



FIRE & EMS NEWS

October 5, 2008

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.

CHABOT COLLEGE FIRE TECHNOLOGY INFO:

Bob Buell, the Fire Technology Coordinator at Chabot College asked me to pass along the following information for those students who were planning on attending one of our upcoming Firefighter 1 Academies offered at Chabot College. This message specifically discusses key information about the Fire Technology 89 class that must be successfully completed prior to entering the academy. For additional information about the Chabot College Firefighter 1 Academy, including prerequisites and suggestions for success, visit the section on our website that discusses the academy: www.chabotfire.com/Academy.htm - also on this page is information about other Firefighter 1 Academies as well.

Just a reminder...

The first of two offerings of the Fire Technology 89 course is scheduled for Wednesday, October 8 (5-9pm), Friday, October 10 (5-9pm) and Sunday, October 12 (8:30 am to 5:30 pm) - all three days.

The second offering is Tuesday, October 21 (5-9pm), Thursday, October 23 (5-9pm) and Saturday, October 25 (8:30 am to 5:30 pm).

If you are offering courses that conflict with the dates and times of FT 89, students who wish to take 89 will approach you for a Class Overlap Form. Please fill out the form and sign it. You would then give it to the student to get the Division Dean, Tom Clark, to sign the card. Once both signatures are on the card, the student needs to take the card to registration to add the course in person.

Please check with your students to find out if any of them are planning to take one of these two courses in preparation for the Spring 2009.

Also, let all students know: if they plan to take the Spring 2009 Academy, but have not taken the FT 89 course yet, they must complete one of the two upcoming offerings of FT 89. There are no plans to offer another FT 89 course after October 25th prior to the Spring Academy.

Thanks!

Bob

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FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION COURTESY OF THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

Lowering the U.S. Flag

Did you know that the law requires the U.S. flag be lowered in tribute on only a few days each year? Quite appropriately, one of these days is the observance of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service.

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

Let your local media know that U.S. flags across the country will be lowered on Sunday, October 5, 2008. This includes the U.S. Capitol and the White House, as well as buildings in your local community.

Remember to lower the U.S. flags at your home, fire department, and business. Encourage your local community to follow the Federal Government's example. When you lower your flag this year, you will recognize the brave men and women who died protecting their communities from natural and manmade emergencies and disasters and those who carry on the proud tradition.

You may also want to ask your state and local officials to include lowering the flag in a proclamation recognizing the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – West Sacramento (CA):

The **West Sacramento (CA) Fire Department** will be accepting applications for the positions of **Fire Recruit** October 13 through 17, 2008.

Requirements for this exciting career opportunity:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Minimum age of 18 years at time of appointment
- Possession of a valid Emergency Medical Technician I (EMT-1) certificate
- Possession of a current Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) card dated within 12 months of the final filing date

For more information, go to their **Human Resources** page for more information:
www.cityofwestsacramento.org/cityhall/employment/default.cfm

For more information about the **City of West Sacramento**, visit their website at
www.cityofwestsacramento.org

For more information about the **West Sacramento Fire Department**, visit their website at
www.cityofwestsacramento.org/cityhall/departments/fire/default.cfm

For more information about the **West Sacramento Fire Department, I.A.F.F. Local 1165**, visit their website at www.iaff522.org

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Registration for the 2008 Fresno Training Officers Symposium is now open!!!

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

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

- Fire Command 1A
- S-330 (Strike Team/Task Force Leader)
- S-420 (Command General Staff)

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- Fire Management 2A
- Rescue Systems 1
- Low Angle Rope Rescue
- Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1A
- Regional Instructor Orientation
- Trench Rescue
- Ethical Leadership in the Classroom
- Auto Extrication
- Commercial Ventilation Practices
- Thermal Imaging Camera Awareness
- Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center
- Values & Ethical Fire Service Leadership
- Training Mandates
- PowerPoint Basics and Advanced
- Building Construction for Today's Fire Service.
- The Company Officer - the Missing Link.
- Company Officer Development Academy
- Lessons Learned: Charleston Fire Department Line of Duty Deaths.
- Lessons Learned: Kyle Wilson Line of Duty Death
- ICS for Structural Collapse Incidents.
- Command and Control Cohesion.
- Fireground Tactics: The Application of the Rules of Engagement for Fighting Fires.
- Search Operations for Today's Fireground.
- Forcible Entry Techniques
- RIC Operations.
- Conflict Resolution & the Discipline Process.
- Real Leadership is not for Wimps!
- First-due: Mission Focused Tactics for First-Due Officers
- The Chief Officer of the Future - Organizational and Leadership Principles for the Fire Service.
- Creating Behavioral Performance "SPECS"
- Executive Leadership Institute - The Fire Chief
- Retirement Homes, Assisted Living Facilities & Group Homes and Nursing Homes
- Surviving the Structure Fire: Today's Deadly Fires / Avoiding Fatal Errors on The Fireground
- You are what you have done - you become what you do
- And many more - see the website for more details.

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

U.S. Fire Administration Commemorates National Fire Prevention Week

Emmitsburg, MD - **National Fire Prevention Week** (www.firepreventionweek.org) will be commemorated this year from October 5-11. The theme for 2008 is "Prevent Home Fires."

"As winter months and holidays get closer, the rates of fire and fire deaths increase. Take a little time to ensure that you and your family do not have to suffer the effects of a fire in your home," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "Each of us would benefit from checking our own homes for fire hazards and making sure that everyone in the residence knows what to do in case of fire.

Each year, fire departments respond to over 400,000 residential fires. Annually more than 3,500 people die from fire in their own homes. In many cases, some simple steps may have prevented the fire from starting. The most common causes of home fires result from cooking, heating, electrical malfunction, smoking materials, and candles. Each of these activities carries with it a risk of fire, but that risk can be greatly lessened if you follow some common sense safety tips.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking. Many fires start from "unattended" cooking.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them inspected and cleaned annually by a qualified professional.
- If you smoke, put it out, all the way, every time.
- Keep things that can burn away from light bulbs, light fixtures, and lamps. For any suspected electrical problems, call a qualified electrician.
- Use flashlights during emergencies, not candles. If using candles, blow them out when leaving the room, and keep them away from things that can burn.

The U.S. Fire Administration has a great deal of information, related to each of the **common causes of residential fire** (www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus) on its Web site.

There is also information on **smoke alarms:**

(www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/alarms/), **escape planning:** (www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/escape/) and **fire sprinklers:** (www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/extinguishers.shtm)

Please find out what you can do to ensure that you and your family lower the risk of a home fire.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Some great firefighting training opportunities, courtesy of our good friends at Fire Nuggets. Firenuggets.com (or www.firenuggets.com) is a great resource all firefighters should be subscribing to. For only \$9.95 a year, you have access to fire related articles and information from the leading fire service professionals, on a wide-variety of topics. Great information to share with your personnel and provide for your personal career development. Go to their website to check out what they have to offer, including a free, sample issue, as well as numerous training opportunities.

Here are some seminars they are offering in the near future:

"Strategy, Tactics and Safety": Presented by Deputy Chief Vincent Dunn (ret.), FDNY – Denver, CO: October 17, 2008

Chief Vincent Dunn, FDNY (retired), will share his forty years of firefighting experience in a seminar about firefighting and safety. Chief Dunn will examine dangers of structural firefighting and identify methods to manage and control these fireground dangers. He will illustrate strategies and tactics to reduce death and injury to firefighters.

For more information, including the registration flyer and to register, go to their website – www.firenuggets.com

FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC EDUCATION & SAFETY INFORMATION, COURTESY OF THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

Responding to Ethanol Incidents

USFA announces the availability of a CD-ROM training package for *Responding to Ethanol Incidents*. A cooperative effort between USFA and the International Association of Fire Chiefs, with assistance from the Ethanol Emergency Response Coalition, this training addresses the needs of emergency responders when faced with incidents involving ethanol and ethanol-blended fuels.

Read More by going to www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/subjects/hazmat/ethanol.shtm

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

National Fire Academy (NFA) Training Opportunities

(as of October 2, 2008)

Vacancies exist in the following NFA courses at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. You may refer to the internet at www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa for more information, or contact the Admissions Office via email netc-admissions@dhs.gov or by phone at (301) 447-1035. Completed FEMA Form 75-5 applications may be faxed to (301) 447-1441.

If interested, apply immediately!

Note: The NFA policy of only 1 stipend-supported trip per fiscal year remains. However, a qualified individual may seek to participate without stipend assistance. PLEASE INDICATE with your application that you are aware of this restriction when you apply for the course.

FAQ – NFA Vacancy Lists

Q: Why are there vacancies at the National Fire Academy? Are enrollments down?

A: Enrollments in the National Fire Academy (NFA) are actually up. Last year, in cooperation with our State training partners, our on-line training at NFAOnline, and in our resident and off-campus delivery program, the NFA reached 108,000 fire service professionals. In 1995 we trained just 15,000. Like every college, we plan our academic year based on last year's enrollments, the number of new courses on the schedule, waiting lists for current courses and the calendar and our best estimate of the demand for courses the following year. It's not an exact science.

