



FIRE & EMS NEWS

September 14, 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.

Please take a moment of silence to remember the tragic event that occurred on September 11, 2001, where 343 Firefighters, and countless other public safety responders and citizens lost their lives in the 9/11 tragedy that we will hopefully never forget. Hopefully all of us now realize that our lives have changed and that firefighters are also targets of terrorism and we cannot get complacent or think it cannot happen here – because it can and it will at some point. Be safe and always be on the lookout for suspicious activities so you don't become a statistic as well in the process.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Santa Clara County (CA):

The [Santa Clara County Fire Department](#) will be accepting applications for the positions of Firefighter/Engineer (assigned to paramedic duty) until September 23, 2008.

FIREFIGHTER / ENGINEER – PARAMEDIC:

- Firefighter/Engineer Base Salary: \$7,065.36 to \$8,587.99
- Paramedic differential is 7.5% for the first year of assignment; 10% after the first year of assignment

THE POSITION

The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) is recruiting for the position of Firefighter/Engineer (FF/E) assigned to paramedic duty. Please read the following announcement carefully. All instructions must be exactly followed. Failure to follow these directions may jeopardize potential candidates from continuing in the recruitment/selection process. The Department reserves the right to give preference to applicants who meet the qualifications for Paramedic. All successful applicants hired through this process will initially participate as FF/E Trainees while completing the Fire Academy. The FF/E Trainees will receive a flat rate of \$4,500.00 per month without any benefits. At the conclusion of the Fire

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Academy, successful Trainees will become probationary Firefighter/Engineers assigned to paramedic duty.

Please review the Firefighter/Engineer Trainee information file and SCCFD information found on our web site at www.sccfd.org. This information is also available at Santa Clara County Fire Department Headquarters, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Firefighter/Engineer assigned to paramedic duty: At time of appointment, applicant must be at least 21 years of age; have completed education equivalent to the 12th grade; visual acuity of not less than 20/40 uncorrected vision in each eye, with only mild red/green color defects being acceptable; be in good physical condition; in possession of a valid, appropriate California driver's license; and, hold a current EMT-1 certificate with the ability to certify within the County of Santa Clara at time of appointment.

In addition, the Firefighter/Engineer candidate must be in possession of a valid State of California EMT Paramedic license with one (1) year of documented clinical experience by application submittal deadline, and the ability to accredit within the County of Santa Clara at time of appointment.

***Please note:** Any FF/E who is hired by SCCFD to perform paramedic duties, as a condition of employment, will be required to make a commitment to be regularly assigned to paramedic duty for a period of not less than five (5) years from the time that he/she is first assigned to regularly perform paramedic duties.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The application packet will consist of the following: a completed Department application, a paramedic supplemental questionnaire, one (1) photocopy of a valid, appropriate California driver's license and a valid California EMT paramedic license. A Department application and paramedic supplemental questionnaire can be obtained in one of three ways:

- (1) Through SCCFD's website at www.sccfd.org;
- (2) At SCCFD Headquarters, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032; or
- (3) By calling (408) 378-4010.

Incomplete application packets will not be accepted.

The completed application packets may be mailed or delivered in person. If the packet is mailed, please mail to the address mentioned herein to the attention of Personnel Services. For additional information regarding the application packet, please contact Personnel Services at personnel.services@cnt.sccgov.org or call the phone number listed herein. The complete application packet must be received by Personnel Services at Headquarters no later than Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at 5:00 PM. **Faxed, late-postmarked or late application packets will not be accepted.**

THE APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The written examination has been scheduled for Saturday, October 11, 2008. SCCFD will notify candidates who pass the application review of the time and location. Candidates should schedule at least three (3) hours to complete the written examination. Candidates must obtain a passing score of 70% in order to continue in the selection process.

Candidates who pass the written examination will be randomly selected to continue in the selection process - the Oral Board interview. The Oral Board interviews have been tentatively scheduled to begin the week of October 27, 2008. The Oral Board interviews will be held at Santa Clara County Fire Department Headquarters, located at 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95032. SCCFD will notify candidates as to the specific dates and scheduling of their Oral Board interview. Candidates who are invited to participate in the Oral Board interview process **MUST BRING THE ORIGINAL AND A PHOTOCOPY OF THEIR CURRENT 2008 CPAT CARD TO SCCFD HEADQUARTERS AT THE TIME OF THEIR SCHEDULED ORAL BOARD INTERVIEW.**

Failure to submit a copy of a current 2008 CPAT card at the time of the Oral Board interview will disqualify the candidate from continuing in the selection process. There are no exceptions. (Additional information regarding the CPAT physical ability test, practice dates, and test dates can be viewed at www.cffjac.org or by calling 1-877-648-2728.) Extensive pre-employment background, psychological and medical examinations will be required for those candidates who are offered a conditional offer of employment. A twelve (12) week Fire Academy is tentatively scheduled to begin on April 6, 2009. For additional information regarding the position of Firefighter/Engineer – assigned to paramedic duty, or the application and selection process outlined herein, please contact Personnel Services at (408) 378-4010.

The information contained within this announcement may be modified or revoked without notice and does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract. The Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

For more information about the **Santa Clara County Fire Department**, visit their website at www.sccfd.org

For more information about the **Santa Clara County Fire Department**, **I.A.F.F. Local 1165**, visit their website at www.iaff1165.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)
- 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 CAREER INFORMATION SESSION:

The [San Jose Fire Department](#) will host an information session on Thursday September 18, 2008, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the S.J.F.D. Bureau of Field Operations Campus, 255 South Montgomery Street, San Jose, CA 95110. Doors will open to the public at 6:00 p.m.

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Fire personnel, special interest groups within the Department, and a Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) proctor will be available to present information regarding the various career opportunities with the San Jose Fire Department.

After the presentation, you are welcome to speak with fire department personnel who will be on hand to answer any questions that you may have. This information session will greatly assist you for a career in the fire service.

**San Jose Fire Department
Firefighter Recruit/EMT and Firefighter Recruit Paramedic Information:**

Minimum Requirements:

- 18 years old at time of application.
- High School Diploma or G.E.D.
- Valid California Driver's License.
- CPAT Certificate.
- Valid California EMT certificate – or valid certification as a Nationally Registered EMT Basic.
- Valid Paramedic License (only if applying for a Recruit Paramedic position).

Desirable Education and Skills:

- Valid California Paramedic license.
- Fire Science Certification.
- Valid California Driver's License (Class A or B).
- AA/AS/BA/BS Fire Science or Fire Technology.
- Firefighter I and II Certificates.
- Bilingual in Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish, Russian, Tagalog, or Vietnamese.

Process to become a San Jose Firefighter:

- Application
- Written test and Personal History Questionnaire
- Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT)
- Oral Board Interview / Chief's Interview
- Background Investigation
- Polygraph Examination
- Criminal Fingerprint Check
- Psychological Examination
- Medical Examination
- Conditional Offer of Employment
- Fire Academy (16 to 18 weeks); graduation with successful completion of all written and manipulative exams.
- Completion of Probationary Period; one year after graduation from the Academy.

For more information about the **City of San Jose**, visit their website at www.sanjoseca.gov

For more information about the **San Jose Fire Department**, visit their website at www.sjfd.org

For more information about the **San Jose Fire Department**, [I.A.F.F. Local 230](http://www.sanjosefirefighters.org), visit their website at www.sanjosefirefighters.org

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

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Fremont (CA):

The [Fremont Fire Department](http://www.ci.fremont.ca.us) will be accepting applications for the positions of **Firefighter/Paramedic**, until: September 26, 2008. To view their recruitment website, including the job announcement (also seen below) and to complete an online application, go to:

Here was the information found on their City employment website page, found at: www.ci.fremont.ca.us/Employment/CurrentCityJobs/job080905firefighterparamedic.htm

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www.chabotfire.com

Firefighter/Paramedic

Salary

The annual salary range is \$85,668 to \$102,119, depending on qualifications.

Job Description

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

Qualifications

- Any combination of education and/or experience that has provided the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for satisfactory job performance would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge, skills, and abilities would be graduation from High School.
- Coursework in Fire Technology or related field is desirable.
- Must have a current California Paramedic License with current certifications in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS or PEPP), Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), and Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) or equivalent.
- Ability to obtain Alameda County Paramedic Accreditation by the completion of the City of Fremont EMS Preceptor Program.
- Ability to obtain a California State Accredited Firefighter I certificate within first year of probationary period.
- Ability to obtain a California State Accredited Firefighter II certificate and complete the Fremont Fire department acting Engineer program by the completion of the probationary period.
- Must have, or be able to obtain and maintain, a valid Class C California Driver's License.
- Must also successfully obtain and maintain a valid Class B California Driver's License with tank endorsement by the completion of the probationary period.
- Vision requirements: Not less than 20/100 in each eye correctable to not less than 20/30 in each eye with glasses without color blindness. Limitations in the field of vision may be disqualifying.
- Ability to pass a job-related medical examination, which will include a drug screen.

