When you register for classes on the Chabot College website, you can see both schedules – Chabot and Las Positas.

ARE YOU A FIREFIGHTER WHO HAS BEEN LAID OFF?

If 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.

While 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.

Just 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.

One 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.

For more information, please email me at sprziborowski@aol.com and I will provide you with more details, including what is required.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING & SAFETY INFORMATION:

Firefighter Safety Roundtable Podcast Now Available on Firehouse.com

Listen to what national fire service leaders had to say about firefighter safety at today's roundtable discussion sponsored by the U.S. Fire Administration and Firehouse.com.

Joining Acting U.S. Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines at the roundtable were Phil Stittleburg, NVFC; Chief Billy Goldfeder and Chief Robert Dube, IAFC; Rich Duffy and James Brinkley, IAFF; Ron Siarnicki and John Proels, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation; Susan Nicol Kyle, Firehouse.com; and Al Conners, Burt Clark and Bill Troup, USFA.

[Listen to the podcast at Firehouse.com](#)

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:

Las Vegas Fire & Rescue 2010 Firefighter Recruitment Information

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

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

When will you be accepting firefighter applications?

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

Where can I pick up an application?

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

How will I send in my application?

If you live in the local area you MUST deliver your application to Human Resources in person. Applicants who live outside of the local area may mail their application to City of Las Vegas, Human Resources, 400 Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89101. Due to the large number of application received, we do not accept faxed applications for Firefighter Trainee. **Your application must be received and time stamped by Human Resources within the application period. We do not use post marked dates in determining whether an application is timely.**

What are the minimum qualifications on the date of application?

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

Are there any other requirements?

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

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

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

What is your testing process?

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

When will you give the written exam for this recruitment?

The written exam will be held on **January 12, 2010** at the Texas Station Convention Center located at:
2101 Texas Star Lane - North Las Vegas, NV 89032 - (702) 631-1000

Can the written examination be taken at another time?

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

How do I study for the written exam?

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

What other information should I know about the written exam?

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

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

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

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

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

Yes. Candidates who pass the physical ability examination will move to the second phase of testing which is completed over a 4 – 5 month period. Candidates should note that these events are not pre-scheduled and candidates typically receive approximately 2 weeks, or less, notice of each event. The candidate's personal schedule must be flexible during this phase.

The department will select from the most qualified candidates during this period and make conditional job offers. Those candidates not selected initially, will remain on the list and may be considered for any future openings during the two year period. The testing for this second phase may consist of:

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

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

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

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

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

Is there a maximum age limit for applicants?

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

Do I have to be a US citizen to apply?

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

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

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

What is the salary for firefighter trainee?

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

How long is the firefighter trainee academy?

The academy is approximately 16 weeks in length.

EMT-Basic Training

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

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

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

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

Community Information Seminars

THURSDAY

July 23, 6 pm – 8pm
Sahara West Library
9600 West Sahara Avenue, 89117

WEDNESDAY

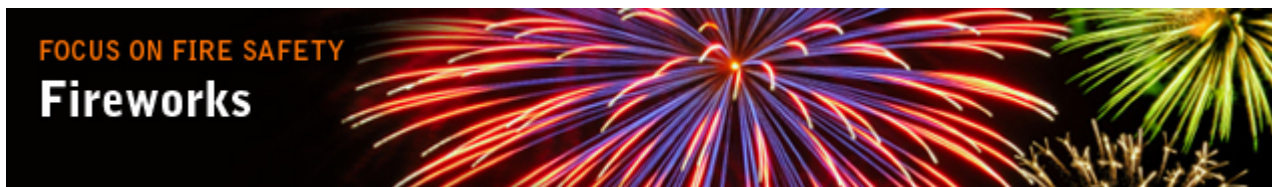
August 19, 6 pm – 8 pm
West Charleston Library
6301 West Charleston Boulevard, 89146

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.

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

FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC EDUCATION & SAFETY INFORMATION:



For Americans, Fourth of July celebrations usually signify summer fun, vacations, and the gathering of family and friends, but Independence Day can also bring tragedy. In a typical year, more U.S. fires are reported on July 4 than on any other day and fireworks account for half of those fires. Sparklers, firecrackers, and rockets are the leading contributors to these injuries.

Did You Know?

- The tip of a sparkler burns at a temperature of more than 1,200 degrees – this is hot enough to cause third degree burns.
- Over 90% of fireworks injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms involve fireworks that Federal regulations permit consumers to use.

Because most fireworks injuries are preventable, everyone can enjoy a safe and happy holiday by [following a few fireworks safety tips](#).

PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION COURSES:

By popular demand, I have scheduled some 2 day promotional preparation courses over the next few months around the State:

- Tuesday **June 30** and Wednesday **July 1**, 2009 – **Manteca, CA**
- Monday **July 27** and Tuesday **July 28**, 2009 – **Petaluma, CA**

Class sizes are 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.

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.

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

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

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Manteca, CA	Petaluma, CA
Tuesday June 30 <u>and</u> Wednesday July 1, 2009	Monday July 27 <u>and</u> Tuesday July 28, 2009
Manteca F.D. - Fire Station 1 Classroom 290 S. Powers Ave. Manteca, CA 95336	Petaluma Community Center 320 N. McDowell Blvd. Petaluma, CA 94954
\$220.00 for the two-day session	\$220.00 for the two-day session

Is your fire department interested in hosting one of these classes? If so, feel free to contact me at 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 TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

SUASI is providing Tuition FREE Incident Management Course in the bay area. If you have any city or district employees who work within your Emergency Operation Centers (EOC), or you have fire employees who have an interest in pursuing single resource overhead assignments, some of the prerequisite courses are being delivered here in the bay area.

To view more information and to sign up, go to:
<http://www.citygateassociates.com/IMT-training/>

CLASSES BEING OFFERED INCLUDE:

- **S-360 (Finance/Administration Unit Leader)** July 7 through 10, 2009 in Oakland, CA
- **S-346 (Situation Unit Leader)** July 13 through 15, 2009 in Fremont, CA
- **S-354 (Facilities Unit Leader)** July 13 through 16, 2009 in Morgan Hill, CA
- **S-430 (Operations Section Chief)** July 13 through 15, 2009 in Morgan Hill, CA
- **S-403 (Information Officer)** July 20 through 23, 2009 in Fremont, CA
- **S-358 (Communications Unit Leader)** July 20 through 22, 2009 in San Francisco, CA
- **S-359 (Medical Unit Leader)** August 24 through 26, 2009 in Foster City, CA
- **S-440 (Planning Section Chief)** August 24 through 26, 2009 in Fremont, CA
- **S-460 (Finance/Administration Section Chief)** August 26 through 28, 2009 in Oakland, CA

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FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY:

National Fire Academy Hot Topics in Fire Protection (P138) Pilot Courses Scheduled

The United States Fire Administration (USFA), Department of Homeland Security, is recruiting students and instructor candidates to attend pilot classes for its new six-day on-campus course *Hot Topics in Fire Protection*. The pilot will be offered October 18 to 23, 2009 at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Students will arrive Saturday October 17 and depart Saturday, October 24.

Hot Topics in Fire Protection is intended to help students discover what's new in fire protection by exploring how current events, products and trends apply to you and your jurisdiction.

Learn:

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www.chabotfire.com

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- How to “scan the environment” and conduct valid research into new technologies, trends, laws and products.
- How to read, interpret and apply fire protection research, human behavior studies, fire dynamics research, fire protection law and emerging issues.
- How to identify emerging local, regional and state fire protection challenges; and develop technically-based strategic solutions.
- How technology develops and can be transferred to solve local issues.
- What significant changes are in the short- and long-term future for fire protection systems and equipment.
- How fire protection plays a part in all-hazards preparedness and response.

Using modern research tools, and student-centric learning, attendees will learn: how to evaluate technological and human behavior topics that exist in fire protection, the wide variety of research resources available, and how to collect and present that information in a meaningful way that can effect change to reduce fire losses or enhance understanding of new technologies. Pilots are highly participatory among the instructors, course developers and students. Attendees are expected to contribute their ideas and expertise to improve course content and delivery. Attending a pilot does not affect a student's ability to obtain another travel stipend within the fiscal year.

Target Audience: The target audience for this course includes anyone responsible for the review and/or approval of building and fire/life safety features in the regulatory process.

Student Selection Criteria: Priority selection will be given to those applicants who express interest in and meet minimum qualifications to become course instructors. For minimum qualifications, please visit the USFA website at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/nfacid/> select “Become an Instructor” and follow the hyperlink to “qualification criteria.”

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

How to Apply:

- Students must complete a separate FEMA General Admissions application (Form 75-5). An electronic application is available on our website at: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>
- Completed applications must be postmarked by September 1, 2009 and sent to:

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

Completed course applications also may be faxed to the Admissions Office at (301) 447-1441. Applicants should not make plans to attend the pilot course until notified in writing by the Admissions Office.

Instructor Candidates: Applicants who wish to be considered as potential instructors should submit a letter of interest and provide a summary of their interest and qualifications to become an instructor.

The letter should be addressed to:

Lisa Makar
U.S. Fire Administration
National Fire Academy
16825 South Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Email: lisa.makar@dhs.gov

Minimum instructor qualifications can be found on the USFA website at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/nfacid/> select "Become an Instructor" and follow the hyperlink to "qualification criteria."

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY INFORMATION:



2009 Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week to be Held June 14 - 20

Third of Four Key Areas: Survival - Structural Size-Up and Situational Awareness
(<http://firehero.00b.org/ajtk/servlet/JJ?H=13au82&R=657208540>)

The IAFC (www.iafc.org) and the IAFF (www.iaff.org) are asking you to Protect Yourself: Your Safety, Health and Survival Are Your Responsibility. We're calling on all fire/EMS departments and all IAFF affiliates to participate in the 2009 Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week scheduled for June 14-20.

Fire chiefs should develop situational awareness of their own organizations and ensure firefighters and company officers are aware of what is happening around them as well. One critical issue is building construction.

It's extremely important for firefighters to become familiar with and understand the make-up of the structures with which they are dealing, as their lives can depend on it. Make it a priority to ensure you and your firefighters understand the building materials currently being used and those used in the past to construct buildings in your community.

» **Read:** <http://firehero.00b.org/ajtk/servlet/JJ?H=13au82&R=657208540>

PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:



Every year, almost 1,000 smokers and non-smokers are killed in home fires caused by cigarettes and other smoking materials. The U. S. Fire Administration is working to help prevent home fire deaths and injuries caused by smoking materials. Fires caused by cigarettes and other smoking materials are *preventable*. You can make a difference!

Learn More – go to: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/>

PARAMEDIC PROGRAM INFORMATION:

UCLA-DANIEL FREEMAN

PARAMEDIC EDUCATION

<http://cpc.mednet.ucla.edu/paramedicinfo>

Excellence.

It's our history

As one of the original paramedic education programs in the country, and the first nationally accredited, we proudly continue the tradition of creating exceptional and compassionate healthcare professionals. We have a proven record with over 3,000 graduates around the world!

It's our passion

Our motto is "matching energy with energy" which allows us to create the most conducive learning environment for every motivated student. Our students have a 92% program completion rate, demonstrate a 90% first-time pass rate on the National Registry Exam, and have a 99% employment rate within 6 months of graduation.

and it's available to you!

Our program, as always, is also open and available to private students (students do not have to be affiliated with or sponsored by fireservice agencies) and gives them the opportunity to become paramedics in preparation to enter the fire-service or other healthcare environments after graduation.

UPCOMING COURSES with APPLICATION DEADLINES:

September 2009 Program - Deadline is 6/30/09

January 2010 Program - Deadline is 8/31/09

May 2010 Program - Deadline is 11/20/09

September 2010 Program - Deadline is 3/19/10

Program Highlights Include:

- **Nationally recognized faculty members** like:
 - **Dr. Baxter Larmon, PhD, MICP, Director, UCLA Center for Prehospital Care**
 - Associate Professor of David Geffen School Medicine at UCLA
 - Professor at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
 - Textbook author and international speaker
 - AND
 - **Ms. Heather Davis, MS, NREMT-P, Program Director**
 - NAEMT Education Committee Chair
 - National Registry Board of Directors
 - NAEMSE Board of Directors (former)
- **Faculty comprised of experienced licensed paramedics**
- *A dynamic and innovative course curriculum* based on National EMS Education Standards for Paramedics
- **Human Anatomy Lab**
- **Clinical Internships** with affiliated Los Angeles area trauma centers and hospitals
- **Field Internships** with major and innovative fire departments in Los Angeles County!
- Up to 36 **college credit** units available through our partnership with West Los Angeles College
- **Federal Financial Aid** is available!

Come find out what we are about by visiting our web site, scheduling a visit or attending one of our free Student Information Sessions.

To obtain more Program Information, free Student Information Session dates, or an Application Packet visit:

<http://cpc.mednet.ucla.edu/paramedicinfo/>

or visit us in person at
333 North Prairie Avenue, Inglewood, CA 90301
Telephone (310) 680-1100

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

- Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center -

4 -day promotional preparation workshop

Monterey, CA – September 15 through 18, 2009

Countless firefighters have been promoted using this curriculum! This workshop is unlike any other you will find. Students will receive their book, ***Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center***, published by **Fire Engineering**, which helps them identify strengths and weaknesses, utilize mock exercises, and build a plan for success. Their 9-step program includes 1) elimination of barriers, 2) assessment center orientation 3) the mentality, 4) knowledge, skills and abilities to be an excellent officer, 5) exercise-specific tools and key points 6) mock exercises, 7) common pitfalls and additional key points, 8) developing your plan/the self-assessment, 9) interviews.

Due to overwhelming demand from their students, they have expanded to add a day to their three-day workshop. This new four-day workshop deals with assessment centers and interviews for promotion and gives an additional day for hot seat time! Day one is focused on preparing for promotion and developing the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities. In addition, we focus on what assessment centers are, their components, and the best approach (that few people take). Day two, three and four allow students to perform the exercises and grade each other. This class is limited in size, due to the depth of instruction and involvement.

Students will participate in the following assessment center exercises: written essay, in-basket, modified in-basket, oral presentation, supervisory exercise, counseling/role-play, and emergency simulations. Students are evaluated by each other and the instructor. By sitting on both sides of the table, students see effective and poor behavior first hand. The approach to this class is unlike any other, by truly helping the student prepare for both the test and the position. Personal counseling and coaching takes place during the exercises to give the aspiring officers as much potential for success as possible. This is not a canned class! They cater to the dynamic of the group each time.

- Cost - \$495.00 (Includes Fire Engineering book written by the instructor)
- 8 am - 5 pm each day.

For more information, or to register, go to their website at www.trainfirefighters.org

PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

Local Firefighters to Help Consumers Prepare for DTV Transition

USFA Supports the IAFC Collaborative Effort to Assist the FCC in Converter Box Installations

Washington, D.C. – As part of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) comprehensive nationwide DTV transition assistance effort, the FCC and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), through its Digital TV Transition Assistance Project, have entered into an agreement that will enable firefighters to visit homes where individuals need help to connect their digital converter boxes and adjust their set-top antennas.