Vacancies occur for any number of reasons – some classes have low demand because the number of fire department members doing that job is low (e.g. public educators, data analysts, training, plans review, budget), but these courses are in many ways critical to the success of fire and life safety and the administration of the fire department. Other times we may overestimate the demand. When that happens, we cancel a low-demand course, move the enrolled students into another delivery of that course and use the funds to run an additional high-demand course.

Q: It seems that I'm hearing more about vacancies than I ever have in the past. Why is that?

A: Well, you are. Before widespread communication using web sites and email, the NFA relied on last minute telephone calls to fill seats. We couldn't announce the vacancies in sufficient time to get the students here to campus. Now, with improved communications, the increased membership and support of the Alumni Association and the participation of many

of the fire service organizations, we distribute vacancy announcements in a matter of minutes. It is working very well.

What you are seeing, though, is only the vacancies. We never send out the list of classes that are already filled and have a waiting list. The lists show only the few vacancies we have.

Q: I don't apply during the application period, I like to wait to see what classes have vacancies before I apply, is that a good idea?

A: NO! The first requirement for a student's eligibility to attend the NFA is their current job responsibility (Box #16). If you wait, it is likely that the courses you qualify for will be filled by others in the normal application process. When that happens, you lose the best chance you had to attend the NFA. Worse, if applications are low, the class you seek may be cancelled. The most useful and valuable course for you may never show up on a vacancy list. The better strategy is to apply during the normal application periods (May 1- June 30 and Nov 1 to Dec 30). Remember, if you qualify, you may apply for two different courses in the same semester (using a separate application for each); however, you will only receive a stipend for one trip per fiscal year (Oct 1 through Sept 30)

Q: Why are there waiting lists and vacancy lists at the same time?

A: Our courses are academically rigorous, and every class is considered mid- to upper-level college course work. It is important to ensure that each student is capable of success in the course before being admitted.

Students are accepted to the NFA based on the 'target audience' criteria listed in the catalog. We want to make sure that the course is a benefit to both the fire department and the students when they return; and is of sufficient complexity to advance the student's knowledge to improve local service delivery. Students who do not meet the 'target' criteria would slow the class down, and expose the student to possible failure.

It is more important to fill a seat with a qualified student than it is to simply fill a vacancy. This ensures success for the department, the student and the rest of the class.

Q: What is the most frequent cause of application rejection?

1. Used the wrong application. For resident courses, applicants should submit the long form (75-5) application which requires the chief's signature
2. Didn't fill out the application completely
3. Didn't sign the application, or have the Fire Chief sign the application
4. Failure to describe your activities/responsibilities as they relate to the course for which you are applying and identify how you will use the information obtained from the course. (Box 16).

Q: Any suggestions to increase my chances of success?

A: On our website, there is a document that provides eight "tips" for completing a successful application. It only takes a minute – but will dramatically improve your chances for success:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>

All vacancies are filled on a first come, first served basis and qualified by using the Student Selection Criteria listed on our Website: www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa

1st Semester FY2009:

- | | | |
|------|---|------------------------------|
| R149 | EMS: Mgmt of Community Health Risk 2/2/09-2/13/09 | 16 vacancies |
| R151 | Advanced Leadership Issues in EMS 1/19/09-1/30/09 2/23/09-3/6/09 | 3 vacancies 6 vacancies |
| R203 | Fire Dynamics-Fire Modeling 12/8/08-12/19/08 3/23/09-4/3/09 | 4 vacancies 10 vacancies |
| R213 | Analysis of Arson Management 10/19/08-10/24/08 1/18/09-1/23/09 | 13 vacancies 10 vacancies |
| R247 | Advanced Life Support Response to Hazardous Materials Incidents 3/23/09-4/3/09 | 12 vacancies |
| R335 | Administration of Public Assistance For Community Recovery 1/25/09-1/30/09 | 13 vacancies |
| R348 | Changing American Family at Risk 11/30/08-12/5/08 | 2 vacancies |
| R359 | Discovering the Road to High-Risk Audiences 2/1/09-2/6/09 | 15 vacancies |
| R491 | NFIRS: Program Manager 11/30/08-12/5/08 2/1/09-2/6/09 | 4 vacancies 20 vacancies |
| P492 | Standards of Cover: Fire Prevention & Risk Mitigation 2/8/09-2/13/09 | 13 vacancies |
| R526 | Fire and Emergency Services Pre-Disaster Long Term Recovery Planning 1/25/09-1/30/09 | 12 vacancies |
| R810 | VIP: Leadership & Administration 2/15/09-2/20/09 | 1 vacancies |

R816 VIP: Community Education Leadership
2/15/09-2/20/09 7 vacancies

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA :

Go to www.chabotfire.com and click on **TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** to find valuable information on numerous California State-certified State Fire Marshal (and other) classes currently available around the State of California, including college degree programs.

L.A.F.D. INFORMATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

Some opportunities to get to know more about the Los Angeles Fire Department, courtesy of my friend Brian Humphrey:

Dear Friend of the LAFD:

We've got some exciting Los Angeles Fire Department events planned in the coming weeks - to which you are cordially invited. Please save the dates, and plan on joining us for these special events:

October 11, 2008

- LAFD Annual Fallen Firefighters Memorial Ceremony
<http://snipurl.com/3ydek>

October 18, 2008

- LAFD Fireboat Exhibit Opens at the LAFD Museum in Hollywood
<http://snipurl.com/3ydf4>

October 23, 2008

- Greater Alarm Gala: 'Firing Up Our Future'
<http://www.greateralarmgala.org>

November 1, 2008

- Grand Opening of Fire Station 84 in Woodland Hills
(details coming soon)

Kindly mark these dates on *your* calendar today!

Respectfully Yours in Safety and Service,

Brian Humphrey, Firefighter/Specialist - Public Service Officer
Los Angeles Fire Department

LAFD Home Page: <http://lafd.org>

LAFD News Blog: <http://lafd.org/blog>

FIRE & EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Go to www.chabotfire.com and click on **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** to find valuable information on numerous volunteer opportunities. Having some form of volunteer experience on your resume is a **must** for every firefighter candidate as many departments ask questions in their oral interview relating to how much volunteer experience do you have. Do something, and it's never too late to start building your resume and more importantly, giving something back to your community or someone in need.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Public Safety Consultants is offering some great fire service professional development opportunities, as seen below. Go to their website for more information: www.fireclasses.com

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Contemporary Leadership Challenges for Chief Officers – Temecula, CA – October 28, 2008

Sponsored by Pechanga Fire Department

PLACE: Pechanga Tribal Government 12705 Pechanga Rd. Temecula, Ca. 92592

- 1 Day Seminar

INSTRUCTORS: Gordon Graham & Paul Stein

This extremely informative and motivating 1-day seminar will be taught by two of the most nationally renowned instructors on current leadership and management issues, Gordon Graham and Chief Paul Stein. This unique 1-day interactive workshop will include an in-depth look at current management trends in the fire service, and how to become a more effective and efficient chief officer. This program also combines the separate disciplines of Risk Management, Customer Service, Accountability, Mentoring, and Integrity, and how these concepts work together to assure things go right, thus preventing undesirable consequences. This class is designed for Chief Officers and those that aspire to become chief officers.

TOPICS: - Identifying successful Leadership characteristics - Ethical Leadership - Getting the front line supervisor on your side - Project Management - Delegate, motivate, and lead - Coaching/Counseling - Risk Management - Customer Service – Accountability - Integrity - Becoming a better communicator

Lunch is included!

October 5, 2008

www.chabotfire.com

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Contemporary Leadership Challenges for Chief Officers – Chico, CA – November 24, 2008

Sponsored by The Chico Fire Department

PLACE: City of Chico Fire Dept. Training Center 1466 Humboldt Rd. Chico, Ca. 95928

- 1 Day Seminar

INSTRUCTORS: Gordon Graham & Paul Stein

This extremely informative and motivating 1-day seminar will be taught by two of the most nationally renowned instructors on current leadership and management issues, Gordon Graham and Chief Paul Stein. This unique 1-day interactive workshop will include an in-depth look at current management trends in the fire service, and how to become a more effective and efficient chief officer. This program also combines the separate disciplines of Risk Management, Customer Service, Accountability, Mentoring, and Integrity, and how these concepts work together to assure things go right, thus preventing undesirable consequences. This class is designed for Chief Officers and those that aspire to become chief officers.

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Lunch is included

For more information, and to register, go to www.fireclasses.com

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

Just in – There is a new Sacramento California Fire Fighters Joint Apprenticeship Committee CPAT Testing Center in Sacramento, CA!

- **See below for more 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.

Basic Information For The CPAT Test

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants must be 18 years of age and must show government issued photo identification (i.e. drivers license, school or military ID; or a passport or visa). Candidates without a photo ID will not be allowed to take the CPAT.

APPLY EARLY

Applications are accepted in the order they are received. Applications are not accepted until the fee has been paid.

PAYMENT:

The fee to take your first test at their site is \$150.00. Your fee must be paid for your application to be accepted. This fee is non-refundable. Payment can be made with check, money order, Visa, or MasterCard. If you are paying by check, the check must clear your bank before you can take the CPAT. Make payments to “CFFJAC.” Your fee includes participation in an orientation session, related printed materials and test.