Benefits

The 9% employee paid portion of the PERS retirement contribution is tax deferred pursuant to IRC 414(h)(2).

Additional benefits include:

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- Annual vacation of 158 hours for years 1 through 5, increasing to a maximum of 295 hours after 20 years.
- 12 hours of sick leave per month, with Sick Leave Incentive Plan.
- Cafeteria Benefit Plan for full or partial payment of medical insurance or a cash option, including coverage for domestic partners.
- California Public Employees' Retirement System, 3% at 50 plan.
- \$50,000 Term Life Insurance paid by the City.
- 144 hours of holiday pay, with pay out options.
- Education incentive pay program, longevity pay, specialty pays, an employee assistance plan, and Credit Union membership available.

Application Instructions

To be considered for this outstanding opportunity, submit a completed City application and photocopies of California Paramedic License and paramedic credentials/certifications to the Human Resources Department or place in the Employment Application drop box (located near the entrance to City Hall). City applications may be obtained from our website at www.fremont.gov, by calling 510-494-4660, or from the Human Resources Department at 3300 Capitol Avenue, Building B, Fremont, CA 94538.

- **The application deadline is 5:00 p.m., September 26, 2008.**

Selection Process

The first phase is a written exam tentatively scheduled for the week of October 13, 2008. Candidates who pass the written exam will be invited to participate in the oral interview process, tentatively scheduled for the week of November 3, 2008. The oral interview process consists of an oral board panel and a paramedic skills assessment. Candidates who pass this phase will be placed on an eligibility list and may continue on to the Chief's interview.

Successful candidates must pass an extensive background investigation.

Candidates invited to the oral interview process must submit a valid CPAT (Candidate Physical Ability Test) card at the time of their oral interview in order to be admitted. CPAT cards must be dated within the last twelve (12) months at the time of the interview. For CPAT information, applications, test site locations, and registration, please visit www.CPATonline.org.

For more information about the **City of Fremont**, visit their website at www.ci.fremont.ca.us

For more information about the **Fremont Fire Department**, visit their website at www.ci.fremont.ca.us/Fire

For more information about the **Fremont Fire Department, I.A.F.F. Local 1689**, visit their website at www.fremontfire.org/

HONORING OUR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS:

27th National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend to be Held on October 4 - 5, 2008

- » **Video:** <http://weekend.firehero.org/weekend2.wmv>
- » **Broadcast:** <http://weekend.firehero.org/2008SatelliteCoords.pdf>

Emmitsburg, MD - The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Fire Administration announce that the 27th annual **National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend** will be held **October 4-5, 2008**. A plaque with the names of 101 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2007 will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, located here on the National Fire Academy campus. The names of 9 firefighters who died in previous years will also be added. The plaques surrounding the Memorial, which was established in 1981, will contain the names of more than 3,200 firefighters.

For more information:

- <http://weekend.firehero.org/media/>
- <http://weekend.firehero.org/>

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

National Fire Academy (NFA) Training Opportunities

(as of September 11, 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.

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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:

<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:

R101	Code Management: A Systems Approach	
	10/6/08 - 10/17/08	1 vacancies
	1/5/09 - 1/16/09	2 vacancies
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	7 vacancies
	2/23/09-3/6/09	12 vacancies
R152	Emergency Medical Services: Special Operations	
	3/9/09-3/20/09	4 vacancies
R203	Fire Dynamics-Fire Modeling	
	12/8/08-12/19/08	8 vacancies

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	2/23/09-3/6/09	6 vacancies
	3/23/09-4/3/09	10 vacancies
R208	Interviewing/Interr. Techniques	
	3/9/09-3/20/09	3 vacancies
R213	Analysis of Arson Management	
	10/19/08-10/24/08	13 vacancies
	1/18/09-1/23/09	14 vacancies
	2/1/09-2/6/09	22 vacancies
R225	Management of Fire Prevention Programs	
	2/2/09-2/13/09	3 vacancies
R229	Hazardous Materials Operating Site Practices	
	10/6/08-10/17/08	4 vacancies
R243	Hazardous Materials Incident Management	
	10/26/08-10/31/08	3 vacancies
	1/25/09-1/30/09	4 vacancies
R247	Advanced Life Support Response to Hazardous Materials Incidents	
	10/20/08-10/31/08	10 vacancies
	3/23/09-4/3/09	15 vacancies
R331	Organizational Theory in Practice	
	12/8/08-12/19/08	8 vacancies
	2/23/09-3/6/09	3 vacancies
R335	Administration of Public Assistance For Community Recovery	
	1/25/09-1/30/09	18 vacancies
R348	Changing American Family at Risk	
	11/30/08-12/5/08	6 vacancies
R359	Discovering the Road to High-Risk Audiences	
	2/1/09-2/6/09	16 vacancies
R491	NFIRS: Program Manager	
	11/30/08-12/5/08	6 vacancies
	2/1/09-2/6/09	21 vacancies
P492	Standards of Cover: Fire Prevention & Risk Mitigation	
	12/7/08-12/8/08	8 vacancies
	2/8/09-2/13/09	16 vacancies
R526	Fire and Emergency Services Pre-Disaster Long Term Recovery Planning	
	1/25/09-1/30/09	16 vacancies

- R810 VIP: Leadership & Administration
2/15/09-2/20/09 10 vacancies
- R816 VIP: Community Education Leadership
2/15/09-2/20/09 12 vacancies
- R822 VIP: Advanced Safety Operation and Management
2/15/09-2/20/09 8 vacancies

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – PASADENA (CA):

The [Pasadena Fire Department](#) will be accepting applications for the positions of **Firefighter Trainee** until: September 18, 2008. To view their recruitment website, including the job announcement (also seen below) and to complete an online application, go to: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/pasadena/default.cfm>

MUST APPLY ON LINE. DO NOT SUBMIT CERTIFICATES AT THIS TIME.

Firefighter Trainee: During four month training \$3,970.84 /mo. (No benefits)

Upon graduation: Firefighter I \$4,052.41 - 4,387.27 - \$5,083.92 (with benefits, 18 month probation)

Completing probation: Firefighter II \$5,522.20 - \$5,845.27 - \$6,172.84 - \$6,490.70

Written examination: October 17, 2008 (Top scores will be the initial group that proceed to the oral examination)

Oral examinations: November 11, 2008 through November 14, 2008 (Required certificates will be collected if available)

Essential Functions:

Upon successful completion of the Basic Training Drill Tower Academy, a Fire Fighter I is an entry level position designated for advancement to Fire Fighter II which is the journey level position. A Fire Fighter I is trained to perform the full range of fire safety activities, including: lay hose; set up ladders; operate Fire Department equipment; conduct rescue and salvage work; administer first aid and assist in medical incidents; perform basic fire prevention and code enforcement duties, including life safety inspections; perform support and maintenance activities such as servicing fire hydrants, fire equipment maintenance and repair, and station and grounds maintenance; keep abreast of current fire fighting methods and operations, city geography, and departmental policies and procedures; conduct public education and information activities including assisting in the preparation and dissemination of informational materials and making public presentations; perform vehicle and apparatus repair and maintenance; may operate fire apparatus and perform other duties as assigned.

Qualification Guidelines:

Graduation from high school or GED equivalent, 18 years of age or older at time of appointment, a valid Class C Driver's License. The following certificates are not required at the time of filing or throughout the examination process. However upon passing all examinations, your name will not be certified to the Fire Department until both certificates have been received.

1) A current California issued EMT-B Certification or a current National Registry EMT- Basic certification that is eligible for California certification. 2) Biddle or CPAT physical ability certificate issued within 12 months.

Ability to be trained, instructed and supervised in all aspects of fire suppression, fire prevention, and emergency medical procedures; ability to successfully complete the EMT-D certification process; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships in a community living environment and with the public. Possess the physical endurance and ability to perform a wide variety of strenuous fire suppression activities, to lift heavy loads, bend in all directions, climb ladders and poles, squeeze with arms and hands, pull and lower heavy loads, operate machinery using hands and legs, and work outdoors in all kinds of weather.

Desired qualifications: California State Paramedic License or A.A. or A.S in Fire Science or California State Fire Fighter I certificate.

ELIGIBILITY - Candidates will be required to undergo a thorough background and medical review including psychological screen and drug test. **Candidates who have a California State Paramedic's License may be certified separately from other candidates based upon departmental needs.**

Special Requirements:

Candidate must be a non-smoker and remain a non-smoker for period of employment. Paramedic certified candidates must maintain paramedic certification for period of employment. New hires may be required to obtain state of California Paramedic training and certification.

For more information about the **City of Pasadena**, visit their website at www.ci.pasadena.ca.us

For more information about the **Pasadena Fire Department**, visit their website at www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/fire

For more information about the **Pasadena Fire Department, I.A.F.F. Local 809**, visit their website at www.pasadenafirefighters.org/

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.