“The USFA would like to applaud the efforts of the IAFC and our nation's firefighters for joining in this effort to ensure a successful national conversion from analog to digital technology. Firefighters know first hand the importance of citizens being able to access critical preparedness information before, during, and after community emergencies. It is critical to fire service and emergency management officials that residents of this nation are prepared, and able to access on their televisions, important life safety messages from all fire, EMS, emergency management, and health care agencies.”

The DTV transition is of special importance to the fire and emergency service community because the switch to digital television service will free up airwaves that can be used to expand the national public safety communication network. Consumers should call the FCC's national toll-free help line, 1-888-CALL-FCC, if they need help preparing for the DTV transition.

Assistance will focus on groups the FCC has determined are most affected by the transition, including low-income individuals, minority communities, non-English speaking consumers, senior citizens, consumers with disabilities and individuals living in rural areas or on tribal lands.

The IAFC is one of several organizations that have been enlisted to help prepare the public for the transition and it is still recruiting fire departments to sign up to help in this effort. Fire departments that want to sign up should contact the IAFC at (703) 896-4832 or by e-mail at DTV@IAFC.org.

On June 12, all full-power television stations in the United States will stop analog broadcast service and transmit only digital signals. Consumers who do not subscribe to pay television services and have older, analog televisions will need to attach digital-to-analog converter boxes to their televisions in order to continue receiving over-the-air television programming. They may also need to adjust or upgrade their television antennas.

The switch to digital will reward most viewers with better sound, a better picture, more channels, and more programs. The transition will also help save lives by clearing airwaves for better first-responder radio service and making room for the future by clearing airwaves for advanced mobile Internet services.

More information about the DTV transition can be found at www.dtv.gov

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

CALM THE CHAOS! MASTERING FIREGROUND COMMAND

2-DAY SIMULATION WORKSHOP

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

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

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

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

- HOW DO I SET CLEAR TACTICAL OBJECTIVES, HAVE CLEAR COMMUNICATIONS AND ESTABLISH COMMAND PRESENCE ON MY FIRES?
- HOW DO I CREATE A PERSONAL SYSTEM THAT BLENDS ALL OF MY CLASSES, CERTIFICATIONS, SOP'S, ICS, AND TACTICAL FUNDAMENTALS INTO A SIMPLE, STREET SMART AND EFFECTIVE WAY?
- WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SIZE UPS AND ARRIVAL REPORTS AND HOW DO I BECOME GREAT AT BOTH?
- WHAT ARE THE TRIGGER POINTS AND SAFETY ISSUES OF OFFENSIVE, DEFENSIVE AND COMBINATION STRATEGIES?
- WHAT ARE THE KEY POINTS TO RESCUE, EXPOSURES, CONFINEMENT, EXTINGUISHMENT, OVERHAUL, VENTILATION AND SALVAGE?
- HOW DO I REALLY USE ICS DAY-TO-DAY AND GET BEYOND "CHECKING THE BOXES"?
- HOW DO WE GET SOP'S/SOG'S WORKING IN MY DEPARTMENT?
- WHEN DO WE CALL AN AUDIBLE ON THE SOP'S?
- WHAT COULD HURT ME OR MY CREW TONIGHT?

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

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- ✓ **CURRENT OFFICERS WHO DESIRE TO DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE THEIR FIREGROUND COMMAND ABILITIES**

- ✓ **ASPIRING OFFICERS WHO DESIRE TO DEVELOP A SYSTEM FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE FOR THE ASSESSMENT CENTER TEST AND THE JOB**
- ✓ **TRAINING OFFICERS WHO DESIRE THE LATEST IN TACTICAL TRAINING**

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

JUNE 30 AND JULY 1, 2009 - MONTEREY FIRE DEPARTMENT – STATION 1

**GO TO WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION
CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO DUE TO DEPTH OF INSTRUCTION**

PARAMEDIC PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Applications for the fall 2009 Emergency Training Services Paramedic program in Santa Cruz, CA are now available on their website – www.emergencytraining.com! See below for more information about their program, including the requirements to apply.

A paramedic is a health care provider trained in the emergency care of patients who suffer from sudden illness or injury. Paramedics are trained in the highest level of Emergency Medical Services and function in the prehospital environment under the direction of a physician. The ETS/ROP Paramedic Program can usually be completed over the course of 9 months to 1 year. It is comprised of 1,234 hours of training divided into three categories: didactic (classroom), clinical internship and field internship.

Didactic sessions meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays in the Fall and Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the Spring, for approximately 25 weeks. These are 8-hour daytime sessions. Areas of study will include advanced instruction in topics such as: anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, drug administration, EKG interpretation, airway management, toxicology, pediatrics, chemical dependency, obstetrics and ALS strategies for all major medical and trauma emergencies.

After the 15th week of instruction, students begin clinical internships that last a minimum of 160 hours. Each student will be assigned a nurse preceptor, who will guide them through the practice of skills and techniques in a hospital setting. A typical clinical internship schedule will include 3, 8-hour shifts per week for 2 months. Some of the hospitals we maintain contracts with include: Stanford Medical Center, Kaiser Santa Clara and Dominican Hospital Santa Cruz.

The field internship phase consists of a minimum of 480 hours of active paramedic application. Each student is assigned to a paramedic unit to act as an integral member of the mobile intensive care team. The student, while under the supervision of a paramedic

preceptor, will apply principles of paramedic care to patients in the field setting. We maintain contracts with AMR - the largest emergency care provider in the US, many fire departments in California, and a few out of state. A typical field internship schedule will include 2-3, 24-hour or 8-hour shifts per week for 3-6 months.

The ETS Paramedic Program is accredited by CAAHEP and ABHES.

Prerequisites

- All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Candidates must be currently certified as an EMT at the time of application.
- Candidates must be free from any felony convictions.
- Classes recommended for course preparation include: anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, and chemistry.

How to apply

There will be two Paramedic Programs scheduled per academic year. Applications will be available in the spring and fall. Applicants that meet all requirements will be accepted for a screening process. This process may include aptitude testing and an interview. The screening and interview process commences in the summer for entry into the fall program. Screening begins in the winter for entry into the spring program. Complete details will be included in the application packet. If you would like an application packet, please call the office and we will put you on the mailing list. The tuition is \$12,000. Tuition includes all books, uniforms and internship fees.

Career Opportunities

The ETS/ROP graduate has several career paths available. Paramedics are employed in private ambulance companies and fire departments. Salaries start at about \$35,000 per year. Salaries and benefit packages vary with each employer. To become employed at an ambulance company or fire department, an ambulance driver's certificate or appropriate class driver's license, as well as a high level of physical agility is required. Such employers usually require criminal background checks prior to hiring.

For a list of other paramedic (and EMT) programs, visit our website links section at www.chabotfire.com/Links.htm

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION:

Please Participate in a Brief U.S. Fire Prevention Survey

With assistance from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Institution of Fire Engineers US Branch has established a steering committee comprised of noted fire service and related agency leaders to guide a national strategic planning process for the fire loss prevention that results in a national plan that will coordinate activities and fire prevention efforts. This steering committee is called Vision 20/20. The website is www.strategicfire.org.

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1. This project involves a large number of participants representing all areas of fire prevention as well as other advocates and stakeholders to the plan and its recommended outcomes.
2. This project is committed to action, with a few strategic recommendations being converted to a national plan that stakeholders will be asked to support with documentation of specific actions and benchmarks instead of a long list of recommended practices that everyone agrees are important (but then never get completed).
3. This project will not create recommendations in a vacuum. Other existing efforts that have identified significant progress toward achieving prevention goals will be taken into account to avoid competing efforts.
4. A long term monitoring mechanism will provide regular reports on the progress of the strategic initiatives that arise out of Vision 20/20.

Previous national plans for fire protection have had a great deal in common. President Truman's 1947 Report on Fire Prevention, to the landmark report America Burning, first completed in 1973, and subsequent national reports from Wingspread, Solutions 2000 and others, a common theme for increasing efforts in fire prevention are always emphasized as a key component to the fire safety problem in the United States.

A subgroup (Task Force)--of the Vision 20/20 committee mentioned above--has been established and one of its goals is to raise or embed the importance of fire prevention/risk management within the fire service. As a beginning stepping stone, you are being asked to be part of this important process. Included herein is a link to a survey which will help define where we currently stand with regard to national fire prevention efforts, and specifically within firefighter recruit training programs. Thus, this survey, which should consume a minimal amount of time to complete, is vital to beginning a new phase of learning for the US fire service. It is imperative that we get as much input from all corners of the Nation as possible, so please participate or pass the survey on to an authority responsible for recruit training. The deadline to complete the survey is July 10, 2009.

The survey link is: www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8TEJkzZU3OnJai1HoPbWLA_3d_3d

Should you have questions regarding this survey, please contact the following: Bill Kehoe, KehoeFD@aol.com Vision 20/20 and survey direction; Steve Nash, bc129@sbcglobal.net survey content/clarification.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

For your participation, a copy of the results will be made available for you.

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

A Message from the United States Fire Administrator about Residential Fire Sprinklers

The U.S. Fire Administration has promoted research, development, testing, and demonstrations of residential fire sprinkler systems for more than 30 years. The research regarding residential fire sprinkler systems has indisputably demonstrated the following:

- Residential fire sprinklers can save the lives of building occupants.
- Residential fire sprinklers can save the lives of firefighters called to respond to a home fire.
- Residential fire sprinklers can significantly offset the risk of premature building collapse posed to firefighters by lightweight construction components when they are involved in a fire.
- Residential fire sprinklers can substantially reduce property loss caused by a fire.

The time has come to use this affordable, simple and effective technology to save lives and property where it matters most – in our homes.

In the past year, the National debate about the benefits of residential fire sprinklers passed a major milestone with the adoption of a change to the International Residential Code that will require fire sprinklers in all new construction. This code change survived rigorous scrutiny, during which all interested parties had ample opportunity to comment on the technical merits of the issue. Since then, parties who oppose this life-saving technology have started a vigorous campaign to enact laws at the state level that will prohibit adoption of sprinkler requirements for new homes.

I encourage every member of the fire service to stay abreast of this rapidly changing situation, and to be ready to voice any concerns that you have about proposed legislation to your respective state legislature. The Fire Sprinkler Initiative website has been established to provide a central clearing house for up-to-date information. Log on to the site at <http://firesprinklerinitiative.org> – stay vigilant and keep the fire service community informed of developments in your area. Only by working together can we save lives.

It is the position of the U.S. Fire Administration that all Americans should be protected from death, injury, and property loss resulting from fire in their residence. All homes should be equipped with both smoke alarms and residential fire sprinklers, and all families should have and practice an emergency escape plan. The U.S. Fire Administration supports all efforts to reduce the tragic toll of fire losses in this nation, including the recently adopted changes to the International Residential Code that require residential fire sprinklers in all new residential construction.

Glenn A. Gaines

Acting Assistant Administrator
U.S. Fire Administration

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

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

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

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California:
626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Northern California
6723 Sierra Court, Suite G
Dublin, CA 94568

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

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

FIRE SERVICE BUDGET ASSISTANCE INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

Fire Station Construction Grants Coming Soon

The Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants (FSC) will provide financial assistance directly to fire departments on a competitive basis to build new or modify existing fire stations in order for departments to enhance their response capability and protect the community they serve from fire and fire-related hazards. The authority for FSC is derived from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 (Public Law 111-5). Congress appropriated a total of \$210 million for this Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 program.

DHS consulted with the nine major fire service organizations to obtain insight and expertise providing funding priority recommendations. Our primary goal is to help fire departments meet their firefighting and emergency response needs. FSC seeks to support organizations lacking the tools and resources necessary to effectively protect the health and safety of the public and their emergency response personnel with respect to fire and all other hazards.

The program will be administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration by the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Office.

The AFG Program Office will be utilizing the established grant process employed for all other grant opportunities with AFG. Applications will be submitted via the automated e-grant application and the program office expects the e-application will be available the week of June 8th. The submitted applications will be screened using the answers to the questions in the application to determine which applications will go to panel. Finally, a panel of peers will review each application sent to panel and provide recommendations regarding which applications will be funded.

During the application period, the help desk will operate Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays (Eastern Time). However, the help desk will close at 4:30 p.m., on Friday, July 3rd and will not be open on Saturday, July 4th.

Applicants who have questions regarding the Fire Station Construction Grants opportunity should contact the help desk at 1-866-274-0960 or at firegrants@dhs.gov.

An applicant tutorial will be made available soon on the firegrantsupport.com website. The tutorial provides you with valuable grant information and walks you through the preparation and submittal of competitive applications. In addition, the applicant tutorial provides an overview of the funding priorities and evaluation criteria.

To review the FSC Grant Program Guidance go to:
<http://www.firegrantsupport.com/docs/2009AFSCGguidance.pdf>

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

National Fire Academy Water-Based Fire Protection System Plan Review (P137) Pilot Courses Scheduled

The United States Fire Administration (USFA), Department of Homeland Security, is recruiting students and instructor candidates to attend pilot classes for its new six-day off-campus or State enfranchised course *Water-Based Fire Protection System Plan Review*.

The pilot will be offered August 23 to 28, 2009 in Champaign, Illinois. The pilot delivery is a partnership with the Illinois Fire Service Institute. Students will arrive Saturday August 22 and depart Saturday, August 29.

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The course will enable students to perform a plan review to evaluate the suitability of the fire sprinkler, pump and standpipe plans and calculations in accordance with nationally recognized standards for design and installation. Course content covers fire protection standards, plan reading, water supplies, building envelope features, fire protection hydraulics mathematics, fire pumps, sprinkler systems, and standpipe systems.

Pilots are highly participatory among the instructors, course developers and students. Attendees are expected to contribute their ideas and expertise to improve course content and delivery.

Target Audience: The target audience for this course is the student who is responsible for the review and approval of plans for water-based fire protection systems in his/her jurisdiction.

Student Selection Criteria: Note: Priority seating will be given to those persons that applied and were originally accepted to the cancelled pilot course in December 2008. Otherwise, the course is open for application to individuals who have code enforcement responsibilities for the review and approval of plans for water-based fire protection systems in his/her jurisdiction.

Priority selection will be given to those applicants who express interest in and meet minimum qualifications to become course instructors. For minimum qualifications, please visit the USFA website at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/nfacid/> select "Become an Instructor" and follow the hyperlink to "qualification criteria."

Prerequisites:

- Completed "Testing and Evaluation of Water Supplies for Fire Protection" (Q218) at NFA Online (www.nfaonline.dhs.gov).
- Completed "Hydraulic Calculation for Water-based Fire Protection System Plan Review" (Q137) at NFA Online (www.nfaonline.dhs.gov).
- Completed "History of Sprinklers (Not for Credit) at NFA Online (www.nfaonline.dhs.gov).