ORIENTATION SESSION:

Working with experienced CPAT proctors, you will be given the opportunity to try each of the 8 events and determine where you may need to strengthen yourself. You will be given a set of exercises to physically prepare yourself for the CPAT. If you elect not to participate in the orientation, you will be required to sign a waiver acknowledging that the orientation was offered. There are no discounts if you elect not to participate in an orientation. The CPAT dress code is enforced for all candidates who attend an orientation.

TEST:

The registration form has a place for you to choose a preferred and second orientation day as well as a preferred and second test day. You will be notified by mail of the confirmation of your orientation and test dates. A group of candidates are scheduled every half hour to report to the CPAT center. Please be on time, but not excessively early. Space for waiting is limited. If for some reason you cannot attend your scheduled test day, please notify us as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to reschedule you to a test day that will fit your schedule.

RETESTS:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

If you have taken the CPAT at a CFFJAC monitored venue in the past and would like to retest, the fee is \$100.00.

PRACTICE SESSIONS:

For \$25.00, you can schedule a supervised practice on the CPAT course with a proctor. Your session is designed to meet your individual needs. A session may include: Training on the CPAT equipment, watching the instructional video, going through the course in its entirety. You also receive the benefit of mentoring: techniques, expert evaluation and conditioning advice from our CPAT proctors. Refunds for cancelled or rescheduled practice days will not be given if requested after 10:00 am the day before your scheduled practice day.

WHAT TO WEAR:

The dress code is strictly enforced for safety. The CPAT dress code for the orientation, practice sessions and test is: Long Pants (no shorts), T-shirt or sweatshirt, footwear with no open heel or toe, and no loose or restrictive jewelry. Candidates must be in proper CPAT attire before being allowed to participate in the orientation, practice sessions and test.

PARKING:

When you arrive at the CPAT center, please park to the rear of the building and enter the front door.

NO SPECTATORS PLEASE:

There is limited space at the CPAT center. In order to accommodate a fair and standard testing process for all candidates, we will not be able to allow spectators on the CPAT course or in the facility.

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

Dublin (CA) - 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- October 11, 27
- November 11, 17
- December 8

PRACTICE DATES:

- October 11, 14, 27, 28
- November 11, 12, 17, 18
- December 8, 9

TEST DATES:

- October 18, 30
- November 15, 20
- December 11

Orange (CA) - 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- October 20
- November 1, 17
- December 6

PRACTICE DATES:

- October 7, 8, 14, 21
- November 4, 12, 18
- December 2, 9, 16

TEST DATES:

- October 9, 18, 23
- November 6, 15, 20
- December 4, 13, 18

Sacramento (CA) - 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- October 13, 25
- November 8, 20
- December 13

PRACTICE DATES:

- October 13, 25
- November 8, 20
- December 13

TEST DATES:

- October 14
- November 21
- December 18

Additional test dates will be scheduled as needed. Allow up to 1 hour to complete the process. Note, the above dates are subject to change, please check www.cpatonline.org for the most up-to-date information.

For more information about the above orientation, practice sessions and tests, including how to sign up and find out more about the 8 events, visit their website at www.cpatonline.org

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

National Fire Academy - Water-Based Fire Protection System Plan Review (P136) - Pilot Courses Scheduled

The United States Fire Administration (USFA), Department of Homeland Security, is recruiting students and instructor candidates to attend pilot classes for its new six-day off-campus or State enfranchised course *Water-Based Fire Protection System Plan Review*. The first pilot will be offered December 7 to 12 in Champaign, Illinois. The pilot delivery is a

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

partnership with the Illinois Fire Service Institute. Students will arrive Saturday December 6 and depart Saturday, December 13.

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

A second pilot will be delivered at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, Maryland March 29 to April 3, 2009. Students will arrive Saturday March 28 and depart Saturday, April 4. (The application period for the on-campus pilot will open beginning November 1, 2008 and must be postmarked not later than December 31, 2008.) Other than this second pilot, there are no plans to offer this on campus at the National Fire Academy.

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

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

Student Selection Criteria: Individuals who have code enforcement responsibilities for the review and approval of plans for water-based fire protection systems in his/her jurisdiction.

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

Prerequisites:

- Students should have completed the NFA course: "Fire and Life Safety Plan Review" or "Plan Review for Inspectors," or, possess ICC or NFPA Plan Examiner certifications, or, have attended an American Fire Sprinkler Association/National Fire Sprinkler Association design school, *and*,
- Completed "Testing and Evaluation of Water Supplies for Fire Protection" (Q218) at NFA Online (www.nfaonline.dhs.gov).

Material Requirements:

Students will be required to bring to class:

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

How to Apply:

- Students must complete a separate FEMA General Admissions application (Form 75-5). An electronic application is available on our website at: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/about/attend/apply.shtm>
- Completed applications for the first pilot (P136) in Illinois must be postmarked by October 15, 2008 to:

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

Completed course applications also may be faxed to the Admissions Office at (301) 447-1441.

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

Instructor Candidates:

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

The letter should be addressed to:

Training Specialist James B. Anderson
National Fire Academy
16825 South Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

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

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY INFORMATION:



[Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kit Volume 3 Sent to Over 30,000 U.S. Fire Departments](#)

Online Request Form for Volume 3 Now Available

» Haven't Received Volume 3? [Request Your Copy of Volume 3 Today!](#)

Part of the mission of the [Everyone Goes Home®](#) Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Program is to provide the resources necessary to enable fire departments to implement the [16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives](#). The implementation of the initiatives is essential to elimination of preventable line-of-duty injuries and deaths.

The Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kit Volume 3 is now on its way to departments who have received previous kits. If you have received copies of these programs, there is no need to make a request for the new kit. Volume 3 has been sent to you - Watch your mailbox for your copy! If you did not receive previous kits, you can [sign up to receive the newest one online](#).

The DVD and CDs contained in this resource kit are designed to provide important information about structural firefighting, health & wellness, prevention and wildland firefighting. Utilize these resources; take advantage of other training programs in the [Online Learning Media Center](#) and in the [EveryoneGoesHome.com Resource section](#).

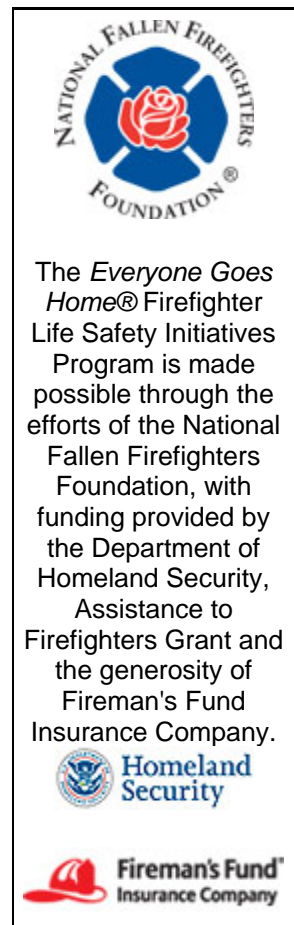
The Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kits were developed through the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's [Everyone Goes Home®](#) program, with funding from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and through the generosity of Fireman's Fund Insurance.

Related:

- » [Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kit Volume 1](#)
- » [Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kit Volume 2](#)
- » **Video:** [Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kit Volume 3 Preview](#)

» For More Information Visit: www.everyonegoeshome.com

September 16, 2008
News Alert



AND:



September 2008
E-Newsletter

[New Leadership for *Everyone Goes Home*®](#)

Linda Stone and I have been retained to manage year 4 of the *Everyone Goes Home*® program. For starters, we recognize that this is a very large task that is going to require the support and effort of many others. Further we understand the importance of the program to help to reduce the unacceptable number of line of duty deaths for firefighters. With that said, what can you expect?

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

[Child's Dream Weekend Teaches the *Courage to Be Safe*\(SM\)](#)

Throughout the past two decades the fire service has witnessed a decline in the number of volunteer firefighters. Many studies and commissions have been formed to discuss this problem, but resolutions have not been given. The members of the West End Fire & Rescue Company of Shippensburg, Pa. would like to share a program that changed the way they dealt with recruitment of young people into the fire service.

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

[Tampa, Miami Dade Fire & Rescue Initiate Culture Change Process](#)

In his seminal work on fire department culture for Oklahoma State University, funded in part by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's *Everyone Goes Home*® Program Year 3 funding, Bill Pessemier argues that changing a department from a "risk based identity" to a "safety based identity" is a transformational process.

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


More September 2008 Articles:

- [Asbestos Exposure: What Every Firefighter Should Know](#)
- [What I Brought Back from the Pittsburgh Fire/EMS Expo](#)


» **More:** [View the Complete September 2008 Newsletter](#)

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

» For More Information Visit: www.everyonegoeshome.com



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.



FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

- Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center -

4 -day promotional preparation workshop

Monterey, CA - October 21 through 24, 2008

- or

Anaheim, CA – December 2 through 5, 2008

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

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

Students will participate in the following assessment center exercises: written essay, in-basket, modified in-basket, oral presentation, supervisory exercise, counseling/role-play, and emergency simulations. Students are evaluated by each other and the instructor. By sitting on both sides of the table, students see effective and poor behavior first hand.