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

Focus on Fire Safety: Preparedness

September is National Preparedness Month. In most types of disasters, the risk for fire is increased due to loose electrical wires, broken gas lines, flooding, or the lack of electricity. In addition, fires in residences are a personal disaster striking hundreds of thousands of homes each year. Everyone needs to learn how to be ready in the event of a fire or natural/man-made disaster. For more information, go to: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/>

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 INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

National Fire Academy Starts College Internship Program

The United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy announces a new college internship program for men and women interested in a career in the fire and emergency services.

Students accepted into the intern program receive the opportunity to work at the U. S. Fire Administration in Emmitsburg, Maryland to assist in the development and maintenance of course and curriculum materials, conduct basic research and summarize information from

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office files and other sources, and perform basic editing and review of the training materials to assure they reflect current practices.

Students conduct supervised research and receive experience in disciplines such as, but not limited to, Arson and Fire Investigation, Executive Development, Management Science, Training Program Management, Hazardous Materials, Planning and Information Management, Emergency Medical Services and Safety, Public Fire Education, Fire Prevention Management, Fire Protection Systems and Equipment, and Incident Management.

Students accepted into the program receive:

- Campus housing in a private room. The housing arrangement promotes social interactions with fire and emergency services professionals from around the United States and provides a wonderful opportunity to forge long-lasting friendships and potential career contacts.
- Opportunity to attend up to two National Fire Academy courses.

Students are expected to work full-time with Training Specialists, Instructional Systems Specialists, and other USFA Staff; participate in weekly meetings with staff; and participate in emergent projects as needed. The National Fire Academy is part of the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States Fire Administration. The campus is located in rural Maryland, about 10 miles south of historic Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and about 60 miles from Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- be enrolled as a student at a regionally accredited institution in the U.S.
- be sophomores or juniors who have successfully completed introductory courses in a field related to fire and emergency services
- maintain a 3.0 GPA in the discipline
- demonstrate an interest in training and education and a career in the fire and emergency services or allied disciplines

Submit a complete application consisting of:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- Three (3) letters of reference from college or university faculty
- College transcripts
- Personal statement of interest

Status

Volunteer service is limited to services performed by a student, with the permission of the institution at which the student is enrolled, as part of an agency program established for the purpose of providing educational experience for the student.

A student participating under an agency volunteer program is not considered to be a Federal employee for any purposes other than injury compensation or laws related to the Tort Claims Act. Service is not creditable for leave accrual or any other employee benefits.

Instructions

Interested students should contact their college or university internship coordinator, who in turn should contact:

Kelly Snyder, Program Analyst
United States Fire Administration
16825 S. Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727
Telephone: 301.447.1395
Fax: 301.447.1052
E-mail: Kelly.Snyder@dhs.gov

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 –
Reno, NV – October 2, 2008**

Sponsored by Regional Public Safety Training Center

PLACE: Regional Public Safety Training Center 5190 Spectrum Blvd Reno, NV. 89512

- 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

**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!

**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.

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

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

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

The Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) is a must have for any person planning on becoming a firefighter. More and more departments are requiring a candidate to possess a CPAT completion card (no older than one year) just to apply for their department. If you do not possess a current CPAT, you do not pass go, you do not collect two hundred dollars, and you miss out on the opportunity to compete for a firefighter position at many departments. The CPAT does not guarantee that you will be a successful firefighter. Successfully passing the CPAT means that you should be able to enter a firefighter academy at a reasonable level of fitness appropriate to the job. I encourage you to learn more about the CPAT, and also look into having this certificate on your resume. Trust me, this may be an eye-opener for some – many of you will not pass it the first time. Make sure you take advantage of the orientation and practice sessions and learn where your weak spots are so you can focus on those areas.

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:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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:

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

Northern California 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- September 29
- October 11, 27
- November 11, 17
- December 8

It is strongly recommended that an Orientation be attended at least 8 weeks prior to taking the CPAT Test. Allow 1 ½ to 2 hour for the orientation. There is no cost for the Orientation, it is include in the testing fee.

PRACTICE DATES:

- September 29, 30
- October 11, 14, 27, 28
- November 11, 12, 17, 18
- December 8, 9

TEST DATES:

- September 20
- October 2, 18, 30
- November 15, 20
- December 11

Southern California 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- September 22
- October 4, 20
- November 1, 17
- December 6

It is strongly recommended that an Orientation be attended at least 8 weeks prior to taking the CPAT Test. Allow 1 ½ to 2 hour for the orientation. There is no cost for the Orientation, it is include in the testing fee.

PRACTICE DATES:

- September 23
- October 7, 14, 21
- November 4, 12, 18
- December 2, 9, 16

TEST DATES:

- September 20, 25
- October 9, 18, 23
- November 6, 15, 20
- December 4, 13, 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 RISK REDUCTION INFO FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

September is National Preparedness Month

Emmitsburg, MD - United States Fire Administrator Greg Cade reminds all firefighters September is **National Preparedness Month**: (www.ready.gov/america/npm08/intro.html)

"It is the position of the U.S. Fire Administration to support the efforts of DHS and FEMA to ensure all citizens be protected against death, injury, and property loss resulting from both man-made and nature caused emergencies affecting all residents," said Administrator Cade.

Given recent events, we know first hand that preparing in advance can lessen or eliminate deaths, injuries, and property damage. In most types of disasters the risk for fire is increased due to loose electrical wires, broken gas lines, flooding, or the lack of electricity. In addition, fires in residences are a personal disaster striking hundreds of thousands of homes each year. For these reasons, each of us should take the time to find out how to be prepared. Being prepared is having family preparedness kits and family emergency plans.

All firefighters, regardless of affiliation, would benefit from learning not only how to be ready in case of natural or man-made disasters, but also how to assist their community residents and businesses in preparing for the unexpected. Fire and other types of disasters – hurricane, flood, tornado, earthquake, hazardous materials spill, and winter storm – can strike quickly and without warning. You can better cope with disaster by preparing in advance and working together.

"Fire Service leaders should prepare their departments' contingency operation (COOP) and reconstitution plans and review them frequently," continued Cade. "If the recent past is our guide to the future, we know that the efforts for preparing a department for extended operations and preparing the department's infrastructure have made for rapid recovery and successful returns to normal fire department operations."

For more information on preparedness for natural and man-made disasters, and National Preparedness Month 2008, please visit www.ready.gov

For more information on fire department preparedness, see the USFA report **Fire Department Preparedness for Extreme Weather and Natural Disasters** at: www.usfa.dhs.gov/media/press/2008releases/082008.shtm

FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION:

Download the September 2008 report from the California State Fire Marshal at

<http://calchiefs.org/items/SFMReportSeptember2008.pdf>

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](http://www.sanfranciscoparamedic.org) is in need of volunteers! Time to give back a little time to the San Francisco Paramedic Association! They need 3 volunteers for EACH day at the Palo Alto Fire Department at Stanford at 8:30am:

- Monday September 15
- Tuesday September 16
- Thursday September 18

They also need 10 volunteers each day at the San Jose Fire Department, starting at 8:30 am:

- Saturday September 27
- Saturday October 4
- Tuesday October 7
- Wednesday October 8
- Thursday October 9
- Saturday October 11
- Tuesday October 14
- Saturday October 18
- Tuesday October 21
- Wednesday October 22
- Thursday October 23
- Friday October 24
- Saturday October 25
- Saturday November 1
- Tuesday November 4
- Thursday November 6
- Thursday November 13

Added incentive: the fire dept will provide lunch!

Please let them know (via contact information below) if you can help out on any of these days.

Thanks!

Karyn Freer, Educational Assistant
San Francisco Paramedic Association
657 Mission Street, Suite 302
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 543 1161 x304
(415) 543-0415 (Fax)
education@sparamedics.org

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 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.

Corona, CA

Corona Fire Training Center

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

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: Calvin Gene Wahlstrom
Rank: Chief Pilot
Age: 61
Gender: Male
Status: Wildland Contract
Years of Service: 10

Name: Gregory Gonsioroski
Rank: First Officer - Pilot
Age: 41
Gender: Male
Status: Wildland Contract
Years of Service: Pending

Name: Zachary Jake Vander-Griend
Rank: Crew Chief - Mechanic
Age: 25
Gender: Male
Status: Wildland Contract
Years of Service: Pending

Date of Incident: 09/01/2008
Time of Incident: 1810hrs
Date of Death: 09/01/2008

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Fire Department: Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.
Address: 1 Corporate Way, Missoula, MT 59808 (USNG: 11T QM 2256 9978)

Map:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=14&usng=11TQM22569978&disp=h>

Fire Chief: Chief Executive Officer Mark Timmons

Fire Department Website: www.neptuneaviation.com

Incident Fire Department: US Forest Service – Fire and Aviation Management

Address: 3833 S. Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705 (11T NJ 6400 2409)

Map:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=14&usng=11TNJ64002409&disp=h>

Fire Department Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>

Incident Description: An air tanker (Neptune Tanker 09) under contract to the United States Forest Service crashed shortly after take-off from the Reno-Stead Airport. The crew of three was lost in the incident. The aircraft, a Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune, fitted with two piston and two jet engines, was operated by Neptune Aviation Services of Missoula, MT. It had been released from fighting the Burnside Fire in Hope Valley, CA (USNG: 11S KC 454 961), and was departing Reno-Stead on a new assignment to fight another fire in Calaveras County, CA (USNG: 10S GH 08 34). Preliminary statements from NTSB and witnesses indicate that a jet engine fire engulfed one of the tankers wings in flames moments after take off, sending the plane rolling into the ground. Investigators recovered several large pieces of metal beginning about one-quarter mile north of the runway that appear to have come from the burning engine.

