



What's Happening

Navy Fire & Emergency Services Newsletter

Protecting Those Who Defend America



May 2026

OMNI CEDO DOMUS

Vol. 24 No. 5

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From the Navy Fire Chief

Welcome to the official start of Summer ! We were honored to present the Navy F&ES Awards on 6 May, at NSA Annapolis. We recognized our Navy CY2025 Annual F&ES Award Winners, Lifetime Achievement Recipients and the Hall of Fame Class. We had a very nice ceremony that was well attended and the award winners provided encouraging remarks regarding their time with Navy F&ES. Additionally, I had the opportunity to meet our Stars of Navy F&ES and visit with their friends and family.

Navy Awards News Link: <https://firenews.com/navy-shore-enterprise-honors-2025-fire-and-emergency-services-award-winners/>

Navy F&ES were selected for three of the Dept of War (DOW) F&ES awards this year (CY25):

- DOW Small Fire Department of the Year:
 - NSA Annapolis
- DOW Large Fire Department of the Year:
 - Metro San Diego
- DOW Civilian Firefighter of the Year:
 - Katsuhiro Watanabe, Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka



BZ to our Navy F&ES DOW Award Winners

Note: We are having difficulty posting all the award photos from the Navy F&ES Awards event.

Anyone who would like **Copies of the Award Ceremony Pictures**, please email me at: Carl.b.glover.civ@us.navy.mil with a Subject Line of “May 2026 Award Pics” and we can send you a link to a file exchange for the Pictures, you can download.





In other news, CNRSW F&ES San Diego and Seal Beach staff assisted Orange County Fire Authority with a serious hazmat incident in Garden Grove, CA. A large tank of methyl methacrylate was experiencing a chemical reaction that could have resulted in an explosion or tank rupture. NB Coronado and NWS Seal Beach F&ES staff deployed a remote controlled firefighting robotic unit to assist with chemical tank cooling and recon operations. Many agencies were working together to successfully mitigate the incident without explosion.



Special BZ to Fire Chief Matt Rios, Firefighter David Gyselbrecht, and Asst Chief Anthony Glorioso for their actions to provide assistance to the local community and help resolve the incident.

Coming Soon !

This Navy Enhanced RIV (750 Gallons) built by Rosenbauer has completed the final inspections and is pending delivery to NS Norfolk to provide ARFF first response to the large Heliport at Fire Sta 2.



Thanks to all our Navy F&ES Teams and members who serve, *Protecting Those Who Defend America*. Stay Safe

Carl





Last Alarms

The USFA reported 22 line of duty deaths in 2026. The following line of duty death has been reported since our last issue.

Jackson Warre Poplar Bluff, MO	Todd Pendleton Goldsby, OK	Stephen Reeves McDonough, GA	James Crews Hilliard, FL	Steven Decker Chicago, IL
William Price Dodge City, KS	Christopher Dorsey Weaverville, NC	Jeffery Buck Fleetwood, PA	Elton Jacobs, Jr. Bolton, NC	Michael Altman Chicago, IL
Scott Durfee Shreveport, LA	Russell Shoultz Walker, MI	Robert Shick, Jr. Fleetwood, PA	Andrew Cross Morrill, ME	
Bryan Jenkins Goldsby, OK	Aaron Wescott Altus AFB, OK	Neil Schnaible South Lake Tahoe, CA	Thomas Kelly New Haven, CT	



Lest We Forget

Navy F&ES Line of Duty Deaths in May

John "Mac" McDonald
Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, MD
30 May 2014

Anthony "Tony" McVey
Portsmouth Naval Hospital, VA
27 May 2024





Taking Care of Our Own Program

There are six firefighters in the Taking Care of Our Own Program.

Name	Location	Point of Contact
Michael Melson	Joint Base Andrews, MD	316FSS.CPO.EMRTEAM@us.af.mil
Daniel Hopcus	MCB Camp Pendleton, CA	christopher.hubmer@usmc.mil
Arthur Gerpoltz	Fort McCoy, WI	brady.j.breuer.civ@army.mil
Charles Latham	NAS Patuxent River, MD	joyce.a.aud.civ@us.navy.mil
Andrew Duran	NAVBASE Ventura County, CA	david.g.santillo@us.navy.mil
Carl Parmley	MAGTFTC/MCAGCC, Combat center, Ca	Marcelino.ryan@usmc.mil

The “Taking Care of Our Own” Program, a sub-set of the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program, was developed to support military component Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES) personnel with a medical emergency defined as *a medical condition of an employee or a family member of an F&ES employee that is likely to require an employee's absence from duty for a prolonged period of time and to result in a substantial loss of income resulting from the unavailability of paid leave.* The Program invites all military component F&ES personnel to donate ONE HOUR of annual leave to any member to enable them to focus on recovery rather than financial distress.



NAVY
Jargon "MIND YOUR P'S AND Q'S"

Often used as a reminder from Mom to be on your best behavior, this term originally comes from a less child-friendly source – the harbor saloon! It's a well-known fact that sailors enjoy a drink or two, and rarely have spare cash until their next payday, so enterprising barmen would extend credit to sailors on leave. They'd mark each Pint and Quart on a chalkboard, and the sailor would pay before returning to sea. But, unscrupulous barmen would sometimes add an extra mark or two to the tally, so sailors monitored (minded) the marks carefully to avoid being cheated.





Navy Garners Annual F&ES Awards

The Department of War (DOW) announced the recipients of the 2025 DOW Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES) Awards for the outstanding accomplishments of its fire departments, fire officers, firefighters, and fire service instructors.

Navy F&ES earned three of the nine awards:



Small Fire Department of the Year: Naval Support Activity Annapolis, Maryland Responded to 1,800 mutual aid calls, including 97 vehicle collisions, over 900 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) requests, and 800 structural incidents. The department facilitated 7,156 training hours, training 25 personnel and ensuring 100-percent fire training compliance. The department also hosted a multi-jurisdictional mass casualty drill with over 10 agencies to simulate transporting 50 patients to local hospitals via medivac helicopters, mass casualty buses, and ambulances.



Large Fire Department of the Year: Metro San Diego, California Successfully mitigated a 4-day, 16,000-acre wildland fire on San Clemente Island, saving crucial facilities and ensuring no loss to endangered wildlife. The department educated over 11,000 military personnel and local community members through fire prevention classes. The department also mitigated 3,000 emergency incidents including five structure fires, 15 shipboard emergencies, 50 hazardous materials, 15 technical rescues, and over 2,000 EMS calls.



Civilian Firefighter of the Year: Katsuhiko Watanabe, Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan

Spearheaded the creation of an internal Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Awareness course, providing a solid foundation for Japanese speakers, and certified six firefighters. Mr. Watanabe responded to a HAZMAT incident on the USS George Washington, isolating toxic gas release and ultimately protecting over \$4.5 billion in national assets while ensuring mission readiness. He also mitigated 519 fire incidents and led 24 ship drills.

Additional DOW F&ES Award Winners for calendar year 2025 were:

Medium Fire Department of the Year: Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, GA

Fire Prevention Program of the Year: 628th Civil Engineer Squadron, JB Charleston, SC

Military Firefighter of the Year: SrA Jacob Meyer, RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom

Military Fire Officer of the Year: SMSgt Aaron Strayhorn, Misawa AB, Japan

Civilian Fire Officer of the Year: Richard Matteson, Eielson AFB, AK

Fire Service Instructor of the Year: Tiana Bykowski, Hill AFB, UT

For more information, visit the DOW F&ES Awards website at: <https://www.acq.osd.mil/eie/emr/fes/index.html>.





