



FIRE & EMS NEWS

July 4, 2008

Happy 4th of July! Please take the time to not only appreciate the Independence we are provided living in this great Country, but to set the example in regards to safely recognizing this great holiday.

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY INFORMATION:

United States Fire Administration Seeks a Safer July 4th for All Residents

Washington D.C. - Fireworks account for a substantial number of preventable injuries and fires each year, especially during the weeks before and after the Fourth of July. Parents need to be especially vigilant during this period, ensuring children do not possess illegal fireworks or mishandle legal ones. Despite federal and state regulations on the type of fireworks available for sale to the public, even fireworks sold legally carry an elevated risk of personal injury. Because of this, the safest way to enjoy them is through public displays.

“Across the nation, residents will celebrate the birth of our nation with fireworks — both legal and illegal,” said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. “These pyrotechnics become bigger, brighter, and more dangerous each year. By taking some simple steps for safety, those choosing to use fireworks can ensure they will not end their celebrations by seeking medical treatment for injuries by their use.”

Statistics maintained by the fireworks industry indicate Americans used 280 million pounds of display and backyard pyrotechnics in 2007. According to statistics from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), nearly 10,000 Americans were treated in emergency rooms for firework-related injuries. Industry specialists are, once again, forecasting a growth in sales of fireworks during 2008.

The United States Fire Administration joins with the CPSC to recommend the following safety procedures when using fireworks at any time of year:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.
- Avoid buying fireworks that come in brown paper packaging, as this can often be a sign the fireworks were made for professional displays and could pose a danger to consumers.

- Adults should always supervise fireworks activities. Parents often don't realize there are many injuries from sparklers to children under five. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never have any portion of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Move back a safe distance immediately after lighting.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light one item at a time and then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks fully complete their functioning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding.

Additional information regarding safety issues and the dangers of fireworks can be seen at this month's USFA **Focus on Fire Safety**: (www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus)

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Livermore-Pleasanton (CA):

The [Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department](#) will be accepting applications for the positions of **Firefighter & Firefighter/Paramedic**, from: June 2 – July 7, 2008. The basic requirements are as follows:

- **Firefighter**: Graduation from high school or equivalent, CPAT completion card, and that you possess EMT and CPR certification.
- **Firefighter/Paramedic**: Graduation from high school or equivalent, CPAT completion card, and that you possess one year of field experience as a licensed paramedic.
- Additional requirements can be found on their website.

To view the job announcement and complete an online application, go to:
www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/employment/opportunities/

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

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

For more information about the **Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department**, visit their website at: www.lpfire.org

For more information about the **Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Association, I.A.F.F. Local 1974**, visit their website at: www.iaff1974.com/

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 a number of various seminars they are offering in the near future:

- **Seminar #1:** =====

S-404 (Safety Officer): Presented by L.A. County Deputy Fire Chief Mike Bryant and S.F.F.D. Battalion Chief David Franklin – Sacramento, CA: September 15 – 17, 2008.

The course curriculum will deliver “all risk” emergency information for the Safety Officer position commensurate with the requirements of FIRESCOPE. This is a State accredited class recognized by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group and California State Fire Training. Students will develop and deliver safety messages. In addition, they will develop and recommend measures for assuring personnel safety, and to assess and/or anticipate hazardous and unsafe situations. Additional subjects covered include: work place injuries and vehicle accident investigations, OSHA requirements, safety messages and briefings, Incident Command forms, assistant safety officer (Haz-Mat & USAR) responsibilities, risk mitigation, situational analysis of tactical application (215A), wildland duties and responsibilities, case study analysis (structure fires), training exercises (NFPA 1403), certification (CICCS) and task book requirements, fire fighter injury investigation (case study), and roles and responsibilities prior, during, and after Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) deployment.

This is a three-day class (32 hours) and a must for all fire service members. Students are required to attend all three days. Upon completion the student will receive a California State Fire Training Certificate. If you have seen Chief Bryant you know first hand that he is one of the most dynamic and passionate presenters in today’s fire service. Do not miss this opportunity! This class is expected to fill quickly, so do not delay.

For more information, including the registration flyer and to register, go to: www.firenuggets.com/seminarmccllellan09_08.pdf

• **Seminar #2:** =====

"A View from the Back Step": Presented by Firefighter Jeff Shupe, Cleveland Fire Department – Denver, CO: August 8, 2008

Spend the day learning from one of the most experienced engine company firefighters in the American Fire Service. Firefighter Jeff Shupe will give an in-depth look from a firefighter's point of view of structural firefighting, with an emphasis on how it can and should be made simple. He will explain proper strategy and tactics and how basic principles of firefighting apply to all fire departments, regardless of size.

For more information, including the registration flyer and to register, go to:
www.firenuggets.com/seminardenverpro08_4.pdf

• **Seminar #3:** =====

"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:
www.firenuggets.com/seminardenverpro08_5.pdf

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – NEWARK (CA):

The **Newark Fire Department** will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter/Paramedic**, until: July 21, 2008.

To view the job announcement, go to: <http://newark.org/jobs/>

For more information about the **City of Newark**, visit their website at www.newark.org

For more information about the **Newark Fire Department**, visit their website at: <http://newark.org/departments/fire.html>

Here is some information found on their website:

FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC

The **Firefighter** is responsible for the protection of life and property through firefighting activities and fire equipment operation. The **Paramedic Program** provides for non-transport, Advanced Life Support (ALS) services through the assignment of State licensed and accredited paramedics to engine companies.

To view the complete job announcement, please [click here](#).

Salaries effective 7/1/08

Firefighter-Entry \$7,190 - \$7,572 per month

Firefighter \$7,764 - \$8,989 per month

Plus **Paramedic Pay** \$717.84 per month

Salaries listed are Total Compensation. This approach give employees the flexibility to tailor their compensation package to individual needs.

Applications

To be considered for this position, a completed and signed City employment application along with copies of required certifications/licenses are required. Applications are available [by clicking here](#) or may be requested in person at the HR office. **Applications accepted June 19 - July 21, 2008.**

Qualifications

Education: A high school diploma, GED or equivalent.

Licenses/Certificates:

A valid CA driver license and ability to obtain a Class B license with Firefighter restriction.

- Possession of a current EMT-1 certificate issued by the California Department of Health.
- Possession of a current Paramedic Certification and ability to become accredited in Alameda County.

Training/Experience:

Successful completion of the training and class hours necessary for certification by the California State Board of Fire Services as a Firefighter 1 is required prior to being assigned as the primary Firefighter on a front line emergency resource. If hired without the Firefighter 1 training, the Newark Fire Department will provide necessary training for certification. Firefighter 1 certification must be obtained during the 18-month probationary period.

Additional Application Requirements

Candidates must possess a valid CPAT (Candidate Physical Ability Test) card dated within 12 months of the closing date.

For your convenience, CPAT testing centers are located at:

CPAT Testing Center - North
6723 Sierra Court, Suite G
Dublin, CA 94568

CPAT Testing Center - South
626 North Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Toll Free Number: 877-648-2728

www.CPATonline.org

FIRE SERVICE RELATED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – SACRAMENTO (CA):

The Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center is looking for fire dispatchers! Below you will find their job announcement:

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

For additional information regarding employment contact:

jparker@sacregionalfire.ca.gov

[Download an Application for Fire Dispatcher](#)
Fire/EMS Dispatcher - Entry Level Only

About the Position:

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

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

Final Filing Date: Open Filing

Minimum Qualifications:

Educational Requirements:

- High School Diploma or GED certificate

Possession of:

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

IMPORTANT

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

(NO ON LINE TYPING CERTIFICATES, NO EXCEPTIONS)

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

Ability to:

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

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

- Pick up and carry manuals, directories, etc. weighing up to 15 lbs.
- Sit or stand for extended periods of time.

Desirable Qualifications:

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

Work Hours:

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

Employee Benefits:

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

Probation:

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

Selection Process:

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

Examination Process:

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

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

FIREFIGHTER 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 EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION – ORANGE (CA):

The [Orange Fire Department](#) will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter**, until: July 7 through July 22, 2008.

The following information was obtained from their Personnel Department section of their website:

Dear Prospective Firefighter Applicant:

This notification serves to inform you of the upcoming **Firefighter** recruitment. The tentative recruitment dates are as follows: **Opening on Monday, July 7 and closing Tuesday, July 22, 2008.** Please read the information below to familiarize yourself with the recruitment information.

Candidates will be required to complete an electronic application on-line. We encourage you to create a user name and password prior to the opening date so that you can begin to build your application and resumé. You may begin this process at www.governmentjobs.com/GJInstructions.cfm.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- At least 18 years of age at time of filing
- Valid Driver's License (Any State). (Possess and maintain a valid California's Driver's license by date of appointment and ability to obtain and maintain a class "B" Driver's License during probationary period and throughout employment.)
- High School Diploma or GED
- Valid and Current National or California EMT-1 and/or EMT-P card
- Valid and Current CPR certification card
- Accredited Firefighter Academy or Firefighter I certificate
- Current CPAT card within twelve (12) months of written exam date. Written exam tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 2, 2008.

HIGHLY DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Lateral candidates with professional firefighting experience.
- Bilingual Skills (English/Spanish)

As part of the physical ability requirement, we will **only** be accepting Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) cards. Please access <http://www.cffjac.org/go/jac/cpat/> for information and registration. Candidates must show current CPAT card in order to participate in the written test. The City of Orange will not be reimbursing candidates for their out-of-pocket expenses.

The City of Orange reserves the right to change and modify these requirements. You will need to read and review the job flyer for final requirements.

For more information about the **City of Orange**, visit their website at www.cityoforange.org

For more information about the **Orange Fire Department**, visit their website at: www.cityoforange.org/depts/fire/default.asp

FIRE & EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

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

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

Interested in attending a paramedic program? If so, read below:

The [California Fire Chiefs Association](http://www.californiafire.org) is pleased to announce the offering of Napa Valley College's first paramedic program to start August 8, 2008. This program was conceived based on a need expressed by the fire service to have a larger pool of well-trained and educated entry-level medics. Individuals interested in applying to the program, should check the college's web-page for information on the program's pre-requisites and for an application (www.napavalley.edu/apps/comm.asp?Q=4).

Certain pre-requisites for the program should be completed by the end of the first semester of the program. Applications are due July 25, 2008. Persons may contact the Health Occupations Division at (707) 253-3120 with questions or e-mail the program's co-director at alapan@napavalley.edu

PARAMEDIC TRAINING INFORMATION:

[Absolute Safety Training \(Oroville, CA\)](#) is going to be accepting applications for their 2009 Paramedic training program, August 1 through September 30, 2008.

The Program:

- Classroom instruction is from January 2009 through July 2009.
- Anatomy and physiology is included.
- Your clinical internship is concurrent.
- The Field Internship will be from August 2009 until completion.
- Is designed for the working adult, and taught by working professionals.
- Open classroom: skills practice, group study, individualized help and counseling.
- Competitively priced at \$6,000.00, with financing available and approved for Veterans.

Class Meets:

- Friday and Saturday with some Sundays, in Oroville, CA.
- Modern adult-sized classroom.

Application Period:

- August 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008.
- Call or email them (see below) for an application packet.

Program Fee Includes:

- Tuition, textbooks, lab fees, uniform shirts, liability and workers comp insurance.
- Expanded scope of practice training.
- ACLS, PALS, PEPP and PHTLS certifications.

For more information, visit their website at www.absolutesafetytraining.org – call 530-521-6520 – or email dlayne@snowcrest.net

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

[Public Safety Consultants](#) is offering some great fire service professional development opportunities, as seen below. Go to their website at www.fireclasses.com for more information.

Contemporary Leadership Challenges for Chief Officers – Pleasant Hill, CA - August 25, 2008

Sponsored by the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

PLACE: Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Dr., Pleasant Hill, Ca. 94523
- 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 –
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.

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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.

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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.

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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:

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:

- July 7, 19
- August 4, 16
- September 2, 13, 29

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:

- July 7, 8, 19, 22
- August 4, 5, 16, 19
- September 2, 3, 13, 16, 29, 30

TEST DATES:

- July 10, 26
- August 7, 23
- September 4, 20

Southern California 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- July 12, 21
- August 2, 19
- September 6, 22

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:

- July 15, 22
- August 5, 22, 19
- September 9, 16,23

TEST DATES:

- July 17, 26
- August 7, 16, 21
- September 11, 20, 25

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 EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION – CULVER CITY (CA):

The **Culver City (CA) Fire Department** will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter**, from: June 23 – July 11, 2008. The primary requirements are that you possess EMT certification by the end of the probationary period (not to file the application, so virtually everyone should qualify).

To view the job announcement, go to: www.culvercity.org/jobs

For more information about the **City of Culver City**, visit their website at www.culvercity.org

For more information about the **Culver City Fire Department**, visit their website at: www.culvercity.org/fire/fire.asp?sec=gov

FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC EDUCATION & SAFETY INFORMATION:

The United States Fire Administration offers Fireworks and Outdoor Cooking Fire Safety information:



Every year Americans look forward to summer vacations, camping, family reunions, picnics, and the Fourth of July. Summertime, however, also brings fires and injuries due to fireworks and outdoor cooking. Annually, just under 10,000 Americans are injured by fireworks and almost 5,000 are injured by charcoal/wood-burning and propane grill fires.

Summertime should be a time of fun and making happy memories. Knowing a few fire safety tips and following safety instructions will help everyone have a safe summer. For more information, go to www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus

FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO:

Some great cellular phone related public education information to share, courtesy of our Public Education Officer, Christie Moore:

With the arrival of high speed internet (broadband) phone services, commonly referred to as VoIP (voice transmission over a broadband Internet connection), we are now providing information for our customers about some important distinctions when subscribing to this service as it relates to 9-1-1:

- Customers need to provide the physical location of where the VoIP phone service will be utilized for each phone line.
- Understand that the 9-1-1 dialing service will not function in the event of a broadband or power outage or if the broadband, ISP or Vonage phone service is terminated. In the event of a power outage, customers can have their service set-up to forward incoming calls to a landline or cell phone.

Please refer citizens to our website for more information: Go to www.sccfd.org, select public education, select 9-1-1 information, and that will take you to this page: www.sccfd.org/pub_ed/911_info.html

There is also information on County Fire's website about how to access 9-1-1 from cellular phones with two available PDFs entitled "9-1-1 Calls from Cell Phones-Frequently Asked Questions" and "Telephone Tips for Emergencies".

Vonage has some helpful information about VoIP and how it works with 9-1-1 on their website:

www.vonage.com/features.php?feature=911
www.vonage.com/help.php?category=29&nav=2

If you are knowledgeable about Internet phone services and have input about how to provide easy-to-understand information to our customers, please contact Christie Moore in Public Education.