Incident Location: Approximately 2.28km (1.42 miles) NW from the end of the Reno-Stead runway (USNG: 11S KD 5103 9790).

Map view –

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=12&usng=11SKD51039790&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Gene, Greg, and Zach at

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 87 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 listserv 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

Triple EMS LODD, Double FF LODD-Belgium, Remember BOSTON (The Secret List)

EMS HELICOPTER CRASH-TRIPLE LODD:

It is with deep regret that we notify you of the crash of an Air-Evac Lifeteam helicopter. The aircraft and crew were based in Rushville, Indiana. The helicopter crashed shortly after take off yesterday after a visit at the Burney VFD (PR detail) in Greensburg, Indiana at around 1217 hours Sunday. All three crew members were killed in the line of Duty-no one else was on board.

PILOT: Roger Warren of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Captain Warren is survived by his 15 year old step-daughter and his parents.

FLIGHT NURSE: Sandra Pearson, RN of Avon, Indiana. Ms. Pearson is survived by her eight year old son, 10 year old daughter, and her parents.

FLIGHT PARAMEDIC-MANAGER: Wade Weston (38) of Cambridge City, Indiana. Paramedic Weston is survived by his wife -- Gretchen, two daughters -- ages nine and 13, his parents, five sisters, and one brother.

TWO FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Two Belgium Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty yesterday while operating at a vacant commercial fire when it reportedly flashed over. A 3rd Firefighter was able to escape through a window with burns around her shoulders. The victims are Patrick Batselier, age 25, of the Brussels Airport CFR and Alain Tacqueniére, 55, of the Anderlecht firehouse. Links below to additional information, videos and photos. Our sincere condolences to all affected and thanks to our European and overseas TSL members who submitted this information-and especially the Croatian TSL members translated it.

http://www.rtlinfo.be/rtl/news/article/164706/0/?article_comment_action=displayReportAbuseForm&newsCommentId=346058

<http://www.rtlinfo.be/rtl/news/article/164808/--Patrick+et+Alain%2C+les+pompiers+victimes+de+lincendie+%C3%A0+Uccle>

WE REMEMBER Boston Firefighters Paul J. Cahill and Warren Payne on the one-year anniversary of their Line of Duty deaths. One year ago, Cahill and Payne operated at the fire at the Tai Ho Mandarin and Cantonese restaurant. Grease from the restaurant's kitchen exhaust system caused the fire. When the firefighters arrived, there were few visible flames and hardly any smoke....but it got worse, quickly. FF Payne was killed when a fireball exploded from the ceiling. At 9:06 p.m., FF Payne's radio sounded a distress signal, indicating his mayday. FF Cahill succumbed to smoke inhalation after becoming disoriented in the restaurant's kitchen. Rest in Peace.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL, WHAT ARE YOUR FD's 9-11 PLANS? More To Follow

BillyG

The Secret List 9-1-08 0859 Hours

AND:

SOUTH AFRICA FF BURNED-LINE OF DUTY DEATH: (The Secret List)

A 44-year-old Firefighter was horrifically burned beyond recognition at a plantation in Ngodwana, near Nelspruit, South Africa today. She was with 15 other Firefighters when they were called to a fire at the plantation. The apparatus they were on was quickly trapped by fire driven by heavy winds. Firefighters had to immediately jump off the truck and she fell and was trapped...and tragically was burned and killed in the Line of Duty,,,other FF's sustained burn wounds Authorities issued a high alert after 49 wildfires destroyed 22 000 hectares of land, leaving 23 people injured and three dead since Saturday. As always, our sincere condolences.

DOUBLE LODD UPDATE & DETAILS:

We heard from a Senior Officer who is also Secret List member from the **Brussels, Belgium Fire Service regarding their double Line of Duty Death. As posted earlier, BFD Sergeant Patrick Batselier, 35, of the BFD, Company 41, stationed in the HQ lost his life along with Corporal Alain Tacquenièrè, 55, of Brussels FD Company 44 company, stationed in the Anderlecht Firehouse.**

It appears now this was probably not a flashover* as we commonly know it....there was a false ceiling in the building...lots of smoke accumulated in the building, above the false ceiling...and there was little or no smoke at the position of the firefighters. Suddenly the smoke in the false ceiling probably ignited (fire gas ignition) and the immediate and heavy fire conditions were the result...all the windows were covered with wooden panels...and those 2 Firefighters were trapped and weren't able to escape.

The third victim of the fire is a Fire Officer in training. She was lucky and escaped...but she has 3rd degree burns on shoulders and the above part of the arms...and there are fire burnt holes in her bunker gear. All of the Firefighters had complete safety equipment including bunker gear and a PASS.

Besides the 2 Line of Duty Death Firefighters and the severely burned Firefighter, there are 6 other wounded firefighters. Besides the 41st and the 44th, there were also units from the 43th and 45th companies as well.

The BFD has 2.500 fires per year...their last LODD was in 2002 when a Young firefighter died in the Spanish Embassy Fire. Today they learned that the fire was started accidentally by playing children. One of them showed up at the police department.

***MORE ABOUT FLASHOVER:**

<http://www.workingfire.net/misc3.htm>

<http://www.firetactics.com/FLASHOVER.htm>

REMEMBERING THE 12 CROATIAN FIREFIGHTERS:

On August 30 2007, 12 Croatian FFs lost their lives in the line of duty while battling a brush fire on the island of Kornat in the Croatian Adriatic. This was the greatest disaster in the history of Croatian firefighting.

The LODD's occurred as fire ran over the Firefighters who were ascending a hill to reach the water supply left by a helicopter. An expert panel concluded the reason of LODD's was an eruptive fire caused by a funneling of hot air and wind. Here are some details of interest as we remember the 12 FF's from Croatia:

<http://www.javno.com/en/croatia/clanak.php?id=121089>

<http://www.javno.com/en/croatia/clanak.php?id=76298>

FIRE STATIONS CLOSED IN CALIFORNIA....Fire Chief appropriately makes it clear: " IT WILL GET WORSE"...as they post "BROWN OUT" schedule so the public will know when "their" firehouse is closed:

<http://www.news10.net/video/default.aspx?mid=837637657> (Video)

<http://www.sacfire.org/indexSub.cfm?page=559896> (Brown out schedule)

The whole scoop from Dave Statter:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2008/08/browned-out-fire-engine-was-closest-to.html#links>

MORE SHAMEFUL FIREFIGHTER CUTS...FIRE DEPARTMENT SLICED IN HALF:

Firefighter staffing within the city of Gary (Indiana) continued to shrink Friday, with more firefighters being sent home as part of a budget-crunching solution. The department was operating Friday with 16 firefighters spread across four open stations, using 3 engines and 1 truck. Daily staffing typically includes 4 trucks, 12 engines and about 70 firefighters. The city has reduced staffing while complying with a court order mandating a minimum of 4 Firefighters staffed to on-call rigs.

A hearing on the union's legal fight concerning the minimum number of firefighters on each rig is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Tuesday in Lake County Court.

What this SHOULD MEAN:

In Gary, the cuts SHOULD reflect the FF's lessened ability to "as safely as possible" do their jobs....and their ability to perform search, rescue and fight fires is equally reduced. Budget

cuts should be clearly reflected and balanced on the amount a risk a Firefighter should have to take-no matter what the reason for the cuts.

What this will PROBABLY MEAN:

In Gary, the elected officials still expect the job to be done "as usual" by the GFD irregardless of their blindsided decision making. **With 9-11 just a few days away, one might THINK that "the nations 1st line of defense" (fire/rescue) MIGHT just be a priority to those elected to protect the public...in Gary, and anywhere else.**

Take care-BE CAREFUL...and...

