



FIRE & EMS NEWS

May 29, 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.

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 OPPORTUNITY:

SWIFTWATER RESCUE TECHNICIAN 1

JUNE 5-7, 2009 CACHE CREEK, CA

- Topics:** The initial emphasis is on self-rescue skills. Other objectives include water dynamics, handling hazards and obstacles, using basic rescue equipment, setting up technical rope systems, controlling in-water contact rescues and more. Information and skills from this course is applicable to anyone confronted with potential water rescue incidents, or the possibility of self-rescue.
- Prerequisites:** Good physical condition, basic swimming ability, and health insurance coverage.
- Equipment Needed:** A personal Flotation Device with a USCG rating of Type III or V, a water or kayak helmet, gloves suitable for use in the water, water booties or tennis shoes. A wetsuit or drysuit is strongly recommended.
- Certificates:** Swiftwater Rescue Technician Unit 1 from Rescue 3 International. River and Flood Water Rescue from FSTEP/California State Fire Training
- This course is the first of three classes needed for personnel to meet the requirements for the Technician level of NFPA 1670 *Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Rescue Incidents* and the NFPA 1006 *Standard for Rescue Technician Professional Qualifications* in the area of water rescue.
- Dates:** Friday, Saturday, Sunday; June 5-6-7, 2009
0830-1700 hours
- Location:** Friday's Classroom session will be at the Rumsey Rancheria Fire Station #25 at the Cache Creek Casino Resort in Brooks. Saturday and Sunday will be at the Cache Creek Campground Middle Site.
- Cost:** \$300 includes all certification fees.
Re-certification students call for pricing.
- Contact:** Kevin Joell at 707-363-3023 or kevin.joell@yahoo.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

SATURDAY

June 20, 12 Noon – 2pm
City Hall Council Chambers
400 Stewart Avenue, 89101

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/cardsservices/call.cfm.

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

FIRE SERVICE FITNESS & PUBLIC SERVICE **OPPORTUNITY:**

Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation



and
WENTE
V I N E Y A R D S



1st Annual

Sunday, June 7, 2009
5K RUN/WALK, 10K RUN
AND KIDS ONE-MILE FUN RUN

Start Time: 8 a.m. (Registration/check-in: 6:30 a.m.)

Place: Wente Vineyards - 5050 Arroyo Rd, Livermore, CA 94550

Benefits: The Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 that supports: Injured and Fallen Firefighters, Burn Foundation and Local Charities in the Tri Valley.

Course: The 5K is a run/walk that is 50% paved and 50% dirt road and is stroller friendly.

The 10K is 90% dirt road and 10% paved road. Strollers are not allowed in the 10K. Both runs travel through Sycamore Grove Park and are very flat with only one hill on the 10K. The Kid's One-Mile Fun Run (for ages 12 & under) will take place at Wente Vineyards at about 9:15 a.m. No dogs.

Send to: "On Your Mark" P.O. Box 1199 Arnold, CA 95223
Make checks payable to: **Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation**

Awards: 3 deep in each age group (M & F) 12 and under, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+
(Special prizes for top 3 Male and Female race winners 5K AND 10K RUN)

Water and refreshments will be provided at the end of the race. Wente Vineyards will have additional food and wine tasting for purchase. No picnicking.

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

STREET

CITY

STATE ZIP (_____) PHONE

M F Y N
CIRCLE AGE FIREFIGHTER?

EMAIL ADDRESS

T-Shirt: S - M - L - XL – XXL
Pre-Registered receive shirt prior to start.

Select Event

5K RUN/WALK
\$30 Pre-Registered prior to June 3rd (\$35 thereafter and race day) _____

10K RUN
\$30 Pre-Registered prior to June 3rd (\$35 thereafter and race day) _____

1-MILE KIDS RUN
\$10 Pre-Registered prior to June 3rd (\$15 thereafter and race day) _____

WAIVERS SIGNED RACE DAY

Additional forms or register online at www.onyourmarkevents.com

PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION COURSES:

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

- Wednesday **June 3** and Thursday **June 4**, 2009 – **Milpitas, CA**
- 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!

Milpitas, CA	Manteca, CA	Petaluma, CA
Wednesday June 3 <u>and</u> Thursday June 4, 2009	Tuesday June 30 <u>and</u> Wednesday July 1, 2009	Monday July 27 <u>and</u> Tuesday July 28, 2009
Milpitas F.D. Training Classroom 777 South Main St. Milpitas, CA 95035	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	\$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:

Tactics & Strategy Workshop

June 13 and 14, 2009

Presented by Scott Goodwin & Associates

Location: Residence Inn by Marriott
1015 Montecito Drive
Corona, CA 92879

Topics Covered:

Size up	Incident Command System
Positioning & Tactics	Divisions & Groups
Fire Attack	Intelligence Gathering
Rescue & RIC	Decision Making based on Intelligence
Support	Simulations

Intended Audience: Current Company Officers Future Company Officers
Current Chief Officers Future Chief Officers

Principle Presenter: Scott has over 30 years in the fire service, with over 20 years as a Company / Chief Officer. He has been an Incident Commander on thousands of incidents; Scott brings his unique but simple approach to command and simulations.

Cost: \$550.00 Class size is limited to 10 students!

Students will participate in 25 simulations over two days!

Email scottgoodwinassoc@ymail.com to reserve your spot in the class and to get pre-workshop information.

This workshop is guaranteed to improve simulation skills for your next promotional exam!

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Interested in attending the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland? If so, below you will find information on how to register for the first semester of the next fiscal year!

Don't forget! The National Fire Academy is now accepting applications for the first semester FY2010. The first semester includes classes that begin October 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010.

Wondering what classes are being offered and when?

Check out the course schedule online by selecting the 2009-2010 First Semester Schedule link at: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/catalog/index.shtm>

What's it cost you ask?

There are no tuition fees for NFA courses. All instruction and course materials are provided at no cost. Transportation costs and lodging for students who represent career or volunteer fire departments, rescue squads, or State/local governments attending on-campus courses are currently provided as part of funding under the student stipend reimbursement program. Your cost will be meals and breaks from our on-campus dining facility.

Applying is easy!

Follow the How to Apply information provided at: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>. Resident courses require the 2-page FEMA Form 75-5 application which is available for download at this site.

Application deadline is June 15. Don't wait! Get your application in today!

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

TAKE FIRE TECHNOLOGY CLASSES ON THE INTERNET REGISTER FOR SUMMER 2009 CLASSES NOW!

Fire Tech classes on the internet are available from Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, California. The following courses will be held completely on-line June 15 – August 5, 2009.

Fire Technology Classes

Fire Protection Organization
Fire Prevention Technology
Fire Protection Equipment & Systems
Building Construction for Fire Protection
Fire Behavior & Combustion
Fire Hydraulics
Apparatus & Equipment

After prospective students have applied to the college, they may register for classes on the internet (WebReg), by fax, mail or in person.

For information on how to enroll as a student and register for classes, or if you want additional information on the Fire Technology Program, contact Dan Coffman at dcoffman@hancockcollege.edu

Finally, if the classes are full when you try to enroll, contact Dan Coffman, we may be able to permit you to enroll at Hancock College or elsewhere.

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

USFA, NIST Announce Completion of Work on Evaluating Firefighting Tactics Under Wind Driven Conditions

Washington, D.C. - The United States Fire Administration (USFA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), in cooperation with the Fire Protection Research Foundation, the Polytechnic Institute of New York University, the Fire Department of New York City, and the Chicago Fire Department have completed work on evaluating several firefighting tactics under wind driven conditions. The two technical reports from this project, ***Fire Fighting Tactics Under Wind Driven Conditions: Laboratory Experiments*** and ***Fire Fighting Tactics Under Wind Driven Fire Conditions: 7-Story Building Experiments***, as

well as an accompanying instructional DVD set, document and discuss firefighting tactics demonstrated to reduce the thermal hazard created by a wind driven fire.

"The dynamics created for firefighters faced with an uncontrolled fire in a building are challenging and complex. Firefighters have long been aware that the presence of an external wind has the potential to increase the energy release of any given fire and increase the spread of fire gases through a structure," said Glenn A. Gaines, Acting Assistant Administrator for the USFA. "The important information gained from the project's experiments will help the fire service better understand and manage hazards associated with wind driven fires."

Eight laboratory experiments conducted as part of this project demonstrated the extreme thermal conditions that can be generated by a "simple room and contents" fire and how these conditions can be extended along a flow path within a structure when a wind condition and an open vent are present. In addition, use of two potential tactics, a wind-control device (WCD) from the floor above the fire and external water application from the floor below the fire, were shown to reduce these wind driven thermal hazard conditions.

Results from an additional series of 14 experiments conducted in a 7-story apartment building confirmed that conditions created by wind rapidly caused the building's environment to deteriorate by forcing fire gases through the apartment of origin and into the public corridor and stairwell. Several tactics, including positive pressure ventilation fans, WCDs, and external water application with floor below nozzles, were again shown to have a significant impact on reducing the hazardous condition created by a wind driven fire. In addition, use of multiple tactics in conjunction with each other was also shown to be very effective at improving conditions for firefighter operations and occupant egress.

The research data provide the science to advocate for improved standard operating guidelines for the fire service to enhance firefighter safety, fireground operations, and use of equipment. To review the two technical reports and learn how to get a copy of the instructional DVD set, please visit the following USFA Web page: http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/research/dsn/dsn_wind_conditions.shtm

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

- ***Firefighter 1 Academy Class!***

California Regional Fire Academy

Applications are Now Available!

Full-Time Class 09-7 and Extended-Format Class 09-8 both begin on Monday, August 24, 2009.

Application Deadline is 12 noon on Thursday, June 4, 2009.

See the application for more information.

Applications are also available on the website, www.ARCFire.org.

Thank you!

Mollie Povey
California Fire & Rescue Training Authority
4427 Dudley Blvd, McClellan, CA 95652
(916) 640-1420 Main
(916) 640-1422 Fax
www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov

FIRE SERVICE WEBSITE RESOURCE:

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

FIRE SERVICE 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?

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- ❑ 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

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT INFO:

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

The next application cut-off date is May 31st, 2009.

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

Applications are available to download from www.firehire.com/downloads.htm

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

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

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

- January 11, 2010
- July 5, 2010
- January 10, 2011

Benefits of taking this test include:

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

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

Why then would a department participate if they were not planning on hiring? Well, number one, things can and do change. Just because a department does not have any openings as of this moment, does not mean that situation cannot change over night. Firefighters retire,

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

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

Some of the fire departments might have other requirements (view the Firehire web site at www.firehire.com for more specific information) such as:

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

For application materials or more information, visit their website at www.firehire.com or if you do not have internet access, call them at 1-800-755-5891.

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

Fire Department

Positions available

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Albany Fire Department – | Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • American Canyon F.P.D. – | Firefighter/EMT |
| • Big Bear Lake F.P.D. – | Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Central County Fire Department – | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Cosumnes Community Services F.P.D. | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • El Cerrito Fire Department – | Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Kentfield Fire Protection District – | Firefighter/EMT |
| • Larkspur Fire Protection District – | Firefighter/EMT |
| • Millbrae Fire Department – | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Mill Valley Fire Department – | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Mountain View Fire Department – | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • North County Fire Authority - | Firefighter/EMT |
| • Petaluma Fire Department – | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Piedmont Fire Department – | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Redwood City Fire Department – | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Rio Vista Fire Department – | Firefighter/Paramedic |

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- [Ross Valley Fire Authority](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [San Bruno Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT
- [San Mateo Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [South Lake Tahoe Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Vallejo Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Woodside Fire District](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic

CPAT INFORMATION

They will only accept a copy of a valid CPAT card/certificate.