Posthumus Hall of Fame Induction

From Sandy Woodard



I had the honor of attending the Navy Fire & Emergency Services awards presentation at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD with CNRNW Deputy Fire Chief Dave Michaelson where Jack D. Woodard was inducted into the Navy F&ES Hall of Fame.

I know Jack would be so proud to receive this award.



Navy F&ES Awards Ceremony Montage





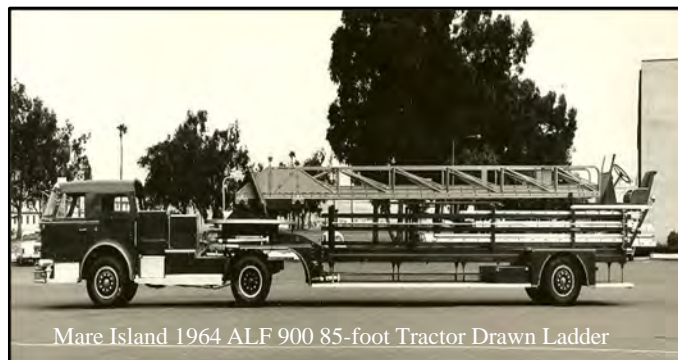
Back in the Day-U.S. Navy Tractor Drawn Aerial Ladders

Story and photos by Tom W. Shand



The origin of tractor drawn aerial ladders dates back to the horse drawn era when straight frame, spring loaded wooden ladders extending up to 85 feet often required a tillerman to steer the rear wheels of the longer units, enabling them to maneuver in tight city streets. As motorized apparatus replaced the horses, tractor drawn ladders in 75- and 85-foot lengths, where the ladder sections consisted of a base section and single fly section required the use of a trailer and tiller position for maneuverability. The tillerman sat on top of the ladder with a swing out seat assembly, with these units having an overall length close to sixty-three feet.

Such was the case when the U.S. Navy sought to acquire several tractor drawn aerial ladders to replace some of the aging pre-World War II quads and city service apparatus. One of the first tiller apparatus placed into service was a 1942 Peter Pirsch model 14 ladder acquire for the Norfolk Naval Station. The U.S. Navy continued to acquire several American Lafrance 700 series midship aerials and during 1965 placed into service four American Lafrance 900 series 85-foot tractor drawn ladders. These tiller aerial ladders were assigned to installations at the Mare Island Naval Ship Yard (CA), Norfolk Naval Ship Yard (VA), Philadelphia Naval Ship Yard (PA), along with the Great Lakes Naval Training Center (IL).



The new American Lafrance rigs were powered with a Continental six-cylinder gas engine rated at 252 horsepower with a five-speed manual transmission. The tractor was designed with a 140 inch wheelbase and an overall length of 52 feet, 9 inches. While the apparatus was quite long the turning radius was only 24 feet, which was considerably shorter than most pumpers of that era. The three-section steel aerial ladder was built with Corten steel and was provided with four manual swing out stabilizers with an outrigger spread of nine feet, four inches.

When compared to today's designs the trailer had limited compartment space with only two compartments on each side together with a transverse compartment that could accommodate a life net. The apparatus carried 208 feet of ground ladders which was the standard compliment carried by most ladder companies. The tiller man sat in an open seat arrangement that provided little protection from the elements other than a windshield. Warning lights on the Great Lakes unit consisted of a Federal model 17 beacon on the cab roof and a Mars light at the front cowl.

Navy property number 74-00037 served the Great Lakes installation for many years until it was replaced during the early 1980's with a Seagrave HR model 100 foot rear mount ladder. Each of the American LaFrance ladders were delivered with a red livery with several of these repainted safety yellow in later years.





During this era tractor drawn aerial ladders were the predominant type of ladder truck built for many departments including Baltimore, District of Columbia and FDNY. They utilized tractor drawn aerial ladders almost exclusively for their ladder companies. During the War Years of the 1970's the busier FDNY ladder companies were assigned a second section to share some of the workload, resulting in the acquisition of the first 100-foot rear mount ladders as stations did not have sufficient apparatus bay space to accommodate an engine company along with two tractor drawn ladders.



Great Lakes NTC Truck 1 1965 ALF 900-series 85 74-0037

Hydraulic aerial ladders produced during the 1960's had very few safety features other than manual ladder locks and a control valve to lock in hydraulic pressure to the elevation cylinders. Ladders extension and retraction was accomplished using a cable drum with rollers utilized to isolate the ladder sections and assist in smooth operations. There were no safety interlocks on the outrigger system and most aerials could safely operate with 200 pounds at the tip when operating above a forty-five-degree angle when fully extended. While certainly primitive by today's engineering designs these tractor drawn ladders were the flagship apparatus used by departments *Back in the Day*.

Thirty Years of Service



NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer, Captain Michael Bishop presents Assistant Fire Chief Jason Rodriguez with pin and certificate recognizing his 30-years of service





Help Needed for Research Study

Firefighters Needed:

Help Advance Sleep & Health Research

Exhaustion affects every part of the job—from the fireground to home life.

Join a FEMA-funded national study examining how sleep and behavioral health impact firefighters' safety, performance, and long-term well-being.

Participation details:

- Anonymous online survey
- 30–45 minutes
- Open to career and volunteer firefighters
- Volunteer firefighters may invite a spouse or partner to participate separately

Why this matters:

Firefighter experiences don't always make it into policy or practice. This study helps change that—turning lived experience into evidence that can improve tools, resources, and support for firefighters and their families.

**IF WE WANT BETTER OUTCOMES,
WE NEED BETTER DATA.
YOUR VOICE MATTERS.**

bit.ly/Sleep-Research

EMBRY-RIDDLE
Aeronautical University



Questions? Contact Brittany Hollerbach at hollerbach@ndri-usa.org.





NDW Recognitions and Promotions

Story and photos by Andrew Revelos



Matt Gilroy, Montez Butler, CAPT John Nadder



Matt Gilroy, Michael Gordon, CAPT John Nadder



Michael Gordon and CAPT John Nadder



The Gordon family, Erin, Dillon, Mike and Blake

Naval District Washington (NDW) Fire & Emergency Services Dahlgren Company gathered to honor the lifesaving efforts of two its members during a call for mutual aid from King George County in 2025; they also promoted two of their own to new positions of leadership in a ceremony attended by friends and family.

Firefighter/EMT Montez Butler and Firefighter/Paramedic Zachary Albiston provided pre-hospital care to a patient in cardiac arrest following a car accident. Every year, Navy firefighters assigned to Naval Support Facility (NSF) Dahlgren and NSF Indian Head respond to more than 1,000 mutual aid requests per year on average in the communities around the installations. In return the first responders of those communities provide assistance on base, when needed

“We’re here this morning to do two of my favorite things,” said NDW Regional Fire Chief Kevin Grinder. “We’re recognizing people’s accomplishment through promotion, and to present some employees with life saving awards

Following the presentation of lifesaving certificates, Michael Gordon was promoted from captain to the rank of Battalion Chief. He was formally pinned to his new rank by his wife and sons.

Firefighter/Paramedic Christian Merchant was also promoted to the rank of Paramedic.

Naval Support Activity South Potomac (NSASP) District Fire Chief Matt Gilroy congratulated those who were recognized or promoted and challenged the crew to keep advancing their firefighting and leadership skills. “We transition up,” he said. “It’s up to you guys to keep moving, to keep pushing forward.

Capt. John Nadder, commanding officer of NSASP, commended Butler and Albiston for their lifesaving actions, and congratulated Merchant and Gordon.