OUR PRAYERS TO ALL AFFECTED BY-AND ESPECIALLY THE FIREFIGHTERS, USAR, IMAT, DMAT & RELATED RESPONDING CREWS TO THE GUSTAV HURRICANE EMERGENCY.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-1-08 / 1640 hours

AND:

3 Firefighters, or Firefighting related crew members died in the Line of Duty last night when their Lockheed P2V air tanker crashed right after takeoff near the Reno-Stead Airport. The plane was on its way to battle the Burnside Fire in Alpine County, California, and had just finished refueling and loading up on fire retardant before it crashed around 1800 hours last night, Monday. The plane and crew had been fighting the Burnside Fire since Sunday afternoon. Witnesses say they could see a huge explosion and ball of fire in the area of the crash-- about a half-mile east of the intersection of Red Rock and Adobe, near the north end of the airport. Preliminary reports from witnesses suggested the tanker lost a piece of its engine or a wing after its 1811 hours takeoff from Reno-Stead Airport before it caught fire and went down about a half-mile away.

More details will be posted.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-2-08 / 0628 hours

AND:

Hey...

6 Stockton (CA) FF's were transported after a fire and explosion at a Port of Stockton business this morning. The fire started at FPL Energy, a company that produces electricity by burning coal...the fire was actually difficult to locate, because there was so little smoke....but then there was an explosion on the 3rd floor and the fire immediately went to 3 alarms. 1 Firefighter suffered a knee injury and the other 5 were being checked for possible injuries since they were closest to the site of the explosion.

FREE MONEY? Absolutely...and no hidden agenda here.

As we remind everyone each year, the Yvorra Leadership Development Foundation (YLD) is currently accepting applications for its **2008 Scholarship Awards**. The awards are in memory of Deputy Fire Chief James G. Yvorra who was killed in the Line of Duty. This is the 20th Anniversary of YLD and they have awarded approximately \$90,000 in scholarships! In

addition, they have established the John Eversole Hazmat Endowment in honor of Chief Eversole (an original Secret List member) and his amazing contributions to the hazmat response community. This will be the first year the scholarship is awarded in John's honor. Go to: www.yld.org or call (410) 586-0500 **ASAP**.

SOME GOOD PLACES TO GO ...and it's ICMA TIME:

A couple of items for your calendar that are well worth your time to check out.....and one where your City Manager/County Administrator etc is probably going...it's ICMA Convention time!

OUTSTANDING FIRE OFFICERS SEMINAR:

This excellent program, hosted by the Fairfax County (VA) Fire Officers, is right in the Washington DC area-so it is easy to get to for firefighters and officers from nearly anywhere. Take a second to check this out-well worth it for some SUPERB firefighter and fire officer training:

<http://www.fairfaxfireofficers.org/Seminar%202008.htm>

...and attendees arriving by air at Dulles or Reagan National need only to let them know their flight info, and they will provide a shuttle for you.

NFFF: NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL WEEKEND:

We have said it before and will keep saying it, this is a **MUST DO** at least once on your list of fire service activities. The 27th annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend will be held October 4-5, 2008. A plaque with the names of 101 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2007 will be added to the memorial, located on the NFA campus. The names of 9 Firefighters who died in previous years will also be added. The plaques surrounding the Memorial, which was established in 1981, will contain the names of more than 3,200 firefighters.

Details here: <http://www.firehero.org/index.aspx?lobid=924>

YOU AND YOUR PPE:

F.I.E.R.O. (Fire Industry Equipment Research Organization) along with co-sponsorship from the Fire Service Section of NFPA, is holding the first ever national symposium on PPE....March 9-11, 2009 in Charlotte, N.C. The EXCELLENT event is supported by the IAFC Safety, Health, and Survival Section, the FDSOA, the IAFF, the NVFC, NIOSH NPPTL, and FEMSA. This will be a **MUST ATTEND** opportunity for at least ONE rep from your FD to hear directly from fire service PPE experts, representatives from the NFPA technical committee, component manufacturers, cleaning and repair facility agencies, and testing/research personnel. It will also be the optimal opportunity to network with fellow fire service personnel and understand the scoop on what protects Firefighters. Details and on-line registration can be found at: www.fireppesymposium.com Registration is limited.

ICMA: THE CITY MANAGER & RELATED TYPE FOLKS CONFERENCE:

As we read daily about FD's laying off, cutting staffing and slashing funding (but almost always falsely expecting the same levels of service...and rarely informing the public on exactly what cuts **actually** mean), it looks like one big focus at this years upcoming ICMA conference in Richmond VA this month will be on how to **reduce costs associated with fire**

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departments...and that almost always means reducing staffing, coverage, and overall service delivery within all areas of a FD.

Some interesting programs:

<http://www2.icma.org/Conference2008/register/eventDetails.cfm?id=93>

<http://www2.icma.org/Conference2008/register/eventDetails.cfm?id=8>

And check out ICMA's Public Safety Consulting Services.....

<http://icma.org/main/bc.asp?bcid=902&hsid=12&ssid1=2607&ssid2=2925>

And lastly, congratulations to **Marine Corps Logistics Base Fire & Emergency Services** for winning the Department of Defense Large Fire Department of the Year for Calendar Year 2007....they also won the Fire Prevention Program of the Year.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-2-08 / 2159 hours

AND:

Hey...

Yesterday, a Pennsylvania state appeals court upheld a \$4.5 million verdict against Oklahoma-based Freightliner Specialty Vehicles that an Allegheny County jury awarded to 2 Coraopolis families affected by a tragic and deadly fire hose accident. The jury in September 2006 found the company and the Coraopolis VFD liable for the death of Erin Schmidt, 10, who was struck in the face on August 19, 2004, by the hose trailing behind the fire apparatus as they were responding to an alarm on her street.

The hose was actually dangling from the responding apparatus when it became stuck under a parked car, then whipped around and struck two 10-year-old girls playing on the nearby lawn. Erin Schmidt died of head injuries and her close friend and classmate, Joeylynne Jeffress, suffered extensive injuries but survived.

The plaintiffs also include 3 relatives who witnessed the accident. A divided three-judge Superior Court panel said state law allows bystanders who witness injury to a close relative to collect damages for emotional distress under certain circumstances.

The state Superior Court issued a 41-page opinion affirming the judgment. A horrible situation for all affected, including the Firefighters.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-Secure Stuff On The Rig-Inside and Out.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-3-08 / 0723 hours

AND:

Hey...

As is the tradition for many fire departments, fire companies, EMS units, Firefighter Union locals and Volunteer Firefighter Associations, the Firefighters take a night off, usually annually, and do stuff together. It is an appropriate chance to spend time together off duty, with their significant others-doing some social stuff. Sometimes it's a night out for dinner, sometimes it a weekend away-but either way-it is a chance to have a good time-together. A well deserved good time.

September 14, 2008

www.chabotfire.com

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I want to suggest something for fire departments, fire companies, Union locals and Volunteer Associations that is a good and valued time away together-and one that will make a huge, huge difference. Please keep reading.

The September 11th Families Association has created a show entitled “**Performing Tribute**” ...which is a volunteer performance that was created by the September 11th Families’ Association’s Tribute WTC Visitor Center. **The show will take place at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center on October 20 and October 21 in New York City.**

“Performing Tribute” is a show featuring six stories from 9/11 family members who lost loved ones, survivors, Firefighters, first responders, and volunteer workers...their stories are woven together in a professionally produced and positive 75 minute theatrical presentation. Tribute Center performers share their personal moments of September 11th and the profound aftermath that changed their lives...**and will allow you as a Firefighter to reflect on the impact you experienced-and to continue to appreciate the good stuff we are able to still enjoy...while never forgetting.** Quite frankly, if it weren't for the Firefighters and other responders along with those serving our Country and some select other few-the mission of “**NEVER FORGET**” would be nearly lost.

The “Performing Tribute,” performance explores the NYC neighborhood and community of the World Trade Center, the timeline of events of 9/11, and the months of recovery effort. Volunteers share their individual challenges, stories of healing, and how the Tribute Center has inspired their hope for the future.

Why not consider this as an activity for your Firefighters....?

To ask questions, get details, purchase sponsorships, seat tickets, program ads or to simply **send in a donation**, contact **Josie Chiles at 212-422-3520**, x 125 or contact Josie by e-mail at Jchiles@tributewtc.org

Take a minute and check it out. While there are many opportunities for Firefighters and their loved ones to have a night off.....this one, this year, will be one that will really make a difference in supporting the **TRIBUTE WORLD TRADE CENTER VISITORS CENTER**
<http://www.tributewtc.org/index.php>

Take Care-please consider this....

Thanks!

BillyG

The Secret List 9-3-08 / 1707 hours

AND:

Hey...

Little commentary required on the below. The below comments, the lack of genuine understanding related to residential fire sprinklers as well as the questionable respect for Firefighters is clear by another builders association.

See below re: **How Many Fire Departments Does It Take to Screw in A Residential Sprinkler?**

If you, your FD or your fire association is not involved in this critical issue related to the 2009 International Code Council's Final Action Hearings in Minneapolis, it is not too late....