Material Requirements: Students will be required to bring to class:

- NFPA Standards 13, 14, and 20
- Scientific calculator or access to the Windows[®] scientific calculator \
- Architect and engineering scale tools

How to Apply:

- Students must complete a separate FEMA General Admissions application (Form 75-5). An electronic application is available on our website at:
- <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>
- Completed applications must be postmarked by July 10, 2009 to:

NETC Admissions Office
Building I, Room 216

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16825 S. Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

- Completed course applications also may be faxed to the Admissions Office at (301) 447-1441. Applicants should not make plans to attend the pilot course until notified in writing by the Admissions Office.
- Stipends (\$100) are available for eligible students to attend the off-campus pilot course. Attendance at the pilot course does not prevent an eligible student from obtaining another stipend within the same fiscal year.
- Students are responsible for making their own lodging arrangements. We have a list of area hotels on our website at http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu/documents/area_lodging.pdf. Make sure you ask for government or fire service rates as some give a discount from the advertised price.

Instructor Candidates:

- Applicants who wish to be considered as potential instructors should submit a letter of interest and provide a summary of their interest and qualifications to become an instructor.

The letter should be addressed to:

Lisa Makar
U.S. Fire Administration
National Fire Academy
16825 S. Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Email: Lisa.Makar@dhs.gov

Minimum instructor qualifications can be found on the USFA website at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/nfacid/> select "Become an Instructor" and follow the hyperlink to "qualification criteria."

FIRE SERVICE RELATED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – SACRAMENTO (CA):

The *Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center* (www.srfecc.ca.gov) is looking for **fire dispatchers!** Below you will find their job announcement:

Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center
10230 Systems Parkway Sacramento, CA 95827-3006
Human Resource (916) 228-3058 - Fax (916) 228-3082

For additional information regarding employment contact:
jparker@sacregionalfire.ca.gov

Download an Application for Fire Dispatcher
Fire/EMS Dispatcher - Entry Level Only

About the Position:

The position of Fire/EMS Dispatcher requires a dedicated professional who is enthusiastic about working with other professionals in the Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center. SRFECC is the 3rd largest fire dispatch center in the State of California. Under the general direction of the Shift Supervisor, the Dispatcher receives, properly interprets and relays information via telephone, radio and alarm systems; assists citizens with medical emergencies by instructing them, via telephone, on life saving procedures that can be performed prior to the arrival of trained medical personnel; analyzes and acts promptly to respond with assistance to emergency situations that are received; quickly and accurately utilizes a computer-aided dispatch system to initiate a response of necessary fire apparatus and personnel, ambulance, and other emergency assistance as needed to effectively handle emergency situations; utilizes a two-way radio system to communicate with field units; and maintains the status of all fire and medical apparatus and equipment within the system.

Salary Range: \$19.35 to \$20.85 per hour for Level A (must promote to Level B within 1 year)

Final Filing Date: Open Filing

2009 Dispatcher Testing Dates:

Test Date:

October 8, 2009

Deadline:

September 25, 2009

Minimum Qualifications:

Educational Requirements:

- High School Diploma or GED certificate

Possession of:

- A valid Class C California Driver's License.
- A safe driving record.
- Ability to obtain a valid CPR certificate.

IMPORTANT

A typing certificate indicating a typing speed of at least 35 words per minute, corrected, and dated no more than 6 months prior to application submission, must be included with application.

(NO ON LINE TYPING CERTIFICATES, NO EXCEPTIONS)

For a current typing certificate you may contact: Sacramento Works Career Center (various locations), some temporary employment agencies like Appleone, Adecco, etc., your local adult education center, or look in the phone book under business services.

Ability to:

- Type 35 words per minute
- Learn, apply and maintain current knowledge of departmental rules, regulations, policies and procedures as well as information pertaining to fire and EMS dispatch.
- Learn and apply call interrogation, emergency medical dispatch, and fire dispatch techniques and procedures.
- Learn and demonstrate mechanical aptitude as required, in the operation and maintenance of voice radio, computer and computerized equipment.
- Quickly analyze information received from callers and adopt an effective, appropriate course of action.
- Read, understand and apply a variety of call-taking and fire dispatch information and materials.
- Understand and follow both oral and written instructions promptly and accurately.
- Communicate effectively in the English language in both written and oral forms.
- Reason and act decisively under stressful and/or emergency situations.
- Perform routine building and grounds maintenance.
- Learn to operate and maintain 9-1-1 and business telephone equipment.
- Learn to operate and maintain the OES mobile dispatch vehicle and equipment.
- Establish and maintain effective work relationships with those contacted in the performance of required duties.
- Read and effectively interpret small-scale maps and information from a computer screen.
- Wear a telephone headset and be able to hear, distinguish and understand voices with fore and background noise present.
- Speak clearly in a well-understood voice, using good diction in the English language.
- Visually monitor multiple CRT screens simultaneously.
- Be independently mobile during limited staffing hours.
- Pick up and carry manuals, directories, etc. weighing up to 15 lbs.
- Sit or stand for extended periods of time.

Desirable Qualifications:

- Knowledge of principles, practices and procedures of modern public safety dispatch.
- The general functions of fire departments and other public safety agencies.
- Knowledge of and use of the Incident Command System in identifying the duties and responsibilities of each position and lines of communications and authority.
- Knowledge of the location of major streets, highways, public places and landmarks within Sacramento County.

Work Hours:

Persons hired from this recruitment will work a 3-day on-3 day off, 12-hour shift schedule. Specific workdays and hours may vary and will include working evenings, nights, weekends, holidays, some overtime, as well as rotating shifts.

Employee Benefits:

Employees may choose from several excellent health insurance programs. Dental and vision insurance programs are also provided. Employer contribution covers most of the costs for these insurances. There is employer-paid PERS retirement. Employer pays for Accidental Death & Dismemberment and Life insurance policies for each employee. Long-Term Disability Insurance is covered by employee contribution. The Center also participates in the State Disability Insurance Program. Each employee accrues 126 hours of paid sick leave per year and between 25.5 and 37.5 days of combined vacation and holiday pay (dependant upon length of service). Each employee receives an annual uniform allowance of \$350. Purchase of uniforms is required upon successful completion of Training.

Probation:

Persons who are accepted in this position are placed in probationary status for 12 months. During these 12 months, probationary dispatchers are evaluated monthly and are subject to dismissal without notice or cause.

Selection Process:

All applications will be screened. Candidates who meet the minimum qualifications will be tested. If there is a question regarding the applicant's qualifications, the Center will contact the applicant for additional details. If all portions of the application are not completed, *including attaching a typing speed certificate*, the application will not be considered. Those who pass the testing process will be placed on a hiring list according to their scores and may remain on the list for up to 1 year.

Examination Process:

The examination may include, but is not limited to...

- Role Playing Exercise
- Spelling Test
- Oral Interview
- Oral Directions Test
- Psychological Testing
- Written Language Tests
- Drug Screening
- Health Screening Examination
- Background Investigation

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.firecareers.com

- www.firerecruit.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:	James M. Hall
Rank:	Firefighter/EMT
Age:	40
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	16
Date of Incident:	05/29/09
Time of Incident:	1633hrs
Date of Death:	05/30/09
Fire Department:	Greentown Volunteer Fire Department
Address:	10100 Cleveland AVE, NW, Uniontown, OH 44685-9413
Fire Department Chief:	Vince Harris

Incident Description: On 05/29/2009, James Hall was on duty with the Greentown Fire Department where he served from 0600 to 1800 hours. During that time, he responded to two EMS incidents. On 05/30/2009, while participating in a charity basketball game for his employer, Canton Fire Department, he collapsed due to a medical emergency. Care was initiated on scene and he was transported to the local medical facility where despite **resuscitative efforts, he succumbed to his injuries.**

Incident Location: Pending

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Funeral Arrangements: Calling hours Thursday June 4th 2009, 14:00 – 16:00 and 18:00 – 20:00 at Johnson Center, 2600 Cleveland Ave NW Canton, Ohio 44709. Funeral Service Friday June 5th, 2009, 11:00AM, Johnson Center, 2600 Cleveland Ave NW Canton, Ohio 44709. Burial will follow in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Anyone wishing to contribute can do so to the Marty Hall Memorial Fund at any First Merit Bank.

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter/EMT James M. Hall at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 42 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 41 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name:	Stephen Michael Cospelich
Rank:	Lieutenant
Age:	56
Gender:	Male
Status:	Career
Years of Service:	23
Date of Incident:	04/17/2009
Time of Incident:	Pending
Date of Death:	05/20/2009
Fire Department:	Philadelphia Fire Department
Address:	Fire Admin Bldg, 240 Spring Garden St., Philadelphia, PA 19123-2991
Fire Department Chief:	Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers

Incident Description: Lieutenant Cospelich collapsed several hours after finishing his duty shift and fighting a working house fire. Cospelich was transported to the hospital but succumbed to his injury having never regained consciousness.

Incident Location: Structure fire, 6300 block of Ogontz Avenue; Medical emergency, Chestnut Hill.

Funeral Arrangements: Memorial service, 05/30/2009, Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Lieutenant Stephen Michael Cospelich at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 43 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 42 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual June 27, 2009 www.chabotfire.com

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @
http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Matthew Douglas Tramel
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 18
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: <1
Date of Incident: 06/05/2009
Time of Incident: 0053hrs
Date of Death: 06/05/2009
Fire Department: Town of Pembroke Fire Department
Address: 102 W 4th Street, Pembroke, NC 28372
Telephone: (910) 521-4131
Fire Department Chief: McDuffie Cummings Jr.

Incident Description: Firefighter Tramel was responding to a reported car fire when he lost control of his personal vehicle and struck a tree. The North Carolina Highway Patrol reported that wet road conditions and speed were contributing factors to the accident.

Seat Belts: Equipped but not in use.

Incident Location: Deep Branch Road and Normal Street

Funeral Arrangements: A memorial service will be held Monday, 1600hrs, at Purnell Swett High School, Deep Branch Road and Recreation Center Road.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Matthew Douglas Tramel at
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 44 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 43 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @
http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Jeffrey H. Reed
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 39
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 7
Date of Incident: 06/05/2009
June 27, 2009 www.chabotfire.com

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Time of Incident: 2156hrs
Date of Death: 06/08/2009
Fire Department: Pulaski Fire Department
Address: 117 N Jefferson AVE, Pulaski, VA 24301
Fire Department Chief: Bill Webb

Incident Description: Incident Description: Firefighter Reed was operating a fire engine at the scene of a residential structure fire, when on June 6th at 0049hrs, as the department was mopping up the incident, Reed began to experience a medical issue. He was transported to the Pulaski Community Hospital and subsequently transferred to UVA Medical Center in Charlottesville, VA, where he passed away. The nature of the fatal injury is still to be determined and reported. The cause of the fire in the vacant residence is under investigation.

Incident Location: No house number. Cross Street: Hogans Pl. and Mount Olivet Road.

Funeral Arrangements: Viewing on 06/11/2009, from 1800-2000hrs; Funeral, 06/12/2009 @ 1100hrs, both at Stevens Funeral Home. Apparatus placement will be on the streets around [Stevens Funeral Home](#) (815 Randolph Ave., Pulaski, VA 24301). After the funeral service, the procession will be going back down Randolph Ave. (South), apparatus should be turned around and facing South. The burial will take place at the family cemetery at the end of Valley Rd. This is not a through road, it ends, and parking is very limited. Any apparatus and personnel attending the burial, park on both sides of Valley Rd. between Commerce and First Streets SW (across tracks) and be shuttled to the burial site by school buses staged at First St SW. Due to the parking limitations, Pulaski FD apparatus will be the only fire/EMS apparatus allowed past First Street SW. Those not attending the burial may participate in the precession and exit left at West Main Street traffic light or Commerce Street intersection at RR tracks. Any questions p lease contact the Pulaski FD at 540-994-8662.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter Jeffrey H. Reed, c/o Pulaski Fire Department, 117 N Jefferson AVE, Pulaski, VA 24301

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

To date, 45 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 44 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Debra A. Cole
Rank: Firefighter/Paramedic
Age: 40
Gender: Female
Status: Career
Years of Service: 12

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Date of Incident: 06/10/2009
Time of Incident: 0630hrs
Date of Death: 06/11/2009
Fire Department: South Portland Fire Department
Address: 20 Anthoine ST, South Portland, ME 04106
Fire Department Chief: Kevin Guimond

Incident Description: Firefighter Cole collapsed in the station while on duty and after having run at least one emergency call. Her collapse was not witnessed but was overheard and she was tended to immediately by the rest of her crew. Cole was transported to Maine Medical Center in Portland, where she was treated and underwent almost 11 hours of surgery. Firefighter Cole succumbed to her injury at approximately 1630hrs the following day. The cause of death was reported by the department to have been a stroke.

Incident Location: Western Avenue Station, 34 Crossing Drive.

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter/Paramedic Debra A. Cole, c/o South Portland Fire Department, 20 Anthoine ST, South Portland, ME 04106

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter/Paramedic Debra A. Cole at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 46 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 45 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Conrad Mansfield
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 45
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 25
Date of Incident: 06/10/2009
Time of Incident: Pending
Date of Death: 06/14 /2009
Fire Department: Delaware Township Volunteer Fire Department
Address: 602 S. Main Street, Blanchard, OH 45867
Fire Department Chief: Jeff Adams

Incident Description: Firefighter Mansfield collapsed while participating in pump training. Mansfield was transported to the local hospital and then airlifted to a hospital in Toledo where he was placed on life support. Firefighter Mansfield succumbed to his injury on June 14th.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Preliminary results indicate the nature of the fatal injury was a stroke, but a final determination is pending further investigation.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

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

To date, 47 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 46 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name:	Alan M. Hermel
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	62
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	1
Date of Incident:	03/01/2009
Time of Incident:	Pending
Date of Death:	03/03/2009
Fire Department:	Bossier Parish Fire District 1
Address:	4494 Highway 80, Haughton, LA 71037
Fire Department Chief:	Grady Lee, Jr.

Incident Description: On 03/01/09 at 1810 hours, Firefighter Hermel responded to a report of a vehicle into a power pole. Upon his arrival on scene, he was assigned to assist with traffic control. The incident was terminated at 1823 hours and Firefighter Hermel cleared the incident scene. On 03/02/09 at 0248 hours, the fire department and EMS were summoned to Firefighter Hermel's residence and found him unable to ambulate or speak. Care was initiated and he was transported to the local hospital where he was diagnosed as having suffered an inter-cranial bleed. He was then transferred to a larger hospital where he underwent surgery at 0700 hours and again at 1800 hours. He succumbed to his injuries at 0447 hours on 03/03/09.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: Not reported

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Not reported

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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

To date, 48 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 47 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name:	Lyle Lewis
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	49
Gender:	Male
Status:	Volunteer
Years of Service:	Pending
Date of Incident:	06/16/2009
Time of Incident: Approx.	1800 hours
Date of Death:	06/16/2009
Fire Department:	Osborne County Fire District #3
Address:	614 Mill St, Alton, KS 67623
Fire Department Chief:	Eldon Hartzler

Incident Description: Firefighter Lewis had been assisting with an interior fire attack at a farm house when he reported not feeling well and exited the structure where he subsequently collapsed. Care was initiated on scene and he was transported to the local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. It was reported that he had used and switched out several SCBA bottles and that the temperatures were in the high 90's with extremely high humidity.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: Funeral will be 06/20/2009. Time TBA. Interment at Kill Creek Cemetery.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

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

To date, 50 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 49 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name:	Jimmy E. Cameron
Rank:	Firefighter
Age:	47

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 20+
Date of Incident: 06/16/2009
Time of Incident: 1845hrs
Date of Death: 06/16/2009
Fire Department: South Chester Fire Department
Address: 2252 Columbia HWY, Blackstock, SC 29014-8969
Fire Department Chief: M. Blair White

Incident Description: Firefighter Cameron passed away in his personal vehicle from a heart attack while performing a damage assessment survey for the fire department in the aftermath of a major storm that struck the Chester, SC, area.