“This was well-deserved,” he said. “It’s important to take the time to recognize all the good work you do. Everything you do on the installation and off the installation – we rely on you. Thank you very much for everything you do and for the sacrifices you make day in and day out.”





Ready on Arrival: Atsugi Adds State of the Art Morita Engine

By Derrick Dimitris, Assistant Chief of Training, CNRJ F&ES Atsugi, Japan



Commander Navy Region Japan Fire & Emergency Services welcomed a new Morita Pumper to Station 7, Naval Air Facility Atsugi, on Monday, 13 April 2026. To commemorate the occasion, department members joined community members and Morita Corporation and Hino Motors personnel for a traditional “push-in” ceremony. The event is meant to symbolize teamwork and to honor past generations of firefighters who had to push their horse-drawn fire engines back into the station by hand once the horses were un-hitched. Inviting the community to participate allows all stakeholders to feel connected to a new addition, which will soon be providing fire protection to their homes and families and allows department members to express gratitude to those who worked alongside us to make this all possible.

Adding to the significance of the ceremony was the opportunity for meaningful cultural exchange. U.S. Chief Officers shared the history and symbolism behind the longstanding American tradition while engaging with members of the department and



community members. The event was warmly received by all in attendance, and CNRJ firefighters protecting NAF Atsugi are proud to place new Engine 7-2 into service. This apparatus enhances emergency response capability and will safeguard the installation, surrounding community, and mission readiness for years to come.





NAS Fallon Mutual Aid Assist

By C.J. Prough, Fire Chief



NAS Fallon (NASF) F&ES crews successfully executed a complex, life-saving heavy rescue, demonstrating exceptional readiness, community commitment.

On April 24, 2026, Pershing County and Churchill County Fire Departments responded to a semi-truck rollover. After successfully extricating the passenger, local responders were unable to free the trapped driver and requested heavy rescue assistance from NASF.

NASF Engine 53 and Heavy Rescue 51 quickly deployed. Using pneumatic low-pressure bags, our crews carefully lifted the overturned vehicle and successfully extricated the driver, who was then turned over to Care Flight for transport.



It is worth noting that this is the second time this week NASF has provided critical mutual aid to our surrounding communities. Given the severity of this incident and its remote location, the patient most certainly would not have survived without the intervention of our crews and their heavy rescue equipment.

Local news coverage of the incident can be viewed online at:

[2News: Two people injured after semi-truck crash on I-80](#)

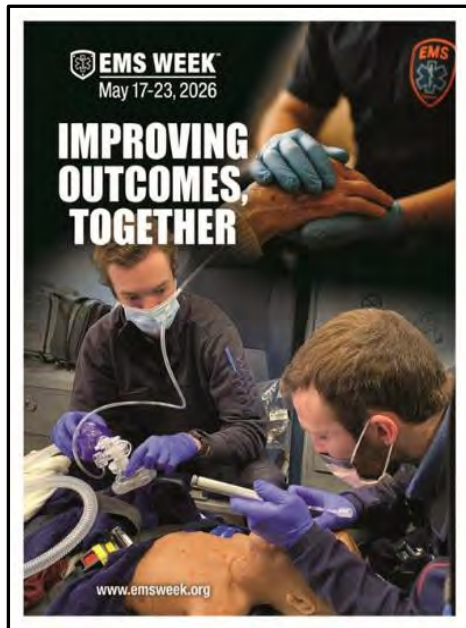
Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth
-Muhammad Ali





Improving Outcomes, Together: Celebrating Navy EMS Week

By Gary Easley, CNIC Senior EMS Systems Specialist



Every Emergency Medical Services (EMS) clinician carries at least one call with them forever—not for its heroism, but for its profound humanity. It might be the moment a child’s breathing finally stabilized, the quiet comfort of holding a grandmother's hand until her family arrived, or the look of trust in a stranger's eyes amidst their fear and pain. These are the moments that define the heart of our service.

Navy Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES) will join the nation in celebrating National EMS Week May 17-23. This year’s theme, *Improving Outcomes, Together*, highlights the critical importance of collaboration. Our success in protecting the fleet and serving our communities hinges on the strong partnerships between our EMS professionals, Navy Medical Treatment Facilities, and our civilian counterparts. This week is dedicated to honoring the unwavering dedication of our EMS professionals and recognizing their vital impact on

mission readiness and patient care.

To bring focus to the diverse aspects of our profession, EMS Week will feature daily themes that underscore our commitment to excellence:

- **Sunday** – *Health, Wellness & Resilience*: A focus on the physical and mental readiness of our providers. A healthy team, supported by peer support and stress management, leads to better patient outcomes.
- **Monday** – *EMS Education Day*: Emphasizing the importance of continuous learning through simulation, skills training, and certifications to maintain clinical excellence.
- **Tuesday** – *EMS Safety Day*: Reinforcing the importance of scene safety, risk awareness, and proper use of PPE to ensure our providers can safely accomplish the mission.
- **Wednesday** – *EMS for Children Day*: Highlighting the specialized training and family-centered approach required for our youngest patients.
- **Thursday** – *Save-A-Life (Stop the Bleed)*: Promoting CPR, AED awareness, and Stop the Bleed training to empower bystanders and save lives through early intervention.
- **Friday** – *EMS Recognition Day*: A day to celebrate the lifesaving actions and extraordinary service of Navy F&ES professionals.
- **Saturday** – *EMS Remembrance Day*: A solemn day to honor our fallen EMS providers, reflecting on their sacrifice and recommitting to the mission in their memory.





Navy EMS Week (Cont.)



As we observe this week, let us also reflect on the symbol of our profession: the "Star of Life." Its six points represent the critical functions we perform every day—Detection, Reporting, Response, On-Scene Care, Care in Transit, and Transfer to Definitive Care. It is a constant reminder of our comprehensive role in the chain of survival.

Thank you for your commitment, your courage, and your compassion. I encourage everyone to take part in this week's events as we celebrate our collective achievements and reaffirm our commitment to serving with excellence.



Signonella Firefighters Support Fitness Color Run

NAS Signonella Engine-20 crew was excited to support the MWR Fitness Color Run. It was great to see the community come together for fitness, fun, and teamwork. Proud to be part of this event





The “Old Guy” On The Ambulance

By Deron Wilkes, NRP

I’ve come to a realization - I’m the OLD GUY on the ambulance now. You know the one I’m talking about - the one who talks about manual load stretcher and paper PCRs.

I remember my early days in EMS career when I finally realized the “old guy” on the truck wasn’t just telling stories... he was quietly trying to keep me from learning the hard way.

You know the one. He starts a sentence with “Back when I was new...” and you immediately brace for impact. But if you actually listen past the story about radios the size of a brick and stretchers made of pure steel, there’s usually a lesson buried in there that will save you time, embarrassment or a report you don’t want to write.

Here’s the truth. Experience is expensive. Some people paid for it with mistakes, bad calls and long nights replaying decisions. When they talk, they’re handing you a shortcut. You can either take it... or pay full price yourself later.

Now for the flip side. If you’re becoming that “old guy” or you already are, there’s an art to it. Nobody wants a lecture in the middle of a call or a story that takes longer than the transport. If your teaching style feels like a hostage situation, you’ve lost the room.

Try this instead:

- Share the lesson, not just the war story
- Keep it short enough to land before the next set of vitals
- Explain the why, not just “because that’s how we’ve always done it”

And maybe most importantly... don’t make people feel dumb for not knowing yet! It’s easy to forget there was a time when we didn’t know it all either. Because the goal isn’t to prove you’ve seen everything. It’s to make sure they don’t have to.