Go here ASAP: <http://www.ircfiresprinkler.org/2008CodeHearings.htm>

Take Care,
BillyG
The Secret List 9-30-08 / 2130 hours
www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: Minnesota Building Code Officials
FROM: Karen Linner, Director of Codes and Research
Phone: 651-269-0944
E-mail: karenl@bamn.org
DATE: August 29, 2008

**RE: Exercise Your Right to Vote...Should Single Family Homes Require Fire Sprinklers?
How Many Fire Departments Does It Take to Screw in A Residential Sprinkler?**

In mid September we'll find out. Fire departments around the country and especially in Minnesota are preparing travel plans and phone trees to be at the ready to vote at the 2009 International Code Council's Final Action Hearings at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Three code proposals: RB-62, RB-64 and RB-65 will be considered during the code hearings for the 2009 International Residential Code. **If any of these proposals pass, fire sprinklers will be mandatory in all single-family homes whenever Minnesota adopts the 2009 version of the IRC.** These important votes are scheduled to occur on the evening of Saturday September 20th or the morning of Sunday September 21st.

Why Should You Care?

If building code officials don't register and show up for these hearings, fire fighters, not code officials will be writing the building code. Last week there were 148 fire fighters from Minnesota registered to vote at the hearings. Yesterday 24 more joined. We expect a flood of additional fire departments to join next week. The Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) does not oppose the right of fire fighters to use the ICC process to overturn the position of every IRC Code Committee and the Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO) IRC Committee. What we do oppose is having this important decision made by a majority of individuals who are not responsible for creating or enforcing the building code in its entirety, like building code officials are. Sprinkler proponents will have to gain a 2/3 majority to get these proposals into the code.

Your vote can and will make a difference! If fire sprinklers do end up being mandated in the 2009 IRC it will be a hard and uphill battle to get that provision amended out of the Minnesota State Building Code. Vote now to avoid this fight in the future.

Fire Sprinkler Facts

- The IRC Committee of the International Code Council has consistently voted against mandatory fire sprinklers for single-family homes at every step of the code process as have a majority of ICC members in all rounds of past code hearings.
- The Association of Minnesota Building Official's (AMBO) IRC Committee does not support and never has supported fire sprinkler code mandates for Minnesota homes. Their voting guides confirm this.
- Fire officials have cited zero cases of residential fire fatalities in homes built to the 2000 or 2006 IRC standards in Minnesota. Why? Because the current Minnesota State Building Code requires all new single homes to have smoke alarms that are hardwired, interconnected, and equipped with battery back-ups.
- Smoke alarms work. Consumers feel safe without sprinklers and the demand is not there. Homeowners aren't voluntarily choosing to install sprinklers; why should the building code require this unwanted and unneeded mandate? The court of public opinion has answered this mandate with a resounding "No!"
- The cost of mandatory sprinkler provisions will price homeowners out of the safest housing stock ever built in our state. The average installed cost of a sprinkler system is \$4,800 for a 2,400 square foot home and this is a conservative estimate. These costs soar even higher if a home isn't connected to a community water supply.

Who Can Vote at the 2009 Final Action Hearings?

Although BAM is a member of the ICC, we and other non-governmental members are not allowed to vote during the Final Action Hearings. Only government agencies that have (1) joined the ICC and have (2) registered voting representatives can vote at the Final Action Hearings. Building inspection departments and cities can join ICC just like fire departments have. The entire registration process must be completed by mail or fax by September 5th. Follow the steps below to secure your right to vote on this and other important code issues.

Step 1: Have your department join the IMMEDIATELY if you aren't already ICC members. The \$100-\$280 yearly membership fee is based on population: <http://www.iccsafe.org/e/newmember.html>

Step 2: Register your allotted number of votes for department employees, policy makers or public officials. <http://www.iccsafe.org/membership/faq-vote.html> You'll need your login and password or you can ask ICC staff for help logging in. You'll have 4, 8, or 12 votes based on your community's population.

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Step 3: Pre-register your voters for the FREE final action hearings:
<http://abm.iccsafe.org/2008/splash.html>

Step 4: Pick up your voting badge at the ICC Registration Desk BEFORE 5 pm on Saturday 9/21. If you show up after 5pm on 9/21 you won't be able to vote! The ICC Registration Desk is open from 9am – 5pm Monday through Saturday and from 7am – 5pm.

Step 5: Show up and be counted. Sign up to receive for our voter alert text/e-mail message. Want to get a pre-vote text alerting you when the votes will take place? Click here to give us your contact information: Sign me up!

We encourage you, on behalf of the public you serve, to be part of this historic vote or it will be overwhelming decided by sprinkler advocates. Please don't hesitate to contact me at karenl@bamn.org or 651-269-0944. Thank you for considering our side of this important public policy issue. A BAM Voter Guide on selected code issues will be mailed to all building code officials who are registered for the 2009 ICC Final Action Hearings.

AND:

It is with deep regret that we advised you that **Gallipolis (Ohio) Firefighter Greg Northup, 55, died in the Line of Duty yesterday**. FF Northup was on a special work detail around 1745 hours when he entered the offices of the Gallipolis Daily Tribune and suddenly collapsed inside the door. Employees of the newspaper went to his aid and called for assistance and GPD and the Gallia County EMS responded. CPR was initiated but sadly he passed away from a reported heart attack. mFF Northup had 7 years on the FD...he is the Brother of Rob Northup, also a GFD Firefighter and both are nephews of GFD Chief James Northup (Ret). As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 9-4-08 / 1152 hours

AND:

Hey...

Here is the latest from CFSI.

On Thursday, July 10th, the Department of Justice (DOJ) posted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Public Safety Officers Benefit (PSOB) Program. **The proposed rule makes a number of changes to the PSOB program...and you have until this MONDAY* to get your comments in.**

CFSI has prepared a brief summary of the proposed rule that can be found here:

http://www.cfsi.org/pdf/CFSI_Analysis_Memo_on_PSOB_Proposed_Changes.pdf

NOTE: A close examination of the Proposed Regulation suggests that some of the changes the Department of Justice (DOJ) is proposing may make it easier in certain ways for claimants to establish their claims, while some of the proposed changes may

either limit the number of individuals who are eligible to receive benefits under the PSOB or impose additional procedural requirements on claimants.

While CFSI has attempted to outline the proposed changes that are likely to have the most significant effects on the ability of public safety officers and their beneficiaries to claim benefits under the PSOB, this is by no means a complete "top-to-bottom" analysis of the proposed rule. The following memo is intended to simply highlight some of the larger issues covered by the proposed rule and provide an understanding of the overall effect of the changes DOJ is proposing.

The entire proposed rule can be found here:

<http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocumentDetail&o=0900006480663906>

***Public comments are due no later than 1700 hours (EST) on Monday, September 8, 2008. All comments should be directed to:**

Hope Janke
Counsel to the Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
810 7th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20531
(202) 305-1367 (fax)

To ensure proper handling, please reference OJP Docket No. 1478 on your correspondence.

QUESTIONS: Contact CFSI at: Tel: (202) 371-1277 or their website at <http://www.cfsi.org/>

Take Care-Take Action,
BillyG
The Secret List 9-4-08 / 1658 hours

AND:

Hey...

We have been getting alotta e-mail lately asking that question. So, as yet ANOTHER public service due to our over abundance of never ending dedication to Secret List members, we reached out to Jack Sullivan at www.ResponderSafety.com to get the scoop...so here ya go...no need to thank us. Seriously. Don't.

The New Federal Rule 23 C.F.R. Part 634 – Worker Visibility (High-Visibility Vests)

Background

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which authorizes the Federal

surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 5-year period 2005-2009. Pursuant to this law, the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) proposed a new federal regulation on April 24, 2006 published in volume 71 Federal Register, page 20925 (71 Fed. Reg. 20925) that requires all workers within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway to wear an ANSI 107 (2004) Class 2 or 3 high-visibility vest. On November 24, 2006 the FHA published the final rule, which becomes effective on November 24, 2008, at 71 Fed. Reg. 67792. All first responders working within the right-away of a federal-aid highway are covered by the new Rule. Why does extra visibility protection matter? Check out: http://firefighterclosecalls.com/cc_apparatus.php

It is a Rule with good intent but it was written with little input or involvement of the fire service. We, the fire service, have to take some responsibility for not participating in the rule making process. The new Rule creates a dilemma for firefighters responding to vehicle, brush/wildland, and/or structure fires along Federal-aid highways. It is NOT appropriate for firefighters engaged in direct fire attack operations to wear high-visibility vests that were not designed for use in proximity firefighting. Although some vests are available that have flame-resistant properties, they are not designed for proximity firefighting. Additionally, ANSI 107(2004) the high visibility clothing standard contains wording in the preface that clearly indicates that the standard was not written with emergency services in mind and that more appropriate standards (i.e., NFPA) are available to provide guidance for firefighter personal protective equipment.

The full wording of 23 C.F.R. Part 634 – Worker Visibility Rule is available here: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2006_register&docid=E6-19910

This new Federal rule cannot be changed or withdrawn, but the revision process currently underway for the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) can be used to “fix” the problem. The Emergency Responder Safety Institute (ERSI) (www.respondersafety.com) has developed and submitted suggested wording for revisions to the MUTCD to correct the conflicts created for fire departments working on Federal aid highways. It will be sometime in 2009 before those changes take effect.