Incident Location: Douglas School Road

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation, 06/19/2009, 1800-2000hrs, Barron Funeral Home, 133 Wylie St, Chester, SC. Funeral services 06/20/2009 @ 1100hrs, Woodward Baptist Church, 1570 Ashford Rd, Chester, SC.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: The family has asked that any memorials in honor of Firefighter Jimmy E. Cameron be made to the South Chester Fire Department, 2252 Columbia HWY, Blackstock, SC 29014-8969

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

To date, 49 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 48 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one from a previous year incident. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @
http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: William Thompson
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 65
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 30
Date of Incident: 06/18/2009
Time of Incident: Approx. 0715
Date of Death: 06/18/2009
Fire Department: Dushore Fire Company
Address: 101 Julia ST, Dushore, PA 18614
Fire Department Chief: Scott Hope
Fire Department POC: Assistant Chief John Yonkin

Incident Description: Firefighter Thompson suffered an apparent heart attack and died at approximately 0715 hrs Thursday, June 18, 2009, while on his way to work. Firefighter Thompson had responded to an emergency call the previous evening.

Incident Location: Pending

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Not Reported

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

To date, 51 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 50 from incidents that occurred in 2009 and one 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

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

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

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

Hey...
Well....duh.
Did folks in ANY community think there would not be a "cost" if FF's are cut?
If firehouse are shut?
If response times increase?

While most of us who read this understand the REAL issue is the loss of life to the public when they HAVE a fire, and to the FF's who have ridiculously increased risks because of what we are often expected to do-with less....perhaps this WILL get the attention of those who want to cut fire services.

Or those in any community who just may not know the realities of cuts. **Or may not be told. 'Magine that.**

Looks like Atlanta property owners might end up paying as much as **10 percent more** for their fire insurance unless the city hires more firefighters and shows its training is up to snuff, Georgia's Insurance and Fire Safety Commissioner John Oxendine warned today. He said that the preliminary findings of a report by the Insurance Services Office (link below) found Atlanta's public protection classification rating dropped from 2 to 4 on a scale of 10 with 1 being the best rating. Atlanta has nine months to make changes that will allow the city to keep its current rating or drop to a 3...and that could cost taxpayers money-or more.

Most insurance companies use the ISO rating to help determine how much building owners should pay for insurance. The ISO inspects quite a bit from the number of firefighters a government has to the location of its fire hydrants....and the new proposed FSRS will be looking at even more. **More than ever.**

"The rating drop can be stopped by the City Council by saying life safety is a priority," said Commish Oxendine, **who is, by the way, running for governor.** But on the other hand: "While we are disappointed in the slight drop in rating, we are proud to be one of the highest ranked cities in Georgia," Fire Rescue Chief Kelvin Cochran said. Oxendine said Atlanta maintaining its 2 rating will be a challenge. "They are quite deficient"

So while they battle it out in Atlanta ...and in hundreds of communities around the USA who are experiencing cuts, station shut downs and layoffs...we do know this:

==It has been proven that fires grow uncontrolled and rapidly without an effective and timely FD response unless the building is sprinklered.

==It has been proven that the less staffing, the more the fire can gain on us-and those who are in or own the building.

==It has been proven that when staffed companies take longer to arrive because of firehouse shut downs, the more the fire gains, the more civilians and FF's are in predictable, increased danger.

==And very soon, thanks to the IAFF, NIST and WPI, there will be even more measurable proof that crew size and staffing really does make a difference when it comes to saving lives and property.

==If you want to find out what FIRE DEPARTMENT CUTS in the USA have happened where, so far,

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

==If you want to see IF **YOUR COMMUNITY FIRE INSURANCE RATES COULD CHANGE** based upon proposed cuts at your FD,

CONTACT ISO HERE: <http://www.isomitigation.com/talk/>

==If you want to **LEARN about the CURRENT ISO EVALUATION PROCESS & FSRs**,

GO HERE: <http://www.isomitigation.com/ppc/0000/ppc0001.html>

SOWHO IS ISO:

While most may be unaware, there are many, many seasoned Firefighters and Fire Officers, both current and past, career and volunteer, who are leading some very significant and positive changes at ISO. If you were to walk thru their NJ Headquarters, you would easily recognize the "joint" is filled with Firefighters and Fire Officers-and that's a good thing.

For example, well known national fire instructor Robert W. "Butch" Cobb recently joined ISO as Director of Community Hazard Mitigation after retiring from his responsibilities as Jersey City's Deputy Chief/Fire Department Operations and Deputy Coordinator, Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security. Butch is also a veteran member of his local Volunteer FD where he is also an Former Chief. At ISO, Butch directs their public fire protection information gathering and analysis process that includes the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule, the manual containing the criteria ISO uses in reviewing the firefighting capabilities of individual communities. He will also act as ISO's key spokesperson to the nation's fire service.

SO...WHAT ABOUT THE "NEW" ISO 2009 FIRE SUPPRESSION RATING SCHEDULE?

ISO is heavily involved in a project to review and, if warranted, update the content of the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). Their objective for this "Draft Concept FSRS 2009" project is to identify portions of the current evaluation system worthy of potential revision.

<http://www.isomitigation.com/fsrs>

Over the next few months, they genuinely want to engage in discussions with a variety of stakeholders in organizations that deal with water, fire, and emergency communications. ISO is seeking feedback on the scope and feasibility of the possible revisions.

Want to read more about the POTENTIAL FIRE SERVICE RELATED CHANGES from ISO?

Want to PROVIDE FEEDBACK to ISO?

GO HERE: <http://www.isomitigation.com/fsrs>

ARE YOU THE FIRE CHIEF? Click HERE:

https://www4.iso.com/auth/global/login.do?req_url=https://firechief.iso.com/?&theme=firechief

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List

www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

YO! nit'TWIT REMINDER: FireFighterCloseCall's "THE SECRET LIST" is on Twitter for those that TWIT.

Go to <http://twitter.com/theseclist> and add us to your "Following" list in your Twitter account.

And remember, we do this all, just for you. Yes-just you. Seriously.

AND:

Hey....

According to the **NFPA**, about 3 in 5 Firefighters injured at the scene of a structure fire (during the period of 2003-2006) were operating at 1 and 2 family dwelling fires. That's from the below report from the NFPA titled "Patterns of Firefighter Fireground Injuries". Of the nearly 34,450 firefighters hurt at structure fires on average annually during this period, nearly 21,000 were on the scene of a fire at a 1 or 2 family dwelling.

HERE is the report: <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/OS.patterns.pdf>

ISO Info: Some of you didn't get the links for whatever reason, from last evenings Secret List. Scroll down for a repeat of those LINKS.

THE MIDDLE FINGER SALUTE?

Was an "obscene" gesture the "issue" behind the confrontation between cops and EMS in Oklahoma? If so, that'll do it EVERY time! That is at least what the troopers now have to say about the incident. Statements from two Oklahoma troopers about the May 24 run in with an ambulance crew in Paden, OK have been released. Trooper Daniel Martin believed the driver of the ambulance raised his middle finger when warned about his driving....and that made him unhappy. Very unhappy.

HERE is more from Dave:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/06/trooper-daniel-martin-says-he-was-given.html>

HERE is an alleged video from that Troopers patrol car cam, which may explain the emotional response:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19CivwrQ2Ls>

TRAGIC FIREFIGHTER DEATHS:

It is with sincere regret that we advise you of the deaths of:

==CANTON (OH) Fire Captain Marty Hall, age 40. <http://www.iafflocal249.org/index.cfm>

Captain Hall was representing the Canton Fire Department at a charity basketball tournament when he died this past weekend. Calling hours will be Thursday June 4, 2009 from 2pm - 4pm and 6pm-8pm. Calling hours will be at the Malone University Johnson Center for Worship.

The funeral will be Friday June 5, 2009 at 11am. The funeral service will be at the Malone University Johnson Center for Worship.

==NEWTON (MA) Firefighter Kevin Kelly, age 54, <http://www.newtonfirefighters.org/> on May 30, 2009. Kevin was appointed to the department on March 24, 1985 and was currently assigned to Tower Ladder 2. Before joining the Newton Fire Department Kevin served three years in the US Army as a member of the 82nd AIRBORNE. Kevin was a graduate of Framingham State College.

NOTE: There has been some varied info sent to us about the tragic losses of these 2 FF's as far as being LODD or not, so we are simply passing the info on out of respect.

OUR PRAYERS....

In the recovery of the **Cy-Fair (Texas) Firefighter**, who, while off-duty lost a leg and may lose the other one after he was STRUCK by an impaired driver of a stolen car yesterday. It started with a robbery in Houston; and the bad guy admitted to being drunk and smoking dope. While driving recklessly through traffic he went off the roadway and struck an off-duty **Cy-Fair VFD Firefighter** who was working at his day job. The robber jumped out of the car and ran away barefoot, but was held down by citizens until cops could arrive. There was also a woman and an infant inside his car. The Firefighter lost one leg at the scene and may lose the other one. He is in Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston where Cy-Fair firefighters are standing by his bedside around the clock. **HERE** is their HOME PAGE:
<http://www.cyfairvfd.com/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-2-09 / 1304 Hours

www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

ISO RELATED LINKS FROM LAST EVENINGS SECRET LIST:

==If you want to find out what **FIRE DEPARTMENT CUTS in the USA** have happened where, so far,

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

==If you want to see IF **YOUR COMMUNITY FIRE INSURANCE RATES COULD CHANGE** based upon proposed cuts at your FD,

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==If you want to **LEARN about the CURRENT ISO EVALUATION PROCESS & FSRS,**

GO HERE: <http://www.isomitigation.com/ppc/0000/ppc0001.html>

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Want to PROVIDE FEEDBACK to ISO?

GO HERE: <http://www.isomitigation.com/fsrs>

ARE YOU THE FIRE CHIEF? Click HERE:

https://www4.iso.com/auth/global/login.do?req_url=https://firechief.iso.com/?&theme=firechief

AND:

PHILADELPHIA FIREFIGHTER LODD - FOLLOWING A WORKING FIRE

Philadelphia Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers has advised us that a Fire Lieutenants death in the hospital has been determined to be a death in the Line of Duty. Lt. Stephen Michael Cospelich collapsed off duty April 17 after fighting a working house fire. He was rushed to a hospital, but never regained consciousness and died May 20 at the age of 56. Comm. Ayers announced today that the death was determined to be a line of duty death. As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

YOU READY? YOUR FD READY?

(THE WEEK...formerly known as **FIREFIGHTER STAND DOWN WEEK**)

"FIRE/EMS SAFETY, HEALTH AND SURVIVAL WEEK" is June 14-20, 2009....

Protect Yourself: Your Safety, Health and Survival Are Your Responsibility Too.

The IAFF and IAFC encourages a focus on what WE-as Firefighters and EMS personnel personally can do to manage our own risk and enhance our own health and safety. This year's theme reflects the need for **personal responsibility and accountability** within a strong safety culture.

EVERYTHING YOU AND YOUR FD NEEDS IS RIGHT HERE: www.iafc.org/safetyweek

...And HERE: www.IAFCSafety.org

...And HERE: http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/news/2009/safetyweek_1.html

...And HERE: <http://www.iaff.org/hs/index.htm>

...And HERE: http://www.nvfc.org/page/1149/Health_and_Safety.htm

ANOTHER ISSUE WITH FIRE/EMS and LOCAL POLICE:

We took some hits from a few readers who didn't like how we presented the medic vs cop issue in Oklahoma. **What's not to like?** The cop shouldn't have pulled over the EMS unit, the cops should have dealt with them later-and the medic should not have fought the cop. BUT... For those who just can't get enough of that kinda stuff, let's now head on down to Arkansas where just 24 hours after a drowning where the victim's body was pulled from Beaver Lake, there's still an argument over which agency should have made that recovery. **Why do we share this stuff? Because agency cooperation or the lack there off is absolutely a Firefighter safety issue.**

In one corner, Hickory Creek Fire Chief Marc Trollinger said his department, who arrived first, were threatened with arrest unless they stopped their efforts. They said that led to a delay in recovering the body. They got to the lake a little after 1800 hours after receiving a report of a possible drowning in Hickory Creek Park. Witnesses reported seeing a man in distress less than 100 yards off the shore. Chief Trollinger said they got a sonar reading, sent divers into the water, but were later told to leave the scene by the Sheriffs Office who declared it a crime scene.

Want more? Read all about it here: <http://www.4029tv.com/news/19632662/detail.html>

MORE FIREFIGHTER LAYOFFS? 238 FIREFIGHTERS?

In more insanity across the Country, the Columbus (OH) Division of Fire (one of the absolute best operating FD's in the USA, I.O.O.) announced today that a "no" vote of the city's proposed income tax would force the layoffs of 238 Firefighters and close up to seven fire stations. The possible layoffs would affect firefighters hired as far back as 1999 and the layoffs would include 122 paramedics, according to Chief Ned Pettus. "That is absolutely a devastating number for our operations," **Chief Pettus rightfully stated: "There is no way we could continue our operation procedures and achieve the response times we currently achieve."**

So let us get this straight, everything else in Columbus government has been cut to the absolute bare bones...absolutely everything, and this is the final straw? Cutting 7 firehouses and the related staffing? In a City that has some of the heaviest fire load and most runs nationwide? And the answer is the threaten the public that if they don't vote for the tax

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

increase, FIRE gets cut? We'll see how this plays out. Chief Pettus is honestly courageous in making it clear that if there are cuts-the cuts will absolutely and without question affect fire and rescue services.

MORE RELATED HERE: <http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/staffing.php>

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFO OR LINKS ON ANY FD CUTS, LAYOFFS ETC, PLEASE SEND THEM TO:

staffing@FireFighterCloseCalls.com

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,
BillyG
The Secret List 6-4-09 0700 Hours
www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

REMINDER FOR FIRE CHIEFS:

https://www4.iso.com/auth/global/login.do?req_url=https://firechief.iso.com/?&theme=firechief

AND:

Hey...

At around 0735 hours this morning, a member of the East Berlin Fire Company (Washington Township, York County, PA) assigned to Fire-Police duty was struck by a vehicle on Baltimore Pike. Members were operating at the scene of a vehicle crash, directing traffic and a Fire Police Officer was struck by a vehicle. Command requested an immediate EMS helicopter. The extent of injuries is unknown at this time. Another reminder of how bad it is out on the roadways. We will provide an update as soon as it is available. And, as we have passed on before, **the BEST source** on the www to train on and help manage this type of risk is our partners at: <http://www.ResponderSafety.com/>

They have ALL you need to develop SOP's and training for your Firefighters operating on any roadway.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 6-4-09 / 0755 hours

AND:

Hey...