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & SAFETY INFO:

Some valuable firefighter safety information to share with you and challenge you to learn from, to ensure you stay safe and you get the opportunity to actually go home at the end of your shift. This information comes courtesy of my good friend David Peterson, a Lieutenant with the Madison (WI) Fire Department. David writes for a number of fire service publications, and has some great information to share:

Dear Fire Service Professional,

I have attached an article for your review that will be posted at www.firehouse.com for next week's Safety, Health, & Survival Week. In answering my own challenge I would like to request that you also share it with other fire professionals and even within your own organization. Let's start a grass-roots movement and deny Oscar the Cat's entry into our lives. Are you with me?

Sincerely,

David Peterson
Madison Fire Department
Wisconsin FLAME Group, LLC

On the Eve of Safety, Health, and Survival Week: A Visit with Oscar the Cat

By David F. Peterson

Doctors were perplexed. Nurses were befuddled. Researchers were baffled. Nearly a year ago a simple and ordinary cat by the name of Oscar made a name for himself by accurately predicting the deaths of 25 patients at a long-term health care center in Providence, Rhode Island. Oscar seemed to know when people were ready to die, usually within a four hour window, and he would quietly sit beside them on their bed until they passed. His story was documented in a July 2007 article in the New England Journal of Medicine and many specialists could not explain it.

How did Oscar know that someone was near death? Could he see it in their eyes? Could he smell death coming? Did he have an innate capacity for predicting the passing of someone? No one knows for sure how he knew but Oscar's uncanny prediction of death has become legendary.

Death is also legendary in the fire service. Numerous tragedies abound in the fire service annals and despite advances in every area, especially concerning equipment, and tactics, and training the loss of life continues. We seem to average over 100 firefighters killed each year, nearly 80,000 injuries, and, these statistics occur all while structure fires are declining. Already at the mid-year mark for 2008 we have logged over 50 firefighter deaths. This is where Oscar the Cat comes in.

As the American fire service embarks upon the Safety, Health, and Survival Week of 2008 the question concerning this harbinger of a cat is: if Oscar the Cat visited you in the fire station, in the emergency response vehicle, or at the emergency scene what would you do, if you had the power to do so, to prevent the premature demise of a brother or sister firefighter?

Would you think long and hard about changes that could be made to make a difference? If you haven't done so already: Would you make everyone buckle up?

Would you make the driver slow down and obey stop signs? Would you “pack-up” when confronted with toxic and lethal atmospheres? Would you adhere to incident command policy and procedures? Would you follow standard operating guidelines? Would you initiate an exercise program? Would you implement a healthy diet? In short would you change?

For sure, change is difficult. Volumes have been written on the psychology of change, how to affect it, and how to endure it. But, if the fire service is to have a positive impact on the number of deaths in the profession change must occur. A cultural change is incumbent and necessary if this great profession is to positively affect the annual death rates.

The change must also start on a personal level. Therefore it is a must that each and every person answers the questions above and follow-through with the conviction of seeing them become a reality. Until that time, we will not significantly impact the annual firefighter death numbers. In other words, Oscar the cat will continue to visit us and bring a death notice, one at a time.

***Blessed is the person
who sees the need,
recognizes the
responsibility, and
actively becomes the
answer***

William Arthur Ward
American inspirational
author

So, here is a challenge! Take it upon yourself to answer the questions posed and influence others to also do so. Your own example of how you live out your answers will be a model for firefighter safety. But it doesn't end there! You must also model and communicate the safety example to others that you would not normally influence. That means taking your safety message to perhaps firefighters in another station, another battalion, or even another fire department. Does that sound corny? Well, maybe that is what is needed because it does not seem that other approaches work!

In this way, if you accept the challenge, change will eventually come and then one day we will all look back in absolute astonishment at the unsafe things we used to do. And, visits by Oscar the Cat will happen no more.

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 SAFETY INFORMATION:

A message from the Law Enforcement Network:

For those of you who like to grill it up during the summer, here's a safety announcement you should be aware of. Please put this information out to ALL. Even if you do not use and exchange a propane tank, send this out for those that do. This is something you definitely need to be aware of, especially in light of the recent news of "Meth-labs" in our area:

"There was a meth training/workshop yesterday and there was a lot of great new information presented. Meth cooks are getting the propane tanks from the exchanges at Wal-Mart, Kroger, etc. and emptying them of the propane. Then, they are filling them with anhydrous ammonia (which they now have a recipe for by the way). After they are finished with them, they return them to the store. They are then refilled with propane and sent back for you and me to buy. Anhydrous ammonia is very corrosive and weakens the structure of the tank. It can be very dangerous when mixed with propane and hooked up to our grills, etc.

According to our presenter, you should inspect the propane tank for any blue or greenish residue around the valve areas. If it is present, refuse to purchase that one."

Here's the NPGA Site for your review also. They have pictures.

<http://www.npga.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=529>

FIRE RELATED INFORMATION FROM THE IAFC:

IAFC MEMBER ALERT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: IAFC Communications Department
703-273-0911 • www.iafc.org

Two Federal Updates:

FEMA Announces Deputy Assistant U.S. Fire Administrator Vacancy FY 2008 CEDAP Application Period Open Through June 30

Fairfax, Va., June 6, 2008...

FEMA Announces Deputy Assistant U.S. Fire Administrator Vacancy

The Deputy Assistant Administrator, United States Fire Administration will have the opportunity to shape the national fire service agenda at the federal level to carry out the Congressional mandate of the new FEMA. The key task of this person will be to provide leadership in accomplishing DHS and FEMA policy objectives within the context of existing federal fire programs and priorities in financial, programmatic, statutory, and regulatory compliance in the Agency to have a significant impact on the fire service.

Additional information on this important position can be found on the [IAFC online job board](#) (search by category: government/nonprofit) or www.usajobs.com (job announcement number: 08-062-SES).

FY 2008 CEDAP Application Period Open Through June 30

The Department of Homeland Security has announced that the 2008 Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) application period will be open until June 30 at 5 pm EDT.

CEDAP was established by Congress to ensure that emergency-services sector (ESS) departments and agencies could acquire specialized equipment and training. Eligible applicants include fire departments, law-enforcement agencies and other emergency responders who demonstrate that the equipment will be used to improve their ability and capacity to respond to a major critical incident or work with other first responders. Awardees must not have received equipment or funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative or the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program for which the award date is October 1, 2006, or later.

The FY 2008 CEDAP complements the Federal Emergency Management Agency's other major grant programs to enhance regional response capabilities, mutual aid and interoperable communications by providing technology and equipment, along with

training and technical assistance required to operate the equipment, to ESS entities in smaller jurisdictions and certain metropolitan areas.

This competitive program is a direct assistance program rather than a grant program. CEDAP awards are not monetary awards. Applicants may select one item from a menu of available equipment choices. Successful applicants will receive the item specified in their application. Equipment available in FY08 will include but isn't limited to:

- Extrication devices
- Hydraulic tools
- Night vision kits
- Mini-thermal monoculars
- Binoculars with night vision
- Forensic video-enhancement tools (with camera)
- Chemical detectors
- Biological-agent detectors
- Radioactive detector kits
- GPS-based advanced vehicle-tracking systems
- Risk-analysis software
- Case- and records-management software

Since its inception in 2005, approximately \$103 million in equipment and related training has been awarded through CEDAP to fire departments, law-enforcement agencies and other emergency responders.

Prospective applicants may review program guidance and complete an application on the Responder Knowledge Base website at www.rkb.us.

The IAFC encourages eligible departments to review the CEDAP application materials and consider applying for equipment to protect personnel and enhance response capabilities.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Upcoming Training Opportunities hosted by the:
EAST CONTRA COSTA (CA) FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TRAINING BUREAU

FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER/OPERATOR 1A): October 6 - 10, 2008

Register Online:
www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER/OPERATOR 1B): October 13 - 17, 2008

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-212 (WILDLAND FIRE CHAIN SAWS): November 5 - 7, 2008

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

FIRE COMMAND 1A): November 10 - 14, 2008

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

CONFINED SPACE RESCUE AWARENESS: November 24, 2008

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

FIRE COMMAND 1B): December 1 - 5, 2008

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-211 (PORTABLE PUMPS & WATER USE): December 10 - 12, 2008

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

ICS-300 (INTERMEDIATE ICS): December 15 - 17, 2008

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

FIRE INSTRUCTOR 1A):

East Contra Costa County, CA, January 5, 7, 9, 12 and 14, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-290 (INTERMEDIATE WILDLAND FIRE BEHAVIOR): January 26 - 29, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

FIRE MANAGEMENT 1): February 2 - 6, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-230 (CREW BOSS): February 9 - 12, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-231 (ENGINE BOSS): February 16 - 17, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

FIRE INVESTIGATION 1A): February 23 - 27, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

FIRE INSTRUCTOR 1B): March 2, 4, 6, 11, and 13, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-200 (INITIAL ATTACK INCIDENT COMMANDER): March 17 - 18, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-270 (BASIC AIR OPERATIONS): March 23 - 24, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-215 (FIRE OPS IN THE URBAN INTERFACE): April 27 - 30, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

S-244/S-245 (FIELD OBSERVER / DISPLAY PROCESSOR): May 4 - 7, 2009

Register Online:

www.eccfpd.org/content.asp?CatId=627&ContentType=Divisions%20and%20Bureaus

For more information, visit the **EAST CONTRA COSTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT** website at: www.eccfpd.org/

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM 5.0 SELF STUDY NOW AVAILABLE

EMMITSBURG, MD. – The United States Fire Administration (USFA) and the National Fire Academy announce the availability of the new National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) 5.0 Self Study on line course. Serving as an introduction to NFIRS 5.0, this self-study course provides an overview of the data collection system, its modules and data conversion issues. "We are pleased to make this important course available online to all USA fire departments," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "Accurate and complete NFIRS data is critical for use at the local, state, and federal levels and this course is the starting place for building the core competencies key to creating quality data and making available the quality information needed by the American fire service." NFIRS is the comprehensive method for detailed tracking of fire, emergency, and related incident responses. The information recorded in NFIRS can be used by your emergency services organization to: track current workloads, develop response metrics and statistics, and help with current asset management. More information on this course and access to this course is available on NFA Online at www.nfaonline.dhs.gov . More than a dozen courses are available through NFA Online in the following curriculum areas: Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Response to Terrorism, Fire Prevention, Incident Management, Management Science, and Public Education. Other NFIRS related training can also be found at <https://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/nfirs/training/>.

The USFA reminds everyone to have a comprehensive fire protection plan that includes smoke alarms, residential sprinklers and practicing a home fire escape plan

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & SAFETY INFORMATION:

The [National Fire Protection Association](http://www.nfpa.org) has released the 2007 Firefighter on-duty Death Report – great information to share with your personnel to help ensure they go home safely at the end of their shift:
[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/NFPA-Releases-Annual-On-Duty-Deaths-Report/46\\$59714](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/News/NFPA-Releases-Annual-On-Duty-Deaths-Report/46$59714)

FIREFIGHTER 1 ACADEMY INFORMATION:

Below you will find information about an upcoming Firefighter 1 Academy being offered in the Sacramento area:

California Fire & Rescue Training Authority 4427 Dudley Blvd. McClellan, CA 95652
Phone (916) 640-1420 Fax (916) 640-1422 www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov
Governor's Office of Emergency Services • Sacramento Fire Department • Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

DESCRIPTION:	This 650-hour course provides manipulative and technical training in basic concepts of fire department organization, ropes, knots and hitches, hose and hose handling, ladder evolutions, wildland fires, fire investigation, fire prevention, salvage operations, fire department apparatus, tools and equipment, breathing apparatus, how to prepare yourself for a career in the fire service, extinguishers, personal protective equipment, communications, swift water rescue, hazardous materials and physical fitness training is provided as part of our program.
DATES & TIMES:	Full-Time Academy (08-3) August 11, 2008 – Late November, 2008 - Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Off Wednesday) Extended Academy (08-4) August 11, 2008 – Early January, 2008 - Monday - Thursday from 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday 7a.m – 5 p.m. There will also be an occasional Sunday session.
LOCATION:	Northern California Regional Public Safety Training College 2409 Dean St., McClellan, CA 95652
ENROLLMENT:	Enrollment Fee- \$1300.00 PPE Fee - \$450.00 Uniform Package- \$600.00 Total Fee: \$2350.00
PREREQUISITES:	18 years old, Background check, Medical Examination
ACCEPTANCE:	The Academy will notify all candidates who successfully pass all phases of the application process. There will be a waiting list established. Candidates who are on the waiting list will be admitted to the Academy if positions become available prior to the Academy start date.
CREDIT:	One and a half semesters (approximately 20 units through American River College).
CERTIFICATION:	Includes: Firefighter 1 (Skills), Fire Control 3, Auto Extrication, Basic ICS- I 100 & I 200, Confined Space Awareness, Haz-Mat (FRO, Decon, WMD) , Firefighter Training S-130 & S-131, Intro to Fire Behavior S-190, Swift Water Awareness, Rapid Intervention Crew Tactics, Low Angle Rope Rescue, Rescue Systems I, and CALFIRE 67 Basic Firefighter.

Interested?

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Fill out the application request form below and mail to 4427 Dudley Blvd, McClellan, CA 95652, fax to (916) 640-1422 or e-mail to firejpa@smfd.ca.gov.

An application packet along with more detailed information and instructions will be mailed to the address provided.

**Application Request Form (FF1-08)
Applicant Information**

Name
Address
City/ST/Zip
Phone
E-Mail

For assistance, please contact Mollie Povey at (916) 566-4318. Please return this form to CFRTA, 4427 Dudley Blvd., McClellan, CA 95652 or fax to (916) 640-1422.

**FREE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION
INFORMATION, COURTESY OF THE DON McNEA
FIRE SCHOOL!**

Some promotional examination testing tips courtesy of the www.fireprep.com - The [Don McNea Fire School!](#)

Examination Test-Taking Strategies

1. Make sure that you understand the testing format. If the exam is being proctored, make sure you listen to all of the instructions. Carefully read all the directions that are given.
2. Make sure that you are making your answers in the correct section of the answer key. Look at the answer sheet to determine if the items are arranged vertically or horizontally.
3. During the examination, check your watch periodically so that you can keep track of the time remaining.
4. When you receive the examination, scan over the entire test and determine the number of questions contained. This will give you an idea of how long you will have for each question.

5. Read each question carefully. Try to answer the question before you look at the choices. If you know the answer, compare it to the available choices and choose the most correct choice.