When you turn in your copy of the CPAT card/certificate, it must be filed with FIREHIRE Inc. on/or before the date of the written examination.

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

FIREHIRE Written Examination Study Guide

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

WRITTEN EXAMINATION DATES/TIMES

The written examinations will be held at the Barbara Morse Wackford Community Center. The address is 9014 Bruceville Road in Elk Grove, California. The next written examination is going to be administered on July 13th, 2009, and is weighed at 100%.

HIRING AND THE ECONOMY-PART 2

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

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

*National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
The Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union &
The "Nobody Gets Left Behind" Training Group presents:*

“ Fire Dynamics ”

This program truly highlights the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST'S) partnership with the fire service. The NIST staff will use videos of their studies to show and re-enforce the data documented to show firefighters how convection,

radiation and ventilation including wind, affect a fire. Other topics of discussion will include: building geometry, materials, furnishings and firefighting tactics. Attendees will leave with a copy of the presentation and videos so that they may share them with the members of their department to ultimately increase firefighter safety.

Instructor: Daniel Madrzykowski, PE – Dan is a fire protection engineer with the National Institute of Standards and Technology. His research includes: firefighting technology, firefighter LODD'S, suppression systems and fire investigations (Station Night Club fire). He has a Masters Degree from the University of Maryland. Dan is on the Board of Directors for the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, and chairs the IAAI engineering committee along with the NFPA Research Section. He is also a member of the NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Service Training.

- June 17, 2009 in San Jose, California

OR:

- June 18, 2009 in West Sacramento, California

REGISTRATION

To Register for this class: www.leerescue.com/NGLB

Program Fee \$25.00 (Includes Lunch)

For information please email: nglbtraining@rescuenet.com

Locations:

- Mexican Heritage Plaza - 1700 Alum Rock Avenue, San Jose, CA 95116 (June 17)
- Ziggurat State Office Building, West Sacramento, CA (June 18)

Lee & Associates Rescue Equipment Inc.- (831) 338-7692 - www.leerescue.com / www.gearshop.com

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

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

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

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

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

Northern California
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 PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO FROM
THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:**

USFA Announces a New Radio Public Service Announcement for the 2009 Arson Awareness Week Campaign

EMMITSBURG, MD - Each year arsonists destroy nearly a billion dollars worth of property resulting in the death of more than 400 civilians and injuring another 1,500. Annually, at least three firefighters are killed at arson fires with another seven thousand firefighters injured. The USFA is joining forces with the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) to spread the word about this year's Arson Awareness Week (AAW) theme – Arson for Profit. Arson for profit is insurance fraud where both individuals and businesses attempt to limit their losses or generate a financial gain by fraudulently collecting on fire loss policies. Arson for profit affects everyone through the loss of life, increased insurance premiums and related expenses for the fire and law enforcement professionals. You are invited to join the U.S. Fire Administration and its partners to focus attention on the crime of arson during Arson Awareness Week. You can help prevent arson by following these helpful tips:

- Be sure to have sufficient lighting outside your home and business. Do not provide cover for the arsonists.
- Get involved with community awareness and watch programs.
- Remove trash, debris, and other combustible materials from the front and back of your business or home. Garbage can be used as an ignition source for arson fires.
- Lock and secure your vehicle.

The USFA has a new radio public service announcement (PSA) for the 2009 AAW campaign. To download the PSA and a campaign media kit, go to <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/aaw/>

FIRE SERVICE SAFETY INFORMATION – MAY 2009 **EVERYONE GOES HOME NEWSLETTER:**



[Everyone Goes Home® Program to Release Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kit Volume 4](#)

May 2009
E-Newsletter

Volume 4 includes easily deployable fire service training on two DVDs and one CD. Some of the video training materials include: Smoke Reading, Rapid Intervention Teams, Calling the Mayday, Seatbelt Use, Pre-Planning and Fitness. CD resources also include support materials for each of the video training modules included.

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

[Defining Moments](#)


When many of us first became aware of the Everyone Goes Home® Program we thought to ourselves, "Bonus!" A lot of us already had a passion concerning firefighter safety and wellbeing. We had been out there for years challenging unnecessary firefighter injuries and deaths, while at the same time advocating change.

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


[2009 Safety Week Key Area: Firefighter Heart Disease and Cancer Education & Prevention](#)

Firefighter Heart Disease and Cancer Education & Prevention is the second of four key areas where SOPs, policies and initiatives - along with training and enforcement - can limit fire and EMS personnel's risk of injury or death.


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




The *Everyone Goes Home*® Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Program is made possible through the efforts of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, with funding provided by the Department of Homeland Security, Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the generosity of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company.



Homeland Security



Fireman's Fund[™]
Insurance Company
A company of Allianz 

More May 2009 Articles:

- [Orange County, California Hosts Life Safety Conference](#)
- [What I Learned at FDIC](#)
- [Putting the Courage to Be Safe into Practice in Missouri](#)
- [USFA, NIST Complete Eval. of Tactics Under Wind Driven Conditions](#)
- [What's at Stake?](#)

» **More:** [View the Complete May 2009 Newsletter](#)

» **Archives:** [Everyone Goes Home® Newsletters](#)

» For More Information Visit: www.everyonegoeshome.com

FIRE SERVICE FIRE PREVENTION INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

USFA Prevention Group Holds National Conference

Emmitsburg, MD - The United States Fire Administration (USFA) was honored to once again play host to nearly 140 fire prevention professionals for the 5th National PARADE (Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange) Conference, May 14-16. Presentations, workshops, and displays addressed a wide range of fire prevention topics including residential sprinklers, global concepts for residential fire safety, marketing strategies, novelty toy-like lighters, and lessons learned. During this year's PARADE Conference, Glenn A. Gaines, Acting Assistant USFA Fire Administrator, told the fire marshals that he was "100% committed to mitigation and prevention." Acting Assistant Administrator Gaines also shared with the group his support of the International Residential Code (IRC) requirement for fire sprinklers and that he planned to work hard to ensure that homes have working smoke alarms with long-life batteries installed.

As a result, the 2009 PARADE participants crafted and unanimously passed two resolutions: one in support of banning the sale of novelty toy-like lighters and the second one supporting the IRC for fire sprinklers in one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses. To review these two resolutions, please visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov/parade/

PARADE was established in 2003 to better assist America's state and major metropolitan fire marshals, and other representatives, in implementing effective fire prevention programs, conducting networking activities, and exchanging materials.

For more information on all U. S. Fire Administration programs and activities, visit the USFA Web site at: www.usfa.dhs.gov

James Burns Awarded 2009 Excellence in Fire Prevention Award

Emmitsburg, MD - A highlight of the [2009 PARADE \(Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange\) Conference](#) held May 14-16 was the presentation of the ***R. Wayne Powell Excellence in Fire Prevention Award*** at the conference banquet. Wayne Powell is a former USFA and 30-year Federal employee who led the creation of PARADE . This year's award recipient is James Burns, former Administrator of the New York Office of Fire Prevention and Control.

During Burns' tenure, New York State developed a college curriculum for Fire and Life Safety, conducting more than 47,000 campus-related inspections. He was instrumental in promoting fire-safe cigarettes and, as a result, New York was the first State in the Nation, and the first organization in the world, to require all cigarettes sold in the state to meet a fire safety standard. Under his supervision, the State purchased three fire prevention trailers and "mobile" training units filled with public education tools and materials that have traveled extensively throughout the State to educate tens of thousands of children and adults in fire-safe living. PARADE was established in 2003 to better assist America's state and major metropolitan fire marshals, and other representatives, in implementing effective fire prevention programs, conducting networking activities, and exchanging materials. For more information on PARADE and all U. S. Fire Administration programs and activities, visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov

FIRE SERVICE RELATED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – SACRAMENTO (CA):

The [Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center](#) 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. SRFCECC is the 3rd largest fire dispatch center in the State of California. Under the general direction of the Shift Supervisor, the Dispatcher receives,

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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:

<u>Test Date:</u>	<u>Deadline:</u>
July 9, 2009	June 26, 2009
October 8, 2009	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.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- 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: Frankie P. Nelson
Rank: Fire Captain (Battalion Safety Officer)
Age: 51
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 28
Date of Incident: 05/09/2009
Time of Incident: 2240hrs
Date of Death: 05/10/2009
Fire Department: Shreveport Fire Department
Address: 263 North Commons Street, Shreveport, LA 71101
Fire Department Chief: Brian Crawford

Incident Description: On May 9, 2009 at 2240 hours, Captain Nelson responded to a motor vehicle collision. He carried out emergency response procedures that included Incident Command, EMS assistance, and traffic safety control measures while on scene. He cleared the scene and returned to service at approximately 2315 hours. He was relieved of duty at 1400 hours on May 10, 2009. Approximately eight hours after being relieved of duty at 2141 hours on May 10, 2009, he suffered a heart attack in which Shreveport Fire Department EMS responded to and transported him to the Schumpert Medical Center. He was pronounced dead shortly after arriving at the hospital.

|

Incident Location: Interstate 220 and Jefferson Paige Road.

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Fire Captain Frankie P. Nelson at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 39 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 38 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: Paul J. Roberts
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 54

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 21
Date of Incident: 05/22/2009
Time of Incident: 1523hrs
Date of Death: 05/22/2009
Fire Department: Beverly Fire Department
Address: 15 Hale ST, Beverly, MA 01915
Fire Department Chief: Richard Pierce

Incident Description: Firefighter Roberts' Engine Company was dispatched for a coverage assignment after another Beverly Engine was sent to a mutual aid fire out of town. Roberts' Company Officer found him in cardiac arrest at the station after he did not respond to the alert tone. Fellow firefighters and paramedics worked to revive Firefighter Roberts but he succumbed to his injury.

Incident Location: North Beverly Fire Station, 2 Dodge Street, Beverly.

Wake arrangements: 05/28/2009 from 1600-2000hrs @ Campbells Funeral Home, 525 Cabot Street Beverly, MA 01915. Tele – (978) 922-1113
There will be a walk-by ceremony at 1830hrs on 05/28/2009. Formation will be at 1800hrs at a location to be determined. Dress code will be Class A and retirees are welcome.

Funeral Arrangements: 05/29/2009 @ 1100hrs at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 140 Bridge Street, Beverly, MA 01915. Tele - (978) 922-3174
Fire Fighters are asked to meet at the staging area (TBA) at 0930hrs on 05/29/2009. Firefighters will be shuttled to the Church and back again to the staging area. Details on the formation for firefighters will be coming soon and posted on the Beverly Fire Department website. Dress Code will be Class A and retirees are welcome.
All color and honor guards are welcome. The Greater Boston Firefighters Pipes and Drums have been requested for the funeral.

Collation: Following the funeral there will be a collation at the Vittori Rocci Post 143, Brimbal Ave, Beverly. There will be no interment at this time.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Paul J. Roberts at
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 40 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 39 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: George A. Wimberly

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Rank: Firefighter
Age: 63
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 30+
Date of Incident: 04/01/2009
Time of Incident: 2126hrs
Date of Death: 04/01/2009
Fire Department: Stonewall Volunteer Fire Department
Address: PO Box 657, 734 S Erwin RD, Stonewall, MS 39363
Fire Department Chief: Shane Harper

Incident Description: Firefighter Wimberly was operating his privately owned vehicle in response to a reported structure fire when he slowed to a stop approx 1/2 mile from the incident scene and passed away, having succumbed to an apparent heart attack. The cause of the fire is under investigation by state authorities as being intentionally set.