The Fire-Police Officer from East Berlin (PA) this morning has injuries that are reported to be severe head trauma and possible loss of a leg. He was struck by a vehicle while directing traffic at the scene of a previous accident this morning in Washington Township. The man was flown to York Hospital by medevac helicopter. Emergency personnel were dispatched to a two-vehicle crash at 0650 hours in Washington Township, close to the York-Adams County line. The Fire-Police Officer was directing traffic after the crash; he had pulled his vehicle into the road to block traffic because the road was closed. The officer was walking on the road when another vehicle, which was heading south, drove around the officers vehicle and struck him from behind at around 0730 Hours.....the driver did stop and remained at the scene.

UNUSUAL IDEAS BY FIREFIGHTERS:

While we never accept advertising, are non-commercial and self-funded, we do from time to time want to pass on "unusual" ideas designed by Firefighters related to products or training from Firefighters who pass it on to us. We have done that occasionally since we started FireFighterCloseCalls.com and "The Secret List" back in 1998. We had a few e-mails that we were slow in getting to from FF's who saw some of these items that benefit FF's at FDIC and wanted us to pass it along.

AN INEXPENSIVE, LOUD, LIGHT UP "DOOR CHOCK":

Whelen Engineering has something very cool called the "Door Ease" that marks entry, travel, and exit points for you to get in and out of buildings a little easier. The low cost, simple door chock with LED's provides a bright light for low visibility operations. This thing also has a warning tone/flashing mode...but it's simply a door chock made of heavy-duty polycarbonate that marks interior access. Whelen has been lead by a veteran Firefighter for decades and numerous veteran FF's work at Whelen.

CHECK IT OUT:

http://ww.whelen.com/pb/Automotive/ProductSheets/Misc/Door_Ease_and_Trac-Pak.pdf
http://www.whelen.com/details_prod.php?head_id=3&cat_id=11&prod_id=417

SLEEPING IN THE FIREHOUSE:

Yeah, some folks have trouble sleeping in the firehouse. In some cases, it is due to runs, others its due to the others also "sleeping" in the room with their "personal noises" that should require minor surgery, and some others just don't know how to make their bed. One reader sent this in and it looks like a very cool idea. Yeah, decent sleep matters and this cool idea was developed by a FF for FF's.

CHECK IT OUT:

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

SUMMER REMINDERS:

=FDIC & Fire Engineering's "FDIC Online" is taking place June 10-11, 2009 Details HERE: <http://www.fdiconlineevent.com/index.html>

=FOOLS Int'l CONVENTION 2009 June 24th - 28th 2009 in YORK BEACH, MAINE. Details HERE: <http://foolsinternational.com/convention/index.shtml>

=NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS - JUNE 24-28, 2009, Details HERE: <http://www.newenglandfirechiefs.org>

**=NEW YORK STATE VOL. FF's (FASNY) CONVENTION - NIAGARA FALLS-AUGUST 19-21st
Details HERE: <http://www.fasny.com/events.aspx>**

=FIREHOUSE EXPO BALTIMORE: July 21-26...Details are HERE: <http://www.firehouseexpo.com/fhe/index.po>

=IAFC's FIRE RESCUE INTERNATIONAL IN DALLAS August 26-29, Details HERE: www.IAFC.org/FR

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-4-09 / 1748 hours

AND:

Hey...

This is a request and **EXCELLENT IDEA** from the Monroe County (NY) Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association to Firefighters across the world...and it is our honor to help get this accomplished.

On June 18, the **City of Charleston, South Carolina** along with the Firefighters all of the United States, Canada and the World, will observe the 2 year Anniversary of the Super Sofa fire that took the lives of 9 Charleston firefighters. As you well know, these Firefighters died in the Line of Duty while battling a fast moving fire in a furniture store.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/news/firefighters/>

How Can You Help?

Inspect - Between June 9 and June 18th we ask all local municipalities to conduct a fire safety inspection of all furniture stores in their jurisdictions.

How Can You Help?

Pre-Plan - Between now and June 18th we ask all fire departments to update or complete a pre-plan on all the furniture stores in their first due areas. Share the pre-plan with neighboring departments, companies or stations that would respond on a fire with you.

Get Out and Examine, Inspect, Inquire and Report your findings.

When You Finish - Complete the web survey located at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=kOOGDvMDPpn0IaadXaiwDQ_3d_3d

Answering the few short questions will allow us to compile a final action report. The report will show the number of inspections completed, violations issued and pre-plans completed.

WHY? To honor our fallen Firefighters and to prevent a similar tragedy from occurring. **What better way can we show the families of the fallen firefighters their ultimate sacrifice has not been forgotten.**

NOTE: This idea was born following a presentation on the Charleston Fire at the National Fire Academy during the recent PARADE (Prevention Advocacy Resource and Data Exchange) Conference. Questions can be directed to William Timmons, President of the Monroe County Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association (MCFMIA) president@mcfmia.org MCFMIA located in Rochester, New York is a good group of Fire Marshals, Inspectors, Fire Service and industry members interested in fire prevention and education for the fire service and code enforcement community.

Take Care-INSPECT.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-5-09 / 0915 hours

AND:

Hey...

A Southern California man has been sentenced to death for setting a 2006 wildfire that killed 5 Federal Firefighters in the Line of Duty. Raymond Lee Oyler was convicted of five counts of first-degree murder in March for setting the Oct. 26, 2006, blaze in Riverside County, about 90 miles east of Los Angeles. Oyler was convicted of first-degree murder in the **Line of Duty deaths of Fire Capt. Mark Allen Loutzenhiser, 43, and Firefighters Pablo Cerda, 24, Jason Robert McKay, 27, Jess Edward McLean, 27, and Daniel Hoover-Najera, 20.** The Firefighters were killed operating at the 41,000-acre Esperanza wildfire on Oct. 26, 2006. Riverside County Judge W. Charles Morgan imposed the penalty this morning after relatives of the victims made emotional statements to the court.

CAR FIRE OPERATION VIDEOS:

Here is a car fire video that was sent in to us this afternoon. The video indirectly covers PPE, SCBA, potential strut dangers, charging lines, roadway protection and related areas of focus when operating at a car fire. **View the VIDEO HERE:**

<http://bestfirefightervideo.com/index.php/Training/Car-Fire-Attack-Video-Readers-Comment.html>

Or HERE:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5lfXTB1ZpVE&feature=player_embedded

AND HERE is how car fires can turn on Firefighters.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4RNUAUy465A>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-5-09 / 1430 hours

AND:

NORTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-RESPONDING ON A FIRE CALL

A Volunteer Firefighter was killed in early this morning in the Line of Duty when his car wrecked as he was on the way to a vehicle fire...he was not wearing his seat belt. 18-year-old Matthew Douglas Tramel of the Pembroke (N.C.) Fire Department was killed about 0053 hours this morning when the vehicle he was driving struck a tree. FF Tramel was driving his private vehicle, and was alone in the car, was driving about 65 mph in a 55-mph zone when the vehicle exited the road to the left and struck the tree.

FF Tramel, who, as stated, was not wearing a seat belt and was killed immediately. He joined the Pembroke FD in April of this year. Our sincere condolences to all affected-especially the members of the PFD and his friends and family.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. **SEAT BELTS.....**

BillyG

The Secret List

AND

Hey...

Two very serious crashes last night and it appears neither were due to any wrong doing by FD personnel.

The first was around 1800 hours last night (Saturday night), when an adult and an infant were killed in a crash involving a **Detroit (MI) FD Ambulance** that was transporting a cardiac patient with no vital signs.

2 DFD EMT's and the patient they were transporting at the time of the crash were taken to a hospital and as of now, it was unclear how badly the civilian occupant of the ambulance was hurt. The 2 who died were in the vehicle involved in crash with the ambulance. The "other" vehicle was a van carrying two adults and two children. Witnesses stated that the ambulance had its lights and sirens on. "The EMS hit it, but the EMS had the right of way," a witness said. "EMS had the light. Everybody had stopped except the van." The two children, ages 1 and 12, were thrown from the van...the 1-year-old girl was pronounced dead...the 12-year-old girl is listed in critical condition. The van's driver and another adult are listed in stable condition with non-life-threatening injuries. **The DFD EMS crews were injured but immediately started treating those involved.**

FIRE APPARATUS CRASH KILLS 3 CIVILIANS IN MISSOURI

About 17:30 CST time last night (Saturday evening) Engine 11 of the Moreau Fire Protection District in Missouri was **returning to quarters** from a structure fire when it was involved in a very tragic crash. Engine 11 is a 13 year old custom engine and only had the driver on board. A civilians vehicle **crossed the center line** on a curve on US 87 north of Eldon, Missouri and hit the fire apparatus head on. The Firefighter who was operating the rig is ok and was wearing his seat belt which kept him from being ejected through the windshield. Tragically there were 3 fatalities in the civilian vehicle which had 7 total passengers. We will post more on our home page later.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-7-09 / 0731 Hours

AND

Hey...

5 central Kentucky Firefighters have been taken to a hospital after their apparatus rolled over on the way to a run. Meade County Fire District Firefighters from firehouses in Brandenburg and Doe Valley were responding to a crash with entrapment. Apparatus from one of the district's engine companies rolled over on Kentucky 448 near Brandenburg. **5 Firefighters ended up being flown to University of Louisville Hospital** with injuries ranging from minor to serious. All 5 were reported to be conscious and talking when they left the scene. **HERE are photos:**

<http://www.whas11.com/perl/common/slideshow/sspop.pl?recid=16773&nextimage=0>

NY STATE CHIEFS CONF REMINDER

For those of you attending the **NY State Chiefs Conference**, there are still tickets left for "Performing Tribute" and are available at <http://performingtribute2009.eventbrite.com> ;

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We suggest you buy them through the website to avoid lines and take advantage of the 15% discount for Secret List subscribers...if not, get'm there but DO NOT MISS Performing Tribute"...trust us on that.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL

BillyG

The Secret List 6-8-09 / 2200 Hours

AND

Hey...

An **Oklahoma City Firefighter is in intensive care today** after going into cardiac arrest following a dwelling fire yesterday. Companies responded to a fire due to a house struck by lightning about 1540 hours Wednesday and had it under control by 1700. The firefighter had a medical emergency upon returning to quarters, and they called EMS-this happened about 1755 hours. The Firefighter is a 23-year member of Oklahoma City FD. As you will remember, Fire Corporal Christopher Allen Dill, 43, died March 4 after collapsing following an apartment fire. He was the first Oklahoma City firefighter in 20 years to die in the line of duty. We wish this most recent OKC FF a quick recovery.

NEW ZEALAND FIREFIGHTER BURNED AT TRAINING:

An Ashhurst volunteer Firefighter with 28 years experience is in the hospital after a training exercise went wrong. John Bragg, deputy chief fire officer for Ashhurst, was setting up a training exercise on Monday night, when the diesel mix he was using "flashed back", badly burning his lower legs. He was flown out. Mr Bragg underwent surgery on Tuesday night, receiving skin grafts, and was in a stable condition in the hospital's plastics ward today.....he was reportedly wearing all safety gear when the incident occurred..... More details HERE from FFNation/FireRescue Magazine:

<http://www.firefighternation.com/forum/topics/nz-fire-officer-burned-in>

OK TROOPER & EMS ISSUE UPDATE:

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol trooper involved in that confrontation on May 24 with the EMS crew from Creek Nation has been on administrative leave since June 1. OHP officials confirmed the information about Trooper Daniel Martin on Wednesday. Dave Statter has the update:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/06/oklahoma-highway-patrol-confirms.html>

HERE ARE 2 LINKS TO UPDATES related to the **NJ EMS** Funding Issue:

<http://www.njsfac.org/trainingfund.shtml>

<http://www.njemsea.org/savetheEMTTF.htm>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-11-09 / 1340 hours

AND:

Hey...

Just when you thought things couldn't get much worse when it comes to some governments simply not getting it, the Governor State of **New Jersey** is looking at seriously cutting training dollars for **volunteer** EMS training programs. And in **Texas**, the Governor is stuck between **HOMEBUILDERS** and organized **THE TEXAS FIRE SERVICE**....and we have a video that helps you understand.

Read on...

Now look, we aren't raising the NJ issue as a career or volunteer issue-Lord knows NJ career Firefighters have taken a huge undeserved brutal beating in the last year because some local Gov't have their priorities screwed up . We are raising this issue for those NJ communities where the volunteer EMS BLS service does work...if it doesn't, that's another story: time to fix it and/or hire career personnel.

But in communities where it works (with well trained members turning out quickly on the 1st tone) ...where the members are working their tails off TRYING to make it work, why on earth would Gov Corzine cut a volunteer support program? Keep in mind that the Gov is a recipient of EMS services when his driver crashed...after wrongly rushing the Gov to a meeting, using lights and sirens...read about it **HERE**:

http://money.cnn.com/2007/04/19/magazines/fortune/pluggedin_corzine.fortune/index.htm

We have countless examples of career Firefighters and EMS personnel losing jobs and experiencing insane cuts. Our most recent "WTF!?" today is the fact that **Lee County government (FL) plans to spend \$75-million on a brand new Red Sox stadium, while dozens of Lehigh Acres Firefighters are being laid-off**. How this is possible and why the county wouldn't be working to save those jobs? The County says these are 2 separate issues and different funding sources. **Yawwwn**.

But in the case where a volunteer service is working and is effective, such as some volunteer EMS squads in NJ, and since training is the foundation of the service.... it seems that mandatory drug testing may be required to determine if the Gov and those making the budget cutting decisions are clean or not.

AND WAY DOWN TEXAS WAY....(factual info and a satirical Texas political dance video for YOU to enjoy below)

KUDOS to the Fire Chiefs & Firefighters across Texas who are urging Gov. Rick Perry to veto a bill that would ban cities from requiring fire sprinkler systems in new or existing homes. But their advocacy has put them at odds with, guess who?....the Texas Association of Builders, which says the systems are overkill and can add thousands of dollars to a home's price. **Here we go again**.

Senate Bill 1410, which passed the Texas Legislature in the waning days of the recently ended session, targets the growing ranks of cities nationwide that have mandated sprinklers to save the lives and property of their occupants-and the lives of firefighters who respond.

Many communities in North Texas, including Allen, Celina, Farmers Branch and Plano, have

sprinkler requirements for all or some homes....and in those towns, amazingly, the world has NOT come to an end and homes are still being sold.

The Senate bill, which awaits the Governor's signature, would PROHIBIT municipalities from adopting any new sprinkler requirements for new or existing homes. SO much for "home rule"....the bill is retroactive to Jan. 1.

Naturally, the Texas Association of Builders, which lobbied for the ban, whined that home buyers should be able to choose whether they want to install sprinklers. "Sprinklers work to put out the fires, but smoke alarms save lives," said Scott Norman, the clearly uninformed executive director of the Texas Association of Builders, which represents about 11,000 members statewide. "We have nothing against sprinkler systems. But it should be the consumer's choice."

A spokeswoman for Perry said the governor has yet to act on the bill. He can choose to sign it, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature. The deadline for action is June 21....see below.