6. Find and underline words that harden or soften statements. Words such as "all", "never", "none" and "every" harden a sentence by indicating there are no exceptions. As a rule, alternatives with these words have a lesser chance of being correct. Words such as "sometimes", "may", "generally", and "possibly" soften a statement and leave more room for the alternative to be correct. "And" means that one element of the alternative must be present or true in addition to the other for the alternative to be correct. "Or" means that there is a choice of situations. Only one element of the alternative must be present or true in order to be correct.

7. When you go through each of the questions on the examination, answer the easy questions first and leave the more difficult ones until you have answered all the questions that you are sure of. This will prevent you from spending too much time on any one question and will ensure that you will have time to respond to and receive credit for every question that you answer correctly. Whenever you do skip a question, be sure to identify it as skipped in your test booklet, and do not forget to come back to it. For example, you may want to put a small slash on the left of the number on your answer key. Do not put the slash to the right of the number since these exams are graded by computer scanners and this slash could be interpreted as an answer. Sometimes after going through the questions in the examination, another question will bring to mind the answer to a previously skipped question.

8. Test-taking surveys have shown repeatedly that the first answer that comes to your mind is usually the correct one. When you change it later, you will often change it to an incorrect answer. If you are looking over a question and you are not sure what the answer is, put a slash next to the alternative that first came to your mind. When you go back over this question and still are not sure which choice is correct, you will remember which one came to your mind first.

If you finish the examination before your allotted time, go back and review the examination. Do not go back to change answers unless you are absolutely sure that the answer is incorrect. For example, if you meant to be "B" down and instead marked "C", change it. When reviewing, ensure that you have answered the question that corresponds to the number on your answer sheet.

9. When marking your answers on the answer sheet, be sure to erase any errors completely. Again, computer scanning is used to determine correct answers on your answer sheet. If you leave any type of mark or shadow in an answer that you erased, the computer may interpret it as having two answers for one question and you will receive no credit.

10. If you come to the end of the examination and find that there are 10 minutes left and you have 20 questions to answer, quickly speed-read all the questions and put an alternative down. On the vast majority of promotional examinations, they are graded on the number of correct answers compared to the total number of questions. You are not penalized for guessing. Be sure to fill in an answer for every question.

Since 1950, Don McNea Fire School has prepared over 40,000 fire applicants with their entry level seminars and products. Fireprep.com has over 250 pages of FREE information and careers articles to help you reach your goal of becoming a firefighter. Go to www.fireprep.com and register for their free fireprep e-mail newsletter that features career articles by the countries top entry level authors. You will also be informed at no cost of firefighter examinations be given across the country. While at their website don't forget to review our award winning 'Ultimate Firefighter Exam Package'. This product has help hundreds of fire applicants finish in the top 2% of the exam process. Go to the link below to review the ultimate firefighter exam package. www.fireprep.com/ultimate_firefighter_examinati.html

Don McNea Fire School - dmfireschool@aol.com - 1-800-989-FIRE

FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:

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

Name: Russell Thomas Topping
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 28
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: Unk
Date of Incident: 05/31/2008
Time of Incident: 1845hrs
Date of Death: 05/31/2008

Fire Department: Barnsdall Fire Department
Address: PO Box 43, Barnsdall, OK 74002-0043
Fire Department Chief: B.J. Dildine

Incident Description: At approximately 1845hrs, shortly after he finished a live fire training exercise at the Oklahoma State University Fire Service Training Center, Firefighter Topping was found collapsed and unresponsive by other firefighters who immediately began to administer CPR. Topping was transported to the Stillwater Medical Center; all efforts to revive Firefighter Topping were unsuccessful. The cause and nature of the fatal injury are still to be reported.

Funeral Arrangements: Funeral services for Firefighter Topping will be held 06/05/2008 at 1400hrs, Bartlesville Southern Baptist Church, 5111 Nowata Rd, Bartlesville, OK 74006.
Map: <http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=15&usng=15STA3925468667&disp=h>

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Russell Thomas Topping at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 51 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.

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.

AND:

Name: Colin Gene Thomas
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 51
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 33
Date of Incident: 06/14/2008
Time of Incident: 0530hrs
Date of Death: 06/14/2008

Fire Department: Verona Volunteer Fire Department
Address: 101 Verona Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28540 (USNG: 18S TD 7350 3916)
Telephone: (910) 455-4772
Fire Department Chief: Wayne Thomas

Incident Description: Firefighter Thomas passed away from injuries sustained when he was struck by a semi tractor-trailer on a stretch of US Highway 17 adjacent to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. Camp Lejeune contacted the Sheriff's office shortly before 0500hrs requesting assistance with traffic control because of extreme low visibility conditions on the roadway due to smoke from a controlled burn on the Base combining with fog. Firefighter Thomas, along with Onslow County Deputy Sheriff Steven Boehm, 36, who was also struck and killed by the tractor-trailer, had been directing traffic when a series of 8

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vehicle collisions took place in the northbound travel lanes of the highway. Thomas, Boehm and others heard and responded to calls for help, searching through the fog and smoke when unfortunately they were struck by the tractor-trailer. The tractor-trailer then struck several other vehicles sending another deputy to the hospital; he was later released.

Incident Location: US Hwy 17 between High Hill Road (18S TD 7312 3750) and NC Hwy 210 (18S TD 7255 3028).

Map View:

<http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=12&usng=18STD7233434061&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation, 1800-2000hrs 06/16/2008, and Services, 1100hrs 06/17/2008 @ Jones Funeral Home, 303 Chaney Ave., Jacksonville, NC 28540 (18S TD 7796 4842)

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter Colin Gene Thomas, C/o Verona Volunteer Fire Department, 101 Verona Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28540.

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Gene Thomas at

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

To date, 52 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Kevin Patrick Pryor
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 31
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 9
Date of Incident: 06/16/2008
Time of Incident: 1215hrs
Date of Death: 06/17/2008

Fire Department: Newport Beach Fire Department
Address: 3300 Newport Blvd., PO Box 1768, Newport Beach, CA 92658-8915 (USNG: 11S MT 1370 2007)

Fire Department Chief: Steve Lewis

Fire Department Website: <http://www.city.newport-beach.ca.us/FMD/default.htm>

Incident Description: Firefighter Pryor was discovered by a friend at his residence having fallen ill just several hours after he returned from deployment on the department strike team working the Humboldt Fire in Northern California. Pryor was transported to the hospital but passed away from a non-traumatic brain hemorrhage.

Funeral Arrangements: Still to be determined. Updates @ <http://www.nbfa.org>

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

The service is tentatively scheduled for 6/24/2008 in the Westlake Village, California area. More details to follow. Public Safety Agencies wishing to send apparatus and personnel to the services please contact Matt Brisbois at (949) 644-3381 or (949) 795-2633 with the number of personnel and apparatus planning to attend.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: If you are interested in making a donation to the Newport Beach Firefighter's Benevolent Fund on Kevin's behalf, checks can be sent to: P.O. Box 1695, Newport Beach, Ca. 92663. Checks can be made out to the NBFBF (<http://www.nbfa.org/index.cfm?Section=10&PageNum=171>)

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Kevin Patrick Pryor at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 53 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: George E. Crocker
Rank: Fire Chief
Age: 32
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 9
Date of Incident: 06/22/2008
Time of Incident: 0800hrs
Date of Death: 06/22/2008

Fire Department: Pine Level Volunteer Fire Department
Address: 110 W. Main St., Pine Level, NC 27576
(USNG: 17SQV49883343)
Fire Department Chief: Pending

Incident Description: Fire Chief Crocker was found deceased in bed the morning of 06/22/2008. Within the previous 24hrs, Chief Crocker responded to one mutual aid fire and three EMS calls. The cause of Chief Crocker's death is still to be reported.

Incident Location: 131 Buchanan Ln. Clayton, NC 27520 (USNG: 17SQV33005261)
Map View: <http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=15&usng=17SQV33005261&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: 06/25/2008 @ 1400hrs in the Paul A. Johnston Auditorium (USNG: 17SQV41943194), Johnston Community College in Smithfield, NC.
Map: <http://www.fidnet.com/~jlmoore/usng/?zoom=15&usng=17SQV41943194&disp=h>

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Memorial contributions may be made in the name of Fire Chief George E. Crocker to the N.C. Fallen Firefighters Foundation, 2501 Blue Ridge Road, Suite 150, Raleigh, NC 27607.

Tribute is being paid to Fire Chief George E. Crocker at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 54 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Jeff Powers
Rank: Deputy Chief
Age: 44
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 23
Date of Incident: 06/26/2008
Time of Incident: 1220hrs
Date of Death: 06/26/2008

Fire Department: Southern Marin Fire Protection District
Address: 308 Reed Boulevard, Mill Valley, CA 94941
Fire Department Chief: Denis Walsh

Incident Description: Deputy Chief Jeff Powers collapsed at 1220 hours while talking to colleagues at the Sausalito Fire Department. Firefighters attempted to revive Powers in the ambulance, but were unsuccessful. Chief Powers passed away in the hospital emergency room. An autopsy will be performed.

Funeral Arrangements - Pending

To date, 55 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Gary L. Studer
Rank: Captain
Age: 61
Gender: Male
Status: Unk
Years of Service: 30
Date of Incident: 6/20/2008
Time of Incident: 0130hrs
Date of Death: 6/28/2008

Fire Department: Whitehouse Fire Department
Address: 10550 Waterville Street, PO Box 2817, Whitehouse, OH 43571

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Fire Department Chief: Daryl McNutt
Fire Department Website: <http://www.whitehousefire.com>

Incident Description: While working at the Whitehouse fire station, Captain Studer's partner found him unconscious at 0130hrs in his bunk on 6/20/2008. He was transported to St. Luke's Hospital where he died due to complications related to a stroke.

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, July 1, 2008 and 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday July 2, 2008 at Peinert Funeral Home, Whitehouse, Ohio. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 3, 2008 at the fire station.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Captain Gary L. Studer at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 56 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Michael MacDonald
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 26
Gender: Male
Status: Wildland Part-Time
Years of Service: 8
Date of Incident: 06/27/2008
Time of Incident: 15:48
Date of Death: 06/29/2008

Fire Department: Chief Mountain Interagency HotShot Crew - Blackfoot Tribe
Address: PO Box 850, Browning, Montana 59417
Fire Department Chief: Superintendent Lyle St. Goddard
Fire Department Website: http://www.gehotshots.org/native_american_hotshots/chief_mountain_hotshots.html

Incident Description: On Friday, 06/27/08, Firefighter MacDonald was battling a fire on the north rim of the Grand Canyon National Park when he was bitten by an insect and taken to a nearby hospital for treatment. On Sunday, 06/29/08, he suffered anaphylactic shock from the antibiotics and was being flown to the Flagstaff Medical Center in Arizona. Approximately one quarter mile from the hospital, the helicopter collided with another medical-transport helicopter killing Firefighter MacDonald.

Incident Location: Flagstaff, Arizona

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

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

To date, 57 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

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

Hey....

On Saturday, (5-31-08) at **Oklahoma** State University Fire Service Training, after conducting live burn evolutions for the day, **a 28 year old Firefighter was found in cardiac arrest** in the bathroom of the training center around 1800 hours. CPR was immediately initiated once he was found, but tragically, he was pronounced at the hospital around 1900 hours. Initial details are that a group of Firefighters had been participating in live burns for their FF-1 certification under the direction of staff from OSU-FST. Instructors had been taking frequent breaks because of the heat and closely monitoring student conditions throughout the day. Our sincere sympathies go out to all affected.

ILLINOIS RESPONDING CRASH: A multi-vehicle collision involving Cherry Valley's (Illinois) Fire Chief and two semi trailers late last week. Around 0930 the Chief was responding to a mutual aid house fire, with his vehicle's lights and sirens activated....entered an intersection...and was struck by a semi-truck. He was transported where he was listed in fair condition with a mild concussion and a neck strain...no one else was injured. Charges are pending further investigation.

GEORGIA RESPONDING CRASH: Henry County (GA) Eng. 1 was involved in an accident this weekend. Firefighters were injured and at least 1 required surgery...but all are expected to recover. Details to follow, photo on our home page.

FLORIDA FIREFIGHTERS ILL: 3 members of Deerfield Beach Fire Rescue were taken to the hospital with **headaches, nausea and other symptoms Saturday after they responded to an automatic fire alarm at a cosmetic manufacturer** on Friday. 2 were released around noon from North Broward Medical Center, and the third stayed at the hospital because of unrelated complications. Fire rescue responded to a 9:30 a.m. fire alarm at a perfume manufacturer...Firefighters didn't find any problems, and returned. On the ride back to the firehouse, they began getting dizzy and having headaches and nausea. Numerous hazmat teams from around the county went back to the site to determine what made them sick. Initially, there were reports that the facility might have contained traces of cyanide, but that was not true. Still, it was unclear Saturday what sent the trio to the hospital.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Shortly after noon, the Broward Sheriff's Hazmat team advised the compound was clear of any dangerous chemicals. The scene was cleared at 1300 hours.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-2-08 / 0905 Hours

AND:

Hey....

This one will be short...below is an excellent **ESPN** clip about the late **Charleston Fire Captain Louis Mulkey**. Captain Mulkey was, of course, a CFD Firefighter-but like many Firefighters, he did much more in the community. In this case, among other things, he was a Coach to kids...and the below link tells a wonderful story-well worth your time...both emphasizing what a good man he was...how good they all were...and how serious the lessons of that fire must be taken locally-and nationally. **This superb film clip carries the impact of Firefighter LODD's to a level not often realized by many, but understood by those who are left behind. In this case, family, friends...and kids on a team.**

The 9 Charleston Firefighters who died in last year's Sofa Super Store fire will be honored in a memorial service June 18, the one-year anniversary of the tragedy. The service will begin at 10 a.m. in Gaillard Auditorium. Seating is limited in the auditorium and family and firefighters will be seated first. The service also will be shown on a closed- circuit television in the auditorium's exhibition hall.

As you know, killed in the **Line of Duty** at the fire were **Louis Mulkey, Brandon Thompson, William "Billy" Hutchinson III, Mark Kelsey, James "Earl" Allen Drayton, Michael French, Melvin Champaign, Mike Benke and Brad Baity.**

Please take a moment to watch and share this video.

<http://sports.espn.go.com/broadband/video/videopage?videoid=3421852>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8GQ4xsn0d_I

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-2-08 / 2246 hours

AND:

Hey....