And for everyone in the middle of their career right now, here’s your warning...

One day you’re the new guy rolling your eyes at the stories. Next thing you know you’re saying “trust me on this one” and someone younger is rolling theirs at you. Circle of life. Just with more caffeine and questionable sleep.

So listen to the old guys. They earned those lessons. And when it’s your turn, teach like someone actually taught you right... not like someone you’re still trying to forget.

Alright, your turn... who was that “old guy” for you, and what’s one lesson or story from them that actually stuck?





It's More Complex Than "Pay Better Attention"

By Rich Gasaway, PhD

If you want to improve your situational awareness, just pay better attention!

Really?

Oh my goodness. No, it is hardly that simple.

I just read an article where the author was giving advice about how to improve situational awareness. He said that situational awareness can be improved by paying better attention. At the very most basic level, that is true.



It has taken me over seven years of research and earning a doctoral degree on the subject to even begin understanding the complexities of the brain and how behavior changes under stress. Situational awareness is NOT as simple as paying better attention.

But those who don't understand the complexities of situational awareness and the neuroscience behind attentiveness offer this very simplistic advice if, for no other reason than they don't know any better. In their defense, that's where I was ten years ago. But not any more.

It takes a full day of training for me to help first responders understand how to develop and maintain situational awareness and make a quality decision under stress.

Don't be fooled by simple people giving simple advice and simple solutions to complex problems. There are over fifty ways to kill a first responder from flawed situational awareness.

Chief Gasaway's Advice:

SOLUTION: Be sure that when you are learning about situational awareness in high-stress, high consequence environments that you are learning from credible experts who understand the neuroscience behind how decisions are made. There are lots of resources out there for you to improve your understanding on this incredibly important first responders safety topic. You can get it from me... or you can get it from someone one else. The important thing is... you get it... and you don't let a novice teach you how to be an expert. There's too much at stake to be set-up for failure.

Action Items:

1. Where have you found credible sources about how to develop and maintain situational awareness in high-stress, high consequence environments?
2. Have you ever watched a video or read a casualty report where firefighters were hurt or killed and thought they may have avoided the catastrophic outcome if they'd just paid better attention?
3. Describe what factors have contributed to an erosion of your situational awareness? (Here's a hint: I've discovered over 100 barriers to situational awareness... it's pretty scary stuff).

Dr. Gasaway is widely considered to be one of the nation's leading authorities on human error, situational awareness and high-risk decision-making processes. His work has been chronicled in more than 450 books, book chapters, journals and website articles and he has delivered over 4,000 presentations to 100,000+ first responders, business leaders, industrial workers, medical providers, utility workers and military personnel worldwide. Dr. Gasaway served 30+ years in fire, EMS, rescue and emergency management and he held positions of firefighter, EMT-paramedic, lieutenant, captain, assistant chief and fire chief in 6 emergency service organizations in West Virginia, Ohio and Minnesota.





Navy Reserve Fire Academy Graduation

By Coleen San Nicolas-Perez, Commander, Navy Installations Command

Twenty Navy Reservists graduated from the Navy Fire Academy during a ceremony held at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, earning the qualifications required to serve as fully certified Navy firefighters supporting installations worldwide.



The graduates completed an intensive 60-day training pipeline totaling more than 320 hours of instruction and hands-on experience. Their curriculum included emergency medical response, hazardous materials awareness and operations, Firefighter I and II certifications, and specialized Airport Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) training. The program tested both cognitive and physical performance through classroom instruction, live-fire scenarios, and practical exercises designed to simulate real-world emergencies.

“These graduates are entering a profession that is the absolute bedrock of safety for our installations — vital to the Fleet, the Fighter, and the Family,” said CAPT Bill Lane, deputy director of operations for Commander, Navy Installations Command. “When crisis strikes, they are the calm in the chaos. They are the help that is on the way.”

All graduates are members of the Navy Reserve, bringing a unique blend of civilian expertise and military training to the Shore Enterprise. As newly designated shore-based airport and aircraft firefighters, they will integrate into fire and emergency services teams across Navy installations.



Graduates include: ABH2 Shane Bennett; ABH2 Parker Brisbee; ABH3 Jaser Danielgonzalez; ABH3 Brain Galvan; ABF2 Erick Galvan; ABH2 Breden Hefner; ABH3 Noah Konczak; DC2 Trevor Lampe; ABH3 Geraldo Matiasmorales; ABH2 Sarahkatie Priellp; HT1 Ryan Rocereto; OS3 Joshua Scheldberg; ABF2 Bijan Washington; ABH2 Hanna Wenman; ABH3 Levi Williams; ABH2 Maryjo Williams; HMC Casey Cruz; ABH2 Carlos Duran; ABH2 Kimericka Lucas; and ABH1 Jairus Simmons.

Special Thanks to NDW F&ES for Hosting and Conducting the Reserve Fire Academy !





Cancer Factsheet

BEST PRACTICES TO REDUCE CANCER IN THE FIRE SERVICE: AT THE STATION



This factsheet was developed by the International Association of Fire Fighters and the Firefighter Cancer Support Network.

All fire incidents produce toxic smoke and combustion byproducts that can have negative short and long-term health effects on fire fighters. Exposures can continue after a fire fighter leaves the fireground, as these contaminants remain on turnout gear and equipment until they are cleaned off.

This can result in continuous exposures through inhalation, ingestion, and absorption of toxicants. Contaminants can also be inadvertently transported when a leaving a shift to head home when failing to clean or decontaminate tools, equipment, and personnel after each fire incident.

To reduce continuous exposures back at the fire station, the overall design of fire stations should be done with the reduction of exposures and cross contamination of fire fighters in mind.

Dividing the fire station into three hazard zones can reduce exposure to cancer causing chemicals at the fire station.

The gold standard to reduce exposures at the fire station is to divide it into a hot zone, warm zone, and cold zone.

Hot Zone:

This is the area with the highest risk of exposure.

- This is the area of the station with the most contamination. You may treat the apparatus bay and adjacent areas as a hot zone because of diesel exhaust (a known carcinogen), traffic from contaminated PPE, tools, and equipment. Contaminated PPE and equipment include but are not limited to boots, gloves, helmets, turnout gear, SCBA, EMS equipment from medical calls, fire hoses, etc. This is where you will start the decontamination process.

Here is some additional guidance on the Hot Zone:

- Designated area for everything contaminated that needs to be decontaminated.
- Never use blowers or compressed air on apparatus floors (can make diesel soot particles airborne).
- Always use a direct source capture diesel exhaust handling systems for all vehicles and for every apparatus bay. This can be included in all new station designs and retrofitted into existing stations.
- When decontaminating, wear proper PPE, including EMS gloves to minimize exposure.
- Items that should never be located in the Hot Zone due to diesel exhaust and particulates include but not limited to:
 - Ice machines or refrigerators.
 - Workout equipment.
 - Recliners/loungers/couches or any porous furniture.





Leading With Purpose

Character: The One Leadership Advantage No One Can Take From You

By Randy Bruegman

“Why Who You Are Matters More Than What You Know”

Leadership reveals who we are long before it reveals what we know. The greatest advantage a leader possesses is not experience, intelligence, or position.

It is character.