To underscore his opposition to the sprinkler bill, Plano Fire Chief Hugo Esparza made reference to the arson fire at the Texas Governor's Mansion in Austin last June that nearly destroyed the 150-year-old structure. The mansion, which was undergoing a renovation at the time of the blaze, was slated to have a sprinkler system installed. Working sprinklers could have saved the structure, Esparza said. "For us, it's a matter of public safety"

THE TEXAS POLITICAL SIDE STEP DANCE VIDEO:

The original intent of the bill, sponsored by state Texas Sen. Mike Jackson was to **overhaul plumbing licenses**. The sprinkler prohibition was later added at the homebuilders' push. For his part, Politician Jackson said he agreed with the builders but empathizes (sidestepping the issue) with both sides. "The argument on one side is that it saves lives...and the argument of others is that it increases the price of a home," he said. "The Legislature will be back in session in less than two years from now....maybe we should just revisit the issue then".....Wow....nice fence.

That sidestepping comment **REQUIRES** us to respectfully recall and share with you this favorite musical tune on how some politicians face problems and questions...head on:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7mNDHTfdn1A>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-11-09 / 0636 hours

AND:

VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER LODD-OPERATING AT A FIRE SCENE-MEDICAL EMERGENCY

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the Line of Duty Death of Pulaski (VA) Fire Department Firefighter Jeffrey H. Reed. Firefighter Reed was operating a fire apparatus at the scene of a structure fire in Pulaski County on June 5, 2009. He began to experience a medical issue and was transported to the Pulaski Community Hospital by EMS and was then transferred to UVA Medical Center in Charlottesville VA where he passed away on June 8,

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

2009. Firefighter Reed had served the Town as a paid Town of Pulaski Firefighter since 2002 and was a volunteer Firefighter prior to that. Funeral arrangements follow:

The funeral arrangements are with Stevens Funeral Home, with the viewing from 4-6 pm on Thursday, the 11th and the funeral on Friday, the 12th at 11 am. Burial will be in the Reed Family Cemetery at the end of Valley Road. This information provided via Trish Cruise, Clerk of Council, Pulaski, VA. As always, our most sincere condolences to all affected, especially the members of the PFD and the Reed Family.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-10-09 / 0730 hours

AND:

MAINE FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH-IN THE FIREHOUSE

It is with deep regret that we, along with Fire Chief Kevin Guimond announce the Line of Duty Death of South Portland (Maine) Firefighter/Paramedic Debra Cole. Deb was a 7 year veteran of the South Portland Fire Department with over 12 years of fire service experience. She will be missed dearly as she was a true and loyal friend to all at the South Portland Fire Department and in the area. Reports are that Fire/Medic Cole collapsed in the station, prior to the end of her shift, and was discovered by her Firefighters yesterday morning. It appears she suffered a stroke. Her collapse was not witnessed but was overheard and she was tended to immediately by the rest of her crew. She was transported to Maine Medical Center in Portland, Me. where she was treated, including almost 11 hours of surgery. Unfortunately Fire/Medic Cole was not able to survive this and passed away this afternoon. As always our most sincere condolences to our friends at the SPFD but especially the family and friends of Firefighter Paramedic Debra Cole.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-11-09 / 1730 Hours

AND

Hey...

We regret to advise you that the pilot of a New Mexico State Police helicopter and the student hiker he was rescuing were killed when the aircraft crashed on a snowy mountain near Santa Fe Tuesday evening. Sgt. Andy Tingwall died in the Line of Duty after retrieving lost hiker Megumi Yamamoto when the chopper struck the side of a mountain Tuesday night in rough weather. Yamamoto, a University of New Mexico physics graduate student from Tokyo, was also confirmed dead earlier Thursday after rescuers reached the bodies. The only other person aboard, NMSP Officer Wesley Cox, sustained serious leg injuries but managed to reach safety Wednesday. Here is more on this story.

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,525867,00.html>

Our sincere condolences to all affected, especially the families and friends of Sgt Tingwall.

RARE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS--NEXT WEEK:

June 27, 2009

www.chabotfire.com

NIST will be presenting a **NOT TO BE MISSED** program on Fire Dynamics to West Coast Firefighters NEXT WEEK. The Instructor, Daniel Madrzykowski, is a well known and highly qualified fire protection engineer with NIST and recent recipient of the **Fire Instructor of the Year Award from ISFSI/FDIC**. Dan's research includes: firefighting technology, firefighter LODD'S, suppression systems and fire investigations (such as the Station Night Club fire). He has a phenomenal program that is not to be missed. This outstanding presentation will discuss how building geometry, materials, furnishings, ventilation and firefighting tactics can influence fire growth and spread leading to untenable conditions for firefighters. Fire behavior will be described using a combination of videos and data to characterize the thermal environment that firefighters may be exposed to.

They have arranged for auditoriums in San Jose on June 17th and in West Sacramento on June 18th. The all day presentations (which include lunch) are sponsored by the Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union, Fireman's Fund Insurance and the Institute of Fire Engineers.

AND TO SIGN UP ASAP for the NIST Fire Dynamics programs being held in San Jose and West Sacramento...GO HERE: <http://leerescue.com/NGLB/NISTClass.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-11-09 / 2032 Hours

AND:

OHIO FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH - COLLAPSE DURING TRAINING

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the Line of Duty Death of LODD of Delaware Township (Defiance County) Firefighter Conrad Mansfield. Initial reports are that Firefighter Mansfield was attending a pump training class at the department on the night of Wed. June 10th when he collapsed, was subsequently transported to Defiance Hospital and later was flown out to Toledo. It appears his death, that occurred this morning, was due to a stroke. Firefighter Mansfield, who was 45 years old had 25 years of service with the department and leaves behind a wife. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

SOUTH PORTLAND (ME) LODD UPDATE:

Here is some additional info released in regards to the LODD of FF/EMT-P Debra Cole who died in the Line of Duty yesterday after suffering a severe stroke in the morning hours of June 10, 2009 while on duty at the West End Fire Station (Squad 4/Rescue 2's quarters). Deb was 40 years old and has been employed by the City of South Portland since 2002. She was a 7 year veteran of the South Portland Fire Department with over 12 years of fire service experience. Deb was also a per diem firefighter with the Goodwin Mills, Maine Fire Department. She leaves 2 sons behind.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-12-09 1445hrs

AND:

June 27, 2009

www.chabotfire.com

This message is being sent on behalf of the Acting U.S. Fire Administrator Glenn A. Gaines.

The USFA, NFFF, IAFC and NVFC invite you to participate in a national safety Twitter and Podcast event on Monday, June 15th from 1pm to 2pm eastern time. In cooperation with www.Firehouse.com , you will be able to ask and discuss critical Firefighter Safety and Survival topics with Chief Billy Goldfeder and Chief Robert Dube of the IAFC; Rich Duffy and James Brinkley of the IAFF; Phil Stittleburg of the NVFC; Ron Siarnicki of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation; Acting Administrator Gaines and other Firefighter Survival experts from the USFA. In order to ensure a successful discussion, you are invited to submit your questions ahead of this event. Please submit your Firefighter Survival related questions and comments to www.Firehouse.com to ensure these individuals have your concerns and interests when they start their presentation on Monday. The live Twitter will also allow for spontaneous interaction by all participants during the 1PM-2PM time frame.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,
Glenn Gaines - Acting US Fire Administrator
The Secret List 6-12-09 1500hrs

AND:

IMPORTANT UPDATE: OHIO REPORTED LODD

The FF from Ohio earlier reported as an LODD is still alive on life support but is in extremely grave condition. After the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association LAST Team was informed by the Delaware Twp. VFD that Firefighter Mansfield had passed away, they responded immediately to the FD. At this meeting, team members were informed that the FF has not passed away but remains on Life Support in Toledo, in extremely grave condition. It was a genuine and obviously well intentioned mis-communication. While the team was genuinely acting on the information given this morning, and followed their strict protocols, we continue to pray for FF Mansfield, his family and all affected and regret the miscommunication.

GEORGIA FIREFIGHTER STRUCK:

This evening on I-285, an Atlanta Firefighter operating at a brush fire was struck as the result of a crash. The FF suffered pelvic and moderate head injuries but is expected to survive. According to AFRD Chief Cochran, they were operating at the brush fire and a crash-possibly caused by rubber neckers, caused debris from that crash to strike the Firefighter causing the injuries. Details to follow as needed.

MAINE LODD UPDATE:

Here is a LINK to the latest information to yesterdays LODD in Maine:
<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?87713>

SAFETY-HEALTH AND SURVIVAL WEEK UPDATE:

The USFA, NFFF, IAFF, IAFC and NVFC and other fire service organizations invite you to participate in a national safety Twitter and Podcast event on Monday, June 15th from 1300-1400 hours. In cooperation with www.Firehouse.com , you will be able to ask and discuss critical Firefighter Survival topics. In order to ensure a successful discussion, you are invited to submit your questions ahead of this event. Please submit your Firefighter Survival related

questions and comments to www.Firehouse.com to ensure these individuals have your concerns and interests when they start their presentation on Monday. The live Twitter will also allow for spontaneous interaction by all participants during the 1300-1400 time frame.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-12-09 / 2230 hours

AND:

VERMONT EMS MEMBER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY - AMBULANCE CRASH OHIO FIREFIGHTER SUCCUMBS-LINE OF DUTY DEATH

A **Bennington (Vermont) Rescue Squad** ambulance tragically left the highway around 1530 hours this afternoon and crashed into a tree Monday afternoon, killing the member operating the rig in the Line of Duty. Initial reports are that the EMS driver was pronounced dead at the scene, but transported to the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center. At least two other passengers in the ambulance, including a patient who was being transported when the crash occurred, were taken to the hospital. Their conditions were unavailable. Weather conditions at the time of the crash were steady rain with thunder and lightning. Our sincere condolences to the members of the Bennington Rescue Squad.

OHIO LODD UPDATE:

That FF from the Delaware Township (OH) FD has died in the Line of Duty. Firefighter Mansfield did succumb to his medical emergency Sunday morning. Firefighter Mansfield was attending a pump training class at the department on the night of Wed. June 10th when he collapsed, was subsequently transported to Defiance Hospital and later was flown out to Toledo. His LODD was reported initially early due to some confusion but well intentioned information by that FD. Firefighter Mansfield, who was 45 years old had 25 years of service with the department and leaves behind a wife. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-15-09 / 1915 hours

AND

Hey....

As we approach **Fathers Day**-a great day for those of us who have been blessed to also have the rank of "Daddy", we also need to pause and remember the New York FATHERS DAY FIRE, of 2001. **On June 17, 2001**, Father's Day turned horrifically tragic in Queens, New York City that afternoon, when an explosion at a building fire **killed 3 FDNY firefighters in the Line of Duty** ...who left behind eight children. The blast ripped through a hardware store and apartment building on Astoria Blvd. Firefighter Harry Ford, 50, a 27-year veteran, Firefighter Brian Fahey, 46, a 14-year veteran, both members of Rescue Company 4 and Firefighter John Downing, 40, an 11-year veteran of Ladder 163 were killed in the line of duty.

HERE are some links to help us remember.

<http://stevespak.com/fathersday.html> (Excellent site with pics and accounts)

<http://www.pennwellblogs.com/fireengineering/2008/06/fathers-day-fire-by-late-andy.php>

(The above account from Bobby H at **Fire Engineering** was written by FDNY FF **Andy Fredericks**, who among so many others would be murdered on 9/11/01...just a few months later. Andy, a well known and loved Firefighter and Instructor continues to educate...even today)

<http://www.firehouse.com/lodd/2001/fdny/report.html> (**Firehouse.com** coverage with numerous links)

While some call the Fathers Day Fire of 2001 the "forgotten fire" due to the 9/11 attacks and murders following just a few short months later, we need to never forget.

IMPORTANT 9-11 NOTE:

As we start thinking ahead to 9/11/09...Please take a moment to consult this EXCELLENT site as you prepare with YOUR FD and Community for the Anniversary:
Model 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony: [http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/\\$9-11.shtml](http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/$9-11.shtml)

VERMONT RESCUE SQUAD LODD UPDATE:

Bennington Rescue Squad member Dale Long, 48, was killed in the Line of Duty yesterday when the ambulance he was driving struck a tree and the patient in the ambulance received serious injuries. Other members were hurt. EMT Long was transporting a 60-year-old patient at the time of the crash. Police said Long left the health center around 1520 hours and the ambulance Long was driving veered to the right side, colliding with a pickup truck parked off the road, causing the truck to spin and the ambulance to leave the road. The ambulance hit a large pine tree which caused extensive intrusion damage to the driver's compartment. EMT Long was recently recognized as a 2009 Vermont Star of Life award recipient. Our sincere condolences to the members of the BRS as well as his family and friends.

TENNESSEE FIRE CHIEF SAYS NO! ...To Residential Fire Sprinklers:

Spring Hill (TN) Fire Chief Jim Swindle is asking city leaders to NOT SUPPORT a proposal that would require fire sprinklers in new homes. WTF?! The City unanimously approved the first reading for the proposed sprinkler requirement earlier this year. But it has now deferred the final vote at the request of area builders who wanted time to object, which include added the usual excuses of construction costs and possible liability if the sprinklers malfunction....and then, the FIRE CHIEF joins in and SAYS NO!? Come on Chief....

HERE is more:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?87855>

And **HERE** is even more from Dave Statter:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/06/just-say-no-tennessee-fire-chief-is.html>

REMEMBERING BILL CRADDOCK:

This week we also take time to remember the 3rd anniversary of DeKalb County (GA) FF Bill Craddock's Death in the Line of Duty. RIP Bill.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-16-09 / 0800 Hours

AND

Hey...

Two Firefighters from the **Aurora (CO) FD Tech Rescue Team** were injured today in a fall in Douglas County. Battalion Chief Mark Turley said one of the Firefighters was airlifted by helicopter to a local hospital, and the second was taken by private vehicle to a hospital. One of the firefighters received facial lacerations, the other a broken leg. At the time of the accident, the Firefighters were simulating a rescue of someone in the canyon and fortunately, the Firefighters were roped at the time of the fall. At first, it was believed there was some type of equipment failure, but that has been ruled out and the investigation is continuing. The team trains in the Castlewood Canyon area because the steep terrain helps simulate building and other related rescues. We wish all a rapid recovery.

REMEMBERING THE VENDOME HOTEL FIRE AND COLLAPSE-9 BOSTON FIREFIGHTERS KILLED:

On Saturday, June 17, 1972, Box 1571 was received at Boston Fire Alarm. It would be the first of four alarms required to extinguish a raging fire at the former Hotel Vendome. Once the fire was out, the BFD commenced a routine overhaul operation. Then, at 1728 hours without warning, the southeast section of the building collapsed. Nine firefighters were killed on that day, eight more injured; eight women widowed, twenty-five children lost their fathers; a shocked city mourned before the sympathetic eyes of the entire nation. Thanks to BFD's Billy N for the reminder.