Many of you know retired **Arlington County (VA) Fire Chief Ed Plaucher** ...unfortunately it is with sincere regret that we advise you that **Ed's wife, Melody, very unexpectedly passed away a few days ago.**

In addition to being our Director of Programs at the IAFC, Ed is former Chief of Arlington County but most importantly, an old friend and a very good man who has never lost focus in the mission of protecting Firefighters. Our sincerest and heartfelt condolences to Chief Plaucher and his family...and as per IAFC Headquarters, arrangements are as follows: Sunday, June 8, 6 - 8 pm Visitation at the Fairfax Memorial Park and Monday, June 9

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10:30am Funeral at Fairfax Memorial Park which is located at 9902 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

Washington State Cancer LODD: Kent Firefighter Marty Hauer passed away on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 after a brave battle-**this is being considered an LODD**. Firefighter Hauer was a member of the Kent FD for 15 years. He was serving on the IAFF technical advisory committee for the Wellness/Fitness Initiative and an active IAFF Peer Fitness train-the-trainer. He spent his entire career serving on our own physical fitness committee, and spent a huge amount of time trying to pioneer a regional wellness center to benefit all the FD's in the greater Puget Sound area. Marty's career was focused on helping other firefighters and promoting firefighter fitness, wellness, and health. He touched many lives all around the country. Just two weeks ago he was at the IAFF Wellness Fitness booth at the Phoenix Health, Wellness and Fitness Symposium. He leaves behind his wife Kris and their two children. Here are related links and LODD funeral information:

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/365850_obithauer05.html

<http://www.iaff.org/08News/060308Marty.htm>

Funeral: Tuesday June 10th: 1300 Hours - 1430 Hours (approximately) Funeral Location: Christian Faith Center, 33645 20 Ave. S., Federal Way, WA 98003. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

VIRGINIA FF CRITICALLY INJURED UPDATE: While the Loudoun County Fire Admin has not officially identified any of its firefighters injured on May 25, the most seriously injured has been named as part of fundraising efforts. **Firefighter John Earley** is a career Loudoun firefighter and is also a member of the Leesburg VFC. Leesburg Chief Ian Buchanan asked DC area **STATter 911** to help get the word out (and we in turn want to do what we can to help) about the John Earley Relief Fund. It is an effort to help FF Earley and his family during the long recovery that's ahead. Checks can be mailed to: The John Earley Relief Fund-c/o Leesburg Volunteer Fire Company-P.O. Box 23. Leesburg, VA 20178. If you go to the www.LeesburgFire.org

- you will find a way to pay by credit card. On the site you will find details about a June 28 dance where the proceeds will go to the fund. Also, there is a June 21 blood drive at Station 1 from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-6-08 / 0035 hours

AND:

Hey....

Completely un-reflective on my age, I love old music. I also like new music but generally tend to lean toward the old music vs some of today's music, especially when the song is about putting a slug in someone's head, the enjoyment of crack, not wanting to go to rehab....stuff like that. All generally good music...but sometimes songs about drug overdoses and shootings just doesn't provide me with the "pick me up" that some of the old music does.

Of some of my favorite bands and groups, I like the Drifters. And while there were many members of The Drifters over the years, they all sounded great. From Clyde McPhatter to Bill

Pinkney (who I once met when his tour bus was smoking on I-75 in Florida) ...the Drifters songs "Under The Boardwalk, This Magic Moment and Save The Last Dance For me" are amongst the best.

One of my absolute favorites is "**Up On The Roof**" ...here are two versions:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FED2Tdov_4I (For those who like SPIDERMAN)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVHTkgwRlj4> (A very original version)

We are actually in the process of doing a FireFighterCloseCalls video related to Firefighter ops and safety during ROOF operations...with THAT song as a background. Something to help us think a bit. And in the past week, we have seen several fires where we are all reminded of the effectiveness-but the DANGER when we are operating up on the roof....causing us to think a bit more.

Without question, one of the most effective ways for us to handle a fire--saving civilian and Firefighters lives, is to operate on the roof, to vent, to open up, getting the nasty stuff out. But there have also been some horror events where Firefighters have lost their lives...while operating up on the roof.

One that I remember clearly-and hearing on the fire radio, was **THE WALDBAUMS FIRE** in Brooklyn on August 7, 1978...where 6 FDNY Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty. Check it out: <http://stevespak.com/waldbaums.html> There have been others as well that you can probably think of.

In the last 2 weeks, we have seen some amazing media footage showing Firefighters "up on the roof" including the fire at Universal Studios and the commercial fire the other day in Sacramento.

Have you seen that raw video? Take a look:

<http://cbs5.com/video/?id=34996@kpix.dayport.com>

Fortunately Firefighters did make it off...but their close call could have been real, real bad.

While not all the facts have been released, the footage is an excellent way to think about what my or your FD would do at OUR fire...upon arrival and up to the point but prior to the collapse. From pre-plans to reading the smoke, there is loads we can learn from what the FF's experienced. If nothing else, the above media video reminds us about the importance of:

- =Pre-plans.
- =Initial and on-going size up.
- =Determining the fire problem.
- =Determining the civilian life/rescue issues.
- =What can we do most effectively to put the fire out as quick as possible?
- =What's under the roof?
- =What's the roof construction?
- =What is ON the roof (HVAC units etc)
- =Reading the smoke. (To learn more: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQ7B542OSF8>)
- =Emergency exit strategy/ladders thrown prior etc so we can get off safely.
- =Command support (eyes and ears on all sides of the building for perspective)

We can take a look back at so many fires from Charleston to Hackensack to Waldbaums in Brooklyn and learn...all tragic examples of how roofs (us being on them or under them) have horrifically impacted our operations...and learn from them-as we can from this most recent video.

Naturally, we are very, VERY thankful the Sac Metro FF's made it off safely off the roof.

-ANOTHER FATAL EMS HELICOPTER CRASH: Four people were killed early this morning when a Texas air ambulance crashed in the Sam Houston National Forest in Walker County. The PHI Medical transport helicopter went down in the forest near Huntsville about 0245 hours. The helicopter was on the way to the Texas Medical Center from a hospital in Huntsville when it crashed. There is no confirmation if the four people aboard were all crew or if anyone was a medical patient.

Details to follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-8-08 / 1327 hours

AND:

Hey...

In Algeria yesterday, 2 bombs, set off in quick succession blasted a train station killing 13 people, including a 3 Algerian Firefighters. The first bomb killed a Frenchman working on a renovation project at the station in Beni Amrane. The second bomb hit minutes later, as security officials and fire-rescue workers arrived at the scene. Both devices appeared to be remote-controlled. There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Algeria's al-Qaida affiliate, al-Qaida in Islamic North Africa, is known to be active in the area. Our condolences to all affected.

IOWA FF STRUCK: A Des Moines Firefighter was injured (NLT) yesterday when he was struck by a car while fighting a vehicle fire. FF Daniel James Ide, 42, was working with a fire crew extinguishing a vehicle fire on the Interstate 235 when a second car collided with the burning vehicle, pushing it into Ide. Fire apparatus was in the right lane at the time of the accident, with all emergency lights flashing. The civilian driver was cited for unsafe approach to an emergency vehicle and failure to maintain control. For more on ROADWAY safety fire Firefighters: <http://www.respondersafety.com/>

PA FIRE CHIEF SUCCUMBS TO CANCER: Swarthmore Fire and Protective Association Assistant Chief Chief Cris Hansen passed away on the morning of 6/5/2008. Cris' first fight with esophageal cancer began more than 5 years ago and about one year ago he learned that the cancer spread to other parts of his body. In addition to his family by blood and his family at Swarthmore Fire, Cris leaves behind his extensive family in EMS community. Cris was a past chief of the Taylor Hospital Paramedic Unit as well as a chief for the Delaware County Memorial Hospital Paramedic Unit. More details here:

<http://www.swarthmorefd.org/index.php>

Our sincere condolences to all affected in the loss of Chief Hansen, who was a Secret List member as well. While we cannot post all FF cancer losses due to logistics, we will, when we
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can, continue to pass information on to keep all of us aware of the issues related to what we do-and cancer. For more information go to: www.FireFighterCancerSupport.org

FLORIDA SHOOTING/CLOSE CALL-OFF DUTY FATALITY: Hillsborough County Fire-Rescue has lost one of their own while he was off duty Saturday morning-and also this resulted in a CLOSE CALL fire Firefighters. Captain Chris Artigas was among 4 murdered (and 2 Deputies injured) in this bizarre incident. The assailant stopped in the middle of the road in front of one of their fire stations (station 6). Ladder 6 was dispatched for the original EMS call when the gunman stopped just past the station to fire at and charge at the deputies. Fortunately the ladder company backed back into the station. The engine crew was training in back of the station and reported that they were pinned down by gunfire. We have more details here:

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2008/jun/08/shooter-wanted-leave-tampa/?news-metro>

Our sincere condolences to those affected-especially the family of Captain Chris Artigas.

UPDATE: TEXAS EMS Helicopter Crash: Below are links to video and additional related information.

Killed (in addition to the patient) were pilot Wayne Kirby, 63, of Bryan, paramedic Stephanie Waters, 27, of Cedar Park, and nurse Jana Bishop of Magnolia, who would have celebrated her 29th birthday today.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/front/5826468.html>

http://www.hcnonline.com/site/index.cfm?newsid=19757269&BRD=1574&PAG=461&dept_id=532207&rfi=8

UPDATE: Prince William County (VA) LODD NIOSH REPORT: In memory of Firefighter Kyle Wilson.

Here is a link to the recent NIOSH report on the house fire that killed FF Kyle Wilson. The NIOSH report as well as the FD report are MUST READS as far as we are concerned.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200712.html> (NIOSH Report)

<http://www.pwcgov.org/default.aspx?topic=040061002930004566> (FD Report)

UPDATE: FIREFIGHTER SAFETY, HEALTH AND SURVIVAL WEEK (Formerly STAND DOWN Week) is coming up in a few days! Coordinated by the IAFC and IAFF, it is scheduled for June 22-28, 2008. The theme for this year is *Committed to Long Term Results*, which encourages long term investments by both chiefs and fire fighters to enhance their health and safety. **What's Your FD's PLAN?** <http://www.iafcsafety.org/>

OSHA Requests Your Comments on Proposed Guidance Related to Pandemic Influenza.

Check it out here:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERAL_REGISTER&p_id=20383

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-9-08 / 1021 hours

AND:

Hey...

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the **Line of Duty death of Fire Training Officer Paul Jackson of King Fire and Emergency Services-Ontario, CN.** Training Officer Jackson, who had 27 years on the job, passed away Monday evening at his home as a result of an apparent heart attack after returning from an emergency response. Paul had served as Firefighter, Captain, District Chief and most recently as their full time Training Officer. Visitations are to be held at: Abram's Funeral Home 1666 Tottenham Road, Tottenham Ontario/Wednesday June 11th from 7pm – 9pm/Thursday June 12th from 2pm – 4pm & 7pm – 9pm with Firefighter visitation Thursday June 12th at 6:30 pm and the Funeral Mass will be held on Friday June 13th, 2008: Mary Lake Shrine 13760 Keele Street, King City. Our sincere condolences to all affected.

CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS BURNED: 3 Firefighters were burned in California this morning and have been hospitalized after a wind-driven grass fire overtook them. The 3 FF's were airlifted to UC Davis Medical Center's burn unit in Sacramento. The Firefighters were operating at a 5 acre grass fire in Placer County near the city of Lincoln, which is north of Sacramento....and were attempting to attack the fire when they were overrun by the fire...2 engines also were burned. 2 of the FF's were career Firefighters with Cal Fire and the 3rd was a volunteer Firefighter with the Placer County FD. The fire is under control after burning 50 acres. **Here is also a video link that is of significant interest:**<http://www.kcra.com/news/16573230/detail.html> or http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttV7f_0avZqk

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-11-08 / 1948 hours

AND:

Hey...

In a classic WTF?! move, South Carolina's Gov. Mark Sanford, **(who may either be clueless on HIS ability to save lives and property or ...perhaps even influenced by those who have fought us on fire sprinklers in the past, such as some home builder associations *)** vetoed a bill to give combined tax credits worth up to 50 % of the cost of installing a fire sprinkler system and eliminating tap fees. And while the SC Legislature will gather again on June 25 to deal with the governor's vetoes, tearing heads are shaking from Charleston and throughout the State-and Nation. When they get together again, a 2/3 vote is required in the House and Senate to override a veto. If the vote to override fails, the issue is dead until January.

The Governor, whose words and actions show his true colors when it comes to protecting citizens and Firefighters, said in his veto message that he "applauds the bill's intent to reduce fire deaths and damage," but, said the tax credits provided would be so large they would essentially amount to a taxpayer subsidy.

Yeah? So? Government subsidies? Happens everyday-and so often-for so very lame programs. You can't have it both ways, Gov. **SOMETIMES GOVERNMENT** has to do what's best for the overall good-and there is no more basic **GOVERNMENT** service than public safety/fire prevention and protection...so many forget that after elections. And while citizens

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and Firefighters, Officers and Chiefs have a clear level of responsibility to minimize the risk at the local-and personal level, the Governor had the opportunity to genuinely save lives at every level...and he blew it.

Following the CHARLESTON Fire, where 9 Firefighters were Killed in the Line of Duty-the INVESTIGATION and REPORT shows that when there are **FAILURES** at the business owner/occupant levels as well as at the FD level, **FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS smack down the bad from getting worse.**

Fortunately, Charleston lawmakers vowed Thursday to fight to save the bill to get more homes and businesses equipped with fire sprinklers. The fire-safely clueless Governors veto comes almost a year after the Sofa Super Store fire that killed nine Charleston firefighters...stunning so many.

MORE INFO ON THE FIRE SPRINKLER BATTLE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL:

<http://www.ircfiresprinkler.org/> (Important meetings for **FIREFIGHTERS** coming up)

http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/sprinklers/

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

http://firechief.com/leadership/public-education/lafc_sprinkler_0128/

***OPPOSING FIREFIGHTERS:**

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/secretPHPmessage.php?issueID=186>

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/secretPHPmessage.php?issueID=209>

Here is a link to a related article on the above SOUTH CAROLINA Issue:

http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/jun/13/reps_commit_fight_bills_veto44384/

CALIFORNIA FIRES CONTINUE / MORE FIREFIGHTERS TRAPPED/BURNED: We have posted some information sent to us related to WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING at the News/Updates section on our homepage. Worth checking out for all Firefighters: Wildland or not.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-13-08 / 0840 hours

AND:

A Verona (NC) Firefighter as well as an Onslow County Deputy Sheriff were killed in the **Line of Duty** this morning south of Verona in Onslow County, N.C.. Dense smoke that covered the area from wildland burning led to 0 visibility along US 17 resulting in numerous crashes. While attempting to locate a multiple crash reported along the roadway, the Firefighter (**from the Verona Volunteer FD**) and Deputy were directing traffic around the area due to the visibility problem when a semi drive right into them, killing them both. Another Deputy was injured and transported. Initial 911 reports were of a crash on the overpass with a child involved. While attempting to locate, the VVFD located several other crashes resulting in the decision to slow down traffic to one lane and eventually completely close the road. While searching for victims, another crash was heard ...and then 911 dispatchers

notified the units that another crash had occurred north of their location...and that a firefighter was down.