When leadership fails, it is rarely because someone lacked knowledge. It is usually because they lacked character. I have faced more than one situation in my career where it would have been easier to look the other way. Two stand out clearly. In two separate organizations, a crew member marked themselves as responding to a call when they had not yet left the station. In one case, there was a four to five minute delay before the apparatus was actually enroute

It would have been easy to address it quietly, minimize the significance, or convince myself it was not worth the disruption. But that is not what leaders of character do.

In our profession, response time is not simply a statistic. It represents trust. It represents the expectation a citizen places in us when they dial 911.

If we allow the standard to shift in small moments, we communicate that standards are flexible when they are inconvenient. This is how standards quietly begin to erode. What feels like a minor exception in the moment can gradually become the new expectation.

Leaders of character understand that the small moments matter most. Culture is not defined by policy—it is defined by behavior. Over time, people watch those moments closely. When leaders hold the line, even when it is uncomfortable, they reinforce that the standard actually means something.

Addressing it directly came with resistance. There was significant pushback from some within the ranks and even from members of my leadership team after I demoted one of the responsible parties. In the other case, I gave the entire crew two days off without pay because no one stepped forward and was honest. It would have been far easier to protect comfort than to uphold the standard.

But that moment was never really about response time. It was about standards, trust, and whether the expectations we communicate are the expectations we are actually willing to enforce.

Character establishes the boundaries within which an organization operates, and those boundaries begin at the top.

**Standards do not drift downward by accident.
They drift when leadership permits them to.**





Recently, as I was watching the news, I found myself reflecting on something that should concern all of us. Several elected officials, individuals entrusted to represent everyone, resorted to dropping F-bombs and using dismissive, inappropriate language toward those who simply disagreed with them. Regardless of where someone stands on the issue itself, that kind of rhetoric sends a message—and it is not the right one.

Young leaders are watching. Future public servants are watching. Our next generation is learning what leadership looks like by observing those currently in positions of authority. What they see modeled today will influence how they lead tomorrow.

Leadership is not about volume, theatrics, or diminishing those who hold a different view. It is about discipline, responsibility, and representing something larger than yourself. It is about understanding that the role carries weight and that words matter.

Moments like that remind us why character matters so much. Character is not a leadership accessory. It is the infrastructure.

You can develop skill, gain experience, and acquire authority. But without character, leadership eventually fractures.

Why Character Shapes Leadership Outcomes

If you pay attention across business, public safety, government, education, and nonprofit organizations, you will see a consistent pattern: leaders stepping down, organizations losing trust, cultures weakening, institutions facing credibility challenges. Most of these situations are not caused by a lack of intelligence or technical ability. Many of the individuals involved were capable and accomplished.

The issue was not competence.

It was character.

Leadership failure is rarely about what leaders do not know. It is about who they are. Small compromises accumulate. A rationalization here. A shortcut there. A decision to avoid something uncomfortable. Over time, those moments compound until the consequences surface, sometimes quietly, sometimes publicly, but almost always predictably in hindsight.

We see this pattern in the political arena as well. It is not confined to one party or ideology. Incivility and performative outrage have become more normalized. Tone has shifted. Language has lowered. Winning the sound bite has, at times, replaced elevating the conversation.

If you have watched a House or Senate hearing on a critical issue, you may have noticed theatrics and one-upmanship that resemble daytime television more than disciplined inquiry. Too often, spectacle overshadows substance. Performance replaces problem-solving.

This shift did not happen overnight. It happened gradually through repeated acceptance of conduct that once would have been considered beneath the responsibility of the office.

When standards shift, trust follows. Culture rarely declines in one dramatic moment. It changes gradually when behavior that once would have been unacceptable becomes normalized.





Outcomes are rarely separated from character. When leadership character is strong, organizations become more stable, resilient, and trusted. When character weakens, even strong institutions begin to fracture.

Character shapes leadership outcomes in practical ways. Accountability builds credibility. When leaders take responsibility, they strengthen trust. When they deflect blame, they weaken it.

Organizations can recover from mistakes.

Ego distorts judgment when authority is not balanced by humility. Leaders who stop listening or isolate themselves from honest feedback often create preventable problems.

Humility is not weakness. It is protection.

Integrity rarely collapses in one dramatic moment. It erodes gradually.

A line crossed once becomes easier to cross again.

Avoidance compounds risk.

Difficult conversations postponed become larger problems later.

Standards decline.

Resentment builds.

Fairness and emotional discipline matter as well. Inconsistent standards and volatile reactions damage trust quickly. When people feel unsafe, communication weakens and performance soon follows. Power does not change character. It magnifies it.

Authority does not transform who a leader is. It simply makes their strengths and weaknesses more visible to everyone around them.

Leadership does not create character.

It exposes it.

Shared Sacrifice Builds Credibility

That is why examples of leaders sharing sacrifice during difficult periods matter. People watch closely to see whether leaders are willing to carry the burden with them.

During the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Gravity Payments CEO Dan Price announced he would forgo his own salary to help avoid layoffs and support employees during economic uncertainty. Because the company was privately held and mid-sized, the decision felt tangible and personal to employees. It reinforced a culture of shared responsibility rather than top-down directives.

More recently, similar signals have appeared in other sectors. In 2025, GoPro founder and CEO Nicholas Woodman voluntarily waived his base salary as the company worked through financial challenges and restructuring. The decision alone could not solve the company's financial pressures, but it communicated something important, that leadership was willing to absorb part of the burden alongside the organization. Similar behaviors have appeared across healthcare systems, universities, and non-profit organizations when executives voluntarily reduce compensation to preserve jobs. In environments where margins are thin and missions are personal, those decisions carry significant meaning.

What makes these situations resonate is not the dollar amount, it is the signal they send. When leaders ask others to absorb hardship while protecting themselves, trust declines. When leaders share the burden, credibility increases.

Shared sacrifice communicates alignment, and alignment is one of the strongest foundations of trust. Shared sacrifice is not about money alone. It is about responsibility. It is about fairness.





It is about leaders demonstrating that they are part of the same team they are asking others to support. Shared sacrifice is not a strategy. It is a reflection of character.

Why Who You Are Matters More Than What You Know

Over the years, I have noticed something that becomes clearer the longer you lead. Leadership conversations often center around strategy, performance, and results. Those things matter. They always have.

But the longer I have led, and the more leaders I have had the privilege to work with, the more I have come to understand something deeper.

Skills matter. Experience matters. Knowledge matters. But character matters most. Skills may open the door. Results may sustain momentum. But character determines whether people trust you once you arrive.

Competence may earn authority. Character earns followership and respect. At the end of a leadership journey, people rarely remember budgets or strategic plans. They remember how they were treated.

There is someone you once led who still thinks about you, not because of your title, but because of how you handled a moment that mattered.

Titles fade. Character does not. Leadership is revealed when doing the right thing becomes difficult. In those moments, you do not rise to the level of your intentions. Under pressure, you fall to the level of your character.

The one leadership advantage no one can give you, and no one can take from you, is who you choose to be.

And ask yourself this:

When people walk away from an interaction with you, what do they carry with them — trust, clarity, confidence, or something else entirely?

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Final Thought

Leadership will test your skill.

Pressure will test your judgment.

Time will test your character.

You may impress people with results for a season. You may gain recognition for strategy or performance. But over the course of a career, and certainly over the course of a life, what endures is who you were when it mattered.

Character is not formed in the spotlight.

It is revealed there.

It is built in the quiet decisions, the disciplined choices, and the moments when doing the right thing would have been easier to avoid.

Leadership eventually strips away the noise of titles, recognition, and position.

When the assignment changes and the title fades, one thing remains.

Who you chose to be.

Lead in a way that reflects that reality.

“Character is not proven when decisions are easy.