HERE is more:

http://www.cityofboston.gov/fire/memorial/vendome_fire.asp

<http://www.pennwellblogs.com/fireengineering/2008/06/it-is-fitting-to-reflect-that-36-years.php>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hotel_Vendome_fire

CLOSE CALL IN CONNECTICUT:

Last night at a structure fire, Windsor Locks (CT) Firefighters had a Close Call shortly after heavy rain had moved through their area. Their tower ladder "tipped" due to the soggy conditions and the sidewalk slowly collapsed under the weight. Fortunately no one was hurt and the WL members were able to get out and onto the roof for safety. **PHOTOS Here:**

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?87903>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-16-09 / 2105 hours

AND

KANSAS FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY - OPERATING AT A STRUCTURAL FIRE

It is with deep regret that we have been advised by the Kansas State Fire Fighters Association of the Line of Duty Death of **Firefighter Lyle Lewis, 49, of Osborne County Fire District # 3 at Alton**. Firefighter Lewis collapsed during an interior fire attack at a farm home yesterday, June 16, 2009. He was transported to Osborne County Hospital where he passed away. Funeral arrangements are pending. As always, our most sincere condolences to all affected.

REMEMBERING THE 9 CHARLESTON FIREFIGHTERS:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

A solemn memorial event has been planned to mark the two-year anniversary of a fire that killed nine Charleston (SC) Firefighters in the Line of Duty. As we must remember, **Billy Hutchinson, Mike Benke, Louis Mulkey, Braid Baity, Melvin Champaign, Michael French, Earl Drayton, Brandon Thompson and Mark Kelsey** all who gave their lives 2 years ago tomorrow. The site of the fatal furniture store blaze will be open tomorrow, June 18 for people wanting to pay respects to the fallen firefighters. CFD's Mark Ruppel says planners decided on a more muted memorial after speaking with firefighters and the families of the victims. No speeches or presentations are planned this year. R.I.P.

HERE are more details and the related **FIRE REPORTS:**

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/sections/Charleston/>

http://www.firefighterhourly.com/firefighter_hourly/charleston_fire/

NIOSH has recently released the following excellent Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation Reports. These reports, like so many of the more recent ones, are loaded with everything that is needed including photos, graphs and charts to TRAIN all Firefighters on what went wrong, so history doesn't get repeated.

FF DISORIENTED:

Oct 29, 2008 FF LODD while lost in residential structure fire - Alabama

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200834.html>

FF STRUCK BY SNORKEL BOOM:

Sep 29, 2008 FF LODD when struck in the head by the boom of an aerial platform -

Louisiana <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200833.html>

FF FALL FROM ROOF:

Jun 21, 2007 FF LODD in fall from roof at apartment building fire - New York

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200719.html>

9/11 FALLEN FF AWARD PINS STOLEN---BE ON THE LOOKOUT:

If you are an E-Bayer or a fire collector, keep an eye out for 2 stolen pins related to 9/11. The 2 small gold pin medallions, each with a blue-enamelled pentagon in the center, were presented by the President. "To us, it's priceless." Brian Muldowney's big brother, Richard T. "Richie" Muldowney, murdered in the Line of Duty Sept. 11, 2001, after he entered the World Trade Center with Ladder 7 and 342 other FF's as well as Police Officers, EMT's and civilians.

HERE ARE MORE DETAILS:

http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/dpp/news/local/hillsborough/carrollwood_9_11_medals_stolen_061609

TENNESSEE: REMEMBERING 2 MEMPHIS LODD FIREFIGHTERS-FATHERS DAY 2003:

We take time to remember Memphis (TN) FD's Lt Trent Kirk and Private Charles Zachary who gave their lives in the Line of Duty on Fathers Day (June 15) 2003. The fire occurred at the Family Dollar store in Memphis. These two Firefighters gave their lives in an arson covering up a robbery.

HERE is the report from that fire:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200318.html>

UPDATE: TENNESSEE FIRE CHIEF RESPONDS TO RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER ISSUE:

http://login.firechief.com/wall.aspx?ERIGHTS_TARGET=http%3A%2F%2Ffirechief.com%2Fleadership%2Far%2FICC-code-opposition-20090616%2F

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-17-09 / 1745 hours

AND:

SOUTH CAROLINA FIREFIGHTER LODD-OPERATING AT STORM DAMAGED AREA-HEART ATTACK

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter had a heart attack and died in his vehicle Tuesday evening while sizing up an area for downed trees and power lines in Chester (SC), following major storms. FF Jimmy Cameron, 47, pulled over, turned off his car and died in the southern part of the county after a storm hit around 1830 Hours. FF Cameron was with the South Chester Fire Department for at least 20 years, said fire chief Blair White. White said FF Cameron was a dedicated member of the department who was almost always available. White said he wasn't sure if the high-stress situation of a powerful storm triggered the heart attack, but added that Chester hasn't seen a storm of that caliber for 10 years. "You can't believe the damage we have down here," White said. "We didn't know how many people might be injured or trapped. At the time, he didn't know that." Funeral plans for Cameron are not yet available. As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

SHOTS FIRED AT FIREFIGHTERS IN THE U.K.

A firefighter had to dive out of the way after a gang shot at him with an air rifle while he was tackling a blaze at a scrap yard in Greater Manchester, U.K. The crew had been operating at the suspected arson attack, which resulted in 60 cars going up in flames in Chadderton, Oldham. The FF saw a boy pointing the gun at him and threw himself out of the way....the pellet flew past him and embedded in a nearby car. A FB Supervisor stated said: "This kind of incident is all too common, we have had bricks thrown at the fire appliances, firefighters have been spat at and now we are being shot at."

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-18-09 / 0807 Hours

AND:

PA FIREFIGHTER LODD-HEART ATTACK

We regret to advise you that a Firefighter had a heart attack and died today from the Dushore Fire Department of Sullivan County, PA. Firefighter Bill Thompson, 65, had responded to a call last evening, and died this morning at approx. 0715 of a heart attack on his way to work. FF Thompson, who was also an Ex-Chief of the Lower Southampton Fire Department in Bucks County, leaves behind a wife and five children. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-19-09 / 0000 Hours

AND:

Hey....

A 79-year-old Minnesota woman tragically died Saturday Night after she was struck by a fire department ambulance that was backing up in St. Paul. The accident happened about 1800 hours...an ambulance from the **St. Paul FD** was operating the initial crash scene and was backing down an alley to reach the patient at the scene when it hit the pedestrian, who may have come out to see what was going on. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene. Mayor Chris Coleman issued a written statement saying that words fail to express city officials' sadness for the woman's family and concern for the anguish of the SPFD paramedic crew. An investigation is underway.

OVERTURNED APPARATUS / CRASH AND FIRE IN KENTUCKY:

In Nicholas County, Kentucky, a Firefighter was injured when the apparatus he was riding in overturned, and caught fire yesterday. Firefighter John Carter, was airlifted to U.K. Hospital, but was later released. His brother, Eli, a Firefighter who was also in the apparatus, was not hurt.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-22-09 / 0635 Hours

AND:

Hey...

Here are some updates related to the Federal FIRE funding process for SAFER and Fire Act Grants:

SAFER GRANTS:

Congress has voted to allow the use of federal funding to rehire laid off fire fighters and prevent fire department staffing reductions. The new rules for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants make funding available to help keep Firefighters safe and on the job and bring back those who have been laid off as a result of the current financial crisis. The bill, which has been lead by the **IAFF** from the start, is now on its way to the White House where it will be signed.

Firefighters now must work with their local officials so they apply for the needed funding.

HERE is more information:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?88368>

<http://www.iaff.org/politics/index.asp>

FIRE ACT GRANTS:

On Tuesday night, the House Rules Committee passed a "closed rule" for the Fiscal Year 2010 DHS Appropriations bill (H.R. 2892) that would **NOT** allow Representatives Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), Steve Austria (R-OH), Peter King (R-NY) and Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ) to offer their amendment on the House floor. The "Pascrall" amendment would have increased funding for the FIRE grant program by \$40 million to reach \$420 million. (the House Rules Committee writes the rules for the consideration of each bill before it goes to the House Floor...and that's where it stopped).

However, Representative David Price (D-NC), the chairman of the House Homeland Security Appropriations subcommittee, **DID** include an extra \$10 million (just 25% of the Pascrall proposal) for the FIRE grant program in his manager's amendment, which passed last night.

WASHINGTON DC TRAIN CRASH:

While we don't cover much more than items specifically related to firefighter safety, health and survival, we wanted to make mention on the **EXCELLENT** coverage provided by one of the original SECRET LIST members from back in 1997 ...and that would be **DC Fire & EMS Fire Photographer Vito Maggiolo**...who recently received an "award of excellence" in this year's White House News Photographers 2009 "Eyes of History" photography contest. Vito is a life long SUPER fire buff, a highly respected media professional, Hon. Chief of DC Fire & EMS and a long time member of the DC Friendship Fire Association Rehab Unit.
<http://www.friendshipfire.org/>

The very well deserved award was given for the video in a story entitled "Mount Pleasant Street Fire" by another veteran TSL member David Statter. The story utilizes Vito's video shot in March, 2008 at the scene of an apartment fire as firefighters rescued dozens of occupants from the building, and the successful rescue of FF

MAYDAYS: http://wm.wusa.gannett.edgestreams.net/news/031308_vito1_wusa.wmv

Here is another example of Vito's OUTSTANDING work:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbC5zKy4iVQ>

VIDEO--WASHINGTON DC TRAIN CRASH:

HERE is some of VITO's most recent work-at this weeks **METRO TRAIN CRASH** in Washington, DC:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/06/new-raw-video-from-metro-crash-site.html> .

Dave also has the entire incident very thoroughly covered in numerous forms....check it out. Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-26-09 / 1030 Hours

To subscribe to the Secret List and get these emails for yourself, go to www.firefighterclosecalls.com

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

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

The budget woes continue, in various forms and fashions:

In a major breakthrough for the city's grueling budget process, Sacramento (CA) firefighters have tentatively agreed to freeze their salaries in order to save the jobs of dozens of their comrades. By forgoing a 5 percent raise due to them next month, the firefighters would avoid a \$5 million cut to their department's budget that includes eliminating 50 positions. Some of those positions are already vacant, but city officials said the proposed cutbacks would result in at least 38 firefighters getting laid off:

<http://www.sacbee.com/city/story/1910542.html>

San Bernardino (CA) City Council members agreed Monday to a pay-and-benefit cut for firefighters aimed at saving the city \$1.4 million over the next thirteen months. Council members approved the agreement unanimously. San Bernardino City Firefighter union members already had approved it, union President Scott Moss said. The agreement, which expires at the end of the 2009-2010 fiscal year, marks the final wage concession by San Bernardino employee groups to plug a \$9 million deficit in the city's \$150 million general fund budget. The contract calls for an across-the-board 8.7 percent pay cut and does away with an earlier negotiating point that would have cut the city's contribution for health coverage by \$664 per employee per month:

http://www.pe.com/localnews/redlands/stories/PE_News_Local_N_council02.4a285a0.html

Three public safety associations want more funding to staff their fire and police stations, to better serve the City of Reno (NV). But, the city says it's impossible right now in this economy. City officials say the funding being looked for by these associations would be used to pay for other services. Both sides are trying to find a compromise. "This city council does not want to lay off anybody -that is not our goal," Reno Mayor Bob Cashell says. But, Cashell says some people could still lose their jobs if negotiations fall through between the city and three Reno public safety associations: http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=10448662&nav=menu549_2_15

The closure of the Somerset fire station, fewer police and community service officers and big cuts in the parks department will result if Reno (NV) is forced to make \$5.2 million in cuts, including laying off 60 employees. The Reno City Council on Monday authorized City Manager Donna Dreska to make those cuts, equal to 3 percent of the city's \$186.7 million general fund budget, after again appealing to unions to give up two 2.1 percent contracted pay raises over the next year to avoid any layoffs:

<http://www.rgj.com/article/20090602/NEWS/906020346>

An offer from the Reno Fire Fighters Union to give up a 2.1% cost of living increase this year and next was rejected by the City of Reno. The union president says they wanted a promise from the City that they would not have to layoff any firefighters in the future. The City said Monday that if firefighters and police forego that pay increase then they could avoid layoffs right now. The firefighters union says they are shocked the City wouldn't accept this offer. If an agreement is not made, Reno firefighters and Reno police may have to layoff 32 employees each, meaning, the fire stations in Somerset and Stead could close:

http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=10467458&nav=menu549_2_16

Chandler, Arizona's three employee unions are locking horns with management over pay and benefits as the city struggles with declining tax revenues and staff cuts:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2009/06/02/20090602cr-unions0605.html>

Proposed job cuts in the Norco Fire Department have set off a paper war, with firefighters circulating a flier that warns residents of "dangerous cuts" to fire protection that would put families at risk, and city officials countering with a flier that claims the city's "very well paid" firefighters need to help close a budget gap. The city, facing a deficit estimated at \$792,000 in May, issued tentative pink slips to six of its 12 firefighters in the 27-person department last week. The firefighters could lose their jobs, saving the city about \$750,000, if savings aren't found elsewhere by July 1. City officials said a stalemate in negotiations between Norco and the firefighters' union drove them to issue the layoff notices:

http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_W_wfire03.13cd2ed.html

Prince George's County (MD) is forced to reduce fire station staffing due to budget restrictions:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Cuts-Leave-Maryland-Firehouses-Without-Staffing/46\\$64174](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Cuts-Leave-Maryland-Firehouses-Without-Staffing/46$64174)

Columbus (OH) firefighters who deferred pay raises to keep their jobs in 2009 could face layoffs in 2010 under a budget plan submitted yesterday by Chief Ned Pettus Jr. The city would reduce its force of 1,511 firefighters by 19 percent, through 238 layoffs and 51 unfilled vacancies, if voters reject a proposed income-tax increase and Pettus' plan is adopted by Mayor Michael B. Coleman and the City Council:

http://www.dispatchpolitics.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/06/04/copy/firebjt.ART_ART_06-04-09_A1_1JE2QSK.html?sid=101

The Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department has enacted a hiring freeze for nonessential personnel and slowed hiring of firefighters amid a widespread budget crisis, but expects to be able to maintain its current staffing levels:

<http://www.the-signal.com/news/article/14256/>

Contra Costa (CA) supervisors today extended the firefighter union's contract by two years in exchange for the postponement of scheduled raises by two years, saving about \$4.72 million, according to the county:

http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12554430

Reno (NV) city officials have agreed to not lay off any city workers who agree to skip raises for the next year and let the city skip one payment to its health insurance plans. But that's only as long as long as the economy doesn't get worse which only time will tell: http://www.klas-tv.com/Global/story.asp?S=10492273&nav=menu102_2_9

Sacramento (CA) city firefighters overwhelmingly rejected their union's tentative agreement to freeze salaries Friday, setting the stage for as many as 50 firefighters to be laid off: <http://www.sacbee.com/ourregion/story/1924042.html>

Reno (NV) city officials have reached a deal with the firefighters' union to prevent layoffs. The deal announced Wednesday night still has to be ratified by union membership and the city council. But it calls for firefighters to forgo two, 2.1% pay raises in the next fiscal year: <http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=10516022>

Arizona legislators are trying to tap the state's main retirement system for public employees to replace state funding for research projects meant to help spur economic development: <http://www.abc15.com/content/financialsurvival/azstories/story/AZ-lawmakers-eye-pension-fund-for-research-cash/EvzyEAb-pUC4pi8WfG1g0g.csp>