More details to follow.

ROADWAY SAFETY: TRUST NO ONE. ASSUME THEY CAN'T SEE US...and operate that way.

BEST PRACTICES HERE: www.ResponderSafety.com

CLOSE CALLS HERE: http://firefighterclosecalls.com/cc_apparatus.php

Take Care, Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-14-08 / 1410 hours

AND:

Hey...

While so many will be celebrating Fathers Day today with family and friends, it is important for us to also remember the families and friends who have lost **Firefighting Fathers in the Line of Duty**...making Fathers Day a very difficult time. Some we remember include...

BOSTON: June 17, 1972 when 9 members of the Boston F.D. died in the Line of Duty at the Vendome Hotel collapse and fire. 8 women were widowed, and 25 kids ...lost their Fathers as a result of that fire.

LONG ISLANDand 3 years ago, a friend and example to so many, **Pete Lund** (retired Lieutenant FDNY R-2), Vol. FF in Kentland, MD and Ex-Chief of Woodmere, NY, died at a house fire on the 14th of June from a heart attack-while operating as an Officer of the Woodmere VFD, Long Island, NY.

FDNY: Naturally, it is hard to not think about **The Fathers Day Fire of June 17, 2001** in Queens (NY) when 3 FDNY FF's were killed in the Line of Duty. The fire was at Long Island General Supply store, a two-story 128-year-old brick/wood hardware building. Reported at 1419 hours, it progressed to a 2nd alarm and they appeared to have the fire under control, then were slammed by a blast. By 1500 hours it was a 5th alarm. 350 firefighters from 75 units had responded but tragically.....

Firefighters Harry Ford (Rescue Co. 4), John Downing (Ladder Co.163), and Brian Fahey (Rescue Co. 4) were killed in the Line of Duty...and over 50 other members were injured.

TAKE A LOOK at this excellent photo link: <http://stevespak.com/fathersday.html>

...not only will you see the horrific effects of **Fathers Day Fire**...but you will also see many heroes operating at that fire...who would also soon lose their own lives on 9-11-01...just a few months later.

ARE YOU A DADDY?

All of us who are, LOVE the job...and would do NOTHING to hurt our kids, other than when REQUIRED, when we are forced to "adjust" the "rear" (C) sector...but...

FATHERS DAY also reminds us that some of us leave these kids behind way too soon in ways we could have avoided. You know, the bunker gear, the seat belts, the stopping at red lights/stop signs, wearing the mask, eating more salad....that stuff. On the other hand, on less frequent occasions, some of us have died doing **what must be done. That does happen once in a while...Not EVERYONE Goes Home.**

But separate from when some Firefighters may have to lose their lives, look in your wallet at the pictures of those little people who call you **DADDY** (or Grand Daddy) and do what you can so they can keep calling you **DADDY**---calling you that to your smiling, breathing, goofy face, for as long as humanly possible. Think about that when you get that card or home/school made gift today as well as when you are having the meal-together...when you think that this "good stuff" needs to last as long as possible...for as many years as possible. **After all, what would FATHERS DAY be to your kids, without you? Imagine that.**

FIRE ENGINE ACROSS THE USA...FIGHTING FIREFIGHTER CANCER:

"Code 3 For A Cure" , the cross-country tour, beginning in California and ending in New York Times Square to fight FIREFIGHTING CANCER, is on the way. The Code 3 crew is driving a Sutphen Fire Apparatus on their cross-country tour of 5,482 miles round trip. **Their goal is to help raise awareness and funds for a variety of non-profit organizations that are fighting the war on cancer. They seek to bring awareness and to find a cure, especially for firefighter related cancers.**

Take a look at their route: http://www.code3foracure.com/index_FireDeptHosts.htm

The CODE 3 crew will stop at various fire departments along the way to collect the names of fallen firefighters (both active and retired) who have lost their lives due to cancer...and those names will be read in Times Square.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-15-08 / 0833 Hours

AND:

We regret to advise you that a female **Sussex County (DE) Paramedic was killed in the Line of Duty** as was a patient killed in a horrific crash involving an ambulance in Sussex County (DE) this morning

The single vehicle crash happened around 0240 Hours on the John J. Williams Highway near the Lewes-Rehoboth joint fire company substation in Angola.

The **Mid-Sussex Rescue Squad** ambulance was transporting to Beebe Medical Center with a patient, 2 MSRS Squad members and the Sussex County Paramedic were on board when it struck a tree, which opened the side of the ambulance as seen on our home page. Tragically, the patient was killed as was the **Sussex County EMS Paramedic, who was killed in the Line of Duty.** The 2 squad members were injured but are reported to be OK.

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Sussex County EMS also suffered a close call last year when a Paramedic John Schmitt was seriously injured in a crash when a civilian struck the Milford Fire Company ambulance he was riding in, while returning from a run. Additional details on this mornings crash will follow.

Here are 2 related links:

<http://www.sussexcountyde.gov/dept/ems/>

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

There have also been several other EMS related crashes within the last day or so-and we will post them on www.EMSCloseCalls.com later.

ANGRY & CLUELESS CITIZEN STRIKES FF WITH CAR: A LaGrange (NY) Firefighter was hurt yesterday, when a motorist hit him with his car as Firefighters were blocking the roadway while operating at a crash. While operating, FF's alerted an on-scene deputy of a problem with a motorist. The 41-year-old man living in the area had argued with firefighters who were trying to close a road to traffic. He was angry at being inconvenienced by the road closure, and sped past Firefighters, striking one Firefighter's arm with the side of his car, causing minor injury. He was arrested and charged with misdemeanor obstructing governmental administration, misdemeanor assault and failure to comply with lawful order which is a violation.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-17-08 / 0730 hours

AND:

Hey...

As most of us know, this evening is the 1 year anniversary of the 9 Line of Duty deaths of Captains Billy Hutchinson, Mike Benke, and Louis Mulkey; Engineers Mark Kelsey and Brad Baity, Assistant Engineer Michael French; and Firefighters Earl Drayton, Melvin Champaign and Brandon Thompson.

In all of our lives, there are certain sad events that stick in our heads. In mine, among them are when President Kennedy was shot, Martin Luther King Jr was shot, the shuttle exploded, the Worcester 6 killed in the Cold Storage Warehouse Fire, the day my Dad passed away, The Fathers Day Fire, The Keokuk Fire, 9-11-01, and most recently, the Charleston Fire.

That evening I was in my kitchen at home when Grant Mishoe, a Fire Captain (who runs the website www.SConFire.com) called and gave us a heads up that "it sounds real bad...they are missing at least 1 FF"...and then the calls continued on and on..and you know the rest of what happened.

Since there has been and will be some outstanding reporting this week on what has happened-and what is being done today in Charleston, we just wanted to take a moment here to remember and honor the memories of the 9 Brothers who were killed today in this commentary.

I was recently in a meeting with our www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com website partner Gordon G along with some others who are deeply focused on the issues of firefighter safety and survival-and one of the comments that came up (from a non-firefighter) is "we need to see

what we can do so fire chiefs, fire officers and firefighters can sleep better at night"...the simple but serious comment was referring to the many survival and risk related issues that are on firefighters, fire officers and firefighters minds when planning ahead...to avoid tragic events. When I heard that comment-and I love that comment-because it refers to some level of peace of mind when a FD is well led, well trained and well disciplined, I thought of the 9 Firefighters who were killed in the Line of Duty in Charleston.

In thinking about the comment, if there is anything that can be learned from Charleston, it is that leadership of any FD, at all ranks, must look beyond what they personally "like" or the traditions they are "comfortable" with...and learn what the best practices are in protecting their members when providing service. In many cases, what's best isn't always within the confines of our own departments. Chiefs, Officers & Firefighters: it isn't "our" fire...it is someone else's...and we have to do what is best for those having the fire-and must do our best for those who are fighting the fire. The folks having their fire called us to do whatever we can to make it all better. And our families expect fire leadership to do whatever we can (before and during) to avoid those operating from getting hurt or worse. Sometimes we have to get hurt or worse. Most of the time, we don't.

The 9 Firefighters in Charleston did exactly what was expected and performed at the exact level expected...by the leadership. **They did as they were led**...the lost 9 CFD Firefighters and Fire Officers themselves did nothing wrong. They lost their lives heroically-because, like any good Firefighter or Fire Officer, they did exactly how they were trained and functioned based upon how they were led. They were the product of what they received in the areas of policies, training, operating, discipline and leadership/coaching. And while they had been successful for so many years and in so many ways, one year ago today, it all fell apart in a predictable, yet preventable, manner.

We mourn their loss and know that they did not give their lives in vain-because change is the norm now in Charleston. We also know that their loss has affected nearly every FD in North America and that the efforts of those involved in finding out what went wrong (from the members of the Routley Panel, to the NIOSH Investigation to the surviving current and retired members of the CFD themselves) has prompted deep thinking and change to many, many other fire departments, chiefs, officers and firefighters. And when we sadly have to lose Firefighters in the Line of Duty-if we learn from it and genuinely change, there is no better way to honor the horrific deaths they experienced, than for us to learn from what they went through in that preventable tragedy.

Our deepest prayers and thoughts go out to the families of the CFD 9, the current and retired members of the CFD-and all affected by the loss.

Here are some links that we hope will be helpful in not only remembering the CFD 9-but also learning even more so we can all benefit:

http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/jun/18/the_new_normal44784/ (Local Media)

<http://www.firehouse.com/> (Firehouse.com-massive coverage)

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/columnist/blogs/davestatter.html> (Dave Statter911)

<http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2008/06/17/through-the-smoke-charleston-the-routley-phase-ii-report-part-2/> (Part 2 of the Thru The Smoke Radio Interview with Chief Routley & Panel)

<http://firegeezer.com/2008/06/18/morning-lineup-june-18/> (Charleston piece from FireGeezer)

<http://www.firefighterhourly.com/> (Local information related to the CFD LODD's)

UPDATE: DELAWARE PARAMEDIC LODD & FUNERAL DETAILS:

Funeral services for Paramedic Stephanie Callaway are this Saturday. There will be a viewing at Delmarva Christian Academy, Georgetown, DE starting at 12 noon till 1500hrs. Following the viewing there will be a procession that will end up at Del-Tech, for the funeral. They are trying to get one ambulance from every company in the state of Delaware to attend and ask that fire companies not bring more than one piece of fire apparatus.

The Delaware State Police continues its investigation of the single-vehicle crash involving that ambulance, which has claimed the life of **Paramedic Stephanie Callaway** and the patient she was treating. The crash occurred at approximately 0240 hours Tuesday along a wooded area in eastern Sussex County. An ambulance from the Mid-Sussex Rescue Squad was en route to Beebe Medical Center in Lewes with a patient, one Sussex County paramedic and two MSRS EMT's on board.

According to preliminary results of the investigation, the driver of the ambulance observed a deer in the roadway. As the driver steered right to avoid a collision, the ambulance left the road and struck a row of trees. The force and angle of the crash ruptured the rear passenger side of the ambulance in the patient transport compartment, where Sussex County Paramedic Stephanie L. Callaway was tending to a patient.

Firefighters, police and other medics were on scene within minutes. The patient and one of the EMTs on board were both ejected. The patient was pronounced deceased. The ejected EMT and the driver were transported to Beebe Medical Center for treatment of their injuries. Paramedic Callaway, meantime, was transported by ambulance to Beebe Medical Center with multiple traumatic injuries. She tragically died in the Line of Duty from those injuries.

Paramedic Callaway's passing is the first line-of-duty death for the Sussex County Emergency Medical Services department in its 18-year history. Paramedic Callaway, 31, was a nearly 5-year veteran of Sussex County EMS, beginning her service in July 2003. Prior to coming to Sussex County, she worked for the Kent County paramedic program, beginning in 2001. In addition to her paramedic shift duties, Paramedic Callaway also served as a field training officer, as well as a spokeswoman for the department. Additionally, she was president of the Sussex County Paramedic Association. This info from SCEMS....our sincere condolences to all affected.

CALIFORNIA FF DEATH AFTER RETURNING FROM FIRE: It is with deep regret that the Newport Beach (CA) FD announces the passing of Firefighter Kevin Pryor, who passed

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away yesterday at 1915 hours. 14 hours earlier, Kevin had just returned from a Fire Strike Team Deployment at the Humbolt Fire in Northern California. Kevin passed away from a brain aneurysm that resulted in a severe brain hemorrhage. Kevin's family is honoring his wishes by participating in an organ procurement program. While not stated as an LODD as of yet, more details will be and have been posted here: www.NBFA.org . As always, our sincere condolences.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-18-08 / 2030 hours

AND:

Hey...

Quebec (CN) Provincial Police are investigating the death of a **75-year-old woman who died after being struck in the head by a fire hose**. Anita Maskin died June 10 while watching a house fire in the Montreal suburb. Her family is demanding answers about the freak accident, but police say it will be weeks before they can shed light on it. Her husband Robert, 78, said they were having lunch in Boisbriand when they wandered outside to watch firefighters working on a nearby house fire. Anita Maskin went to stand with the crowd when a fire hose disconnected from a nearby hydrant and whipped her in the skull....she was taken to hospital by ambulance and later pronounced dead. **Solution & Reminder:** Have the cops and fire-police (if you have them) keep spectators far, far away...and make sure FF's and anyone on the fireground or near hose lines are PPE protected.

Cal FIRE ISSUES WILDLAND STAND DOWN:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=59891§ionId=46>

Alarmed by what firefighters call a "record number of burnovers" early in the season, the state's fire agency **Cal Fire** took the rare step of issuing a statewide "safety stand down" order to more than 10,000 firefighters.

TANKER CRASH:

A student firefighter in Medford, Oregon, crashed a FD water tanker into a ditch. FF Ryan Harvey had to be cut out of the cab of the truck. He had head injuries but is expected to recover fully. Harvey is a student firefighter and was responding to a fire Tuesday near Talent.

UPDATE: IOWA FIRE CAPTAIN PARALYZED AFTER FALL FROM LADDER:

The Davenport Fire Captain who fell 20 feet from a ladder last week while operating at a fire now appears to be paralyzed from the waist down. Capt. Bob Juarez, 43, remains in ICU at OSF St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria, Ill., where he was taken after the June 12 fire. Captain Juarez underwent surgery several days ago and remains on a ventilator. He suffered a serious spinal injury, with some paralysis," according to Les Norin, President of the Davenport firefighters' union. "He had some very significant fractures to his back and neck. "The loss of function is below the waist. He does have function of his arms and hands. Sometimes you look for the small victories, I guess."...Juarez's wife, Nancy, has been at her husband's bedside since the accident, Norin said. The couple has a teenage daughter and son. Our prayers and best wishes to Captain Juarez, his family and all affected by this incident.