It is revealed when doing the right thing costs you something.”

— Chief



https://www.theleadershipcrucible_foundation.org



After 40 years in the fire service, Chief Randy Bruegman founded the Crucible Foundation to reshape future leadership with a focus on fostering courage, empathy and humanity in leadership positions.

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APPLICATION PERIOD ENDS

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YLD.ORG





Storage Occupancies

By Mark Weil, Assistant Chief Fire Prevention (Ret), Navy F&ES Hall of Fame #51



Storage occupancies present various challenges for the fire inspector. NFPA 1 with Navy Amendments (Navy Fire Code) standards are based on the level of hazard (low, moderate, or high) presented by the commodity.

The fire inspector must ensure the commodity classifications are appropriate and the fire protection system is designed accordingly.

The hydraulic nameplate affixed to the fire sprinkler system shows the original designed criteria for the system based on the occupancy and hazard classifications. However, if the any significant changes to the occupancy or hazard classification are identified, the inspector should consult with the cognizant fire protection engineer for further guidance and recommendations to ensure compliance with the fire code.

The Navy Fire Code, chapter 34, *General Storage* outlines various standards dependent on hazard classification.

There are four classes of hazard:

- Class I storage is storage of noncombustible items, such as glass and metals, on combustible pallets.
- Class II storage is Class I commodities in combustible packaging or in wooden crates.
- Class III storage includes combustible commodities such as leather, paper, textiles, limited amounts of plastics, and wooden products, without pallets.
- Class IV storage is Class I, Class II, or Class III commodities containing an appreciable amount of plastics, in cardboard cartons or on wooden pallets.

In addition to the commodity classification, plastics, elastomers, and rubber fall into three specific groups;

- Group A is the most common plastic type found in household products, plastic containers and bottles. These items can combust and burn rapidly.
- Group B are plastics that can be pliable and burn slowly under fire conditions. Some examples of this are silicone and natural rubber, nylon which can be found in tubing and other products.
- Group C plastics have a tendency to burn slowly and are high-density plastics. Some examples include polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC's) packaging type material and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) which is used in pipes.

Large loss fires in storage occupancies can have a significant mission and economic impact. An effective, properly implemented fire prevention program for storage occupancies can reduce the risk of fire.

HYDRAULIC-SYSTEM
THIS BUILDING IS PROTECTED BY
A HYDRAULICALLY DESIGNED
AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM

Location

No. of Sprinklers

Basis of Design

1. Density GPM/SQ. FT.

2. Designed Area of Discharge SQ. FT.

System Demand

1. GPM Discharge GPM

2. Residual Pressure at the Base of the Riser PSI

3. Hose Stream Allowance

Occupancy Classification

Commodity Classification

Maximum Storage Height

Date of Installation

Installed By:





Hyper-Realistic Multi-Agency Incident Exercise

By Matt Rios, Fire Chief Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach



Navy Fire & Emergency Services personnel from Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Naval Air Facility El Centro, and Joint Region Marianas Guam recently participated in an intensive week-long emergency response training event hosted by Strategic Operations (STOPS Medical), one of the nation's premier providers of hyper-realistic emergency response training.

The training brought together responders from military, city, county, state, federal, private, and tactical agencies to operate within large-scale mass casualty incidents designed to replicate the stress, chaos, and complexity of real-world emergencies. The scenarios challenged personnel physically, mentally, and emotionally while reinforcing the importance of unified command, interoperability, and teamwork during high-risk incidents.

Unlike traditional classroom-based instruction, STOPS Medical immersed crews into realistic operational environments utilizing live pyrotechnics, smoke, simulated explosions, professional role players, moulage, traumatic injury simulations, amputee actors with active bleeding wounds, and overwhelming sensory distractions. The result was an environment where responders experienced elevated stress, increased heart rates, communication breakdowns, and rapidly evolving conditions closely mirroring actual emergency incidents.

Throughout the week, personnel responded to a wide range of complex scenarios including hostage situations, active shooter events, school attacks, cruise ship incidents, and a medical helicopter crash in a residential neighborhood. Many scenarios involved over 50 simulated patients requiring immediate triage, treatment, transport coordination, and incident management.

One of the most valuable aspects of the training was the opportunity for Navy personnel to integrate seamlessly alongside outside agencies within a true Unified Command structure. Teams were intentionally mixed together to force interoperability and challenge participants to





STRATEGIC OPERATIONS

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communicate and operate effectively despite differences in terminology, tactics, radio procedures, and organizational structures.

Personnel from NWS Seal Beach, NAS El Centro, and Joint Region Marianas Guam demonstrated the strength of Navy Fire & Emergency Services standardized training and operational culture by rapidly integrating into each other's teams and successfully completing missions under pressure. Whether operating in Tactical EMS roles, Rescue Task Force (RTF), HERT operations, triage, treatment, transport, or command-level ICS assignments, Navy personnel adapted quickly and performed exceptionally well alongside local, state, federal, and tactical partners.



At various points throughout the training, Navy personnel worked directly with SWAT medics, U.S. Marshals Tactical EMTs, FBI tactical physicians, and outside fire and EMS agencies, further reinforcing the importance of interoperability during large-scale emergencies. Despite many participants never having worked together previously, teams formed cohesive operational units almost immediately and operated effectively in rapidly changing environments.

The event also highlighted the critical role of the Incident Command System (ICS) during major emergencies. Personnel were required not only to provide patient care, but also to rapidly establish command structures, manage resources, coordinate communications, and operate within complex multi-agency Unified Command systems. Many participants stepped into leadership and command positions outside of their normal daily assignments, gaining invaluable experience in managing large-scale incidents.

The training served as a powerful reminder that while equipment and technology are important, the true strength of Navy Fire & Emergency Services lies within its people, partnerships, adaptability, and commitment to continuous improvement.

By training together in realistic, high-pressure environments, Navy Fire & Emergency Services personnel continue to strengthen their readiness to respond to complex emergencies both on and off installation while building the relationships and interoperability necessary for future real-world incidents.

When renowned cellist Pablo Casals was asked why he continues to practice three hours every day at the age of 93, he replied, "I'm beginning to notice some improvement."





First Coast Mutual Aid



Firefighters of First Coast Navy Fire & Emergency Services responded to a reported vehicle fire. R172 arrived and reported a fully involved vehicle. E121 arrived seconds later and had water on the fire within 30 seconds. No injuries were reported. Additionally, over the last two weeks, T131 assisted JFRD with two separate residential fires, 5100 block of Pirates Cove and the 6000 block of Davon St. R172 has also been getting their fair share of transports, on and off base, assisting our mutual aid partners.



NDW Hosts Touch-A-Truck



Good show Naval District Washington (NDW) Fire & Emergency Services Indian Head Company! On April 26, Navy first responders from Truck 20 supported a sensory-friendly Touch-A-Truck event for local youngsters in support of Autism Awareness Month at Laurel Springs Regional Park.





Point Loma Station 110 Hosts Local Cub Scouts



On May 5th, the crew of CNRSW Naval Station Point Loma Fire Station 110 hosted a special visit for Cub Scout Pack 546 and the Point Loma Rotary Club. Chief Jordan Liethm, Captain Brian White, Engineer Nicholas Liby, and Firefighters Talmage Kuhl and Jared Vilaseca spent an hour guiding the groups through the station. The firefighters provided an engaging, hands-on experience by demonstrating their tools and emergency vehicles while sharing personal stories about their service as first responders.