What are Fire, EMS and Rescue Services supposed to do in the meantime?

It is important to keep in mind that the Emergency Responder Safety Institute, OSHA, NIOSH, the U.S. Fire Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Fire Protection Association all SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE the use of high-visibility vests for emergency services workers (Firefighters, Emergency Medical Personnel and Law Enforcement Officers) when working on roadways where they are exposed to vehicle traffic and not directly exposed to heat, flame, fire or hazardous materials. It is also important to keep in mind that the intent of the new Federal rule is to decrease the likelihood of worker injuries or fatalities caused by being struck by vehicles, which is a primary goal shared by the fire service.

High-visibility vests are only one component of a system of protective strategies to protect firefighters from being struck by vehicles while working along roadways. Each fire

department and public safety agency should work to develop a complete program of proactive strategies to protect their personnel including the following tactics.

Proactive Strategies to Protect Firefighters from being struck by vehicles include:

- 1) Training for all personnel on roadway incident safety;
- 2) Proper PPE – Turnouts/bunker gear (NFPA1971), helmet, hi-visibility vests;
- 3) Proper positioning of apparatus to create a safe zone;
- 4) Proper use and deployment of traffic control devices;
 - a. Signs, cones, flares, police cars, variable message signs
- 5) Multi-agency & multi-jurisdictional cooperation, collaboration & communication;
 - a. Multi-agency training on roadway incident safety
- 6) Fire apparatus enhanced visibility design features.
 - a. Emergency warning lights designed for on-scene protection
 - b. High-visibility (reflective and florescent) chevrons on the rear of apparatus that comply with the guidelines recently passed for the newest edition of NFPA 1901

Problem: For firefighters engaged in direct firefighting and/or hazardous material operations along federal-aid highways, how do we comply with Rule 634 while at the same time complying with OSHA and NFPA standards regarding personal protective equipment?

Explanation: The ANSI 107 (2004) standard clearly indicates in the Forward section of the standard that it was NOT written for workers who have competing exposures, like firefighters engaged in firefighting activities. It also suggests that NFPA standards for personal protective equipment should provide guidance for firefighters. OSHA regulations require employers to complete and certify PPE Hazard Assessments which identify all job hazards and the correct PPE for workers to wear when engaged in those activities. Since there are no high visibility vests available on the market that have been designed for “proximity firefighting” (NFPA Standards) it is not possible for the “reasonable and prudent” fire chief to properly comply with all applicable rules and standards after Nov.24, 2008. For direct firefighting and hazardous materials operations, the reasonable and prudent fire chief today will follow NFPA standards to properly protect their personnel which also allows them to comply with OSHA regulations. Rule 634 just requires the use of ANSI 107 Class 2 or 3 garments with no exemptions or guidance specifically for firefighters, yet it does not exclude them either. Firefighters are clearly included in the definition of “worker” in the rule language.

Solution: Emergency services organizations should do the following:

- 1) REVIEW the most current version of NFPA 1500-2007 and in particular Section 8.7 - Traffic Incidents - and document your agencies actions to comply with those guidelines.
- 2) DEVELOP and document an SOP/SOG for roadway operations and use it as part of your training program and response operations. This is one of the components of the NFPA 1500-2007 standard.
- 3) ALL public safety agencies (FD, PD and EMS) should complete documented PPE Hazard Assessments using guidance provided by OSHA on their webpage here: <http://tinyurl.com/59nkct>

or

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=10120

Your agency does not have to be located within an OSHA plan state to comply with OSHA regulations. OSHA regulations can only be enforced for public sector agencies located in OSHA Plan states. However; you should consider OSHA standards to be "best practices".

4) As part of the PPE hazard assessment process and documentation clearly identify ALL the hazards (including moving traffic at roadway incidents) and document specifically what PPE personnel should be wearing for the various types of emergencies your agency responds to - fires, medical assists, hazmat, motor vehicle crashes etc.. That guidance should detail what personnel attacking a vehicle, structure or ground cover fire should be wearing (and that would NOT include high visibility vests) and any other precautions being taken to protect them (i.e. all fire attack should be conducted from within a protected "safe zone" secured by fire apparatus positioned and parked correctly to protect personnel in accordance with your agency's Roadway Incident Safety SOP/SOG).

5) Personnel who are on-scene and are not directly exposed to fire, flame, excessive heat or hazardous materials would be expected to wear high-visibility garments (ie. pump operators, fire-police, support personnel, command officers etc.) Any members assigned to respond to an emergency situation (ie. RIT members) should be considered in the same environment as those engaged in active fire attack and should be staged OFF of the roadway and in the protected safe zone where they would not require hi-visibility gear until after the scene is under control at which time they could don a vest. Any personnel on scene could easily remove (tear-away) a high-visibility vest to react to unusual circumstances if necessary and don an air-pak to render assistance with direct firefighting actions.

6) DOCUMENT that your firefighters have completed roadway incident safety training. Document means that you identify the subject, content (agenda), instructor, time, date, location and list of attendees with any test or quiz results (all OSHA requirements for employee safety training). The "Watch Out Behind You" program available for FREE from www.respondersafety.com is an excellent tool for a local training program but other materials also exist including some very good programs already in place in numerous FD's across the country.

7) PURCHASE an appropriate number, type and sizes of high-visibility vests for your personnel. Appropriate means ANSI-107(2004) Class 2 or 3 garments OR ANSI-207(2006) compliant garments. Manufacturers are in some cases "double-tagging" those garments that meet both ANSI 107 and ANSI 207 standards and that would be the best way to go for new purchases right now. Be sure to obtain vests of the proper size to fit over turnout gear usually starting at XL and above. Look for or request 4 or 5-point breakaway features. Be sure to include information about the use (don – adjust size – remove and store properly), care and maintenance of the garments in your roadway incident safety training and include that info in your training documentation as described above (also an OSHA requirement). It is appropriate in some cases to wear high-visibility vests over top of full bunker gear, especially in cold weather situations and responses to motor vehicle crashes where there is no fire.

REMEMBER: Firefighters and emergency medical personnel do not ALWAYS wear their full turnout gear ensemble when responding to every emergency incident! The highest percentage of emergency responses (60% or better – fill in your own local EMS response number) does not involve wearing full turnouts. **Even though some manufacturers are suggesting that the trim on bunker gear is adequate protection for working on a roadway. We disagree.** They are forgetting that full turnouts are not ALWAYS worn and that turnout gear gets dirty which reduces their reflective and florescent trim features. Also, not all turnout gear uses the same trim configuration as those tested for visibility features. Turnout gear offers no visibility enhancement if they are not actually on the personnel and in the heat of summer, firefighters are often in a hurry to shed the heavy coat to avoid heat related injuries. A high-visibility vest serves a critical need for those personnel who are not wearing full bunker gear under most emergency conditions.

Thanks to Jack and the crew at www.ResponderSafety.com for their help on this.

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-5-08 / 1147 hours

AND:

Hey...

If the Fire Service doesn't take the time to constantly remind their community WHY we can NEVER FORGET 9-11-01, then the community will forget. Hopefully, all those reading this have the plans for this weeks memorial remembrance services in YOUR community or area all set and ready to go. (See below link from the IAFC for some excellent ideas...it is NOT too late)

Watching all the Presidential election stuff on TV, all the thoughts, ideas and "change" plans are wonderful-no matter which candidate you like-BUT if the candidates cannot do their absolute best to prove that THEY can protect our County from further terror attacks, then nothing else will matter. **Without freedom and security-we have NOTHING...and NOTHING else matters.**

Reminds me of towns and cities that cut their fire departments staffing, budgets, equipment, responses (to "save" fuel) etc-but still maintain pretty parks, fancy median strips, recreation pools etc...those "things" cannot be enjoyed with any level of comfort and security if emergency services are unable to provide rapid, well staffed and professional response when the good day turns bad. Nuth'n new.

9-11-08 IDEAS FROM THE IAFC:

<http://www.iafc.org/displayindustryarticle.cfm?articlenbr=37389>

FIREFIGHTER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-PHILLIPINES

A Firefighter from Manila (Philippines) died in the Line of Duty while fighting a blaze that hit a paint and auto center in Cainta town in Rizal province Sunday night. The Firefighter, identified as Jaime Aloriza, suffered a heart attack while fighting the fire. Colleagues cited initial information indicating Aloriza suffered a heart attack during the fire...but they also said a heavy object fell on him while he was helping fight the fire...but they are also not discounting the possibility that fumes from the chemicals also downed Aloriza. The fire started at around

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

1900 hours at a paint and auto center in Cainta, and spread to at least three nearby establishments. FF Aloriza leaves behind a wife and two children.