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Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-19-08 / 1135 hours

AND:

We regret to advise you that Pine Level Fire Chief George Crocker, 32, died in the Line of Duty Sunday morning. As reported on www.FireNews.net, the Chief had answered several calls with the PLFD of Johnston County in the days preceding his death. George was also a career Senior Firefighter with the Raleigh Fire Department, currently assigned to Engine Company 12. He joined the Raleigh Fire Department in October of 2002. Chief Crocker was transported Sunday afternoon to Chapel Hill for an autopsy. He was escorted by Raleigh Engine 12, Battalion Chief 2, a Pine Level Engine, and a Chief's vehicle.....Raleigh Engine 14 and Rescue 14, along with Western Wake Fire Rescue took up positions along Interstate 40. A Durham engine met the party in Durham County, and a Chapel Hill engine joined the procession in Orange County.

Our sincere condolences to all affected.

IT IS NOW FIRE/EMS Safety, Health and Survival SAFETY WEEK (formerly known as STAND DOWN Week). There are loads of resources and information available here for any needed last minute plans:

www.IAFCSafety.org

<http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=306>

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

<http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/news/safetyweek08.html>

<http://www.healthy-firefighter.org/>

2 Firefighters in Arizona were bit by a patient on Saturday, and the patient later died in the hospital. We have more details on our home page.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-23-08 / 0650 hours

AND:

Hey...

A Cal-FIRE inmate fire crew transport bus overturned last evening in Riverside County critically injuring several Firefighters. The crash resulted in numerous injuries with 2 being critical with one of the 2 critically injured transported via air ambulance to a local trauma center. The other critical and 6 moderate victims were transported via ground ambulance to area hospitals.... there was also 12 minor injuries that were treated at the scene but not transported. Additional updates will be posted as it becomes available at:

<http://www.rvcfire.org/opencms/index.html>

THE MASSILLON (OHIO) FIREFIGHTER who was driving the apparatus to a fire with her crew last month won't face criminal charges for the crash that tragically killed a 4-year-old and his grandfather...that the Firefighter was actually related to (they were her cousins).

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There was insufficient evidence to charge Firefighter Susan Toles, 47, with a crime. According to the Ohio Highway Patrol, FF Toles and 3 other Firefighters were responding to the car fire next to the structure on May 6 when their rig collided with the minivan. The van's driver, Ronald Anderson, 72, of Massillon, died at the scene. His step-grandson, Javarre Tate, 4, died at the hospital.

The prosecutor conducted a through investigation into the crash, including numerous interviews with witnesses, before a decision was made on possible criminal charges. Their separate investigation followed state troopers' own probe into the crash. The area commander of the OHP post, concurred with the decision not to prosecute. They said there was "credible evidence" that Anderson drove into the path of the fire engine, with lights and sirens activated, operating at reasonable speeds for an emergency. Engine No. 211, operated by FF Toles, was one of two fire apparatus called to a fire. **They believe Anderson, who was hearing impaired, stopped for the first truck, but may not have realized there was a second responding apparatus.** We have additional details posted on our home page.

HYDRANT "BLOWS UP" AT FIRE SCENE: A Pompano Beach (FL) Fire-Rescue FF was taken to the hospital yesterday after a fire hydrant "blew out of the ground" (see photos on our home page) and struck him while he was operating at a fire. Thankfully, Driver/Engineer Edwin Adams suffered minor injuries and no one else was injured in the fire, but it damaged four apartments, displacing six adults and four children. Officials will investigate why the hydrant erupted from the ground, "to make sure it doesn't happen again" .

UPDATE ON WOMAN KILLED AT CANADA FIRE SCENE: In reference to the citizen killed a few days ago in Canada, (sent on The Secret List, June 19) according to eye witnesses, **the woman was standing ON one of the fire hoses**, when it was "suddenly" pulled by one of the fire trucks - throwing her off balance, and causing her to strike her head on the ground. An avoidable tragic event...keep the civilians far, far away. Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-24-08 / 0820 hours

AND:

Hey...

Well, the week formerly known as **Firefighter Stand Down Week**, now known as **Fire/EMS Safety, Health & Survival Week** (www.IAFCSafety.org) is up and running...and we are about half way thru. Sponsored and lead by **IAFC, IAFF and IAFC's Safety, Health and Survival Section**, nearly all fire service organizations in North America are active participants.

By many accounts, there is real significant focus on the issues related to this years goals. There are MANY resources out there for those who are still in need of stuff. For example, in conjunction with the 2008 Fire/EMS Safety, Health & Survival week, the **NFPA is launching their new web site, Fire Service Today**, at www.FireServiceToday.org.

Their new site features podcasts on some of the more important issues associated with 2008 Safety Week, including medical and fitness issues, apparatus safety, live fire training, and
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wildland firefighter safety. Visitors can view applicable NFPA standards at no charge...check it out.

The primary site for this weeks events is:

<http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=306>

Also, we found a few new and old links that might be of value, in the **DON'T DO THIS** area of interest, that also may be of help to you helping those who don't get it-to get it:

FireFighterCloseCalls.com's suggested "DON'T DO THIS" videos:

Ground Ladder Ops: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOC2sHWkZIE>

Respecting hose lines: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBTgG9E_2dc&feature=related

Use CAUTION in intersections 1:

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

Use CAUTION in intersections 2: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01IGtRSuMc4>

Use CAUTION when on wet roads:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7eva8qaOKg&feature=related>

Use CAUTION on slippery roads:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQ7imzYtKq4&feature=related>

Sometimes WE DON'T Go In:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfuu1FuG_rU&feature=related

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-25-08 / 1705 hours

AND:

Hey....

=PA FIREFIGHTER HAS BEEN KILLED IN IRAQ:

A Firefighter from the Harrisburg area is the latest soldier from Pennsylvania to be killed in the Iraq war. **Twenty-five-year-old Army Pfc. James Yohn of Highspire, a Volunteer Firefighter with the Highspire Fire Company** was killed by a roadside bomb on Tuesday. Yohn's mother Judy says an Army chaplain and another officer delivered the news as she was preparing to go to work Wednesday morning. Judy Yohn says her son and his wife Amber were expecting their first child in a just few weeks. The couple had gotten married before a district judge in February and were planning to have a full ceremony once he came home from Iraq. Our sincere condolences to the members of the Yohn Family, his fire company as well as our sincere THANKS to all those serving our Country.

=SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR GETS INFLUENCED:

The politicians unanimously went against the Governor of South Carolina on fire sprinklers...how'bout that! They voted unanimously yesterday to override Gov. Mark Sanford's veto of a bill providing incentives to those installing fire sprinklers. **The bill now becomes law. The SC House voted 109-0 while their Senate applied its membership roll to an override vote without debate.**

The Gov vetoed the sprinkler bill because he said the tax credits offered were too large
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and they amounted to a subsidy (which of course wouldn't be the first "subsidy" provided by gov't) The bill offers property owners installing fire sprinklers a local property tax credit equal to 25 of the cost of the fire sprinkler system and an additional 25 percent tax credit from the state. The state tax credit still depends on a local government approving local incentives...but that's a great start in demonstrating "ACTION" in honoring the memories of the 9 Firefighters killed in Charleston, the Greenville hotel fire that killed 6 and the beach house fire in North Carolina last October that killed 7 South Carolina college kids.

LINKS related to current and important FIRE SPRINKLER efforts by the FIRE Service:

www.IRCfiresprinkler.org , www.FireTeamUSA.com , www.HomeFireSprinkler.org , www.nfsa.org

LINK related to the efforts of the home builders association who work hard to convince people of the need to NOT sprinkler their new homes:

<http://www.nahb.org/search.aspx?txtkeyword=fire+sprinklers&x=4&y=10>

=BAD NEWS IN GEORGIA:

In what is a sign of the times by more short sighted politicians suffering from NTS, the East Point FD in Georgia will be **laying off 65 Firefighters** as the city tries to address an \$8 million budget shortfall. This isn't the first FD to go thru this recently with other FD's across the USA laying off or reducing FF positions...laying off America's "1st responders"....

Just like a good insurance policy-you can be smart by investing in good coverage knowing you have it-just in case you need it...or you can purchase the cheapest and lowest cost coverage, hoping you won't need it...**but eventually someone will**. Short sighted elected folks making poor decisions for the "customers". That's what the city hall-dwellers frequently forget...they demonstrate the attitude that "well, since everything looks fine (no complaints because of the GOOD fire rescue service that is currently being delivered)...we can make cuts" And that's fine, as long as no citizen puts in a "9-1-1" claim....**but they will-it's just a matter of time for the "right" emergency to occur, re-gaining attention by elected folks-who wanna get re-elected.**

Fire service leadership has a responsibility to make very clear what can realistically be delivered at "this" cost...and what can be delivered at "that" cost while still being creative in providing services. And if less is responding to emergency calls-the public must be educated and understand because of that-less tasks will be able to be performed when those tasks are often very critical....just like the holder of an insurance policy must understand **what is**-and **what is not** covered. In other words, what will they get when they have their bad day.

Simple math with potentially tragic results because, when there **is** a tragic outcome: The issue then goes full circle with the highest of emotions. Our best to the FF's in East Point in hopes that someone there wakes up and understands very real results that can come from this. <http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/printedition/2008/06/25/eastpoint.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-26-08 / 1055 hours

AND:

Hey....

We regret to advise you that **Chief Jeff Powers, the Deputy Chief of the Southern Marin (CA) FPD collapsed and died in the Line of Duty Thursday** as his own firefighters tried to save him. Chief Jeff Powers, a 23-year veteran, was 44, and survivors include his wife and two small children. An autopsy is pending. Chief Powers collapsed at 1220 hours while talking to colleagues at a firehouse in Sausalito. Firefighters tried to resuscitate Powers in the ambulance on the way to the hospital, but he was sadly pronounced dead after reaching the emergency room. Chief Powers rose from captain to battalion chief before being named deputy chief in April 2007. Our sincere condolences to all affected-especially the Powers family and members of his FD.

FIREFIGHTERS AND HEART ATTACKS: The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Maryland has received a **\$1 million Fire Act Grant** to help research the high number of heart attacks suffered by firefighters. Johns Hopkins is working with the National Volunteer Fire Council and will study firefighter fitness programs and ways to reduce preventable heart conditions.

TOUGH SAFETY LEADERSHIP: AIRLINE SAFETY & FIREFIGHTER SAFETY ? In light of us winding down Firefighter Safety, Health and Survival Week.....**this may sound familiar as the FAA is described in an article:**failure to take an aggressive stand on some of the toughest safety issues could end up costing lives...too often, the agency is hobbled by bureaucratic inertia and a lack of political will, with leaders more focused on cooperative efforts than on taking a hard line on a change-resistant industry....

Check it out:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121444325397905631.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

SPECIAL NOTE OF CONDOLENCE: Our condolences to the family and friends of "Gentle Giant" Firefighter Vince Dixon who was killed off-duty Sunday morning when his car flipped over in a single car crash. FF Dixon, a long time member of The Secret List, had been active with several southern Michigan and northern Indiana area FD's including Niles City, Clay Township and the Notre Dame FD. He was also a member of the area MABAS 201 Tactical Rescue Team and was studying to be a paramedic. R.I.P. FF Vince Dixon.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL...SLOW DOWN...BUCKLE UP.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-27-08 / 0840 hours

AND:

We regret to advise you that Prince George's County (MD) Police **Corporal Richard Findley** (who was also an active Prince Georges County Vol Firefighter/EMT for the past 20 years) **was killed in the Line of Duty today when he was struck down by a vehicle driven by suspected car thieves in Laurel.** The Corporal's wife was flown to the hospital by helicopter from their home...**both** are members of the Beltsville VFD, Co. 31-PGFD.

MEDIA LINK-for excellent continued coverage of this tragic event, go to:

www.Statter911.com

FD LINK: www.BeltsvilleVFD.com

PD LINK: <http://www.co.pg.md.us/Government/PublicSafety/Police/about.asp>

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Prince George's County Police said Cpl Findley (**who leaves behind 2 young daughters**) had spotted a suspected stolen car and was monitoring the vehicle on foot when 2 men returned to the car and apparently rammed the officer and then dragged him....there are now 4 people in custody...no one charged yet. Cpl. Findley is the first PGPD Officer to be killed in the county since 2005, when Cpl. Steven Gaughan was fatally shot when he pursued a suspect into a Laurel area apartment complex following a routine traffic stop.

Our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-27-08 / 1735 hours

AND:

OHIO LODD: It is with deep regret that we advise you of the **Line of Duty Death of Whitehouse (Ohio) Firefighter / Paramedic Gary L Studer**. During the early morning hours of June 20, 2008, of his shift, the department received a run and F/F Medic Studer failed to report to the squad...following that, his partner found him unconscious. He was immediately assisted, transported to the hospital and was treated for a stroke, where he remained on life support. Sadly, Firefighter/Paramedic Gary Studer passed away this morning, June 28, 2008. Our sincere condolences to all affected. www.whitehousefire.com

MO. APPARATUS RESPONDING-FF EJECTED: Around 0500 hours this morning, a Lebanon Rural FD (MO) engine company was responding to a structure fire when they rolled over in Laclede County (MO) critically injuring one Firefighter. **A total of 4 Firefighters were in the apparatus and it is reported that 3 of them had safety belts on, but the one Firefighter who did not was thrown from the apparatus and was pinned under the apparatus for around 30 minutes prior to extrication.**

MAINE FF TRAPPED IN COLLAPSE-STOPS BREATHING: A Firefighter from Rumford is recovering after a roof collapsed on him during an early morning fire in Mexico, Maine. FF Bill Johnson was operating at an apartment fire (early this morning) on the third floor when part of the roof collapsed. He wasn't breathing when other Firefighters pulled him from the building. FF Johnson was taken to CMMC and is expected to be released soon.

GOT KIDS?? There is a very inexpensive and very cool new book out for little kids...especially those poor little children who must suffer the ill effects of not having **RED** fire apparatus in their town! Actually, the book was just published by a long time Secret List member, friend and neighboring Chief of ours, BJ Jetter from Sycamore Township...and the book's illustrations were drawn by STFD's Asst Chief, Rob Penny.

"**Little Green Firetruck**" is coming soon to bookstores but can also be ordered thru this link...<http://www.authorhouse.com/BookStore/ItemDetail~bookid~49404.aspx>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 6-28-08 / 1545 hours

AND:

Hey....

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A Chicago Firefighter/Fire Investigator was shot on the Southeast Side after responding to a working fire early this morning. The FF was taken in serious condition to Northwestern Memorial Hospital. The Fire Investigator responded about 0330 hours for a working fire....when he arrived shots were fired and he was hit by a bullet...updates to follow.