NAVSTA Rota Mutual Aid





Light The Night Tribute

By Mark Wampler, Fire Chief, CNRJ F&ES Sasebo Japan



Standing in solidarity with fire departments worldwide, Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo HQ Fire Station 8 is illuminated in red for the 2026 National Fallen Firefighters "Light the Night" tribute.

CNRJ Fire & Emergency Services Sasebo remains deeply connected to our global fire service family. This year, we honor the bravery, service, and ultimate sacrifice of the 204 fallen fire heroes being recognized across the nation.

May this light serve as a beacon of respect across the Pacific, and a powerful reminder of the incredible courage displayed by fire heroes everywhere.

To the families, friends, and departments of the fallen: CNRJ F&ES Sasebo stands with you.





Active Shooter Joint Exercise in Pensacola

By Ensign Trent Prince, Naval Air Station Pensacola

Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Navy Security Forces, Fire & Emergency Services Gulf Coast and other first responders conducted a joint security response exercise with Escambia County Sheriff's Office May 12 at the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) building onboard the installation.

The exercise incorporated a simulated hostage scenario, designed to test the response of security personnel and emergency services during a rapidly evolving situation to enhance emergency response readiness and coordination.



“Our commitment to the safety and well-being of our base personnel is our top priority,” said NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Chandra “Mamasan” Newman. “We conduct these exercises to ensure we’re ready to confront any situation we might face, and so that we can test our response to any number of scenarios.”

NAS Pensacola Installation Training Officer Erich Brinkmeier organized the exercise to strengthen coordination among emergency response agencies. “It is vital that every entity on this base is aligned,” Brinkmeier said. “In a real-world situation, Escambia County Sheriff’s Office would also respond, so it’s important that we get good training repetitions with our community partners before an incident happens.” Brinkmeier said installation personnel invest significant time planning and developing realistic scenarios to provide responders with practical, real-world training opportunities.

According to Brinkmeier, exercises like the May 12 event are an essential part of the installation’s security posture, ensuring responders are prepared to protect lives and maintain mission readiness. “I do feel safer knowing that security is always training and looking at potential threats,” said Pensacola NMCRS Director Joy Barnes. “I’m glad that our team could participate as role players in the exercise to help our first responders train.”

“Our exceptional team provides the consistency and excellence that drives us forward,” Newman said. “We will remain constant in our efforts to protect the lives and well-being of our military and civilian workforce and ensure we train to the highest standards at all times.”

Naval Air Station Pensacola, known as the “Cradle of Naval Aviation,” supports operational and training missions for several tenant commands, including Naval Air Technical Training Center, Naval Aviation Schools Command and Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training. The installation also hosts Marine Aviation Training Support Group 21 and Marine Aviation Training Support Group 23 and serves as headquarters for Naval Education and Training Command.

In addition to an active runway, the installation maintains a deepwater port supporting operations for the United States Coast Guard.





Around the Firehouse

Navy Region Mid Atlantic District 1

Navy Region Mid-Atlantic District 1 hosted Port of Virginia’s Marine Firefighter Class. 30 students from across the US and Europe toured the USS Truman and got a first-hand look at fire drills on the carrier.



Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Ft Worth



ARFF 1243 at night





New Firefighters at SUBASE New London



This was a proud and meaningful night for the Submarine Base Firefighters IAFF Local F-219. In front of family, friends, fellow firefighters, and the generations of members who helped build this local before us, we officially welcome ten new members into our brother and sisterhood.

Receiving your badge is far more than a ceremony or a tradition. That badge represents commitment, sacrifice, accountability, and service to something larger than yourself. It represents the trust this department places in you and the trust this community will place in you every time you answer the call.

This event also recognizes the people standing beside these new members — the families, spouses, parents, children, and friends who support the long hours, missed holidays, sleepless nights, and the weight that comes with this profession. No firefighter earns this moment alone.

To our new members: from this day forward, you carry the legacy of the firefighters who came before you and helped shape IAFF Local F-219 into what it is today. You now become part of that history. You are joining a union and a fire department built on pride, professionalism, loyalty, and taking care of one another both on and off the job.

There will be difficult days ahead. There will also be moments of tremendous pride, purpose, and accomplishment that few professions in the world can offer. Through all of it, remember that you are never standing alone. You now stand shoulder to shoulder with the members of Local F-219 — past, present, and future.

Tonight marks your official welcome into the Submarine Base Firefighters IAFF Local F-219. Wear your badge with pride, honor the responsibility that comes with it, and continue earning it every single day.

Congratulations to our newest members. Welcome to the family.





Know the Difference



— A respectful reminder from Taps for Veterans —



Memorial Day

The last Monday in May

A solemn day to honor and remember the military men and women who died in service to America. Memorial Day is not a day to say 'Happy Memorial Day' — it is a day of remembrance.



Armed Forces Day

The third Saturday in May

A day to honor those currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, including Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve members.



Veterans Day

November 11

A day to honor all who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

★ *Taps for Veterans believes every veteran deserves a live sounding of Taps.* ★

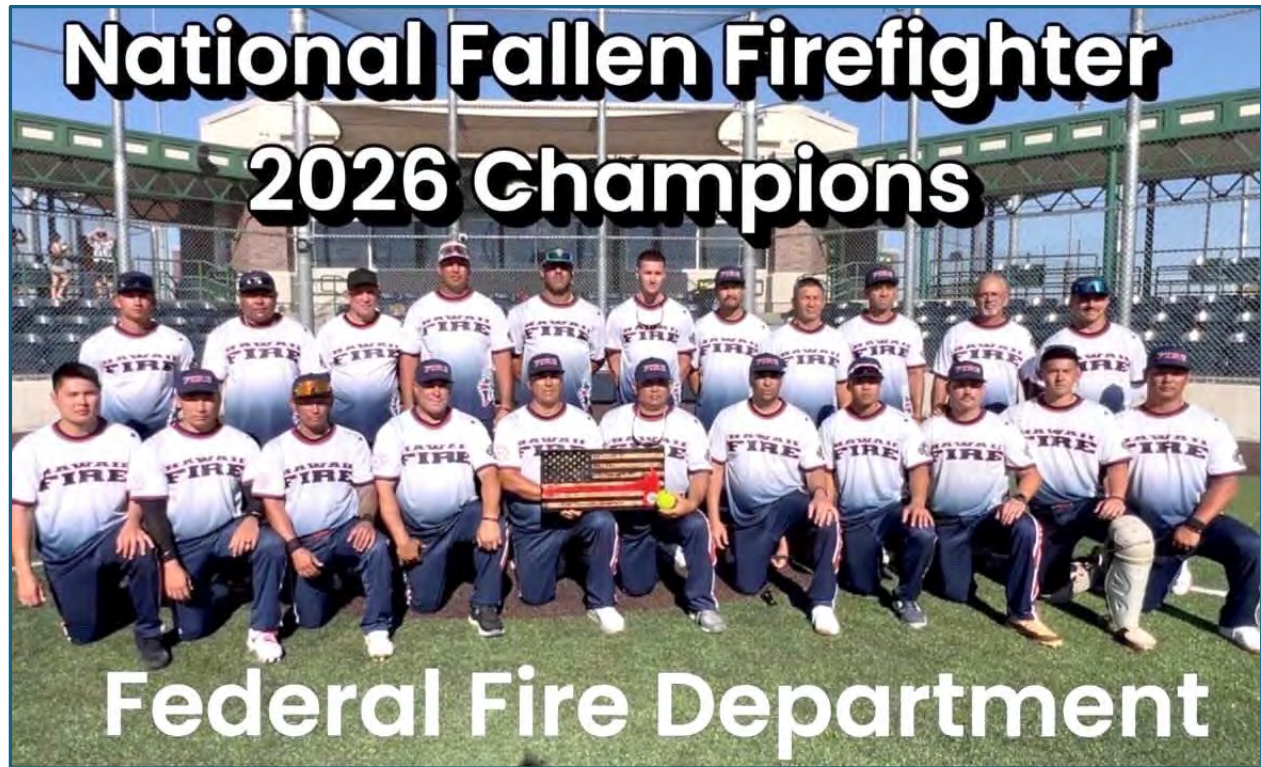
— www.tapsforveterans.org —
24 Notes. One Final Promise.