Incident Location: Fire incident: 137 Priester Road, Stonewall, MS. Location of medical emergency: County Road 150 and Hwy 513, Stonewall, MS.

Funeral Arrangements: Held on 04/04/2009.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Donations in honor of Firefighter George A. Wimberly may be made to Stonewall Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 657, Stonewall, MS 39363

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter George A. Wimberly at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>
To date, 41 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2009; 40 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](#) 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...

We have been advised that several **Firefighters have been burned at the Santa Barbara wildland Jesusita fire**. Initial reports are that they have been flown out to the Grossman Burn Center in Sherman Oaks. More than 500 acres have burned in a wind-driven wildfire that exploded this afternoon in Santa Barbara. An unknown number of homes have burned and at least 8,000 people have been forced to evacuate....gusts up to 50 miles per hour fanned the fire. The National Weather Service says strong winds are expected through the night and a red flag warning of fire danger is in effect until 1000 hours Friday. Reports are that at least 2 Firefighters were overrun by that fire and were flown out, and are now hospitalized. Details to follow.

AND IN RELATED NEWS.....

Hundreds of California Firefighters could lose their jobs...if voters reject the budget-balancing measures on the ballot. **Just in time for today's fire**, Governor Schwarzenegger signed an order to boost the state's fire preparedness with more tools and Firefighters....and he urged Californians to approve the special election ballot measures that'll give Cal-Fire the money it needs.

Here is more: <http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/state&id=6798141>

And here is more on **SCARE TACTICS ?** http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci_12310738

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-7-09 / 0037 hours

AND:

Hey-

Within the last hour several firefighters from Prince Georges County, MD were caught in a gas explosion while investigating reports of a gas leak. Following the explosion/flash fire MayDay's were transmitted for several firefighters down with varied injuries. Numerous firefighters were transported with two reported to have serious but non-life threatening burn injuries. We will forward or post additional updates as they become available.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-7-09 / 1421 hours

AND:

Hey

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

The good news is that all of the affected **Princes George's Co, MD Firefighters** have suffered non-life threatening injuries, and while burned are expected to make successful recovery. Companies arrived on the scene of a reported gas leak when while operating at the scene there was a massive explosive and a very significant **CLOSE CALL**. We have video of the actual explosion thanks to Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department through Dave Statter. Please take time to check out this "reality close call video" and use it to remind all members of the high risk associated with our jobs and in this specific case gas leak responses.

Check out the video HERE:

http://www.wusa9.com/video/default.aspx?maven_playerId=immersiveplayer&maven_referralPlaylistId=9142a21d31bef6379dd41b5eea96867d739f06f0&maven_referralObject=1117190476

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-7-09 / 1721 hours

AND:

Hey...

Word is that the Obama administration is asking Congress to **cut** almost in half the PSOB program that provides benefits to the families of LODD Firefighters, Police and Public Safety Officers....**but the cuts probably will not actually impact the families.** President Obama's 2010 budget reduces funding for the PSOB from \$110 million this year to \$60 million for next year's budget. The program received \$118 million in 2008. **HOWEVER--**it appears that the proposed cut is a **"false statistic"** because the program requires, by law "mandatory funding," which means the money is automatically paid to all the families of LODD FF's and Officers. **Well, sort of, unless your loved one had a heart attack-but that seems to be cleared up.**

The proposed reduction to \$60 million pertains to a "projection" or "estimate" for DOJ's planning purposes and last year's \$ figure was high because it included a number of families that weren't in the system before, Justice spokeswoman Melissa Schwartz said....**"Any family member who is eligible for benefits under this program will receive them," she said. "If the amount of claims surpasses the amount requested, the program will be further funded."**

SAFER INCREASES FIREFIGHTERS ...BUT CUTS IN FIRE ACT GRANT EQUIP FOR THOSE FF's??

.....the administration has proposed funding the "Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response" (SAFER) program at double of what it was funded in FY2009, increasing funding to \$420 million for the program. The USFA also receives an increase of approximately \$600,000. The State Homeland Security Grant Program receives the same level of funding as FY2009 (\$950 million) and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) receives a \$50 million increase. **SAFER is essentially designed to help communities fund the cost of Firefighters and also allows for retention and recruitment of volunteer Firefighters.**

NOT SO FAST PAL....unfortunately the Administration also is proposing funding the critical
May 29, 2009 www.chabotfire.com 32

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

FIRE ACT grant program at only \$170 million - **A HUGE CUT of nearly 70%** from FY 2009. The program, which received \$3.2 billion in requests in FY 2008, provides funding for equipment, training, and apparatus directly to FD's....the program also provides grants for fire prevention and safety programs and firefighter health and safety research. **So while some communities may be able to increase their staffing...they may not be able to get the needed equipment to support that staffing...at least based upon the budget "proposal"..**

While the Administration's budget proposal serves as a guideline for federal funding, Congress ultimately determines funding levels for these programs.....

SO...if you have an OPINION about the above proposed changes, don't tell us, tell your applicable FIRE SERVICE Association such as IAFF, IAFC, NVFC etc...
But also tell your Federally elected official...

CONTACT your members of CONGRESS and SENATE....HERE:

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

UPDATE: PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS MAYDAY AT GAS LEAK/EXPLOSION:

HERE are some updates:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?85626>

And from DaveStatter911:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=85499&catid=158>

HERE is the fireground audio from DC Firefeed:

<http://www.dcfirefeed.com/archives/3426donnell.wav>

UPDATE: CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS DOING WELL AFTER LAST NIGHTS BURNOVER:

The conditions of three **Ventura County Firefighters** injured battling the Santa Barbara wildfire have been upgraded from serious to good...but all had work ahead of them in terms of recovery.

FF Robert Lopez, 44, an eight-year veteran of the department, was burned over 15% of his body, including his face, ears, arms and back. He will undergo surgery tomorrow.
Capt. Ron Topolinski, 51, a 28-year veteran, has burns over slightly less than 10% of his body, including his face and hands. Doctors will start biological dressings on him Friday.
Capt. Brian Bulger, 57, a 30-year veteran, sustained inhalation injuries and should be able to leave the hospital in the next couple of days. A total of 10 firefighters were hurt, most of them sustaining minor injuries.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-8-09 / 0030 Hours

AND:

Hey...

6 Firefighters and 1 police officer were injured in an explosion in Providence, R.I. this morning around 1230 hours. PFD companies were responding to a car that crashed into the

front of an apartment complex. Firefighters smelled the gas leak when they arrived at the scene of the crash...and just moments after firefighters shut of the gas line something caused an explosion. 1 FF was thrown into the street and others were hurt when debris fell on top of them. Several of the firefighters were treated and released from Rhode Island Hospital...and another FF suffered a head injury in the explosion, and is being treated.

REMINDER:

TREAT ALL reported GAS LEAKS as if **THEY WILL BLOW UP.**

Follow your FD SOP's without exception.

HERE are some related links:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/drills/FCC%20Vol%206-64%20Gas%20Leak%20Emergencies%201.pdf>

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?85626>

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/05/look-at-investigation-into-gas-leak-and.html>

FIREFIGHTER FALLS OUT OF RESPONDING APPARATUS:

Yesterday, while responding to a working dwelling fire, a Firefighter from the Lynbrook (Long Island, NY) FD fell out of a responding apparatus. The Firefighter suffered some fractures and lost consciousness and is still in the hospital, but is expected to recover.

FIRE CHIEF TO BE CHARGED IN FATAL RESPONDING CRASH:

The Florida State Attorney's Office plans to prosecute a Jacksonville Fire-Rescue District Fire Chief in connection with a crash that killed a civilian. Jacksonville District Fire Chief Adrian D. Johnson will be charged with culpable negligence as a result of a Nov. 21 wreck that killed Howard H. Corrigan, 75. District Fire Chief Johnson was driving a JFRD sport utility vehicle and collided with Corrigan's car at an intersection. Prosecutors claim Johnson went through a red light without his siren on. State law allows emergency vehicles to violate traffic laws, but only when lights and sirens are used and care is taken to protect life and property. The charges are all first-degree misdemeanors, punishable by up to one year in jail. Chief Johnson, with 21 years on the JFRD, is president of the Jacksonville Brotherhood of Firefighters and returned to duty after the fatal wreck. The Corrigan family has filed notice of intent to sue the city.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-9-09 / 1215 hours

AND:

Hey....

FROM THE MAYOR OF MARION, OHIO:

"We can talk all we want about the budget and job losses, but let's put things in perspective: Two very young lives were lost (at this fire), and that's going to affect that family forever."

They Mayor seems to now "get it"... On Friday, another community with fire service reductions experienced delays and confusion as another fire took lives, this time in Ohio.... in an apartment building, killing a 2 year old baby and her toddler brother. "We

showed up with an extremely short crew," said Lt. Wade Ralph of the Marion FD. "We found that the family had no working cell phones, no home phone." He said it appeared the family might have tried to put out the fire at first but was overwhelmed. A passer-by called 911. Half the on-duty firefighters were on squad (EMS) runs when the call arrived just after noon and attrition has led to positions cut across the board-in this case, they were 1 FF short Friday. Could 1 FF make a difference? Absolutely. But that left only a 3 FF's to enter the building, a former hospital converted into rentals. Three other firefighters were outside to operate equipment and lead command. Ralph said the apartment was well involved when firefighters arrived. **Maybe it would have mattered-maybe it wouldn't have...smoke detectors, working phones, fire spread are all factors...but when a community gambles on their FD resources and the ability to quickly arrive with the needed staffing, all the guessing after the fire is irrelevant to those affected.**

Dead are Jacob Tackett, 2, and Madison Barrett, 8 months.

City firefighters quickly called for help, summoning off-duty firefighters from home and requesting more Firefighters under a mutual-aid pact with Marion Township.

Marion Mayor Scott Schertzer said his city has had "almost no growth at all" in this year's budget. The city is hiring cautiously in case money for the position evaporates, he said. "Every time an employee leaves, we re-evaluate and assess the budget," Schertzer said. "I'm concerned the economy is hurting our ability to provide services to citizens. **"We can talk all we want about the budget and job losses, but let's put things in perspective: Two very young lives were lost, and that's going to affect that family forever."**

HERE is more:

http://www.columbusdispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/05/10/marion_fire_fo_o.ART_ART_05-10-09_B1_GUDQJOI.html?sid=101

==FD CLEARS SCENE-GAS COMPANY IN CHARGE...and then.....

In West Grove, PA Friday afternoon, it was reported to us that FF's responded to a propane leak. The 100 lb underground tank was reportedly leaking at the valve. FF secured the scene, stood by and then eventually turned the scene over to the gas company. About 2 hours later, BOOM! FFs went back to find the home and garage completely leveled. FF's remained on the scene throughout the night spraying water on the remaining gas venting from the tank to control the vapors until eventually the tank ran out of propane. The incident began around 1600...companies cleared around 0900.

==FREE----NO COST PROPANE TRAINING FOR FIREFIGHTERS BY FIREFIGHTERS:

<http://www.npga.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=577>

==2 ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH N.J. LODD:

Two homeless men accused of setting a fire that led to an Elizabeth firefighter's death in January have been indicted on murder charges. Emilio Vasquez and Jose Flores were also charged with arson and burglary in the indictment handed up Prosecutors said the men were spending the night inside a vacant house and used curtains to light a fire to keep warm. But the blaze quickly spread, and firefighters soon responded.