MAINE FIREFIGHTER RECOVERING FROM FIRE COLLAPSE/NON-BREATHING:

Yesterday, Rumford FF Bill Johnston was lifeless when Firefighters found him and dug him from the collapsed area. FF Johnston was operating at an early-morning fire in a 3 story apartment building yesterday when the roof collapsed. FF Johnston was unresponsive and had no pulse when FF's found him, rescued him and carried him down 3 flights of stairs. FF's and the local EMS Med-Care medics were able to resuscitate him. Med-Care Director (and long time FF and Secret List member) Dean Milligan said he believed FF Johnston, who suffered back injuries when he was crushed, said he was hospitalized overnight for observation.

Rumford Fire Lt. Rob Dixon said he and 2 other Rumford Firefighters arrived on the scene and had fire through the roof. He said he believed FF Johnston entered the building and the roof collapsed on ! him. "I don't know how many hundreds or thousands of pounds it was, but it just knocks the daylight out of you." FF Johnston was completely covered in debris, but **firefighters were able to find him because the collapse activated his PASS device and it was making noise.** His partner, Chris Moretto, yelled for help...."Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!...man down on the third floor!" Rumford Fire Deputy Chief Chris Bryant, Rumford FF Ed Carey and Mexico FF Allen Chartier stopped what they were doing, donned breathing gear and rushed to help and made the rescue.

BOSTON FIREFIGHTERS BATTLES & STRIFE:

Here is an article related to the current conditions, from apparatus to training to labor/management relations, at the Boston FD:

http://www.bostonmagazine.com/articles/the_firebrand/

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-29-08 / 1228 hours

AND:

Hey...

Another tragic EMS/Medivac incident...this time, 2 medical helicopters collided in midair this afternoon killing at least seven people and critically injuring three. All three people on one of the helicopters were killed in the Flagstaff crash, including a patient and the pilot. Four others were killed and three critically wounded. Officials aren't sure if they were all on the second helicopter or whether some were on the ground.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-29-08 / 2115 hours

AND:

Hey...

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Five (5) Hackensack, NJ firefighters lost their lives in the Line of Duty in the collapse of a bow-string truss roof at the Hackensack Ford auto dealership, 20 years ago, July 1st. **Some people remember this fire and some clearly forgot...and some forget for WTF?! reasons.** (See below)

As you may remember, 3 of the Firefighters were killed when the arch-truss roof collapsed on top of them in a second floor office, burying them under tons of rubble. Two other Firefighters died later when they horrifically ran out of air after becoming trapped in a tool room by the collapse.

On July 1, 1988 Hackensack Fire Department:

CAPT. RICHARD L. WILLIAMS

LIEUT. RICHARD REINHAGEN

F/F WILLIAM KREJSA

F/F LEONARD RADUMSKI

F/F STEPHEN ENNIS

...tragically lost their lives in the Line of Duty at Hackensack Ford. R.I.P.

That fire taught so many in the fire service lessons on how to better operate, honoring the tragic loss. But while many of us have learned, some folks, specifically elected folks (surprise!) in Hackensack HAVE LEARNED NOTHING AND FORGOT EVERYTHING. The City of Hackensack Council passed a resolution (**excerpts below**) in February that urged residents to FIGHT the implementation of a bill that would require FIRE sprinklers.

Hackensack has multiple high-rise residential occupancies, (the tallest being 26 floors), that would benefit from this. That action, coupled with the Hackensack city hall dwellers politically motivated elimination of the HFD EMS division effective August 1st, has many wondering what ever happened to their support, especially since Tuesday is the 20 year anniversary of their losing 5 Brother Firefighters in the Ford dealership fire. While the proposed action for sprinklers is specific to hi-rises, one would think after their history, this would be a no brainer for the politicians...or perhaps, it is.

WTF?! - Take a look at what the Hackensack city hall dwellers crafted:

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs is about to require that all buildings 75 feet or higher be required to retrofit automatic fire sprinkler systems; and WHEREAS, all such existing **buildings are already fire proof** with concrete walls and enclosed stairwells and, in fact, of all fire deaths in the State of New Jersey only 4% occur in them; and WHEREAS, the retrofitting of such building will create great expense in the form of added assessments to condominium and co-op owners and large rent increases to tenants; and WHEREAS, Special Interest Industrial Lobbyists are pushing for this regulation to be effectuated without the approval of the State Legislature; and WHEREAS, only Governor Jon S. Corzine can stop the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs from implementing this **wasteful and unnecessary** regulation. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Hackensack hereby petitions Governor Jon S. Corzine to stop the implementation of this regulation.

Absolutely amazing.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

If we didn't know better, we would think that a national home builders type of an association might have helped them with that anti-life saving fire sprinkler document. The family of the next hi-rise fire fatality in Hackensack will surely find value in that documentation, as the city hall dwellers there have clearly forgotten the basic role of local government: the safety of those who elect them. It should be noted that there has not been movement on this at the State level.

==Tuesdays Memorial Service Information: <http://www.iaff2081.com/>

==Local article about the fire: <http://www.hackensackchronicle.com/NC/0/321.html>

==Hackensack FD Deputy Chief Steve Kalman will be discuss the fire and changes over the last 20 years at Firehouse Expo on that Saturday morning. www.firehouseexpo.com

On July 5th, 35 years ago, a devastating BLEVE killed 11 Firefighters in Kingman, AZ....more later but here are some excellent links:

<http://azkrmc.com/education/history/stockton1.htm> (scroll down to the fire)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ucs5qrR5X0w> (BLEVE video)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kzi2qmOK3ZU> (BLEVE video)

Take Care-our sincere thoughts and prayers go out to the members of the HFD, the KFD and the affected families.

BillyG

The Secret List 6-30-08 / 1555 hours

AND:

FIREFIGHTER LODD: FF WAS AMONGST THOSE KILLED IN DOUBLE HELICOPTER CRASH.

6 people (not 7 as we initially reported in the Secret List) died in the weekend accident, including Firefighter Mike McDonald, 26 from the Chief Mountain Hotshots-Bureau of Indian Affairs, Blackfeet Agency. One chopper had been carrying FF McDonald and was bringing him back from a fire on the south rim of the Grand Canyon, **where he'd been injured working a fire line.** Eyewitnesses saw one aircraft approaching the hospital to land, but the second came up from the south at low elevation, colliding with the helicopter carrying FF McDonald. Six people were killed in the crash while a seventh remains in critical condition. **It should also be noted that one of the pilots killed is the brother in law of a long time Secret List reader, a FF in NY.** Our deepest thoughts to all affected by this tragic event.

FROM THE SCENE DETAILS ON THAT HELICOPTER CRASH:

Here are some unofficial details....on impact one of the 2 EMS helicopters caught fire and the other did not which was about 500 feet away from the first. The one that was on fire was carrying 2 crew members and a patient (left the flight medic out because of weight) and they all three were deceased at the scene.

On scene first was an ambulance crew who went in (because they could see the patient lying next to the chopper) and there was a secondary explosion. It knocked them both off their feet and they both received inhalation burns and burns to their hands. One was released and one kept overnight for observation but NLT. Not sure yet what the blast was but investigators are thinking an O2 tank possibly BLEVE'd. We felt a shock wave a mile away and it put up a

July 4, 2008 www.chabotfire.com 58

white cloud. The second helicopter had 3 crew members and a patient. Patient was deceased on scene but the 3 crew members were extricated, worked and transported. One was still breathing..... still alive as of this writing. The other 2 were pronounced at the hospital. All in all 6 dead and 1 still alive. Nobody on the ground was hurt other than the ambulance crew with the burns. As sent in to FirefighterCloseCalls.com. Also, here is a website of interest: www.flightweb.com

WASHINGTON FIREFIGHTER DOWN:

Several thunder cells passed through SW + SE Washington Sunday afternoon. There were several lightning strikes that started several blazes. While on the fire line, a 44 y/o Goldendale City Firefighter collapsed. The call went out on the radio of a FF down and called for an AED immediately. There were several rigs close by that had them. Several nearby FF's treated him until the ambulance arrived and transported him to a local hospital. It's unclear right now if he coded on scene or not, but he did code at the hospital where he was stabilized, then transported to Dallesport, WA to a waiting Life Flight helicopter to take him to a hospital in Portland, OR. He did code again enroute to the hospital in Portland. In all, reports are that he was shocked 11 times! FF's on scene wanted to fly him initially, but because of the smoke and thunder storms! , wasn't possible. Doctors put in a stent and were hoping to extubate him this afternoon. He is responding to some verbal stimulus and will look around when they wean him off of the sedatives....we will keep you advised via our FFCC.com home page.

BALTIMORE CITY REDUCING LIGHT AND SIREN USE:

The Baltimore City FD is announcing a new response system that it says will save money and increase safety for responders and civilians on city streets. Under the new policy set to begin in August, responses will be deemed "hot," "warm" or cold. For "hot" responses, crews will operate with lights and sirens and lights to move quickly through traffic. On "warm" calls, only the first units will respond with lights and sirens and additional units will not. On "cold" calls, responding units will move with traffic. Fire Chief James Clack says the city won't be sending unneeded equipment on non-emergency calls or taking unnecessary risks. A Balto City truck ran a red light last December killing 3 civilians:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLfFQ0eJlRQ>

Lights or sirens or not-STOP AT RED LIGHTS AND STOP SIGNS before proceeding....this is why:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dg6WojHVz9w>

UPDATE: CHICAGO FF/INVESTIGATOR SHOT:

CFD Investigator Donald Cox was operating at the apparent firebombing of a home Sunday when he was struck by a bullet below his left ribs -- becoming the first Chicago firefighter believed to be shot in the line of duty in about 40 years. F.I. Cox, 45, taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in critical condition, was upgraded to serious but stable condition Sunday evening. We wish the best in his recovery. Here is an article:

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/24-7/1031243,CST-NWS-shot30.article>

UPDATE: POLICE OFFICER (ALSO A FIREFIGHTER) SUSPECT FOUND DEAD IN JAIL:

The death of a 19-year-old found slumped in his cell a day after he was jailed on charges of running over and killing a police officer has been ruled a homicide. The Maryland Medical Examiner ruled Monday that MURDER SUSPECT Ronnie White's

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

death in Prince George's County Correctional Center the previous day was from asphyxiation and strangulation. Maryland State Police and the FBI are investigating the death. The FBI is focusing on possible civil rights violations. **Cpl. Findley memorial information here:** www.beltsvillevfd.com ...and www.Statter911.com has more on the twists in this murder investigation.

WTF!?! MORE FIREFIGHTER CUT BACK AND LAY OFF's.

....and it's not just in small FD's anymore....here is the latest from **ATLANTA:** http://www.ajc.com/opinion/content/opinion/stories/2008/06/30/fired_0701.html

There are many predictable reasons currently why cities and local governments for any reason, should be cutting anywhere else they have to as opposed to public safety-and especially Firefighters....as time will tell.

Take care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-1-08 / 1018 hours

AND:

Hey...

As mentioned on an earlier Secret List, On July 5, 1973, Kingman was the site of a catastrophic BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion) which **killed 11 Firefighters in the Line of Duty.** The explosion occurred following a fire that broke out as propane was being transferred from a railroad car to a storage tank. This explosion has become a classic incident studied in our training programs. A detailed account, including some spectacular photographs, of the explosion and its aftermath can be found here:

<http://azkrmc.com/education/history/stockton1.htm>

Additionally, here are some more videos to help us all remember-and understand the power of a BLEVE.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xf3WKTwHplU&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsD8HFcOfCU&feature=related>

We honor the memories of Kingman Captain William L. Casson, Assistant Chief Myron B. Cox, Firefighter Roger A. Hubka, Lieutenant Joseph M. Chambers III, Firefighter Marvin E. Mast, Probationary Firefighter Arthur C. Stringer, Captain Christopher G. Sanders, Firefighter Richard Lee Williams, Firefighter Frank S. Henry, Firefighter John O. Campbell, Firefighter Donald G. Webb, and Firefighter Alan Hansen.

For additional information on historic fires and our fire service history, go to this excellent site: www.FireHistory.org

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 7-2-08 / 2120 hours

AND:

July 4, 2008

www.chabotfire.com

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We regret to advise you that a volunteer firefighter has died after collapsing while operating at a fire in Ukiah, Mendocino County, Calif. The **Anderson Valley (CA) FD says 63-year-old Robert Roland died in the Line of Duty** at the hospital on Thursday morning. The cause of death has not yet been determined, but was likely heart-related. The all-volunteer fire company of 41 Firefighters was and still is battling a 550-acre blaze, one of hundreds started by recent lightning storms. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger released a statement saying he is "deeply saddened" by FF Roland's death and that flags at the state capitol will fly at half-staff to honor the firefighter.

REMEMBERING STORM KING: Take time to remember the South Canyon Fire on Storm King Mountain, July 5th, 1994. FF's Kathi Beck, Tami Bickett, Scott Blecha, Levi Brinkley, Robert Browning, Doug Dunbar, Terri Hagen, Bonnie Holtby, Rob Johnson, Jon Kelso, Don Mackey, Roger Roth, James Thrash and Richard Tyler were killed in the Line of Duty. More details here: <http://www.coloradofirecamp.com/south-canyon-fire/index.htm>

SEE US NOW....OR SEE US LATER!

Look, we aren't the biggest fans of some bs regulations, rules or standards that make little sense and we have a pretty good history of documenting our opinion...but this one makes sense, costs very little and can make a big difference because, as very simply put, Firefighters being as visible as possible on roadways is a big deal.

As most of you are aware, Firefighters and other responders will be soon have to wear ANSI approved High Visibility Vests on highways effective November 24, 2008. A new federal rule, pushed by Firefighters, to HONOR the memories of the many FIREFIGHTERS that have been struck on roadways, will require responders to wear the vests while operating on roadways supported by federal dollars. It only makes sense; after all, wouldn't your family want you to be visible while operating on the roadway? Speaking as one who was struck in the late 90's: whatever we can do in order to NOT be struck simply makes sense. At the very minimum, the low cost, light weight vests make it where clueless drivers on the highway have a better chance to see us along with traffic management, blocking etc.

Many fire organizations including the the IAFC and the Safety, Health and Survival Section, the National Traffic Incident Management Coalition, and the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute, along with numerous fire departments have pushed and support this as a way to reduce Firefighter death and injuries. In so many cases, Firefighters have been using reflective safety vests for years because it simply makes sense to be seen. Unfortunately, a very few self interested for-profit businesses have suggested that turn out gear alone is just fine and they are trying to divert Firefighters from supporting the purchase and use of vests...WTF!? Well, it appears their motivation is strictly from a business perspective. That kind of response is unfortunate because the vests add obvious "see me now" protection in addition to our gear.