The approach to this class is unlike any other, by truly helping the student prepare for both the test and the position. Personal counseling and coaching takes place during the exercises to give the aspiring officers as much potential for success as possible. This is not a canned class! They cater to the dynamic of the group each time.

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

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

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:

The [San Francisco Paramedic Association](#) is in need of volunteers! Time to give back a little time to the San Francisco Paramedic Association, learn some new skills, meet some great people, and get more involved in the Fire and EMS services!

- Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Classes - Volunteers Needed -

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Dates / Locations / Times: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday October 23, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours• Friday October 24, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours• Tuesday November 4, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours• Wednesday November 5, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours <p>NOTE: All of the above classes will be held at the Bay Model Visitor Center in Sausalito (2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito)</p> <p>**Go to their website at www.sfparamedics.org and click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates and times and to register.</p> |
| You will receive: | Valuable experience watching paramedic level (or higher) students perform patient assessments. Learn from their plusses and minuses. You will also receive a free San Francisco Paramedic Association t-shirt. |
| Your role: | As a volunteer, you will be moulaged and designated to role-play a victim of a trauma emergency scenario. Please wear loose, old, comfortable clothing, as you may be on the floor for some scenarios. |
| Contact person(s): | Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or email them at director@sfparamedics.org or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sfparamedics.org/pages/about/volunteer.php |

- Advanced Medical Life Support Classes - Volunteers Needed

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Dates / Locations / Times: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday November 4, 2008 from 1130 to 1630 hours <p>NOTE: All of the above classes will be held at the San Francisco Paramedic Association – 657 Mission Street, Suite 302, San Francisco, CA 94116</p> <p>**Go to their website at www.sfparamedics.org and click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates and times and to register.</p> |
| You will receive: | Valuable experience watching paramedic level (or higher) students perform patient assessments. Learn from their plusses and minuses. You will also receive a free San Francisco Paramedic Association t-shirt. |
| Your role: | As a volunteer, you will be moulaged and designated to role-play a victim |

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| | of a medical emergency scenario. Please wear loose, old, comfortable clothing, as you may be on the floor for some scenarios. |
| Contact person(s): | Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or email them at director@sparamedics.org or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sparamedics.org/pages/about/volunteer.php |

- Infrequently Used Skills Classes - Volunteers Needed -

| | |
|---|---|
| Dates / Locations / Times: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• October 7, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 7, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 8, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 8, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 9, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 9, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 11, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 11, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 14, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 14, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 18, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 18, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 21, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 21, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 22, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 22, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 23, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 23, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 24, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 24, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• October 25, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• October 25, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• November 1, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• November 1, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• November 4, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• November 4, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• November 6, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• November 6, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• November 9, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• November 9, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours• November 13, 2008 from 0830 to 1200 hours• November 13, 2008 from 1300 to 1700 hours <p>NOTE: All of the above classes will be held at the San Jose Fire Department Bureau of Education and Training, 255 South Montgomery, San Jose, CA.</p> <p>**Go to their website at www.sparamedics.org and click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates and times and to register.</p> |
|---|---|

For more information about the **San Francisco Paramedic Association**, visit their website at www.sfparamedics.org – they offer numerous EMS continuing education classes for EMT's, Paramedics, Nurses, Doctors, and other healthcare professionals.

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

New Reports on Fire Protection and Municipal Water Supply Systems

Emmitsburg, MD. – The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has completed a project with the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) Educational and Scientific Foundation to study and evaluate the latest trends and technologies related to municipal water supply systems to enhance effective fire protection. This study was conducted with support of the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate.

"This initiative will be of value to local-level fire protection, supporting USFA's goal to reduce the loss of life and property from fire," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "This cooperative effort allows communities to have comprehensive information on the latest technologies in municipal water supply systems in support of fire suppression activities and concerns."

The team examined issues of interoperability and critical infrastructure protection, as well as backup and redundant water supply systems for fire protection, and from their analysis created the two reports: Volume I – Water Supply Systems Concepts and Volume II - Water Supply System Evaluation Methods. "This study reflects SFPE's commitment to advancing the science and technology that protects people from fire," said Chris Jelenewicz, SFPE Engineering Program Manager. "SFPE was pleased to work with USFA in advancing the understanding of critical water supply systems and their importance in fire protection."

Both reports are available for download (**only**), free of charge, from the USFA Web site.

Volume I – Water Supply Systems Concepts

(www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/Water_Supply_Systems_Volume_I.pdf)

Discusses water system anatomy, water distribution system design concepts, water quality, consumer consumption and needed fire flow, alternative water supply systems, fire department water supply officer, water supply and effective fire protection, and emergency water supplies.

Volume II – Water Supply Evaluation Methods

(www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/Water_Supply_Systems_Volume_II.pdf)

Covers the evaluation of municipal water supply systems, water system hydraulics, storage capacity, water supply system computer modeling, and establishing a community program to document effective water supplies for fire protection.

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.

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



Focus on Fire Safety: Prevent Home Fires!

Did you know that in 2007 approximately 78% of all structure fires occurred in residences? Do you regularly check for home fire hazards? The theme for Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11) is ***It's Fire Prevention Week: Prevent Home Fires!*** A special emphasis is being placed on leading causes of home fires – cooking, heating, electrical, smoking materials, and candles.

Read more at www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/
October 5, 2008

www.chabotfire.com

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

- **Assessment Center and Fire Simulation Workshops**
- **Instructor: Chuck Wilson**

Assessment Center Workshop –

Designed for those who will participate in an Assessment Center on their Promotional Exam.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Written Multiple Choice Exercises
- Leaderless Group Exercises
- In-Basket Exercises
- Oral Presentations
- Written Exercises
- Subordinate Counseling
- Practice Exercises
- NEW Student Workbook

Simulator Workshop -

Designed for those who will have a Simulation on their Promotional exam.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Strategy & Tactics
- S.P.A.R.S. Technique
- Initial Report Exercises
- Raters Sheets
- Exam Situations
- "Hot-Seat" For All
- Practice Simulation Exercises
- The "No-Zone"

Instructor: CHUCK WILSON

Chuck is recognized as one of the nation's leading instructors in Fire Department Promotional Testing. Most recently honored as the recipient of the Ed Bent Award as California Fire Instructor of the year for 2007. A Southern California Chief Officer with a Bachelor Degree from San Diego State. Senior Master Instructor in the California Fire Training System, Adjunct Instructor for 14 Colleges including Cal State, Los Angeles, and Texas A&M WMD Programs. An editorial contributor to The IFSTA 5th and 6th Edition Fire Instructor Textbook. This will NOT be a dry or boring class. Chuck has taught these classes to over 2500 students and proves you can have fun while learning. Exercises, Rating Sheets and Key Performance Elements are stressed.

Class Locations and Dates:

Sun City West, AZ

Oct. 7th (AC) & Oct. 8th (Sim)
Station 103
13431 West Deer Valley Road
Sun City West, AZ

Bakersfield, CA

Oct. 13th (AC) & Oct. 14th (SIM)
Oct. 15th (AC) & Oct. 16th (SIM)
Olive Drive Fire Training Center
5642 Victor St., Bakersfield, CA

Roseville, CA

Roseville Fire Training Ctr.
Oct. 11th (AC) & Oct. 12th (SIM)
2030 Hilltop Circle
Roseville, CA

Corona, CA

Corona Fire Training Center
Oct. 20th (AC) & Oct. 21st (SIM)
730 Corporation Yard Way
Corona, Ca.

Register at: www.promotionalworkshops.com

Classes are \$110.00 per day, per class, Pre-registered
\$120.00 per day per class at the door
3% Credit Card fee
* Now Accepting Visa and Master Card *

For More Information, contact:

CHUCK WILSON
77-263 Maliko Street
Kailua Kona, Hawaii 96740-4468
(310) 261-7795 Cell
cwilson@promotionalworkshops.com

FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:

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

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Name: | Curtis Ray Hillman, Sr. |
| Rank: | Equipment Operator - Firefighter |
| Age: | 77 |
| Gender: | Male |
| Status: | Wildland - Contract |
| Years of Service: | Unk |
| Date of Incident: | 08/25/2008 |
| Time of Incident: | Unk |
| Date of Death: | 09/11/2008 |
| Fire Department: | United States Forest Service - Shasta-Trinity National Forest |
| Address: | 3644 Avtech Parkway Redding, CA 96002 |
| Fire Department Chief: | Forest Supervisor J. Sharon Heywood |
| Fire Department Website: | http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/about/units/hq/index.shtml |

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Incident Description: Firefighter Hillman passed away from injuries he sustained in an accidental fall from a piece of heavy equipment while working under contract for the Forest Service on the Siskiyou and Blue 2 Complex of fires.

Funeral Arrangements: A celebration of Hillman's life is scheduled for 09/20/2008 @ 1400hrs, River Park Pavilion, Happy Camp, CA

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Mercy Medical Center Hospitality House (redding.mercy.org), 2175 Rosaline Ave Redding, CA 96001 (530) 225-6000.