Among them was Gary Stephens, who was struck by a slow-moving fire truck that he was directing toward a hydrant. Stephens, a 28-year veteran of the department, died a short time later.

==HAL BRUNO UPDATE:

Hal Bruno, a long time Firehouse contributing editor, retired political director for ABC News in Washington who has been a volunteer firefighter for a half century....is having some medical issues. He is a Director of the Chevy Chase, MD, FD and former Chair of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Hal is getting better at a rehab center for occupational and physical therapy. **If you or your FD would like to send a very much welcomed get-well card, Hal can be reached at:**

**Hal Bruno
Adventist Rehab Hospital
9909 Medical Center Drive
Rockville, MD 20850**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL...**Happy Mothers Day.**

BillyG

The Secret List 5-10-09 / 0800 hours

AND:

Hey...

Like most of you, we are angry about the proposed cuts to so many FD's...it's like some DON'T get it...or don't WANT to get it. There are even communities with VOLUNTEER FD's that are making cuts! WTF?! Too many folks measure the wrong things about their FD's. FD officials are great at talking about their FD in operational terms but not as good at describing the economic impacts of their FD on the city in "bean counter" language. For that matter, how many cities establish performance objectives for their FD's as part of their municipal goals? Maybe if we speak "bean counter" language, they might get it. **Maybe.**

Several months ago we asked for FD's to send in any and all info, media clips etc related to FD BUDGET CUTS. We have compiled many of them now on a new page. As a part of FireFighterCloseCalls.com, we have one of the best FD statisticians in North America...and "Iggy" has been working hard in putting together some comparative information ...information you can use.

===CHECK OUT THE BRAND NEW FF STAFFING/FUNDING PAGE:

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

As you will see on the above FFCC STAFFING page, these cuts differ from place to place (staffing, brownouts, stations etc) without any kind of objective analysis. Our goal right now is to initially just get the info out there for you in an organized manner. You check it out and if you see issues that resemble your FD-you can contact them direct and compare notes, ideas, solutions etc. WE ALSO want you to send in articles and examples where GOOD

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

FUNDING AND ADEQUATE STAFFING MATTERED-such as when FF's made a rescue where it may not have happened...if the staffing or funding was cut.

What happens to one fire department, can happen to other departments, sooner or later. By submitting your department's cut articles and info, we can watch, record and learn, so that we can educate the budgetary people sooner, with documented facts. Tell us what is happening in your area by submitting info to us here...and if your FD is listed, please send updated changes **HERE**. Staffing@firefighterclosecalls.com

TENN: FIRE CHIEFS VEHICLE STRIKES CIVILIAN:

An Acting District Nashville Fire Chief fatally struck a woman walking down the street Saturday night. Metro police said acting District Chief Gary Heflin was driving this Metro Fire Department SUV to the nearby fire station. According to witnesses, Jones ran out into the street leaving Chief Heflin no time to stop. Police say Heflin's emergency lights were not activated when the accident happened. Jones was rushed to Southern Hills Medical Center where she died.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: FD EMS CRASH:

A Nottingham Fire & Rescue ambulance responding to a crash yesterday, collided with a pickup truck at an intersection around 1400 hours. John Spina, Courtney Herrick and Joshua Boyle of Nottingham Fire and Rescue were taken to local hospitals with non-life threatening injuries. Herrick was able to aid the driver of the pickup, Rocco Mastrangelo after freeing herself from the FD vehicle she was in.

TAKE CARE-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 5-11-09 / 1006 hours

AND:

FIRE OFFICER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL EMERGENCY

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the **LINE OF DUTY DEATH of Shreveport , LA Fire Captain Frankie P. Nelson**, following a Heart Attack after an incident. Captain Nelson carried out emergency response procedures that included Incident Command, EMS assistance, and traffic safety control measures while on scene of a motor vehicle accident. He was relieved of duty at 1400 hours on May 10, 2009. Approximately eight hours after being relieved of duty at 2141 hours on May 10, 2009, he suffered a heart attack in which Shreveport Fire Department EMS responded to and transported him to the Schumpert Medical Center. He was pronounced dead shortly after arriving at the hospital. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

TAKE CARE-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 5-13-09 / 0740 hours

AND

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the **EMS LINE OF DUTY DEATH** of an an EMT-B with Pender EMS (responding on Union Rescue Squad) collapsed and died at the scene of a medical emergency this morning. Details when available on www.FireNews.net. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

May 29, 2009

www.chabotfire.com

37

TAKE CARE-Be Careful,
BillyG
The Secret List 5-14-09 / 1410 hours

AND

Hey,

Lamesa and Andrews (Texas) Firefighters were operating at a tank fire last evening. They had water flowing, attempting to cool. At about 2 hours into it, a relief valve blew ...but then the tank and nearby tanks exploded and took off. The photographer was 200 yards away and a piece of 4" pipe about a foot and a half long with a cutoff valve on it came through the air in a high enough arc that it cleared the power lines next to him in impact the front of his vehicle, causing extensive damage.

NOTE: DO NOT MISS THIS VIDEO.

The TV version of the clip aired on the networks, but the video below is an extended, uncut version: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DECyAxDk88U>

NY MAYDAY and RADIO TRAFFIC AUDIO:

Buffalo Firefighters responded early yesterday morning for a structural fire and Engine 19 went on location reporting heavy smoke showing from "2" attached 2 1/2 story dwellings & fire through the roof. B-56 went on location requesting an additional 2 Engines (36 & 2) & an extra Ladder (Ladder 2) for a FAST team. **A MAYDAY was sounded reporting Engine 19 & Ladder 13 were trapped.** 2 Firefighters from E19 & 4 Firefighters from Ladder 13 were transported for observation to an area hospital. B-56 ordered defensive operations and requested the balance of the 2nd alarm to the scene. The fire was under control in about 2 hours & 5 minutes. **Thanks to Erie County Fire Wire for this excellent radio clip:**

BUFFALO FIRE RADIO AUDIO CLIP:

http://www.ecfwire.com/BFD_2_Alarm_1172_West_Delevan.wav

HOME PAGE: www.ecfwire.com

CHICAGO MAYDAY:

2 CFD Firefighters were temporarily trapped inside the basement of a building fire early Friday. The fire started about 0300 in a two-story, mixed-use building and was quickly elevated to a still-and-box alarm (working fire dispatch). Firefighters moved their lines up the stairs toward the second floor apartment level. 2 of those FF's were Lt. Steve Mientus and Captain Kevin Kennelly. As they got to the top of the stairs, the stairs collapsed under them. The two fell 20 feet into the burning cellar. They were trapped. "Being in the basement for 3 or 4 minutes felt like 3 to 4 hours but I did have the confidence they were going to be able to get us out," Mientus said. Other firefighters got a ladder to them and the trapped men managed to climb out. Both Kennelly and Mientus suffered smoke inhalation and bruises and spent several hours being treated at holy cross hospital.

===COMMENT OF THE WEEK: "Once my wife saw I was OK when I got home, I got the shopping list," CFD FF Mientus said. "I went to Dominick's (grocery store) before I came home, so that was a good thing." **Outstanding!**

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-16-09 / 0600 hours

AND

CANADIAN FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH-HEART ATTACK AT FIRE SCENE

We, along with Chief Trent Hill and the members of the Keswick Valley FD, New Brunswick, Canada regret to announce the Line of Duty Death of Firefighter Phil Strang. Firefighter Strang responded to the report of a fire behind a house in Keswick Valley Friday afternoon. Upon arrival firefighters encountered a power line that had sparked and set a small wooded area on fire. While extinguishing the fire, Firefighter Strang collapsed from an apparent heart attack and was pronounced dead upon arrival at the Doctor Everett Chalmers Hospital. Firefighter Strang was 64 years old. **As always, our most sincere condolences.**

WATER TENDER/TANKER ROLLOVER CRASH

A North Tree Fire Int'l (California) water tender was involved in a rollover crash on I-5 and Lambert Road in South Sacramento County while returning from the Jesusita fire in Santa Barbara County. The WT rolled several times down an embankment at the over crossing coming to rest on his wheels. The driver was the only occupant and he was able to self-extricate prior to the FD arrival. The operator suffered NLT injuries and the water tender is a total loss. **Photos and links on our home page.**

GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT CONSTRUCTION, OCCUPANT AND FF SURVIVAL:

Thanks for the heads up on this from Bills, "FireGeezer"....THE CITY OF GREENCASTLE, INDIANA, HAS STOPPED TALKING and started acting where it comes to lightweight construction, a.k.a. wood chips and glue buildings. **Last year Greencastle city council passed an ordinance requiring any new homes built with these firefighter-killer methods to display a sticker on the utility box that identifies it as a lightweight constructed building.** Now they are telling the citizens about it in the hopes that more homes that were already built this way will be added to the system. The sticker is unobtrusive and is placed directly on a meter box, for example, and tells the FD if either the floor joists and/or the trusses are made of these materials. **The fire officers are already checking the utility boxes on all fires as part of their initial size-up. Check out FireGeezers report:**

<http://www.firegeezer.com/2009/05/13/lets-hope-this-sticks/>

FIRE COLLEGE FIRE IN ENGLAND

A fleet of 11 engines belonging to the national Fire Service College in Gloucestershire has been destroyed in a fire. The engines were stored in a workshop at the college in Moreton-in-Marsh, along with diesel and hydraulic oil. Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service sent 58 firefighters to the fire. Crews from two other counties assisted. **HERE** is more:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/gloucestershire/8053733.stm>

REMINDER: SUBMIT information, news articles etc related to any and all FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDING CUTS, BUDGET ISSUES, FF STAFFING CUTS etc to staffing@FireFighterCloseCalls.com

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-17-09 / 0746 hours

AND:

Hey...

A Pennsylvania Firefighter was **IMPALED** by a heated and exploding HOOD STRUT while operating at a car fire. In this most recent "hood strut projectile" event, which happened in Swatara Township (PA), Firefighters from the Friendship Fire Company of Bressler last week arrived at a "routine" engine compartment fire which quickly changed from being routine.. A line was stretched and crews worked to open the hood...while operating, a hood shock exploded and impaled a FF in the right knee. EMS treated and transported him to an area trauma center where he was treated and spent the night. He luckily escaped without major injuries from the incident and is expected to make a full recovery.

==PHOTOS HERE:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?86149>

==PHOTOS AND ADDITIONAL INFO HERE FROM THE FD:

<http://www.bresslerfire41.com/>

ALSO CHECK OUT:

==TRAINING REVIEW INFO RE: CAR FIRES:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/drills/FCC%20Vol%209-108%20Car%20Fire%20Basics.pdf>

==SOME ARTICLES ON VEHICLE FIRES:

http://www.fireengineering.com/display_article/58992/25/none/none/Feat/NEW-FIRE-TACTICS-FOR-NEW-CAR-FIRES

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/Firefighting-Strategy-and-Tactics/Vehicle-Firefighting/14\\$51438](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/Firefighting-Strategy-and-Tactics/Vehicle-Firefighting/14$51438)

http://www.jems.com/news_and_articles/columns/Heightman/Car_Fire_Safety_for_EMS.html

==CAR FIRE/STRUT EXPLOSION VIDEOS:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74kg1Eyb_T4

<http://bestfirefightervideo.com/index.php/Close-Call-Videos/Car-Fire-Close-Call-Strut-Explosion-Video-MUST-SEE.html>

==ADDITIONAL RELATED "STRUT" INFORMATION:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/downloads.php> (Scroll down to "Beware The Strut")

AUSTRALIAN GASOLINE TANKER EXPLOSION:

Here is some home video of a fire and explosion along with DaveStatter911's news story. The gasoline tanker was burning and then exploded in Maddington, Perth, Australia.