The budget crunch is getting worse in Visalia (CA) and now, city leaders are looking at pay cuts and furloughs for firefighters. City officials want employees to give up a 4% raise they're expecting to get at the end of the month. Firefighters say with or without the raise, the city is threatening to impose furloughs which would dramatically reduce emergency response times: <http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/local&id=6858970>

Manteca's (CA) Firefighters' Association has agreed to reopen their union contract and work to reduce salary, benefits and overtime in a bid to save the city in excess of \$1 million. A late Tuesday news release announced that the group that represents the city's front-line firefighters agreed to Interim Fire Chief Kirk Water's proposal. The heart of the proposal includes firefighters giving up a 4 percent cost of living raise, reducing the number of firefighters allowed off each shift, reducing overtime, and the rollout of a command reorganization plan: www.mantecabulletin.com/news/article/4470/

Ballots are in the mail to 350 members of Reno's firefighter union after city and labor leaders reached a tentative agreement Wednesday night to avoid layoffs by giving up two pay raises. Nineteen firefighters would not be laid off over the that starts July 1. And about 350 members of Local 731 of the International Association of Fire Fighters would relinquish a 2.1 percent raise in July and another in January to save about \$1.1 million: http://www.rgj.com/article/20090611/NEWS/90611044&OAS_sitepage%3Dnews.rgj.com/breakingnews

A showdown is brewing in Sacramento (CA) City Hall over the city's historic deficit. And once again, the city's firefighters are at the center. The City Council is scheduled tonight to adopt the city's 2009-10 budget, which includes a \$5 million cut to the fire department. That reduction is part of a set of cuts aimed at solving a citywide deficit of \$50 million. If the cut to the fire department is approved, 50 firefighters risk losing their jobs: <http://www.sacbee.com/city/story/1949793.html>

The Redwood City (CA) Fire Department can stave off "browning out" one engine by cutting one fire firefighter per truck on all companies — a move that significantly limits the ability to respond to emergencies but will protect service in downtown, Fire Chief Jim Skinner said last night. "Is this the best solution? No, it's not the best solution," Skinner said. "Is this the best solution now? It is the best solution now." http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=111829

It's the question of whether the Casa Grande (AZ) Fire Department is understaffed, or if it is in a good enough position to get by, as Casa Grande City Hall usually responds: http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20331249&BRD=1817&PAG=461&dept_id=68561&rfi=6

Glendale (AZ) firefighters will meet on Wednesday to vote on whether to make changes to an existing contract with the City of Glendale. If passed, Glendale firefighters will forego approximately \$600,000 in salaries and benefits for fiscal year 2009-10. "We realize that thousands of City employees are being asked to make sacrifices and our firefighters will vote to be allowed to share that sacrifice," said John Holland, Glendale Fire Captain and Local 493 Glendale Chapter Vice President:

http://www.abc15.com/content/news/westvalley/glendale/story/Glendale-Firefighters-Union-to-vote-on-contract/C8bkLWiDF0yq_r4eaVdgHA.csp

The Sacramento (CA) City Council ordered city negotiators to throw out a tentative agreement they had with the city's fire union on salary freezes Tuesday night and to restart their negotiations: <http://www.sacbee.com/city/story/1953067.html>

City of Visalia (CA) managers and department leaders are looking for ways to cut \$3 million from Visalia's general fund budget, and police and fire services won't be spared the budget ax:

<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/article/20090617/NEWS01/906170306/Visalia+city+police++fire+departments+will+feel+pain+of+deficit>

In an effort to help Glendale (AZ) through the economic downturn, firefighters will vote today on whether to alter their contract with the city and forego about \$600,000 in salaries and benefits for fiscal year 2009-10:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2009/06/17/20090617gl-firefighters0617-ON.html>

In the midst of stalled contract talks with firefighters, the ball is in the Vallejo (CA) City Council's court, a city negotiator said Wednesday. In particular, firefighters are awaiting the council to weigh in on recent mediation sessions, and to call for the next step: http://www.timesheraldonline.com/ci_12617434?source=most_viewed

Glendale (AZ) firefighters agreed Wednesday to give up about \$600,000 worth of benefits to help the city balance its budget:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/glendale/articles/2009/06/18/20090618gl-union0618-ON.html>

Supervisors had some tough questions for San Francisco (CA) Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White on Thursday, grilling her on staffing levels and resource distribution -- and hinting they may look to curb salary appropriations at the department:

http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/cityinsider/detail?blogid=55&entry_id=42008

Sunday marked the final day at work for 32 Muncie (IN) firefighters, laid off in an effort to trim the city's \$3.8 million deficit. Earlier this spring, Mayor Sharon McShurley ordered the department to lay off 32 workers and close two stations:

<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/19817543/detail.html>

Chandler Arizona's three employee unions have ended their impasse with city management and reached a compromise with the help of federal mediators that would force many of the union workers to take small **pay cuts** or benefits reductions so other employees can get merit raises:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2009/06/24/20090624cr-union24-ON.html>

The city of Sacramento (CA) has all but cut off talks with the fire union – and as many as 68 firefighters will likely lose their jobs next week as a result:

<http://www.sacbee.com/government/story/1971760.html>

A union representative from the local firefighters union commented about the union's commitment to helping the city at the Eureka (CA) City Council meeting Tuesday night, offering up some or all of their holiday pay to help balance the city's budget. Eureka's Firefighters Local #652 Vice President Mitchell Mills said during public comment Tuesday that a firefighter's mentality is to help people, and that doesn't stop with Eureka's budget. "We're willing to be at work more often for less money," he said:

http://www.sgvtribune.com/california/ci_12678099

Firefighters and city management have reached a deal that will keep Watsonville (CA) Fire Department operating at current levels of service. The agreement, finalized Monday, calls for firefighters to pick up a greater share of their retirement contributions and accept reduced benefits to save the city 7.5 percent in compensation costs in the 2009-10 and 2010-11 fiscal years:

http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/community/ci_12667329

Six Bayonne (NJ) firefighters are being promoted to the rank of captain, but they won't start hauling down bigger paychecks until July next year, officials said yesterday. The six new captains — John Andreychak, Timothy Fitzsimmons, Kevin McMonigle, Jason O'Donnell, Bryan Stanislawski and Thomas Schork — will be kept for now at their current pay levels, which range from \$78,982 to \$85,121 a year, officials said. Bayonne officials said they don't plan to make any new hires, saving the city roughly \$1.88 million a year with the changes: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/fire-department-management/articles/504906-Pay-raise-deferred-for-promoted-NJ-firefighters/>

San Francisco's fire chief warned of station closures - and delayed response times for fire engines and ambulances - as a Board of Supervisors committee voted Wednesday to strip \$6 million out of the department's budget:

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/06/26/BA4518E07K.DTL>

Firefighters aren't the only victims of Sacramento's (CA) budget process. Nearly 100 employees with Local 39, the city's largest labor union, will likely be out of work Thursday because union and city negotiators have not come to an agreement on salary concessions. With concessions, the city said, about 50 jobs could be spared:

<http://www.sacbee.com/city/story/1978588.html>

The Alameda (CA) firefighters union has denounced a move to have 21 firefighters on duty starting in July as a way for the fire department to save money, saying it will put people's lives at risk. But Fire Chief Dave Kapler said spiraling costs of overtime against a background of the city's budget problems make the move necessary. "We wish it was avoidable, but it's not," Kapler said:

http://www.insidebayarea.com/alameda/ci_12689238

Public Relations Nightmare Stories:

A Tucson firefighter was fired Tuesday after he was cited in Florence last month on suspicion of driving under the influence. Bryan Barrett, 32, was off-duty when he was cited for suspicion of DUI and released May 23, said Capt. Tricia Tracy, a Tucson Fire Department spokeswoman: www.firefightingnews.com/article.cfm?articleID=66795

A high-ranking Seattle (WA) Fire Department officer filed a lawsuit against the city Monday, claiming he was demoted in retaliation for exposing an ethics scandal in the Fire Marshal's Office. Jim Woodbury claims in the lawsuit filed in King County Superior Court that he was demoted from deputy chief to battalion chief in January after clashing with Fire Chief Gregory Dean over Dean's refusal to adequately punish misconduct in the marshal's office:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2009342831_woodbury16m.html

Think your department has financial issues? They're red, they have ladders and can carry up to four firefighters, but they sure don't look anything like fire trucks. That's because they're not. They're pickup trucks filling gaps in the Buffalo Fire Department's aging fleet of vehicles when standard trucks are out of commission. But can they get the job done? A top fire official said the substitute vehicles are better than nothing at all: <http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/704706.html>

A former Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue District (OR) employee goes to prison for defrauding her former employer:

http://www.oregonlive.com/washingtoncounty/index.ssf/2009/06/former_tvfr_employee_goes_to_p.html

A battle over budget cuts spilled out of council chambers and into a barroom on Friday morning when a firefighter allegedly punched a Bridgewater selectman in the face, according to the Brockton Enterprise. Police and fire officials would not discuss the incident, but a police report indicates that the firefighter, David McGillis, 44, punched Selectman Christopher Flynn in the face and threatened to kill him if firefighters are laid off as part of budget reductions this year, the Enterprise reported. According to the report, McGillis and another firefighter approached Flynn at Barrett's Ale House in Bridgewater and told him that "if firemen lose their jobs he will go after and kill" Flynn and Selectman Mike Demos: www.thebostonchannel.com/news/19615833/detail.html

The Omaha (NE) firefighters union sued the city this week — saying city officials have failed to comply with a state labor commission's ruling on staffing levels for firetrucks, among other issues: http://www.omaha.com/index.php?u_page=2798&u_sid=10646446

A Boston (MA) firefighter whose Maine home was raided by federal drug agents has resigned. Boston Fire Department spokesman Steve MacDonald said Saturday that Sean Berte resigned from his position as a Boston firefighter, which he has had since August 2001. Authorities say federal drug agents raided Berte's Bridgton, Maine home Friday and allegedly seized 131 marijuana plants and cultivating equipment, worth an estimated \$700,000: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/499925-boston-firefighter-resigns-after-drug-raid/>

A former St. Lucie County (FL) firefighter who pleaded guilty today to stealing a Melbourne man's amputated foot and leg from a crash scene was sentenced to six months of probation and community service: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/500065-fla-ex-firefighter-sentenced-for-foot-theft/>

No decision was made Thursday night on the fate of Anderson Fire Protection District Fire Chief Joe Piccinini, who has been on paid administrative leave for a month while the district's management practices have been investigated: <http://www.redding.com/news/2009/jun/12/board-hears-investigation-of-anderson-fire-chief/>

Leaders of the union representing San Jose (CA) firefighters are needlessly hostile toward management, wasting resources, hindering improvements and potentially jeopardizing public safety, according to a scathing civil grand jury report issued Thursday: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/california/ci_12624835

Follow-up from the story above relating to the San Jose (CA) Firefighters Union – In response to a scathing civil grand jury report this week, the San Jose firefighters union Friday acknowledged a "strained relationship" with city management but said the findings overlooked key facts: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_12651709?source=rss

Several backcountry volunteer fire departments in San Diego County (CA) are balking at new contracts with the county that require firefighters to take a physical exam, which many in leadership positions acknowledged they would not pass, according to a published report: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/31430354/ns/local_news-san_diego_ca/

The union representing Sacramento (CA) city firefighters announced Wednesday they will file charges against the city for unfair bargaining practices, including union domination, interference and surface bargaining, which included failing to meet and confer in good faith: <http://www.news10.net/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=61944&catid=2>

Columbus (OH) firefighter David P. Santuomo will spend 90 days in jail and pay \$4,500 in restitution for shooting his two dogs in the basement of his home and wrapping their bodies in a plastic sheet. Investigators say Santuomo, 43, of 2945 Rushbury Dr., has admitted that he was going on a cruise with his girlfriend and didn't want to pay to board the dogs Sloopy and Skeeter even though neighbors offered to watch the dogs in his absence: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=64277§ionId=46>

The president of a St. John the Baptist Parish volunteer fire department in Louisiana resigned under pressure after officials learned about an e-mail message he forwarded that contained a racial epithet, Parish President Bill Hubbard said:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/fire-department-management/articles/505133-Racial-remarks-in-e-mail-lead-to-resignation-of-La-volunteer-president/>

General Fire Service Related Stories:

Fire Ops 101, developed by the I.A.F.F. - A great program more fire department unions should consider participating in, especially in today's tough economic times and the need to build a solid, working relationship with their elected and/or appointed officials. Here is a story about how the Eugene (OR) Firefighters took that program to their elected officials in an effort to have them walk in our shoes:

<http://www.registerguard.com/csp/cms/sites/web/news/sevendays/15051815-35/story.csp>

A man armed with a knife was arrested in Chicago (IL) early Wednesday after allegedly threatening to kill three firefighters after he jumped on an engine at a West Side firehouse: <http://cbs2chicago.com/local/firefighters.threatened.knife.2.1029376.html>

A Sacramento City (CA) Fire Department engine that collided with a vehicle in Del Paso Heights has been towed from the scene, a fire department spokesman said. The driver of the pickup was sent to the hospital with minor injuries. No firefighters were injured in the accident, at Raley Boulevard and Interstate 80:

<http://www.sacbee.com/latest/story/1921964.html>

A newly proposed county requirement will force out many volunteer firefighters who serve San Diego (CA) County's backcountry, if they can't pass a physical:

<http://www.10news.com/news/19789456/detail.html>

Two north El Paso County (TX) fire districts soon will begin discussing consolidation, something more fire departments will be doing in the future, given the uncertain budgets and the need to be more efficient and more economical:

<http://www.gazette.com/articles/fire-57333-district-road.html>

In an effort to improve emergency response times in parts of east Mesa (AZ) that are more than twice as long as the national average, the fire department plans to relocate an existing fire station and build two new ones:

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/140697>

And a related story from Mesa regarding these four fire stations:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2009/06/11/20090611mr-firebonus0612.html>

Firefighters at El Paso (TX) fire station #21 in Northeast El Paso were a bit rattled Monday after their firehouse was broken into. According to fire officials, the firefighters were sent on a call early Monday morning and returned to find their locker room ransacked and one of the firefighters' personal trucks stolen:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Burglar-Breaks-Into-Texas-Station/46\\$64250](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/Burglar-Breaks-Into-Texas-Station/46$64250)

The FDNY stripped a captain and a deputy chief of their commands Wednesday and disciplined five others for mistakes leading to the deaths of two firefighters at the Deutsche Bank building. Deputy Chief Richard Fuerch and Capt. Peter Bosco were permanently stripped of their commands at the lower Manhattan fire divisions that were responsible for mandatory inspections at the toxic tower, officials said: http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2009/06/24/2009-06-24_7_firefighters_for_poor_inspections_at_deutsche_bank_in_months_before_blaze_that.ht ml

Boston (MA) Mayor Thomas M. Menino testified today at the State House in favor of statewide legislation requiring random drug and alcohol testing for all public safety personnel and emergency medical technicians. "We already have drug testing for conductors of garbage trucks, dump trucks and school buses. Why not a public safety official? Why are they not tested?" Menino asked the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee at today's hearing, adding that the law would "equal the playing field" for municipal workers: http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2009/06/mayor_menino_ba.html

Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor's ruling exposes racial split at firehouses: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601110&sid=adYWwnqH6kbs>

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

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

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

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