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Curtis Ray Hillman Sr., at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 89 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

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 (http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm). Firefighter fatalities in USFA reports are summarized by date/year-of-incident. Initial notices posted online (<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 (<http://www.FireHero.org>) for names added each subsequent year to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD, they are the beginning of a research process for each firefighter fatality reported so that such determinations can be made.

AND:

Name: Edward Junginger
Rank: Fire Police Officer
Age: 82
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 49
Date of Incident: 09/23/2008
Time of Incident: 1516hrs
Date of Death: 09/26/2008
Fire Department: Levittown Fire Department
Address: 120 Gardiners Ave, Levittown, NY 11756 (USNG: 18TXL25380902)

Map:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=16&usng=18TXL2538209020&disp=h>

Fire Department Chief: George Anderson

Incident Description: While conducting fire police duties at the scene of an auto accident, Fire Police Officer Junginger suffered a massive heart attack. Junginger was transported by on scene EMS to the hospital where he passed away three days later.

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation continues 09/29/2008, 1400-1700hrs at the Charles J. O'Shea Funeral Home in Wantagh. A service will be held there 09/30/2008 at 1000hrs, followed by burial at Calverton National Cemetery. Firematic services will be held 09/29/2008 from 1900-2130hrs at the fire department headquarters.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In memory of Fire Police Officer and Honorary Fire Chief Edward Junginger, C/o Levittown Fire Department, 120 Gardiners Ave, Levittown, NY 11756

Tribute is being paid to Fire Police Officer Edward Junginger at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 90 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Ralph Arabie
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 48
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 30
Date of Incident: 09/29/2008
Time of Incident: 1345hrs
Date of Death: 09/29/2008
Fire Department: David Crockett Steam Fire Co. No. 1
Address: 1136 Lafayette Street, Gretna, LA 70053 (USNG: 15R YP 8411 1254)

Map:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=19&usng=15RYP8411512544&disp=h>

Fire Department Chief: Bobby Black

Fire Department Website: <http://cms.firehouse.com/dept/Gretna2LA>

Incident Description: Firefighter Arabie passed away from injuries sustained while conducting an inspection of hurricane damage to the fire station with one of the department's aerial fire apparatus. An investigation is underway at this time to determine the cause of the incident.

Incident Location: 1136 Lafayette Street, Gretna, LA (USNG: 15R YP 8411 1254)

Map View:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=19&usng=15RYP8411512544&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter Ralph Arabie, C/o : David Crockett Steam Fire Co. No. 1, 1136 Lafayette Street, Gretna, LA 70053

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

To date, 90 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Dale Wayne Grider
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 36
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 1
Date of Incident: 09/29/2008
Time of Incident: 1834hrs
Date of Death: 09/29/2008
Fire Department: DeKalb Fire Department
Address: 110 SE Grizzly Drive, DeKalb, TX 75559 (USNG: 15SUT49840877)

Map: <http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=17&usng=15SUT4984008775&disp=h>

Fire Department Chief: Scott Daniel

Incident Description: Firefighter Grider suffered a probable heart attack (pending autopsy results) while riding in a vehicle en route to a fire department training exercise. Fire department members pulled over and immediately began CPR but they were unable to revive him. According to city officials, Firefighter Grider had also responded to and worked an outdoor fire earlier in the afternoon.

Incident Location: Training field in Simms, TX (USNG: 15S US 5999 9091)

Map View:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=17&usng=15SUS5999990916&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Services 10/03/2008 @ 1400hrs, Word of Faith Church, Simms, TX, with Paul Beard and the Rev. James Boyd Strain officiating. Burial will be in Magnolia Cemetery, New Boston, under direction of Harrison Funeral Home. Visitation will be 10/02/2008 from 1800-2000hrs at the church.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Memorials may be made to Magnolia Cemetery Association, 1257 CR 4003, New Boston, TX 75570.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Dale Wayne Grider at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 92 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Douglas Falconer
Rank: Correctional Officer II
Age: 46
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 1
Date of Incident: 10/01/2008
Time of Incident: 1400hrs
Date of Death: 10/01/2008
Fire Department: Arizona State Prison-Globe
Address: 1000 Fairgrounds Road, Globe, AZ 85501
Fire Department Chief: Wade Woolsey

Incident Description: Officer Falconer was working on a fire line with the Globe Wildland Fire Crew while fighting the Sacramento Fire in the vicinity of Lake Havasu City. Falconer complained of feeling dizzy and after sitting, collapsed from a cause still to be reported. Other officer and inmate firefighters responded immediately to provide emergency medical assistance and made every effort to revive Falconer. Sun City paramedics were summoned to the scene and initiated basic life support measures. Officer Falconer was subsequently transported to the Colorado River Medical Center in Needles, California for emergency medical treatment, where at 1445hrs he was pronounced dead.

Incident Location: Vicinity of Lake Havasu City, AZ (USNG: 11S QU 46 21)

Map View:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=10&usng=11SQU4621&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Correctional Officer II Douglas Falconer at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 93 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

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 (http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

Firefighter fatalities in USFA reports are summarized by date/year-of-incident. Initial notices posted online (<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 (<http://www.FireHero.org>) for names added each subsequent year to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD, they are the beginning of a research process for each firefighter fatality reported so that such determinations can be made.

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

KS LODD: Drowning, CA FF LODD: Head Injury (The Secret List)

It is with deep regret that we advise you that rapid flood waters claimed the life of an Argonia (Kansas) Firefighter, Saturday night, after he attempted to save eight people, three of them emergency workers. FF Dennis Rhodes, 47, of Argonia was killed when he attempted to enter the Chikaskia River to the trapped victims. There is some controversy related to this tragic loss as it is reported that the rescue unit leader directed FF Rhodes to remain out of the water and to not attempt an individual rescue according to quotes from a local EMA Director. Reports are that after entering the river, FF Rhodes lost his balance and was swept under the current until he was retrieved by emergency workers. Members of the rescue crew brought Rhodes back to shore — performing CPR and transporting him to an area hospital where he was pronounced.

Here are additional articles on the incident:

<http://www.wellingtondailynews.com/news/x55307252/Argonia-firefighter-dies-making-water-rescue>

<http://www.kansas.com/212/story/530044.html>

15th FIREFIGHTING LOSS IN CALIFORNIA:

A 77-year-old contract Firefighter has died from injuries he suffered while operating at a fire in a Northern California forest last month. Curtis Hillman, of Happy Camp, died on Sept. 11 at Mercy Medical Center in Redding. FF Hillman sustained head injuries on Aug. 25 when he jumped or fell off a road grader in the Six Rivers National Forest near the Oregon border. Hillman, a member of the Karuk Indian tribe, is the 15th firefighter to die from job-related causes in California this summer. Eleven were killed in a helicopter crash last month and three died in July—one of a heart attack, one after being struck by a falling tree and another of burns.

SIZE UP REMINDER:

Just a quick reminder to **all of us**: SO MANY of the very recent LODD's (and their investigative reports) point out the critical importance of (and failure to do) a SIZE UP. Be it single family dwellings requiring a size up with walk around to allow us to DETERMINE CONDITIONS and.... WHAT THE FIRE PROBLEM IS ...to a water rescue or whatever else we are responding to...we gotta SIZE IT UP (initially, continuous and throughout).

When doing a size-up, a complete 360-degree view "walk-around" of the building be taken whenever possible. Identification of conditions such as smoke, fire, construction type, occupancy, life hazard, FF hazards, walk-out basements or changes in building size are all quickly identified. These features will help us determine the attack and may drastically change our initial thoughts on our tactical approach to the incident. Additionally, every door or window you see gives you escape options as well as helping with building landmark identification.

While we naturally wanna grab tools and a line and go in and "get it"...a thorough SIZE UP can be a big help from "it getting" us.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-17-08 / 0947 hours

AND:

Hey...

It is with great sadness that we advise you that **Denis Bramlette** has passed away after very bravely fighting cancer. Denis, a longtime secret list member was had recently joined FEMA as an employee but many of you also know him from other than that. Denis wasn't a firefighter but loved to write about us. As you may recognize, Denis and his wife, Pam, owned and published **Responder Magazine** (<http://www.respondermagazine.com/>) and did a superb job of communicating about firefighters and other first responders. They were always very visible being supportive and active at most all fire service related conferences and activities. Denis had a great ability to share us with the world and was easily one of our biggest fans and cheerleaders. Because of his love for what we and other responders do, he was drawn to FEMA and was a current employee at the time of his untimely passing. In addition to all of what he did for us-Denis was genuinely a good man with a genuine spirit in support of Firefighters-who made a huge difference during his time with us all. Our since and deepest prayers and sympathy go out to Pam, Denis's family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

SECRET INFORMATION:

=You may have noticed some delayed issues of **THE SECRET LIST** recently. Our webmasters, www.FireCompanies.com, are doing some major upgrades and enhancements to the servers which manage both THE SECRET LIST as well as www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com, www.EMSCloseCalls.com etc. These upgrades are required as the hits and activity on the site, as well as the numbers of folks subscribing to TSL is far more than we ever suspected. Upgrades will be going on thru this weekend.

=If you have e-mailed us recently and haven't heard back-you will, we (and I) are just backed up.