RAW VIDEO:

http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=c6e_1242491324

DAVE'S COVERAGE:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/05/more-must-see-video-tanker-fire-at.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-17-09 / 2139 hours

AND:

Hey...

FF Tim Warren of the **Shiro VFD (Texas)** was taken by helicopter to Hermann Memorial Hospital last night after the apparatus he was driving collided with a semi. The tanker crashed in Grimes County near the Highway 30 and Highway 90 intersection. Firefighters were responding to a structure fire west of Roans Prairie when the fire apparatus reportedly collided with the 18-wheeler. Update to follow.

=INcredible FIRE LOGIC:

Well this weeks WTF award probably will go to Greater Grand Rapids (MI) Home Builders Association's Lee Kitson who, when speaking **against** residential fire sprinklers, stated: "**If you want to eliminate falls on stairs, you could require elevators,**" Well, most folks are awake when they walk down stairs-and they use a building code required railing...of course, when no one is home, no one falls down stairs....as opposed to unoccupied house fires. Here is more:

http://www.woodtv.com/dpp/news/local/kent_county/The_politics_of_fire_sprinklers

And speaking of, here is a great overview sent to us by a TSL member, of a typical residential sprinkler system installation for an existing home, step by step.

<http://www.ronhazelon.com/archives/projects/install-residential-fire-sprinkler-system.shtm>

And a great link for residential sprinkler associated costs that he found to date is here:

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

On the other hand....

=CREDIBLE FIRE LOGIC:

North Carolina's High Country Home Builders Association recently **invited** Firefighters to set up a home sprinkler booth at their convention on the campus of Appalachian State University. **They did WHAT!?** Yep...Firefighters and Fire Educators from Blowing Rock FD, Boone FD, Gastonia FD and the Office of State Fire Marshal were present to provide live sprinkler demonstrations and provide information on the effectiveness of home sprinkler systems. Thanks to FireNews.net for that....and thanks to the High Country Homebuilders for applying some common sense on behalf of those who buy their homes....**just make sure the HOME office doesn't find out or you may get your trusses smacked.**

=GOT JUNIOR FIREFIGHTERS?

The 2009 NVFC National Junior Firefighter Scholarship and Grant Program is offering **\$100,000** in scholarships to outstanding junior firefighters and grants to departments to support their junior firefighter programs. Outstanding junior firefighters from across the nation will be selected through a competitive application process to receive a \$5,000 scholarship towards their higher education. The application period for the scholarship program is now open. All scholarship application materials are due by 5pm EDT on June 1. **APPLY ASAP HERE:** www.nvfc.org/juniors

=MORE EXPLODING STRUT CLOSE CALL VIDEO: (In case you still are not convinced of the hazard...)

WATCH THIS:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qaVVpj21F00>

...and here are MORE REPORTS ON STRUT EXPLOSIONS AT VEHICLE FIRES:

Here are some links to reports from **FireFighterNearMiss.com** related to STRUT EXPLOSIONS:

<http://www.firefighternearmiss.com/data/Resources/Grouped%20Reports/Strut%20Related%20Near-Miss%20Reports.pdf>

THE GOV OF MINNESOTA HAS AN OPINION ON PUBLIC SAFETY & FIREFIGHTER STAFFING:

"The city of Saint Paul should not threaten to reduce police and fire services while requesting that a loan be forgiven in order to build an ice rink,"

Gov. Tim Pawlenty axed an "Ice Skating Rink" last week..."If you are that insistent on (the State) forgiving a loan to the city of St. Paul, could you at least get some expectations from them about spending the proceeds on something that's a higher priority, like police and fire (instead of a skating rink)? " he said....he further said "So they have money in St. Paul for certain things but apparently not for public safety"

MORE HERE: http://www.twincities.com/politics/ci_12321843

GOT FIRE VICTIMS TRAPPED? GOT STAFFING?

It appears that if it were not for having 4 person staffing on all downtown companies, Firefighters may not have been able to make a grab the other night in Stamford, CT. Because the first arriving companies had adequate staffing on scene in a relatively short period of time ...probably saved this woman's life.

HERE is the article: http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/ci_12328795

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-20-09 / 0730 hours

AND:

Hey...

There are two very important activities that we have coming up-and ones that we share with you annually. And even though times are very, very tough, some of you may be able to help in some way or another....and BOTH involve recreational activities! Of course, firstly, we are talking about the 8th Annual Father's Day Run & BBQ. As many of you know this race and fun day is comprised of a small committee of the Downey family and friends. Over the years it has grown quit a bit. Here is the information:

THE 8TH ANNUAL DEPUTY CHIEF RAY DOWNEY "FOREVER RUNNING" MEMORIAL 5K RUN/WALK

DATE: Fathers Day Morning, June 21, 2008

LOCATION: Deer Park, Long Island, New York

For information, please go to: www.chiefraydowney.com

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

---Participate.

---Donate. (ANY amount means a great deal to this scholarship fund)

---Sponsor a small ...or large part of the event.

(NOTE: If you have a **business** that can donate a gift certificate, merchandise or monetary gift, it is greatly appreciated)

For further information/applications please go to: www.chiefraydowney.com or contact me and I will get you in touch with the right folks. The Deputy Chief Raymond Downey Scholarship Charity Fund is a 501 (c) (3) non for profit organization.

GOLF.....AN EASY WAY TO HELP FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS:

The **National Fallen Firefighters Foundation** (NFFF) is fast approaching the 2009 NFFF Golf Week - June 8-12...with extended tournaments that will be continued into November 2009. This year 36 national sites will be conducting an NFFF golf tournament along with one international site in Tokyo, Japan! In 2008, 22 sites conducted a tournament and helped raise funds for the NFFF. In 2009, 37 sites will conduct a tournament--a 68% increase. We thank the many Firefighters who voluntarily donating their time for their dedication and support. This year with economic challenges upon us all, several tournaments are feeling this crunch. Please access the NFFF Golf web site at: golf.firehero.org <http://golf.firehero.org/> to locate a golf site in your region and help support this effort, by participating in the tournament, donating prizes, or just lending support.

Take Care-Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-20-09 / 2000 hours

AND

Hey...

At approximately 1211 on 5/21/09, the **Crystal Fire Company** (Station 58 in Jermyn, Lackawanna County, PA) was dispatched as a part of a first alarm assignment for a structure fire. The Crystal Fire Company No. 1 is one of two fire companies that protects the Borough of Jermyn. **At approximately 1215, Fire Chief Ray Rood was getting into officers seat of Ladder Truck for that run when he suffered some type of medical emergency and fell to floor in cardiac arrest.** CPR was started by firefighters and then EMS arrived on scene and revived him. The Chief became combative...got up...then fell the second time. He was taken to Community Medical Center in Scranton where he is in Intensive Care....he also suffered from a fractured skull as a result of hitting his head on the concrete and has minor to moderate bleeding and swelling of the brain. His head injury appears to be recoverable however the hospital staff is concerned about what caused the medical issue to begin with. We will keep you advised on his progress our hopes for a rapid recovery.

ARE YOU ATTENDING or CONSIDERING ATTENDING NY STATE CHIEFS??

(If so, you are in for a treat-as some of the BEST fire instructors in the business will be there)

Then DO NOT MISS THIS:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

On Thursday June 11th at 1800 hours at the NYS Chiefs Conference...you and your family and friends will have a **ONE TIME** opportunity to see the outstanding performance: **"Performing Tribute"** Presented in a theatre like setting, these are 6 inspiring and motivating short stories from 9/11...as told by FDNY first responders and family members who lost loved ones, along with survivors. This **"not to be missed"** performance recognizes the incredible courage of the people who came to help....while NEVER forgetting. We said we would NEVER FORGET...

I hope that you will join the September 11th Families Association Tribute Center folks and see this amazing performance. Tickets (**see discount below**) are \$20 for balcony seats and \$25 for premium seats and should be purchased in advance, online. <http://performingtribute2009.eventbrite.com>

All proceeds from the event benefit the operation of the September 11th Families' Association and the Tribute WTC Visitors Center (built by family), a 501 C(3) not-for-profit. <http://www.tributewtc.org/index.php>

Please use **"The Secret List"** discount code (secret1) and get 30% off the ticket price if you buy before May 29th, 15% if you buy before June 3rd. Tribute Center is also selling advertising space in the performance program if you are not attending but would like some extra marketing in this region. Call 212-422-3520 ext 144 for more information.

LINK TO THE NY STATE ASSOC OF FIRE CHIEFS CONF INFO:

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

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-21-09 / 2040 hours

AND:

Hey...

In **Webster (MA)** this morning, a civilian was killed when he was struck and run over by a Webster FD pickup truck. The accident occurred this morning, when a Firefighter was operating the vehicle at the fire station. The man was walking in front of the building. Fire officials canceled a prom safety event for high school students after the tragic accident. More details will be posted on our home page.

EXTREME CLOSE CALL IN SAN FRANCISCO YESTERDAY.....

WALL COLLAPSE AT WORKING FIRE:

The SFFD had an extremely close call yesterday morning at a 1 story warehouse in the industrial area of the city. Firefighters were moving out of the collapse zone when the collapse - caught on tape - occurred. The Firefighter suffered a broken leg and clavicle and is in stable condition in the hospital. Our best wishes for a rapid recovery.

VIDEO CLIP HERE: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ql8RGcA61ww>

FIREFIGHTER FALLS FROM RESPONDING FIRE APPARATUS

At 0705 hrs yesterday (Thursday, May 21st) the Orangeburg, NY FD (Rockland County) was dispatched to an automatic fire alarm at Aluf Plastics, a manufacturing facility for plastic bags. Upon arrival, the 1st Assistant Chief advised he had a confirmed fire in the building and

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

on the loading dock, and requested additional alarms to the scene as well as for standby. During the response on the first alarm, an Officer from the Orangeburg FD fell out of or was ejected from the front passenger seat of their 1994 Pierce Tower Ladder as the apparatus was making a left-hand turn into the complex. It was reported over the air that she suffered at least a head injury and lost consciousness for a period of time, and EMS was requested to expedite to the scene. It is still uncertain whether or not she was wearing a seatbelt or why/how the door opened, and a full investigation is in progress. As of this morning-she is doing much better.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

REMEMBER OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS ON MEMORIAL DAY

BillyG

The Secret List 5-22-09 / 1415 Hours

AND:

Hey...

Last night, a multi-alarm fire in **Muhlenberg Township, Berks County (PA)** resulted in 3 Firefighters being treated-and **1 specifically from a flowing master stream**. Of the 3 Firefighters injured, 1 was from the Goodwill Fire Company who suffered heat exhaustion. A 2nd Firefighter, from the Alsace Fire Company was transported after getting hit in the head by a deluge gun and the 3rd Firefighter from Central Fire Company of Laureldale was transported to the Reading Hospital complaining of respiratory distress. We wish all a rapid recovery.

STRUCTURAL FIRE COLLAPSE - NUMEROUS LINKS, VIDEO AND DOWN-LOADABLES & SAN FRANCISCO UPDATE:

SF UPDATE:

A converter box had been installed at that San Fran warehouse to bypass the electrical meter which probably caused the fire...and they say that's a sign the building may have been used for marijuana growing or a clandestine lab. They are looking at the possibility that the converter box could not handle the electricity load and thus was the source of the fire. The fire in the single-story warehouse was first reported at 4:45 a.m. Thursday. As you know, a Firefighter was hospitalized with a broken leg and burns after being injured when a portion of a wall fell on him.