FD's have been using these hi-vis featherweight vests for years and keep them in riding positions....when FF's have to work in traffic areas, they just throw them over their bunker gear or whatever your FD or EMS has you wear on the roadways. They wouldn't be used if you are fighting a fire, for example (just don't put it on or take it off, takes about 1.5 seconds), but they are simply used when you are on a road scene so that **"cell phone using, child**

yelling, hair teasing, knee steering, teenage texting, radio blasting, headphone wearing, latte drinking" motorists have the best chance in seeing us! It just makes sense for them to see us now vs seeing us later-after we have been struck.

DETAILS HERE: www.ResponderSafety.com

Take Care-Have a Happy and Safe 4th,

BillyG

The Secret List 7-4-08 / 0834 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.

Considerations for fires in buildings with lightweight construction, an educational article from Fire Rescue magazine (www.firerescue1.com):

<http://www.firerescue1.com/Columnists/Charles-Bailey/articles/403559-Considerations-for-Lightweight-Construction-Fires/>

The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) is in the news, and this time it seems to be very positive. This story talks about how they are making progress in reducing harassment and discrimination. Not an easy task to accomplish in such a large department, but it sounds like they're on the right track.

<http://www.knbc.com/news/16441854/detail.html>

And a related story:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/news/403517-LAFD-making-headway-against-harassment-discrimination/>

An Austin (TX) Lieutenant may be in a fight to keep his job or refrain from being disciplined, based on a poor decision being made on duty. While he and his crew were at a shopping center one day doing the daily food run, he made the choice to not drop the food and run to the rig and take the call; something most of us would consider a poor choice. When the bell goes off, we drop what we're doing, and it's not up to us to determine what is important and what is not important when someone is calling 9-1-1. If you think it is ridiculous, how would you like it if it was you or one of your loved ones calling 9-1-1 in this case?

<http://www.firerescue1.com/news/403399-Sacked-Texas-food-run-firefighter-defends-actions/>

The budget woes continue, in various forms and fashions:

The City of Brentwood (CA) is struggling trying to find funding to just provide an average level of fire protection, barely having a minimum level at the moment.

<http://www.baypointpress.com/article.cfm?articleID=19626>

Arizona Fire Departments (like most others around the country) are faced with skyrocketing fuel costs, health care costs, and retirement costs, resulting in less money to spend on needed services, wages and benefits:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/westvalley/articles/2008/06/03/20080603gl-nwvbudgets0530-ON.html>

The Sacramento (CA) Fire Department is considering browning out fire stations to help ride out the impending budget cuts:

http://www.news10.net/display_story.aspx?storyid=42819

The Alameda (CA) Fire Department is also looking at having to brown out (close) one truck company per day, due to the reduced revenue the city is faced with:

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/16519903/detail.html>

An Oregon Fire Department is going broke and looking for options:

http://www.kmtr.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=92e09c25-9f76-4366-857f-09001ed0622f

A Michigan Fire Department is looking at significantly reducing their level of services, including the reduction of staff and the need to charge for services. Yes, times are getting tough, and departments are forced to look at alternatives:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/legislation-funding/articles/404641-Mich-town-proposes-cutting-firefighters-charging-for-calls/>

Something many fire departments are having to come to grips with – increasing fuel costs: http://www.whittierdailynews.com/news/ci_9597935

And a related article from Arizona:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/surprise/articles/2008/06/24/20080624gl-nwvbudgets0624-ON.html>

The Vallejo (CA) Fire Department is still facing significant issues, as expected, after their city files for bankruptcy: http://www.timesheraldonline.com/news/ci_9622513

And additional Vallejo (CA) Fire Department news – the City is attempting to void the current firefighters' labor contract, something that could be monumental if it actually occurs: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/06/23/BAKR11CR8R.DTL>

A Georgia Fire Department may have to close three of its five fire stations due to budget issues: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=59914§ionId=46>

Well, at least two have been already closed:

<http://www.cbs46.com/news/16704047/detail.html>

Budget problems may exist in some parts of the country, but the Loveland (CO) Fire Department is fortunate enough to be hiring firefighters

http://www.reporterherald.com/news_story.asp?ID=17334

Fire Department Consolidation / Merger Related Stories:

Fire Department in San Diego County (CA) are moving toward consolidation, something that probably should have been done a long time ago:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20080625-9999-1n25plans.html>

And a related story:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=59966§ionId=46>

The Pittsburgh (PA) Fire & EMS Bureaus are in for some form of consolidations, which is probably long overdue as the fire department's call volume is probably mostly EMS in nature, similar to virtually every fire department. Instead of "us vs. them," we should be on the same team and under the same roof to ensure consistency, team work, and that a good working relationship is in place.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08178/892731-53.stm>

One hundred twenty two Boston (MA) Firefighters called in sick on Memorial Day. Not a great public relations story in the grand scheme of things.

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=46&id=59739>

Still on the subject of the Boston Fire Department, this time they are the focus of a story regarding potential promotional examination questions being "leaked" prior to the testing process:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=59907§ionId=46>

Lake Havasu City (AZ) Firefighters face misconduct allegations.

<http://www.mohavedailynews.com/articles/2008/06/01/news/local/local7.txt>

A great article on Firefighter rehabilitation at emergency scenes, something we need to do a better job at as an industry. We're getting better, but there is still work to do to keep our personnel safe

http://www.firerescuemagazine.com/magazine_content/dickinson_30JUN2008.html

A nice article on firefighter art (sculptures), used at memorial locations. The sad part is someone usually has to die before a sculpture is built.

http://www.firerescuemagazine.com/articles/jerrard/jerrard_30JUN2008.html

An overview of the soon-to-be released, updated NFPA Standard 1901 (Fire Apparatus):

http://www.firerescuemagazine.com/articles/vaccaro/vaccaro_30JUN2008.html

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

The Dallas (TX) Fire-Rescue Department has reached full compliance in having all members sign the seat-belt pledge, to help increase safety and prevent firefighter injuries and fatalities. They are the first big city department to do so. Dumb question, but why do we have to have folks sign the seat-belt pledge? Shouldn't we just be wearing them out of habit and because of common sense? Well, unfortunately firefighters are still dying and getting injured every year and not having a seat-belt on. Sad that we have to make the effort to sign a document to wear our seat-belt. If for no other reason, do it for your family and loved ones:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=46&id=59720>

And the Phoenix area firefighters riding for burn victims:

<http://www.620ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=868627>

A positive story about Mark Burdick, the Fire Chief of the Glendale (AZ) Fire Department; I say positive because it seems like it is rare to see a positive story about a Fire Chief today. A good role model for future chief officers and any fire service member.

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/glendale/articles/2008/05/31/20080531gl-firechief0531-ON.html>

A Milwaukee (WI) Battalion Chief is wondering whether firefighters are being targeted after four (4) recent arson fires have occurred.

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=757551>

The Chico (CA) Fire Department union brothers and sisters are to be commended for this show of leadership. They are willing to give up pay and benefits to keep necessary positions on duty every day. The sad part is you don't see stories like this too often; instead, we're portrayed as greedy and self-centered because we are not willing to negotiate with our elected/appointed officials in tough economic times.

http://www.oroVILLEmr.com/news/ci_9771562

Another story to learn from, when looking at schools to obtain a two year degree, a four year degree, or a graduate level degree. Some American Canyon (CA) firefighters are being investigated for receiving degrees from questionable institutions and then requesting reimbursement and compensation. This has happened in a number of other

departments, including the FDNY and Sacramento. It is very tempting to “buy” a degree so to speak, but nothing beats sitting down in a formal classroom and actually riding the pine and actually having to earn the degree. Let’s set an example and not be the ones being investigated, especially in these tough economic times when it’s easy to point fingers at public officials like firefighters.

http://www.timesheraldonline.com/news/ci_9775664

Because of increased liability and responsibility, some fire officers are turning down command assignments at major incidents. This is going to be really interesting to watch over the next few years. When you take the oath of office to do your job to the best of your ability, and then refuse an assignment, at what point does it border insubordination, subject to discipline up to and including termination?

<http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2008/07/02/news/state/45-firecase.txt>

Apparently in the Houston (TX) Fire Department, female firefighters are still feeling they face a tough climb up the department ranks:

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/front/5869178.html>

What a nightmare; the Seattle (WA) Fire Department is having issues with its new training facility, and not able to flow as much water as they would like to. However, before jumping to conclusions, it sounds like there could have been some better planning.

http://www.king5.com/localnews/stories/NW_070208INV_seattle_fire_training_center_KC.1a2473c3.html

A creative way to build a new fire station, next to a park-and-ride facility in Washington State:

<http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/whidbey/swr/news/20876254.html>

Gunfire shatters the window of a Trenton (NJ) fire engine – hope they issue bullet proof vests to the firefighters.....

http://www.nj.com/centraljersey/index.ssf/2008/06/gunfire_shatters_window_of_tre.html

A Captain/Paramedic in Lake Havasu (AZ) is suing his city for severe emotional distress.

<http://www.havasunews.com/articles/2008/06/03/news/doc4844dc384188d969522358.txt>

Priorities for firefighter health and well-being – some great health and safety info, and should be mandatory reading for company officers, chief officers, and for that matter, any fire service member.

<http://www.firerescue1.com/health/articles/406211-Priorities-for-Firefighter-Health-and-Wellbeing/>

Lead by example in vehicle safety – a great article relating to firefighter safety while on the road and in our apparatus:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/vehiclesafety/articles/405895-Lead-by-Example-in-Vehicle-Safety/>

From Charleston (SC), one of the Council members has abruptly quit the Public Safety Committee meeting, with fingers being pointed at Joe Riley, the Mayor who many say should have gone with the Fire Chief, Rusty Thomas, after his role before and after the nine firefighters lost their lives in the line of duty.

http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/jun/03/gallant_quits_safety_panel43185/

A great article for company officers and chief officers when having to evaluate their performance or give honest, objective feedback:

http://www.fox11az.com/news/topstories/stories/KMSB_20080608_dc_jh_alpha.1356d465.html

California's public safety retirement system (PERS) may be in for a sizeable hit due to poor investments. This has the potential to affect all public safety (fire, police, miscellaneous government workers) employees.

http://www.fox11az.com/news/topstories/stories/KMSB_20080608_dc_jh_alpha.1356d465.html

Heart attacks are still the leading cause of death for firefighters according to this Firehouse Magazine story.

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=39&id=59943>

On Thursday June 5, 2008, a Sacramento (CA) Fire Department crew was ventilating a roof on a commercial structure when it collapsed. Here's the video link from KCRA News in Sacramento. Note the radio traffic and the rescue that followed the collapse. Also note the A/C unit that caused the roof to fail quickly. Three brothers came within seconds of their last alarm. Let this be a motivator for all crews to review ventilation procedures, especially on commercial buildings.

<http://www.kcra.com/video/16533129/index.html>

The Tucson (AZ) Fire Department has come up with a creative way to handle responses for the elderly population, which are making up a portion of their annual run volume.

http://www.fox11az.com/news/topstories/stories/KMSB_20080608_dc_jh_alpha.1356d465.html

And a related story on how the program is working:

[http://www.fireengineering.com/display_news/163439/25/none/No flames%2C but firefighters answer calls in AZ](http://www.fireengineering.com/display_news/163439/25/none/No%20flames%2C%20but%20firefighters%20answer%20calls%20in%20AZ)

“Near misses highlight poor communication” – a good article relating to firefighter safety, situational awareness, and keeping yourself, as well as your brother sisters and brothers safe on the fireground.

<http://www.firerescue1.com/Columnists/Jason-Poremba/articles/404162-Near-Misses-Highlight-Poor-Communication/>

“Summer Heat Can Be Taxing On Phoenix Firefighters.” The Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department is the focus of this video, where they routinely have to deal with fighting fires in 100 degree plus weather, definitely something that cannot be fun, especially with all the added weight and layers of their personal protective equipment.

<http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=6752102&version=1&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=VSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

An SUV collides with a fire truck:

<http://www.myfoxcolorado.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=6775900&version=2&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

An applicable article for the fire service: “How NFPA 1500 Applies to Firefighter PPE”:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefightersafety/articles/405678-How-NFPA-1500-Applies-to-Firefighter-PPE/>

An ex-F.D.N.Y. Firefighter gets prison time after torching one of his own fire houses:

<http://www.amny.com/news/local/am-fire0620%2C0%2C320553.story>

Living conditions at many Dallas (TX) Fire Stations are a cause for alarm:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=59970§ionId=46>

Like many other fire departments, the Los Angeles (CA) Fire Department has instituted a tattoo policy for it’s members:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=59961§ionId=46>

A great article on firefighter safety, focused on the chief officer who is in charge of their assigned personnel – “Chief, the buck stops where?”

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefightersafety/articles/406067-Chief-The-Buck-Stops-Where/>

Something the fire service needs to take note of in California. Many private residents (and even insurance companies in other stories) are not sure their fire departments can handle the wildfires. So, they're taking it upon themselves to hire private fire crews and helicopters to protect their houses. How can you blame them?:

[http://www1.pressdemocrat.com/article/20080625/NEWS/806250373/1033/NEWS&title%3DMENDOCINO COUNTY Some property owners hiring private crews leasing copters](http://www1.pressdemocrat.com/article/20080625/NEWS/806250373/1033/NEWS&title%3DMENDOCINO%20COUNTY%20Some%20property%20owners%20hiring%20private%20crews%20leasing%20copters)

Fresno (CA) Fire crews will soon be getting police escorts on certain calls to help reduce their response times from drivers that just don't seem to get it, because they do not pull over for emergency vehicles (a problem most fire departments have).

<http://www.emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?siteSection=1&id=7780>

A Sarasota County (FL) fire station is in the news: a sheriff's deputy accidentally uses their Tazer on a firefighter. Someone has some explaining to do, and more importantly, where was the Captain who was supposed to be supervising the on-duty crews? A good majority of personnel problems in the fire service are the result of the lack of a "designated adult" on duty as a supervisor. That isn't meant to be negative, it is what it is. Captains need to be Captains; when you promote to first-line supervisor, you need to remember you're going from "buddy to boss." Don't take the promotion if you don't want to make the hard decisions that are not always popular.

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20080625/NEWS/806250327/0/FRONTPAGE>

Rusty Thomas, the former Fire Chief of the Charleston (SC) Fire Department worked his last day, June 18, the one year anniversary of the tragic day in history where nine brothers lost their lives in the line-of-duty. It's time for the CFD to get a new leader at the helm, someone that can start the healing process and really take the department where they need to be. I don't envy whoever is appointed as the new Fire Chief, but I do wish them the best of luck and hope their career doesn't end the same way Chief Thomas' did. <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=56&id=59982>

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 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.