=If you have COMCAST, they determine what e-mails you should and shouldn't-we can't fix that and suggest you contact them directly.

KANSAS LODD CLARIFICATION-NOT AN LODD:

Mr. Rhodes was a former volunteer FF with Argonia. Wellington FD mutual aid department sent a rescue crew into the river, but they had their boat capsize in the low head dam boil. Seeing 5 civilians and 3 rescuers trapped on the low head dam Mr. Rhodes tragically decided to attempt a rescue against the recommendation of the local FD. Mr Rhodes was swept over the dam into the boil, had a life line attached, but by the time they pulled him out it was too late. A swift water team from my Wichita FD was dispatched. WFD Rescue arrived and were able to remove all eight from the dam. Unfortunately Mr. Rhodes lost his life before we could arrive with swift water capabilities. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-18-08 / 1728 hours

AND:

Hey....

A passing car struck 2 Nolanville (Texas) Firefighters and a passerby who stopped to help after a motorcycle crash and fire that claimed the life of a Fort Hood soldier early this morning. The firefighters and the unidentified passerby were in the hospital late Saturday morning. The original motorcycle crash happened around 0300 when a Fort Hood soldier was riding his motorcycle and slammed into the rear of a car and caught fire. As Nolanville Firefighters prepared to leave the initial crash scene, a passing car, whose driver swerved to avoid another vehicle that had slowed down, struck the Nolanville fire apparatus, the 2 Firefighters and the passerby. One firefighter was airlifted and the other two victims were taken by ambulance. Late this morning the 2 Firefighters were reported to be stable. Additional details will be posted.

UPDATE ON THE INDIANA FD MEDIC KILLED ENROUTE TO WORK:

Paramedic Vania Shields, a 33-year-old Franklin paramedic who worked at both the Bargersville and Wayne Township FD's, was the wife of Joe Shields, a Shelbyville firefighter for the last 2-1/2 years. When Joe Shields was contacted by emergency responders and crash investigators and told about his wife's accident early Thursday morning, he had just completed his final shift at the local department before transferring to the Bargersville department, where he would have joined his wife in employment early next week. They have three young children, two boys and a girl. Our sincere condolences to all departments affected by this tragic loss.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-27-08 / 2145 Hours

AND:

MARYLAND STATE POLICE MEDEVAC CRASH-MULTI POLICE/FIRE LODD:

Just after midnight, Maryland State Police EMS Helicopter "Trooper 2" crashed in Prince Georges County while transporting victims from a run in Southern Maryland. Dispatchers were unable to reach the unit for a significant amount of time but approx 90 minutes later, did find the wreckage. The number of crew/patients on board is reported as 4 DOA's (MSP pilot, MSP medic, a victim/patient and a Southern Maryland area Firefighter being on board to assist from the initial run) as well as 1 trauma victim/patient (18 y/o female) who is currently being treated. The crash occurred in the Capital Heights/Ritchie area within a regional park. Weather conditions were bad at the time of the crash. One report also states that the helicopter was transporting, the weather was too bad-so they planned to meet up with ground EMS to continue the transport. We will provide an update later here and on our home page-but also check out Secret List member Dave Statters DC area website: www.Statter911.com for the latest on this Multi-Line of Duty crash.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-28-08 / 0313 Hours

AND:

Hey...

As an update, Maryland State Police helicopter Trooper 2 crashed early this morning in a park in central Prince George's County. The helicopter was discovered by a Prince George's County police officer. Police and fire crews had been searching for the chopper after contact was lost during a medevac transport. (Details on the search below)

According to Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department Chief Spokesman Mark Brady, four people were found dead at the crash site. Eighteen-year-old Jordan Wells, who was being flown from an accident scene in Waldorf, MD, was pulled alive from the wreckage. Wells is in critical condition.

The names of the four people killed in the crash are:

1. MSP Pilot Stephen H. Bunker, the 59-year-old pilot from Waldorf, MD. Bunker had retired as a corporal in 1998 after 26-years with MSP. He returned as a civilian pilot. Bunker had been flying for MSP for 24-years and was a certified flight instructor and a certified instrument flight instructor. Stephen Bunker was married with three grown children.

2. MSP TFC Mickey C. Lippy, the 34-year-old flight paramedic from Westminster, MD. Trooper Lippy joined MSP four-year-ago. Prior to that Lippy had been a firefighter and medic with the Anne Arundel County Fire Department. He had been assigned to Station 18 (Marley) for much of his career. Trooper Lippy had recently returned from family leave following the birth of his daughter, now four-months-old. Lippy was also a member of the Owings Mills Volunteer Fire Company in Baltimore County and also worked part-time as a firefighter with Gamber & Community Fire Company in Carroll County, MD. We have been advised that Trooper Lippy's wife works full-time for Gamber & Community Fire Company.

3. EMT Tanya Mallard, the 39-year-old EMT-B with Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department, Station 12. Mallard is survived by her husband and two children.

4. Civilian Ashley J. Younger of Waldorf, MD. Tragically, she was the 17-year-old victim of the automobile accident.

INCIDENT DETAILS:

Trooper 2 was dispatched to the Waldorf crash around 2300 hours. According to Brady, the helicopter crew was on the way from the accident scene in Waldorf to Prince George's Hospital Center when the pilot told SYSCOM (which is the Maryland Statewide Communications System that provides communications among ambulances, medevac helicopters, dispatch centers, hospital emergency departments, trauma centers, specialty referral centers, and law enforcement) that they would be landing at their Andrews Air Force Base hanger because of bad weather. Prince George's County Fire was contacted at 2353 hours to have two BLS units meet the helicopter to continue the transport to the hospital.

Trooper 2 never arrived and local, state and federal authorities immediately launched a massive search for the helicopter, but after an hour the wreckage was still not found. **Using technology to track signals from the cell phones of the crew**, authorities eventually narrowed their search to an area near Walker Mill Road and Berry Lane in Capitol Heights. At 0200, an officer spotted the crash site. The helicopter had come to rest deep inside the 470-acre Walker Mill Regional Park, near a paved bike path behind a series of softball fields. The crash scene is in Walker Mill Regional Park, about three-miles north of Andrews Air Force Base.

Here are related links:

MARYLAND STATE POLICE AVIATION COMMAND:

<http://www.mspaviation.org/frames.asp>

TROOPER 2 VIDEO FROM YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_wQ9Kiglhmo

WALDORF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: <http://www.waldorfvfd.com/index.html>

MARYLAND EMS SYSCOM: <http://www.miemss.org/home/default.aspx?tabid=139>

STATTER 911 for VIDEO AND RELATED MEDIA: www.Statter911.com

INCIDENT RELATED INFORMATION OF INTEREST:

The Maryland State Police operate a fleet of 12 EuroCopter Dauphin helicopters capable of medical evacuations. The unit conducts almost all aerial medical evacuations in Maryland, and are the only such publicly run, statewide service in the country. **Trooper 2 that crashed, has routinely ranked as one of the busiest in the country in recent years.**

EXCELLENT SUPPORT FROM POLITICIANS: The state legislature last year endorsed **replacing** the department's 18-year-old fleet at a cost of \$110 million. Some lawmakers said maintaining the state-run fleet was critical to equally serving residents in rural and urban areas, and some have expressed concerns about its safety. The state police keep the helicopters in eight locations across Maryland so they can reach any corner of the state within 18 minutes. Last year, a DC area newspaper reporter rode along on Trooper 2 as it took off and landed more than 20 times in six hours, carrying patients to and from Prince George's County hospitals.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

The Secret List 9-28-08 / 1258 hours

AND:

Hey...

Congrats to Montgomery County (MD) Fire Chief **Tommy Carr** (and long time Secret List member) in his being announced as the new Fire Chief in Charleston, South Carolina. While a loss for Montgomery County, this is an absolute outstanding decision by the Mayor and Council along with acceptance (by Chief Carr) for the members of the Charleston FD, the community and to honor the memory of the 9 CFD Firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-29-08 / 1100 hours

AND:

Hey....

Shortly after noon yesterday, an Atlanta Fire Rescue ARFF truck was responding on a simulated emergency call (a "response drill") at the Atlanta Airport when it flipped while negotiating a curve. All 3 Firefighters (a Captain, an Apparatus Operator, and a Firefighter) **were fully belted**, secured with harnesses and no one was hurt....all were checked out (precautionary) and released back to duty. The apparatus suffered severe damage (see our news/updates on the home page) but each firefighter was fine.

And....in BRAZIL, we regret to advise you that a 34-year-old 15-year veteran Fire Sergeant of Brasilia Fire Department (in Brazil), Sgt. Washington Nunes, **died in the Line of Duty yesterday** during a specialization course for rescue divers. A investigation is on going to determine the cause of death and if there was any excess expectations during the training. The specific course related to rescue diving for the Firefighters of Brasilia is considered extremely difficult and controversial as to the challenges that are expected. Our condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-24-08 / 1505 hours

AND:

We regret to inform you of the **Line of Duty Death of a Firefighter in Gretna, Louisiana**. Initial reports are that an aerial device boom crushed a Firefighter between the boom and the apparatus, resulting in a Line of Duty death. The name of the department that protects Gretna is **David Crockett Steam Fire Co. No. 1**. According to Fire Chief Bobby Black, the Firefighter was operating equipment that allowed an insurance adjuster to evaluate damage caused by Hurricane Gustavthe boom was apparently being lowered to the ground when the Firefighter became pinned between the equipment being lowered and the apparatus. We will provide additional updates as soon as they become available.