STRUCTURAL FIRE COLLAPSE---CLOSE CALL REMINDERS:

As found in the various "links" below as well as Chief's Dunn & Brannigans teachings, keep in mind what should be on the minds of any of us operating at commercial fires with similar conditions:

*Defensive fire

*Commercial building/probable engineered roof systems

*Parapet walls

*Extended operations (in the San Fran fire, the parapet fell 24 minutes after arrival) and it was a Type II warehouse (**normally the building cannot withstand the total burnout of its contents**).

WATCH THE ORIGINAL VIDEO CLIP HERE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ql8RGcA61ww>

CHECK OUT EXTENDED VIDEO & MORE NEWS COVERAGE FROM DAVE STATTER911:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/05/must-see-video-of-another-very-close.html>

WATCH AN EXTENDED VERSION OF THE ORIGINAL VIDEO CLIP:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82tbAGnTjSs&feature=channel_page

==HERE ARE IMPORTANT RELATED LINKS ON STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE AT FIRES:

DUNN ARTICLE:

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/Firefighting-Strategy-and-Tactics/Dunns-Dispatch--Recognizing-Wall-Collapse-Dangers/14\\$56571](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/Firefighting-Strategy-and-Tactics/Dunns-Dispatch--Recognizing-Wall-Collapse-Dangers/14$56571)

DUNN SAFETY BULLETIN:

http://vincentdunn.com/dunn/newsletters/Front_wall_collapse.pdf

COLLAPSE INDICATORS BULLETIN:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/drills/FCC%20Vol%2012-136%20Structural%20Collapse%20Indicators.pdf>

COLLAPSE INDICATORS BULLETIN:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/drills/FCC%20Vol%204-47%20Collapse%20Indicators.pdf>

COLLAPSE ZONE BULLETIN:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/drills/FCC%20Vol%209-107%20FF%20Survival%20Tips%203-Collapse%20Zones.pdf>

EXCELLENT NIST FIRE COLLAPSE BULLETIN AND VIDEOS:

<http://www.fire.gov/collapse/index.htm>

FF INJURY & DEATH / CONSTRUCTION FAILURES FROM NIOSH:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2005-132/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2005-132/pdfs/2005-132Sum.pdf>

SAMPLE FF NEAR-MISS REPORT: (Search for others as needed)

<http://www.firefighternearmiss.com/nmrs-query/ViewReport.htm?sp=S09-0000096>

VIDEO-DISCOVERY CHANNEL "LIVE" VIDEO OF COLLAPSE:

<http://dsc.discovery.com/videos/destroyed-in-seconds-fiery-wall-collapse.html>

VIDEO-L.A. BUILDING FIRE/COLLAPSE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ee9hUynD4S8>

VIDEO-FDNY BUILDING COLLAPSE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4wfpRO9bTfo&feature=related>

HERE ARE SOME MUST HAVE ITEMS IN YOUR FD OR PERSONAL LIBRARY:

<http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/dc7600.shtml>

<http://www.firebooks.com/catalog.asp?CID=0D20B1F6D1F&DID=2037&Mode=ProdByCat&TP=10&Cat=507>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-HONOR OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS ON MEMORIAL DAY.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-23-09 / 0830 hours

AND:

Hey....

There was an unusual theft in **Essex (CT)** when someone ripped off a truck used by the fire department yesterday. According to Paul Fazzino, Chief of Department. someone broke into a garage behind the firehouse between 0300-0400 hours and stole the unit. It was spotted on Route-9 North a short time later. State and local police are also involved in the search and investigation. The Essex FD utility vehicle was actually reported stolen at about 1300 hours Saturday (yesterday) ...it had last been seen Thursday, in a secure spare garage behind the main firehouse on Saybrook Road. The vehicle is a 2006 GMC Sierra HD truck and is marked with "Essex Fire Dept." and white reflective stripes on both sides. The vehicle has a white roof, a light bar and a steel lift gate.

HERE is a picture: <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?86567>

The four-door, three-quarter ton truck is marked with station details and is estimated to be worth about \$45,000. The utility vehicle was seen repeatedly early Saturday in the Essex and Old Saybrook area Saturday early in the morning. Anyone with information about the theft or the vehicle's location is asked to call **Connecticut State Police Troop F at 860-399-2100.**

GEORGIA FIRE APPARATUS OVERTURNS:

Yesterday, on Tyrus Carrollton Road in Carroll County, GA, Carroll County Engine 1 ran off the side of road and overturned. 3 FF's on board transported to Tanner Med Center in Rome (GA), 1 Firefighter was being kept for observation.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. **HONOR OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS ON MEMORIAL DAY.**

BillyG

The Secret List 5-24-09 / 1750 Hours

AND:

MASSACHUSETTS FIREFIGHTER LODD

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the **Line of Duty Death of Beverly (MA) Firefighter Paul Roberts, IAFF Local 1669, Beverly, MA,** on Friday, May 22, 2009. FF Roberts suffered a heart attack in the line of duty while responding to an emergency run on Friday. Firefighter Roberts was 54 years old and had 22 years working as a Firefighter in

Beverly, MA. He leaves his wife Nancy and two children....he was also guardian to two of his grand children. As always our most sincere condolences.

UPDATE: STOLEN APPARATUS IN CT --FOUND--- AND SUSPECT IN CUSTODY

The vehicle was recovered this morning and a suspect is in custody. It was not damaged, but contained numerous other items stolen from the storage garage at the Essex firehouse.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL. **HONOR Our Fallen Soldiers This Weekend.**

BillyG

The Secret List 5-24-09 / 1745 Hours

AND

Hey...

While not a Firefighter LODD, this is of definite interest and easily could occur to a FF providing the same services. A San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Department rescue services volunteer was killed in the Line of Duty at the Oceano Dunes on Sunday when he was **struck by an ambulance responding to the same EMS run.** Search & Rescue Member Christopher Meadows, 24, was a San Luis Obispo resident....he had just completed his Search and Rescue training and was due to be promoted to Medical Team Leader. He was also a full-time EMT for San Luis Ambulance. Both the ambulance and the SAR member were responding to the same call. Meadows was riding a 4-wheel drive ATV, used to patrol and assist State Park Rangers at the popular tourist location. The SAR member was assigned to the heavily trafficked recreational area as part of the normal holiday weekend deployment of Sheriff's resources. Our condolences to the friends and family of Chris Meadows.

TWO PUBLIC SAFETY DIVERS DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY LAST WEEK:

DIVE RESCUE LODD CALIFORNIA: A member of the Santa Cruz County (California) Underwater Recovery Team died while diving at Patagonia Lake State Park on Sunday morning. At 1028 hours on May 17 deputies responded to Patagonia Lake in reference to a possible drowning. He said the underwater recovery team was conducting routine training when member Steven Dale Osburn, 58, failed to surface from a dive. Capt. Ike Isakson of Patagonia Volunteer Fire and Rescue said Osburn lost contact with fellow divers while at a depth of close to 60 feet. He said approximately eight minutes later Osburn was located by another member of the dive team but was unresponsive and was brought to the surface. The diver immediately began to perform CPR on Osburn. In addition to members of Patagonia Volunteer Fire and Rescue, at least one ranger from Patagonia Lake State Park was reported to be at the site.

DIVE RESCUE LODD MISSISSIPPI: A 44-year-old Itawamba County Dive Team member lost his life Wednesday during the search for a missing 15-year-old in the Buttahatchie River in Monroe County. David Sheffield, of 512 Dalton Road in Tupelo, was pronounced dead on arrival at about 1:15 p.m. at the Pioneer Community Hospital in Aberdeen. Shortly before his death, Sheffield, an Itawamba County volunteer diver, complained of breathing problems while searching for missing Smithville teen Taylor Smith in the river.

Sheffield and other members of the team had been in the water between one and two hours....Sheffield came to the surface and said he could not breathe. Emergency crews on

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

the scene moved Sheffield by boat to the shore and began administering medical treatment before the victim was taken by ambulance to the hospital, Gurley explained. Although dive teams and emergency responders from several cities and counties have been searching for Smith nearly 18 hours per day since he was reported missing May 15, the teen's body has not yet been located.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-25-09 / 2149 hours

AND

Hey...

A **Paramedic from Rocky Mountain House (Alberta, CN)** is in the hospital with life-threatening injuries after he was hit by an alleged drunk driver in a head-on collision Monday. The ambulance, which was traveling without lights and sirens, was transporting a RCNP Mountie around 1400 hours yesterday to the hospital after the police officer found what is believed to be a clandestine drug lab. The officer felt he may have inhaled some of the chemicals present so the officer was taken to hospital as a precaution....that is when the Rocky Ambulance crashed with a minivan. Police believe the 48-year-old minivan driver from Calgary had been drinking. The RCMP Officer, who is in his late 20s, suffered minor injuries. Another Paramedic and EMS student who were riding in the back were not injured. Rocky Ambulance Service is a private company that contracts out ambulance service. Our best on a rapid recovery.

A CORRECTION:

In an issue of THE SECRET LIST from last night, we advised the wrong state for the diving incident. It occurred in Santa Cruz County and Patagonia Lake State Park in Arizona, not California. We appreciate the emails providing the factual info.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-26-09 / 1030 hours

AND

Hey...

In an example of warm and heartfelt "customer service" and "interagency-co-operability" ...a scuffle between some hot-headed cops and a paramedic in Oklahoma was caught on tape. **OK Highway Patrol troopers and an EMS paramedic came to blows while a patient waited to be taken to the hospital.** The encounter was caught on a cell phone by the son of the patient in the ambulance. In the video, you will see OHP troopers pushing the paramedic and grabbing his neck. Officials say OHP troopers became very upset after the paramedic ambulance failed to yield the right of way while the troopers were rushing to a separate run. **Apparently the trooper had never experienced anyone NOT pulling over when using his lights and siren.**

The troopers claim the paramedic (who they pulled over) assaulted one of them before the camera started rolling. The video was shot by the patient's son...who continually asked the troopers to stop, so his mom could be taken to the hospital. "We're like telling this dude. Man,

my mom is in the back. My step-dad was like man my wife is in the back, can we do this at the hospital?" said Kenyada Davis.

The incident started when the ambulance failed to yield to state troopers en route to a call. Mr. Davis said the EMS driver was trying to avoid hitting a car that slowed down and wasn't aware that troopers were nearby until it was too late. **After the troopers finished their official business, they pulled the ambulance over-with the patient inside.** A struggle ensued and, according to Oklahoma Highway Patrol, the paramedics assaulted the trooper just before the fight broke out. The District Attorney's office is reviewing footage and could file criminal charges against the paramedic by the end of the week...and we'll followup.

HERE is the video:

<http://www.digtriad.com/news/watercooler/article.aspx?storyid=124774&catid=176>

HERE is the video in a different format:

<http://www.newson6.com/global/video/flash/popupplayer.asp?ClipID1=3802649&h1=OHP%20Scuffle%20Videotape&vt1=v&at1=News&d1=55733&LaunchPageAdTag=News&activePane=info&rnd=61351908>

SUGGESTION: NEXT TIME, we suggest they work out their problem in **THIS** manner:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-ikQeKJPYM>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-STAY CALM and if in Oklahoma, avoid being in front of responding troopers.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-27-09 / 0830 hours

AND:

Hey....