And in **Washington DC**, a 26-year-old DC Firefighter received a graze wound to his arm after his crew was shot at while answering a medical call Monday night. Here is a link to more details from Dave Statter:

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/2008/09/dc-ff-shot-ff-suffered-wound-to-arm.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL-PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR 9-11-08 PLANS ARE SET...

BillyG

The Secret List 9-9-08 / 1200 hours

AND:

Hey...

Take a look at the below link to check out a new NFPA news release about residential fire sprinklers:

Cost of Installing Residential Fire Sprinklers Averages \$1.61 per Square Foot.

This is a no B S groundbreaking report that dispels many of the intentional myths from groups such as high profit seeking homebuilder associations surrounding sprinkler cost and installation. In the first sentence of the news release, click on the "Home Fire Sprinkler Cost Assessment" link. This will take you to the complete report. This in-depth report is loaded with important information, but please **at least check out** the Executive Summary. Link to the news release.

<http://www.nfpa.org/newsReleaseDetails.asp?categoryID=488&itemID=40496>

GOOD information from the NFPA as we are just days away from the The International Code Council hearings in Minneapolis, this coming week....where residential sprinkler issues will be decided.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-13-08 / 0705 hours

AND:

Hey...

An ambulance rammed a running helicopter while responding to a South Jersey car crash that killed 4 young people Thursday night...and while the helicopter was damaged, it was still able to fly after the incident-although none of the four victims was flown out. The crash occurred around 2000 hours when a Honda Accord carrying four young adults and an infant girl veered off their lane and struck a street-sweeper vehicle. The driver and 3 passengers (ages 17-23) in the Honda were killed but the 2-month-old girl, who was properly secured, was uninjured, police said.

The medevac helicopter was dispatched to the scene and landed near the accident while an ambulance from nearby Franklin Township, Gloucester County, was approaching the accident scene. The roof of the ambulance accidentally struck the rear rotor of the helicopter, which was still running.

GETTING HACKED OFF in Hackensack (FD Based EMS "Under Fire")

Of course you remember Hackensack (NJ) where Five (5) HFD Firefighters lost their lives in the Line of Duty in the fire/collapse of a bow-string truss roof at the Hackensack Ford auto dealership, 20+ years ago.

Yeah-and that's also the same place where their City Council passed a resolution this past February that urged residents to **FIGHT hard to STOP** the implementation of a state bill that would require retro FIRE sprinklers in multi-family occupancies 75' or taller.

And now, just last week, minutes after a Judge issued a temporary restraining order that declares illegal Hackensack's plan to dump their FD-based EMS & give it to Hackensack University Medical Center, City Hall officials brazenly told the judge to essentially stuff it. They will now just "declare an emergency" and turn the FD based EMS over to the hospital anyway. **Humph!** City officials said by declaring their own self serving and self-defined emergency, they can give out a contract without following the State law that calls for the competitive bid process. Yep-that's an emergency all right.

Hackensack city hall dwellers apparently made this "bada-bing smokey back room...yo!!...watch the back door Pauly!" sweet heart deal with the hospital last February. This was done, because in exchange for the City Council's approval of construction of a new cancer center, the Hackensack UMC would have to take over EMS-away from the HFD. There was no competitive bidding process involved and the city hall folks are giddy-glad to rid themselves of having any more troublesome HFD employees than they have to have. 2 hours after the judge issued the TRO, City officials **ordered** the 8 HFD EMTs to **not** report for their shifts this weekend. Well stated by Local 2081's watchful President John Linquito: "What the judge wouldn't let in through the front door, they are doing through the back door".

The TRO request was filed by IAFF Local 2081-HFD FF's & EMT's, which represents the members who were scheduled for termination at the end of their shift tonight (Sunday). EMS was scheduled to be transferred from the Hackensack FD to the hospital on Monday (tomorrow). **But, the TRO orders t he City not to transfer EMS.** City Manager Steven Lo lacono, Mayor Michael Melfi and the City Council have repeatedly **ignored** vehement opposition by taxpaying residents to this EMS plan. Now they are brazenly defying a court order. Ignore those who elect you...and then ignore those who judge you: Stupidity at it's best.

HACKENSACK FD EMS LINK: <http://www.savehfdems.com/index1.html>

BEWARE: THE FD BASED EMS "UNDER FIRE"

Watch for many other local governments to be looking HARD at their own FD based EMS systems....to see if \$\$ can "appear" to be saved.

Here is an article from **Massachusetts** where clearly, they don't understand that the FD is supplementing private providers profit...

<http://www.tauntingazette.com/news/x1056110903/Opposition-to-fire-based-EMS-system>

And **California where the San Francisco FD**, who currently provides EMS will now have to actually "bid" their own system if they want to continue to provide EMS thru the SFFD, in their own City!

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/09/13/MN6712SJ94.DTL>

UNIQUE ISFSI CONFERENCE: Distance Education in the Fire Service Symposium
October 11 & 12, 2008 Nashville (TN) Marriott Airport....ISFSI is holding a hands on informational session on "distance education concepts and incorporating technology" in the fire service classroom. Check it out and consider joining some of the experts in technology and student centered learning in Nashville for this very unique learning opportunity.

<http://www.isfsi.org/symposium.php>

Take Care-Be Careful,

BillyG

The Secret List 9-14-08 / 0635 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 Sacramento (CA) Fire Department responds to their current need to brownout fire stations due to necessary budget reductions:

<http://www.news10.net/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=47186&catid=2>

The City of Stockton (CA) is facing at least a 16 million dollar deficit, and is struggling trying to find different ways to reduce that large deficit, including closing fire stations and having city workers take unpaid time off or the firefighters hold off on taking pay raises: http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_10380764

A Georgia Fire Department is poised to make firefighter layoffs due to lack of funding and revenue: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=60881§ionId=46>

The City of Longmont (CO) is merging the positions of Police Chief and Fire Chief to help save costs: http://www.reporterherald.com/news_story.asp?ID=19139

A judge has allowed the City of Vallejo to file bankruptcy, paving the way for the current labor/management contracts to be opened up and possibly be considered null and void, resulting in renegotiation:

http://www.cbs47.tv/news/state/story.aspx?content_id=8abee34c-eb6d-45f3-92e0-655b16306bd3

Fire Department Consolidation / Merger Related Stories:

Fire Departments in the Miami (FL) area are debating whether to merge into one department, to provide a more efficient and effective level of service to their communities:

http://www.fireengineering.com/display_news/166790/25/none/Furor_over_proposed_FL_fire_protection_legislation

The City of Oakley (CA) is looking at pulling away from partnering with the East Contra Costa County Fire Protection District and instead, partnering with the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, who is significantly larger and in better financial shape: <http://www.antiochpress.com/article.cfm?articleID=20367>

Public Relations Nightmare Stories:

A former San Francisco Firefighter is a suspect in a sex assault case:

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/09/04/BAJ112NHJC.DTL&tsp=1>

Firefighters in Michigan on scene of a car on fire fail to find the body in the burned up vehicle. A good reminder when on your next car fire – make sure you do a primary and secondary search to ensure there are no people or animals still inside:

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/09/04/BAJ112NHJC.DTL&tsp=1>

A Washington D.C. Firefighter is accused of rape:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=60815§ionId=46>

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

The Maricopa (AZ) Fire Department is attempting to strengthen it's relationship with the local private ambulance provider, by looking at sharing space at their fire stations to help reduce response times and to help build personnel relationships:

<http://www.85239.com/NEWS/NewsArticleDetails.aspx?mid1=390&&ArticleID=4036&&name=c&&id=1>

The Governor of California is possibly going to sign a bill requiring EMTs to go through mandatory criminal background investigations. Something many probably think already occur: <http://www.sacbee.com/111/story/1210789.html>

A study showing firefighters are twice as likely to contract cancer:
<http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/northwest/story/475431.html>

Milwaukee (WI) firefighters find themselves having to dodge bullets while on a vehicle accident response (not while on a shooting response):
<http://www.wisn.com/news/17424850/detail.html>

A Washington D.C. firefighter is shot while responding to assist a male having chest pain: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=60876§ionId=46>

The Mesa (AZ) Fire Department is looking at expanding it's volunteer ranks to help deal with the ever increasing non-emergency responses, not to mention limited funding: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/125114>

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

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

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- If you know of someone who wants to receive this newsletter (as well as other updates) email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and I will place them on the mailing list.
- If you want to take your name off of the mailing list, just send me an email at sprziborowski@aol.com and in the subject heading, and type in "unsubscribe from mailing list" and I will remove your name.
- If you are subscribed to my email mailing list and you are not receiving anything (a problem some earthlink, aol, hotmail and yahoo users have at times), make sure you add my name – Steve Prziborowski and the email address I use to send this newsletter and other fire and EMS related news items out – sprziborowski@aol.com to your address book, safe list, white list, etc. Since I mass mail items to thousands of people, some email providers may think these items are spam or junk mail, even though they are not. If you have not received anything from me in over two weeks, email me to let me know so that I can attempt to troubleshoot the issue.