Here are 2 websites describing the David Crockett Steam Fire Co. No. 1:

<http://departments.firehouse.com/dept/Gretna2LA>

October 5, 2008

www.chabotfire.com

36

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

<http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=140603420>

Our sincere condolences to all affected, especially the family as well as the members of the David Crockett Steam Fire Co. No. 1. More details will follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-29-08 / 1727 hours

AND:

It is with deep regret that we advise you that De Kalb VFD (near Texarkana) Firefighter Dale Grider, 36, passed away from an apparent heart attack during their training last night. Firefighter Grider had responded to and operated at a fire earlier that day as well. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

A REMINDER: <http://firefighterclosecalls.com/fullstory.php?72713>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 10-1-08 / 2313 hours

AND:

Hey...

A Firefighter with the Rockville VFD/Montgomery County (MD) Fire Rescue was burned this morning in a floor collapse. He is stable in the Washington DC MedStar Burn Unit. According to the RVFD, companies responded at about 0130 hours to a basement fire in a house. F/R III Joel Rogozinski was performing search operations on the first floor when the floor gave way and he began to fall through the floor into the basement. He was able to catch himself before falling fully....but the FF could not pull himself up and dropped down into the basement. Previously, when he had arrived on the scene, he had done a circle check and noticed a basement window on side "D". After he dropped into the basement, he located the window and was able to rescue himself with assistance from Firefighters outside. In the meantime, a mayday had been called by other firefighters on the first floor. **During the event, Joel suffered 30% 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree burns to his arms and legs. He was transported by ground to MedSTAR and has no other injuries.**

Further info from the RVFD indicate that the FF is in good shape; he has no respiratory involvement but has a lot of pain from the burns. Joel has been admitted to the burn ICU as a precaution and will be there for at least one day. He will likely be in the hospital for several days and in recovery for a few weeks.

Further from the RVFD is that despite the floor collapse, other actions by crews on the scene knocked the basement fire prior to the floor collapse, which allowed the FF the opportunity to escape. The area he fell in and the window he climbed out of was heavily involved in fire just a few moments prior to the floor collapse.

RELATED LINKS:

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

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/firtmpl.asp?url=/Content/FireRescue/Index.asp>

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/davestatter.html>

LOWERING THE FLAG THIS COMING SUNDAY:

The law requires the American flag be lowered in tribute on only a few days each year. One of these days is the observance of the **National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service**. On October 16, 2001, President Bush approved legislation requiring the American flag to be lowered to half-staff on all Federal buildings to memorialize fallen firefighters. Public Law 107-51 requires this action to occur annually in conjunction with observance of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service.

Let your local media know that American flags across the country will be lowered on Sunday, October 5, 2008. This includes the U.S. Capitol and the White House, as well as buildings in your local community.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-2-08 / 1038 hours

AND

NAT'L FALLEN FIREFIGHTER SERVICE-LIVE LINK NOTICE:

If you are unable to attend this Saturday and Sundays events related to the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Services, you can listen to and watch it live with Dave Statter & Crew...here are the details:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2008/10/statter-911-and-firehousecom-will-again.html>

CORRECTIONS OFFICER/FF LODD:

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the passing of CO II Douglas Falconer on Wednesday, October 1, 2008. Officer Falconer, a part of Globe's inmate Wildland Fire Crew, had been dispatched with a crew to the Sacramento Fire in the vicinity of Lake Havasu City near the California border. The crew had just set up its gear and was working the fire line when he expired due to a medical emergency. Officers and inmates alike responded immediately and emergency medical assistance made every effort to revive our esteemed coworker. CO II Falconer is survived by his wife, Cherry. Our condolences to all affected.

FIREFIGHTER SERIOUSLY BURNED:

A Firefighter from Reagan County (Texas) was airlifted to Shannon Medical Center yesterday afternoon after being injured while operating at an oil-rig fire north of Ozona. VFF Dustin Rojas suffered second and third degree burns to his legs and knees. Reports are that the firefighter "stepped back into a puddle of water that was really hot and he was burned." We wish him a rapid recovery.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (MD) FF BURNED / MAYDAY UPDATE:

Yesterday morning, Montgomery County (MD) experienced a Mayday as a result of a Firefighter falling through the first floor into the basement area of origin of a single family home. According to MCFRS, the Firefighter, a member of the Rockville VFD, was driving Rescue Squad 703 on a first due dwelling fire and in performing his responsibility of controlling exterior utilities did a circle check of the structure during which he noted fire

coming from a Side Delta, Quadrant Delta basement window. Here are some initial details from Chief Tom Carr, MCFRS.

Once the FF completed his exterior duties, he entered the structure with PPE fully and properly donned. During entry he fell through the fire weakened dining room floor to his arm pits into the basement room of origin. At some point he dropped the rest of the way through to the basement. T703 announced a Mayday. Now in the super-heated, just extinguished (reportedly by E723, entering through the exterior basement entrance) room the RVFD FF had the presence of mind to remember that small (14x30) window he saw in his walkaround. The FF looked up 5 1/2 feet and saw his opportunity for escape. Apparently, he climbed a set of shelves in front of the window and removed bars on the window and then recognized he could not fit through the opening w/his SCBA on his back. He removed his bottle BUT kept his face piece in place. As he started out, pushing his bottle in front of him, he was assisted out by rescuers.

As commented by Chief Carr, the FF had a tremendous presence of mind! He reacted immediately and instinctively. If he hadn't reacted as he did the outcome very well may have been different. The FF was treated and transported to MEDSTAR Burn Center. He had no respiratory burns, Indicative of how much of a close call and a near miss th is was, he did have other serious burns. Last night the RVFD member is recovering after skin graft surgery. He has 35% 2nd and 3rd degree burns on his arms, upper torso, and lower leg; he also suffered a de-gloving of his left pinky finger. He should have a full recovery although it will be a painful, lengthy endeavor. He is scheduled for more surgery on Monday. Thanks to Chief Carr for the above update.

RELATED LINKS:

<http://www.rvfd.org/news&events/news&events.htm>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/02/AR2008100202808.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 10-3-08 / 1111 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:

The Aurora (CO) Fire Department is having to put on hold a new fire station and more personnel, due to city budget shortfalls. Fire departments are not immune to cuts; all

departments (including fire) within a city, county, state, or federal governmental structure need to take their share of the load to help their governing body get back to solid ground: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_10493902

The Metropolitan Transit Authority in New York is proposing that Police, Fire and other city departments have to pay tolls – even when responding to an emergency. Times are getting tough when we see proposals like this:
<http://wcbstv.com/topstories/mta.new.york.2.819374.html>

The Milwaukee (WI) Mayor is looking at possible firefighter position cuts due to lack of funding: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=61065§ionId=46>

A plan in Fresno County (CA) to add fire stations and firefighters fails – residents vote against a parcel fee to increase their level of fire service:
<http://www.fresnobee.com/263/story/892514.html>

Fire Department Consolidation / Merger Related Stories:

A number of fire departments in Washington State are evaluating the possibility of merging together to form one fire department, to provide a more efficient and effective level of fire protection for the communities served:
<http://www.enterprisewspapers.com/article/20080917/ETP03/709179702&template%3DET%3DPZoneLTart>

The City of Edmonds (WA) is facing a \$5.4 million dollar shortfall in the next couple of years and may be faced with having its fire department merge with neighboring departments to help reduce costs and ultimately provide a more efficient and effective service, if done properly:
<http://www.enterprisewspapers.com/article/20080916/ETP03/709179988/-1/ETP15&template%3DET%3DPZoneEDart>

In June, the City of Orem (UT) inked a \$1.2 million annual deal with the City of Lindon to provide its neighbor to the north with fire, emergency medical, and dispatch services. The agreement provides Lindon with 24/7 fire and emergency medical service but also has the added benefit of providing the Orem Fire Division with a place to staff its firefighters and paramedics currently displaced by a remodel of Orem's Fire Station No. 2. <http://www.heraldextra.com/content/view/281213/17/>

The Governor of California has authorized the merger of the State Office of Emergency Services and the State Department of Homeland Security:
http://www.kcoy.com/news/state/story.aspx?content_id=b3411474-3588-4adf-9274-ce2f0ddacb23

Due to a projected budget shortfall, the Mayor of Edmonds (WA) wants to have his fire department merge with other local area departments:
<http://www.enterprisewspapers.com/article/20081001/ETP03/710019852&template%3DET%3DPZoneEDart>

Public Relations Nightmare Stories:

The New Jersey State Commission of Investigation released a report Tuesday that suggests local fire departments' decisions on what firetrucks to buy are ruled more by private business interests than the interests of the taxpayers footing the bill for the expensive vehicles. The commission examined 80 recent firetruck purchases in the state and uncovered procurement and ethical problems in the majority of them: <http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080917/NEWS/809170381/1001/NEWS>