The Paramedic who was involved in a scuffle with an Oklahoma Highway Patrol trooper Sunday is speaking out about the incident. **Maurice White, Jr. is a critical care paramedic with the Creek Nation EMS and was nearly arrested after the confrontation, which was captured on video.**

Paul Franks was the driver of the ambulance, which was transporting a patient to a hospital in Prague. White says he saw the trooper approaching from behind at a high rate of speed with lights activated, but he did not hear a siren. He says Franks had a car in front of him that his attention was focused on and hadn't seen the trooper before he was within a few feet of the ambulance.

"I called out to my partner and told him to pull to the side because there was a State Trooper behind us," White says. White says as the trooper passed them, he made radio contact, telling Franks "you should consider checking your rearview mirrors". White says a few blocks after this incident, another trooper entered the road at a high rate of speed, cutting in front of a car driven by a family member of the patient. White says he then saw another trooper approaching from the rear. "As my partner was pulling onto the shoulder, the cruiser came alongside our unit and gestured for my driver to pull over," White says. "When the officer

came to a complete stop behind the ambulance, I noticed a woman in the front seat. Based on the officer's erratic driving behavior, I thought that the woman in the front seat of the cruiser was in need of immediate medical attention; hence I exited the rear of the ambulance in order to assess the situation."

White says the officer was in a rage when he approached them and yelled "get your a-- back here! I am giving you a ticket for failure to yield." White says he told the trooper they had a patient in the ambulance and that they were on their way to the hospital. "He ignored my statement, became even more belligerent, and demanded my partner come to his patrol car so he could write him a ticket," White says. "I calmly told the officer that we were transporting a patient and we could continue this at the hospital." White says the trooper then approached him and shouted "you are under arrest for obstructing a police officer" and grabbed his arm to handcuff him. A brief struggle followed, at which point the trooper grabbed White by the throat. The cell phone captured this incident on video. White says the trooper later told him they could continue on to the hospital, but that he would be under arrest once they got there. White was never arrested, but says troopers told him he should be prepared to turn himself in if a warrant was issued.

=READ THE ENTIRE STATEMENT HERE:

http://static.ktul.com/documents/emtstatement_0509.pdf

=WATCH THE UNEDITED VIDEO HERE: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Klultc365hU>

=DAVE STATTER911 HAS MORE:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2009/05/must-see-tv-ems-crew-member-and.html>

AN OLD FRIEND PASSES...

FIRE CHIEF BOBBY MADDOX, Myakka City, FL. R.I.P.

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the death of Fire Chief Bobby Maddox, retired, of the Myakka City Fire Department in Manatee County, Florida. Bobby died this morning after a long illness...and was a long time friend of ours. For most who don't know him, which is most reading this, the best I can do to describe him is that he was an old school Fire Chief, but was never afraid to try new ways. He was a Christian Missionary, a woodworking genius and rural Fire Chief ...but due to the area he covered, caught as many working fires as many city firefighters. It wasn't unusual for him to have to handle it by himself until the rest of the troops arrived from far away firehouses.

Regularly, we would pull up and see him with the pump in gear, stretching his own lines into working building fires advising us that the "primary searches were negative!" That's just the way it was...if it wasn't for him in so many cases, there was no FD for his community-especially during the daytime hours. As we arrived, we would be amazed at what he had going and set up, the water flowing and lines set up...and he would smile at us with a look on his face that said "**can ya believe this sh!t..**" !! But he wouldn't say that as he was a deeply religious man with a wonderful sense of humor. His smile and grin knowing he was doing good said it all.

Rest in Peace Bobby...between you and your old friend, the Late **Chief Paul "Jr" Deese** of nearby Samoset, Heaven has 2 more outstanding Fire Chiefs... "Chiefs 1200 and 400"...both the "unofficial Mayors" of their towns back in the day....and both, real "**old school**" characters...who we are better for knowing.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 5-27-09 / 2050 Hours

AND:

MISSISSIPPI FIREFIGHTER LODD WHILE RESPONDING TO A FIRE CALL (Delayed Notice)

It is with deep regret that we advise you that **Firefighter George Wimberly of the Stonewall VFD** in Mississippi died in the Line of Duty. FF Wimberly was operating his privately owned vehicle in response to a reported structure fire on 4-1-09, when he slowed to a stop approx 1/2 mile from the incident scene and passed away, having succumbed to an apparent heart attack. The cause of the fire is under investigation by state authorities as being intentionally set. His funeral was held on 04/04/2009 and he is the 40th LODD for 2009.

CLOSE CALL: TOOL BOX STRUT SHOT AT WORKING VEHICLE FIRE (Pictures)

On Tuesday, May 26, 2009, the Butler Township FD (Montgomery County, OH) responded to a pick up truck fire on I-70. The first engine company arrived to find a fully involved 2007 Chevy Pick Up. Crews extinguished the fire and afterwards, while taking pictures, it was noticed that one of bed tool boxes gas struts had released, separated and it went completely through the rear tailgate. The other strut was never located. It is easy for Firefighters to forget about the dangers of these struts in toolboxes during fires.

Additional info and photos HERE: <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?86847>

NY STATE OF MIND:REPLACE CAREER FIREFIGHTERS & CONSOLDATE FIRE DISTRICTS?

There are several HOT issues in NY State related to the fire service. The first is the incredible consideration by Batavia NY City Council who want to....

REPLACE CAREER FIREFIGHTERS WITH VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS:

Forget trying to save a few thousand dollars at their fire department but trimming the budget...they are looking at saving millions by shifting the department from all paid/career to primarily volunteer members. The City Council president suggested that during council's meeting Tuesday evening at City Hall. Although there was no official vote, council agreed to pursue it and no council member argued against the idea. Councilman Bill Cox started the discussion by asking council to consider removing the fire chief's car allowance and a \$4,000 stipend. **After a few minutes of talk, council members came up with the brainstorm that they aren't going to save nearly as much as just getting rid of their career firefighters...heck, it costs them \$2.5 million a year for payroll and benefits...so let's just get rid of them. WTF!?**

As one elected official said: "We're a little afraid to talk about the real issue ... we're nickel and diming the administration instead of taking care of the real issue," he said. "**Can you**

imagine what we could do with \$2.5 million? Someone's gotta step up. Let's get moving here"

They need to also imagine what they would do without their career Firefighters. Sure, so many volunteer FD's do outstanding work, have excellent response times, train hard and deliver excellent service-our support of volunteer fire services is well documented. HOWEVER, this issue appears to have little to do with what's best for the public and a lot to do with long time issues between the Council and their career Firefighters.

HERE is a link to the BFD: http://www.batavianewyork.com/fire_department.html

HERE is more:

<http://www.thedailynewsonline.com/articles/2009/05/26/news/doc4a1ca459e993d522514354.txt>

FIRE & SPECIAL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION IN NEW YORK?

New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo's bill to reduce property taxes by simplifying the process of streamlining government in running hot and heavy. In his opinion, "New York's governments are too big, too many, too expensive, and it's gone on for too long," Cuomo's office has counted at least 10,521 local governments, including fire and related type districts in the state. The bill does not mandate consolidation. "It simplifies the process, but it's not so onerous that people have to do something," said Sen. John Flanagan.

MORE INFO INCLUDING FF RALLY THAT IS PLANNED HERE:

<http://www.nassaufdrant.com/forum/urgent-information-on-consolidation-16939.html>

NY STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS CONSOLIDATION INFO:

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

ANOTHER VIDEO RELATED TO POLICE AT SCENE:

While not fire or EMS related, here is a video sent in related to scene cooperation with the media from about a month ago:

<http://www.cnn.com/video/#/video/crime/2009/04/21/nr.sanchez.reporter.arrest.cnn>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List

5-28-09 / 1234 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:

Hoping to save money to keep more fire stations fully open, the Reno (NV) City Council members and Reno firefighter union officials are pushing for a two-month trial on reducing overtime costs used to cover for vacations. Starting in June, Fire Chief Paul Wagner said the department will begin rotating two-man crews at four fire stations rather than having four firefighters per station, a requirement before a crew can enter a burning building: <http://www.rgj.com/article/20090507/NEWS/905070354/1321>

The city of Rocklin (CA) and Rocklin firefighters have agreed to postpone salary hikes to help balance the city budget. Economic conditions have resulted in significantly reduced municipal revenue in Rocklin. For several weeks, the city and Rocklin Firefighters Union Local 3847 have met to find ways to reduce costs for the next two years. The union, which did not want to reduce staffing, instead agreed to a memorandum of understanding that in part postpones contracted salary increases for two years. The salary and benefit savings will help the city balance its budget: <http://www.sacbee.com/government/story/1840687.html>

San Francisco (CA) supervisor support for rolling brownouts for city fire stations may be catching on. Supervisor Chris Daly indicated Wednesday he supports rolling "brownouts" or closures of San Francisco's fire stations to help close the city's massive deficit: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/opinion/blogs/under-the-dome/Rolling-brownouts-gaining-support-44509207.html>

Three positions at Columbia River (OR) Fire & Rescue will be eliminated through attrition in the 2009-10 budget, Chief Jay Tappan said Wednesday. Rainier likely will lose one of its four paid firefighters in the process, he said: http://www.tdn.com/articles/2009/05/07/area_news/doc4a027ab6a2282920663321.txt

The city of Hemet (CA) Fire Department will begin recovering costs for certain nonemergency services it provides to residents and businesses. Hemet City Council approved a resolution Tuesday evening that permits a private company to recoup costs for numerous Fire Department duties. The cost-recovery plan is expected to generate "upwards of \$300,000 annually," said Hemet Fire Chief Matt Shobert: http://www.pe.com/localnews/publicsafety/stories/PE_News_Local_E_ehemfire27.4b40c55.html

A class of 12 people who expected to join the ranks of the Oakland (CA) Fire Department at the end of the month were told Tuesday evening they will be released from the fire academy May 20 because of the city's budget problems Oakland is facing a budget deficit of at least \$83 million in the upcoming fiscal year, and officials said the city does not have the money to hire more firefighters. Officials said they hope the trainees can be offered jobs when positions open up. The academy began Nov. 3 and the class expected to graduate May 29, the Oakland Fire Department said: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=63799§ionId=46>

Three fire stations in the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (CA) will close in an effort to cut into an \$11 million budget shortfall:

<http://www.sacbee.com/static/weblogs/crime/archives/022660.html>

The FDNY gave four fire companies and the communities they serve 45 days notice that the department plans to permanently close them as early as next month: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=46&id=63773>

Hood River (OR) emergency responders are concerned that proposed layoffs for fiscal year 2009-10 could “cripple” their ability to keep citizens safe. Mayor Arthur Babitz and Bob Francis, city manager, are proposing to cut two positions from the police department and three from the fire department. The public works department would also lose three staffers. Babitz said the layoffs are necessitated by a \$750,000 shortfall in the personnel budget for the upcoming fiscal year. He said that due to the economic recession, revenue is forecast to go down while health care and wage costs have risen: http://www.hoodrivernews.com/News%20stories/2009/041_news_alarm.htm

Six Norco (CA) firefighters will be laid off unless their union agrees to about \$750,000 in concessions elsewhere in the Fire Department budget by July 1, city officials said Wednesday. The city has been negotiating with firefighters for about two months and has previously laid off about nine workers in other departments in an attempt to eliminate an ongoing deficit. The next fiscal year begins July 1. Preliminary layoff notices went to six firefighters on Tuesday and Wednesday, city Finance Director Andy Okoro said:

www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_W_wnorco28.4a1a294.html

Two firefighters from the Alameda (CA) Fire Department were laid off and three others were demoted Friday in cost-cutting measures by the city, according to the Alameda Firefighters Association: <http://cbs5.com/local/firefighter.layoffs.alameda.2.1011480.html>

A major expansion of the Los Angeles (CA) Police Department is in jeopardy after a City Council panel approved a hiring freeze for police and firefighters. The full council will consider the proposal next week after the city's budget and finance committee voted on the freeze Wednesday in hopes of offsetting a \$529 million budget gap: <http://www.cbs47.tv/news/state/story/Proposed-hiring-freeze-for-LA-city-police-fire/2vz3XuvMYOKLm30bhcc0iQ.csp>

Sacramento (CA) city firefighters have voted overwhelmingly to donate their 5 percent salary raises scheduled for next month to a "layoff relief fund" for comrades who lose their jobs in upcoming budget cuts. The vote was not an official endorsement for rejecting the city's budget-slashing proposal to delay the raises for firefighters. However, the only situation in which firefighters would get laid off is if members of their union – Sacramento Area Firefighters 522 – voted to reject the salary freeze. If they shoot the proposal down, 50 positions could be cut from the fire department: <http://www.sacbee.com/city/story/1869520.html>

Orlando (FL) government will cut its workforce by more than 10 percent -- some 342 positions, including more than 100 cops and firefighters -- unless an unexpected tax windfall comes through in the coming weeks. The Fire Department would lose 46 firefighters, 1 administrative worker and another 25 vacant firefighter positions. That

means the elimination of eight ambulance rescue trucks and one tower truck, as well as cuts in overtime and other expenses:

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/crime/orl-bk-orlando-firefighters-layoffs-051309%2C0%2C2654916.story>

Firefighters across the state of California are waiting to find out what effect the failed propositions could have on their departments. Propositions 1A through 1E - which would have extended taxes and redirected money to help the state budget crisis - was voted down by voters in Tuesday's special election. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Wednesday that cuts will likely have to be made to government services, which could include fire departments: www.sgvtribune.com/california/ci_12441778

Some Sacramento (CA) Metro fire stations could be closing their doors for good. Sac Metro Fire is facing a budget shortfall of \$11 million. They're considering closing three fire stations, laying off more firefighters and eliminating the department helicopter. The budget deficit is being blamed on decreasing property tax revenues:

<http://cbs13.com/local/sac.metro.budget.2.1010339.html>

Besides worrying about recruiting and keeping personnel, fire departments around Arizona say it's getting harder to buy new gear because money is tight:

<http://www.azdailysun.com/articles/2009/05/29/ap-state-az/d98fpceg0.txt>

Two months after being laid off, a dozen firefighters in New Jersey are back to work. Firefighters with seniority, like Zuber and Michael Montague, played a huge role in getting Morris and the others back – they gave up two weeks of pay. "The union negotiated a deal so we could get our brother firefighters back, get the firehouse back," Montague said. "It was the right thing to do:"

<http://wcbstv.com/local/clifton.fire.house.2.1006403.html>

The City Manager of Tempe (AZ) is asking Tempe firefighters to forgo more than half a million dollars in wage increases and benefits so the city can balance its 2009-2010 budget, according to a letter Meyer sent to an attorney for the Tempe Firefighters Union: www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2009/05/07/20090507tr-firefighters0509.html

Public Relations Nightmare Stories:

The rift between Clark County (NV) officials and the county firefighters union broke into open conflict Wednesday. The union's leaders, stung by criticism that they have not offered to help close the \$126 million county budget gap by offering concessions similar to those from police and other unions, claimed they had indeed told the county they would give up pay and benefits. The firefighters say they offered concessions and even asked Clark County to use the resulting savings to reopen the county's outpatient cancer clinic at University Medical Center. Its closure got national attention on "60 Minutes" and has been a source of embarrassment for the state of Nevada:

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/may/07/county-fire-union-break-ice-heated-words/>

A Tacoma (WA) firefighter charged with vehicular homicide in a fatal crash last month has resigned from the department:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2009195794_webfirefighter08m.html

Eyewitness News uncovered a top-secret study that showed taxpayers could save potentially tens of millions of dollars if Orange County (FL) took over Orlando fire service. However, the Orlando Firefighters Union sued to keep it secret and left the taxpayers spending millions more than they had to:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=63918§ionId=46>

Sparks are still flying from the legislative hearing last week at which the president of the Clark County (NV) firefighters union made startling allegations against Clark County administrators: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/may/10/fire-union-county-flap-reverberates/>

Three “bored” volunteer firefighters in the State of West Virginia have been charged with arson after police say they intentionally set a building on fire in Madison:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-attack/articles/492499-3-bored-W-Va-firefighters-charged-with-arson/>

A former captain with Willamette Valley (OR) Fire and Rescue Authority contends that he was repeatedly subjected to verbal tirades by the chief, retaliated against for filing a wage claim and intentionally inflicted with emotional distress before being forced to resign from the Willamette Valley (OR) Fire and Rescue Authority last year:

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008905250327>

A former Newport Beach (CA) firefighter recruit claims that the city discriminated against him when it took back a job offer because he was hard of hearing. Now the man wants Newport Beach to pay out more than \$1 million for lost earnings, emotional distress and allegedly violating his civil rights, according to a claim filed with the city in April: <http://www.dailypilot.com/articles/2009/05/17/topstory/dpt-firefighter051609.txt>

A former Harquahala Valley (AZ) Fire District chief and his wife have pleaded guilty to stealing money from the department, and his son admitted stealing fire hydrants from his employer and selling them to the fire district. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office said on Thursday it wants a judge to give 51-year-old former chief Randal Long two years in prison and five years probation at his sentencing next month. In August of 2008, Long was indicted, accused of taking for himself \$55,000 in district funds by falsely claiming to purchase buildings and materials for the fire district. He was also accused of approving overpayments to himself of more than \$30,000 in excess of his lawful salary. The investigation resulted in additional charges spanning over several years when he or his family received money they were not entitled to receive:

http://www.abc15.com/content/news/westvalley/goodyear/story/Former-West-Valley-fire-chief-pleads-guilty-in/6K9o_XXHRUi127SEBfyxxQ.csp

Lt. Milt Footer, the Seattle (WA) fire inspector who resigned last week amid an ethics scandal, isn't the only employee of the city Fire Marshal's Office who was punished for

misconduct in the past year. Another Fire Marshal's Office employee OK'd safety permits for ships he didn't inspect. And a lieutenant in the office admitted to stealing \$400 from a Fire Department bank account but says he paid it back, according to city disciplinary records:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2009256546_fireinspectors24m.html

A report from Florida Department of Law Enforcement says Orlando District Chief Armando Bevalaqua made up reports to apply for a homeland security grant worth about four hundred thousand dollars. The money was supposed to be used for training, but the report says Bevalaqua used it to buy trucks and other equipment:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=63910§ionId=46>

General Fire Service Related Stories:

Darren Bates wants another term on the Council Bluffs City Council in the wake of his acquittal on a misdemeanor charge of soliciting a prostitute. Darren Bates wants another term on the Council Bluffs City Council in the wake of his acquittal on a misdemeanor charge of soliciting a prostitute. "I am definitely running for re-election in Council Bluffs," Bates said Sunday. "I am an advocate for keeping the police well-equipped and well-staffed." Bates also wants to be reinstated as a captain of the Omaha Fire Department as soon as possible. He denied being AWOL from the Fire Department for 16 days after his arrest, as alleged by Omaha Fire Chief Mike McDonnell: http://www.omaha.com/index.php?u_page=2798&u_sid=10631233

A former South King County (WA) Fire and Rescue official has been sentenced to three years in prison for taking more than \$500,000 from the agency. In addition, 51-year-old Grant G. Gaspard of Olympia was ordered Friday to pay \$959,200 in restitution. Gaspard was assistant chief of the agency, also known as fire Protection District 39, before he resigned July 31. A week later he was arrested, and on Nov. 6 he pleaded guilty to mail fraud: <http://www.kirotv.com/news/19411576/detail.html>

Local, national fire experts show need for home fire sprinklers. For those of you who think that fire sprinklers will result in less fires for us to fight and less fun to have – I'll challenge you with this –if you truly believe that, then you probably don't care about firefighter safety. If every building was sprinklered, there would be less fires, but there would also more than likely be less firefighter injuries and fatalities since we would not be putting ourselves in more dangerous situations. Yes, we work in a dangerous profession, no argument there. However, if we have the ability to make our career any safer, we would be negligent not taking the opportunity to do so – just a thought: <http://www.nfpa.org/newsReleaseDetails.asp?categoryid=488&itemId=43537&cookie%5Ftest=1>

They are among the most prepared trained professionals anywhere in Southern Nevada. Las Vegas firefighters do life-saving work at a moment's notice and now, there's more interest than ever to join. News 3's [Tiffany DeLeon](#) reports that the competition is heating up months in advance. However, with 150 possible candidates at the first seminar and over 30 people turned away, the competition this year is stiff. Wednesday's seminar was standing room only and they had to turn people away. However, don't panic: This was the first of three informational seminars held throughout the summer. Also, the application process doesn't start until September: <http://www.kvbc.com/Global/story.asp?S=10437007>

San Diego (CA) Fire-Rescue Department Chief Tracy Jarman has joined the rank of dozens of other veteran firefighters who are retiring to lock in better pension benefits: <http://www.fox5sandiego.com/news/kswb-jarman-retirement%2C0%2C1764952.story>

And another big city Fire Chief announces their retirement:

Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department Chief Douglas L. Barry, who took office two years ago with a mission to reform a highly respected agency that had become tarnished by allegations of racism and retaliation, will retire at the end of August. Barry became the department's chief in 2007 after Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa chose him to replace then-Chief William Bamattre, who was forced to retire amid race and gender bias allegations that cost city taxpayers millions of dollars to settle. The scandals included a black firefighter who was fed dog food at a Westchester firehouse and a female firefighter who alleged she was run off the force because she was black and a lesbian: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-barry29-2009may29%2C0%2C4685157.story>

A reality check for ALL of us in the fire service – don't expect to rely solely on your retirement pension to survive – don't forget to have alternate means of retirement funding (savings plan, deferred compensation, investments, etc.) and don't be surprised if the benefits you think you may have when you retire get reduced or eliminated. Health care costs and pension costs are extremely expensive and costs are rising rapidly, so it's only natural that many cities are going to have to look at possible cuts or reductions to keep the non-retired personnel in jobs.

When it comes to their pensions, 158 former St. Petersburg (FL) firefighters feel they have been badly burned. Since their pension plan was implemented in 1971, the firefighters have gotten only three cost-of-living adjustments, in 1988, 1997 and 2006. And their request for a 3 percent increase in 2010 is not likely to win approval. The city says its pockets are virtually empty in a tough budget year. "To be honest, it's unlikely that they will receive an increase. We are looking for cuts, not additional recurring expenses," said Gary Cornwell, the city's director of human resources: <http://www.firerescue1.com/labor-issues/articles/499067-Retired-Fla-firefighters-battle-for-increases-in-pensions/>

With fire season approaching and depleted budgets expected this year, fire officials from eight agencies across Southern California on Wednesday released details of a wildfire plan for residents living in high-risk areas, hoping to send a unified message they called “Ready, Set, Go!” The new plan focuses on building defensible space around homes and structures, materials that can make homes more firesafe and checklists for residents to prepare when evacuating or if they are trapped in their homes: <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/fire-residents-officials-2429867-plan-homes>

A good way to end this issue – an interesting article on strategy and tactics, specifically determining whether to go offensive or defensive in your strategic mode at a fire: <http://www.firerescue1.com/Columnists/Michael-Lee/articles/499269-Fireground-Tactics-Offensive-vs-Defensive/>

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

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

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

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

The Fine Print:

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