A Lieutenant employed by the District of Columbia Fire Department (DCFD) is on administrative leave pending the outcome of an internal investigation, after he allegedly cut one of the DCFD EMS personnel with a knife during a horseplay session: <http://www.firerescue1.com/news/429123-EMS-worker-cut-by-DC-firefighter-in-negligent-horseplay/>

The San Francisco (CA) Fire Department has lost its dominance of providing ambulance transportation services to the City of San Francisco. State officials have revoked their lock on the services and is expected to force city officials to put those services out for competitive bid – something they may or may not be successful at winning back. Losing their ambulance service would be a step backwards, especially when EMS responses make up over 60% of the call volume in most communities. Don't forget – ambulances are not only for the citizens, but they are for the firefighters as well: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/09/12/MN6712SJ94.DTL>

A Boston (MA) Firefighter has been arrested for assault:
<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=60973§ionId=46>

A Florida firefighter is accused of taking an amputated leg from an accident scene:
<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=61074§ionId=46>

And then a related story of her resigning from the department:
<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/treasurecoast/content/tcoast/epaper/2008/10/02/1002sllleg.html>

The L.A.F.D. may be getting an independent oversight committee after their recent lawsuits; a reminder to all - the last thing we want is to have someone else tell us how to do business. Let's do a better job of keeping our houses in order so it doesn't come to this level in our departments:
http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=6429811

The Reno (NV) Fire Department is struggling with the issue of having the fire companies perform fire inspections, a great way to get out and actually walk through buildings in your jurisdiction, and to build positive relationships with the citizens who pay for us to be there, not to mention ensuring their business is safe for the public to occupy:
<http://news.rgj.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080921/NEWS/809210365/1321/NEWS>

Great fire department public relations stories – something all can learn from:

A partnership created by the Rifle Fire Protection District and Colorado Mountain College's West Garfield Campus is hoping to make it easier for potential firefighters to get the training they need. The two entities have teamed up to offer scholarships for emergency medical technician training to individuals who agree to commit to at least one year of volunteering or, if an opening is available, work as part-time paid staff at the station. Two other Garfield County fire districts – Carbondale and Parachute – also offer similar scholarships:

<http://www.citizentelegram.com/article/20080911/NEWS/809109948/1007&parentprofile%3D1001&title%3DCMC%20and%20Rifle%20Fire%20District%20team%20up>

Firefighters in Central California participate in “fill the helmet” to raise funds for burn patients: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_10493902

The Belmont San Carlos Fire Department donated an old fire engine to the College of San Mateo Fire Technology Program – a great use for an old engine that is no longer in the reserve fleet, and something a college fire technology program could not even fathom being able to purchase due to limited (or non-existent) budgets for such items:

http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=98531

The Scottsdale (AZ) Fire Department takes the time to go to a local school and allow third graders to be firefighters for a day:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/scottsdale/articles/2008/10/02/20081002sr-firesafety1003ON.html>

Resuscitation equipment for pets – does your local fire department have such a capability? Or, do they not even care? Kudos to the Salt Lake City (UT) Fire Department for providing such a service for their customers. Who says customers are only people with two legs? <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=4375469>

Budget problems don't appear to be hitting the Unified Fire Authority in Utah (Formerly the Salt Lake County Fire Department). They are opening two new stations and five more are on the drawing boards: http://www.sltrib.com/southvalley/ci_10498956

A Durham (NC) Firefighter is critically injured during a training exercise – the tragic part is he was not wearing his department provided personal protective equipment, and neither were some of the other firefighters in the immediate vicinity. Departments are required to provide PPE for a reason – for our safety. Wear the PPE, it is there for a reason, and just may save our lives!

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/durham/story/1224243.html>

The Charleston (SC) Fire Department is getting close to naming a Fire Chief – someone who will hopefully be a charismatic and energetic leader willing to take the department in the direction they need to go:

http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/sep/17/guesses_abound_on_new_chief54765/

The Grand Junction (CO) Fire Department is going to the voters to ask for three more fire stations to help them reduce response times and address deficiencies in current workloads and the number of calls: <http://www.kjct8.com/Global/story.asp?S=9034443>

An article with some good facts that help make the case for mandating fire sprinklers in the home. And for those folks in our industry (current or future) who think fire sprinklers will put us out of jobs – do they care more about their jobs than about the safety of the citizens we serve and more importantly – ourselves? Fire sprinklers will also help reduce firefighter injuries and fatalities, something we drastically need to do: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122170150213450731.html?mod=todays_us_nonsub_pi

A report has been released from a fire that occurred in May 2008 in Loudoun County, where seven firefighters were injured. Some of the findings that contributed to their injuries included: Communication errors, incorrectly worn PPE by firefighters, insufficient number of firefighters on scene, a malfunctioning hose and radio, and confusion. Let's learn from the mistakes of others so we don't allow history to repeat itself:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/09/13/AR2008091302253.html>

To download the report (should be mandatory reading for all fire service personnel – current and future – as all similar reports should be), go to:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/Significant%20Injury%20Investigative%20Report%20-%2043238%20Meadowood%20Court.pdf>

A must see for all fire service personnel – a series of videos demonstrating the importance of wearing your PPE – “The Good, the Bad, and the PPE” – a series of close calls: <http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/427804-The-Good-the-Bad-and-the-PPE/>

A thief steals medications from an ambulance while firefighters were on scene fighting a fire. Yes, expect these things to happen, and if you didn't lock your apparatus, be prepared to do a lot of paperwork and explaining. When in doubt, lock the rigs:

http://www.tdn.com/articles/2008/09/15/breaking_news/doc48ce9fe74a451683979892.txt

Integration of Firefighter PPE – the need for firefighters to be covered from head-to-toe with PPE:

http://www.tdn.com/articles/2008/09/15/breaking_news/doc48ce9fe74a451683979892.txt

Twelve ways to reduce firefighter injuries – information that just seems so simple, but unfortunately does not occur, resulting in firefighter injuries and fatalities:
<http://www.firerescue1.com/Columnists/Fire-Department-Safety-Officers-Association/articles/428877-12-Ways-to-Reduce-Firefighter-Injuries/>

A case study that all fire service members can learn something from – The Strategic use of Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) in a residential high-rise fire:
<http://www.firerescue1.com/print.asp?act=print&vid=428864-case-study-strategic-use-of-ppv-in-a-residential-high-rise-fire>

A recent residential sprinkler resolution was passed requiring mandatory fire sprinklers in new one and two family homes beginning January 1, 2011 – an excellent move to increase firefighter safety and hopefully reduce the number of firefighter injuries and fatalities, not to mention provide a higher level of safety to people living in those types of buildings: <http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/429952-Sprinkler-resolution-just-the-start-for-coalition/>

And another article relating to this landmark resolution –
<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=46&id=61017>

And another article relating to this topic –
<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/429498-ICC-passes-residential-sprinkler-resolution/>

A rat bites a Glens Falls (NY) Firefighter while he is sleeping at the fire station:
<http://www.poststar.com/articles/2008/09/25/news/local/13946156.txt>

Clark County (NV) Firefighters are making thousands in overtime pay:
http://www.lasvegasnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=9053383&nav=menu102_2_1

The Mayor of Charleston, SC has made his decision on who will be the new Fire Chief – to help take the department into the 21st century and hopefully do what it takes to help the current personnel not suffer another line of duty death, let alone nine line of duty deaths at once, as they experienced on June 18, 2007. Good luck Chief Carr – you have your work cut out for you, and hopefully you will be welcomed with open arms and given the tools you need to get the department off on the right foot:
http://www.kcoy.com/news/state/story.aspx?content_id=b3411474-3588-4adf-9274-ce2f0ddacb23

And an article to present how Chief Carr is ready and able to handle the challenges he will be up against as the new Chief of the Charleston F.D.:
<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-department-management/articles/430587-Carr-looks-forward-to-challenges-as-Charleston-chief/>

And a story how Chief Carr's appointment helps honor the nine fallen firefighters:
<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/431095-carrs-appointment-honors-fallen-charleston-firefighters/>

The Tucson (AZ) Fire Department is interviewing the final, top four candidates for the position of Fire Chief, and some of the questions the candidates are getting asked include their attitude towards gays and minorities:
<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/daily/local/98064.php>

Location, location, location: a Colorado fire department fire station has to fight off the drunks from the neighboring bar:
<http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=100920&catid=339>

A wake up call for the fire service – an article titled “Culture Change – Just Do It.” Changing the culture of the fire service and of your department is one of the most challenging tasks for any fire service leader. However, failing to change the culture for the better may continue the trend of firefighter fatalities and injuries that is plaguing the fire service. <http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/430983-Cultural-Change-Just-Do-It/>

And another timely article from the same author – 16 ways to stay safe!
<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/430983-Cultural-Change-Just-Do-It/>

And another safety related article – “Speaking up about safety:”
<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/287805/>

The Menlo Park (CA) Fire District is facing numerous citations for their apparatus and staff vehicles going through toll lanes and not paying – in emergency and non-emergency situations: <http://www.sanmateodailynews.com/article/2008-9-26-mp-fire-tickets>

Please be safe out there and make every day a learning opportunity – because it is!

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. Take care and Stay Safe!

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

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

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