Bringing the Title Home: The Heat of the Desert

By District Fire Chief Reid Okimoto, Federal Fire Department Hawaii, Operations Division



Under the bright lights of the Big League Dreams complex in Las Vegas, NV, the 2026 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Softball Tournament was underway. This was no ordinary tournament. Over 70 municipal fire departments from across the United States and Canada had gathered to compete, build camaraderie, and honor their fallen brothers and sisters. For the 18th consecutive year Team Hawaii was the only DoW Fire Department to participate in this event.

Pride in Hawaii and the Navy Region

As the tournament progressed, Team Hawaii carried the deep pride of Hawaii. The unique culture of 'ohana (family) and lokahi (unity) permeated their dugout. The tight-knit crew from the Pacific demonstrated that the Aloha spirit is matched by a fierce, unyielding competitive drive. They represented their island home with honor, showing the mainland the quiet professionalism and strength of Hawaii's federal workforce.



The 2026 National Champions

Through game after game, Team Hawaii dismantled the competition. When the dust finally settled on the Big League Dreams complex, the Federal Fire Hawaii Team stood victorious.

They were crowned the 2026 National Champions! BZ Team Hawaii





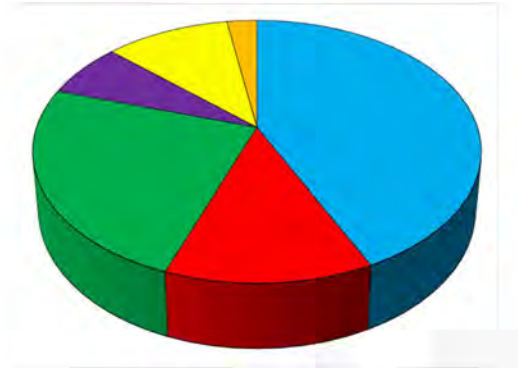
ESAMS Corner

CY 2026 Statistics

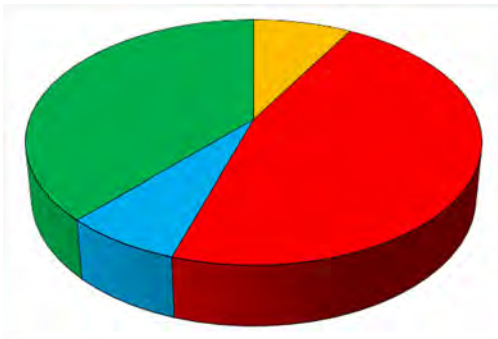
(01 January – 30 April)

Operations

Rescue & EMS	8,270
Hazardous	2,445
False Alarm	4,678
Service Calls	1,322
Good Intent	2,060
Fires	497
Total	19,272

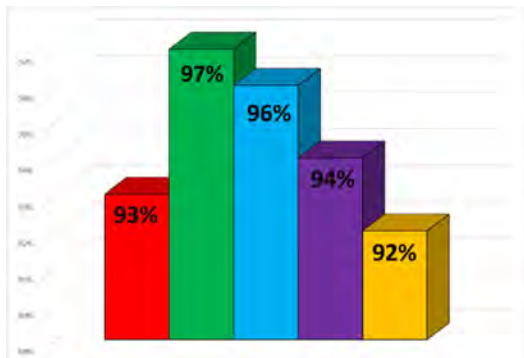


Prevention



Fire Public Ed Classes	1,203
Hot Work Permits	7,935
Inspections	6,493
Building Evacuation Drills	1,415
Total	17,046

Training



EMS	95%
Proficiency	93%
Emergency Management	98%
Safety	95%
DoD Certification	91%





Navy F&ES Legacy

NAVY FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Date	Location	Name	Date	Location	Name
27 May 2024	Portsmouth Naval Hospital, VA	Anthony "Tony" McVey	9 August 1982	NAVSTA Adak, AK	Perry Wallace
21 August 2023	NAS JRB New Orleans, LA	Thomas "TJ" Maury	12 July 1981	NAS Whidbey Island, WA	John Schmidt
27 June 2023	NAS Patuxent River, MD	Brice Trossbach	4 March 1981	NAS Norfolk, VA	William Travis
21 August 2021	NAWS China Lake, CA	Mikel Lowe	19 October 1973	NAVSTA San Diego, CA	Brian Lindsey
09 August 2021	NAVSTA Great Lakes, IL	Jeffery Peters	19 October 1973	NAVSTA San Diego, CA	Stanley Hertel
1 January 2021	NSF Indian Head, MD	Bryan "Hammy" Hamilton	1 October 1973	NALF San Clemente Island, CA	Stephen Stiftnr
6 November 2019	NAS Pensacola, FL	Dwain Bradshaw	24 January 1964	NSY Puget Sound, WA	Vernon Fletcher
5 February 2018	NAVSTA Norfolk, VA	Stephen Bement	20 March 1962	NAVSTA Annapolis, MD	Herbert Wells
30 May 2014	JB Anacostia-Bolling, DC	John "Mac" McDonald	22 January 1961	NAS Midway Island, Atoll	AM3 Ronald Blakeman
13 January 2012	NSA Naples, Italy	Luigi Rullo	22 January 1961	NAS Midway Island, Atoll	AB3 Gordon Blatchley
13 August 2011	NSA Naples, Italy	Roberto Nocera	22 January 1961	NAS Midway Island, Atoll	AN Robert Razey
25 November 2005	NSY Philadelphia, PA	Robert Staepel	15 April 1954	NSF Dahlgren, VA	Warren Marsh Sr.
31 December 2003	SUBASE New London, CT	Kenneth Jeffrey	17 September 1943	NAS/NOB Norfolk, VA	Gurney Edwards
27 September 1988	NAB Little Creek, VA	Robert "Bobby" Hoefflein	07 December 1941	NAVSTA Pearl Harbor/Hickam Field, HI	Names Unknown



In Memoriam



UNITED STATES NAVY FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

HALL OF FAME

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 001 William Killen, 2004 | 018 Roy Grubbs, 2010 | 035 Eugene Carmody, 2018 | 052 Ira Simmons, 2024 |
| 002 James Manser, 2005 | 019 Orville Emory, 2011 | 036 Robert Williams, 2018 | 053 Ricky Brockman, 2024 |
| 003 Clarence Rout, 2006 | 020 Charles Peters, 2011 | 037 Jerry Sack, 2019 | 054 John Morris, 2025 |
| 004 David Butler, 2006 | 021 Douglas Thomas, 2011 | 038 William Hennessey, 2019 | 055 Jaimie Wood, 2025 |
| 005 Alvah Cuthriell, 2007 | 022 Charles Gindele, 2012 | 039 Robert Tofson, 2020 | 056 Janice Lozoya, 2025 |
| 006 George McGuigan, 2007 | 023 John Wentzel, 2012 | 040 Michael Jones, 2020 | 057 Frank Montone, 2025 |
| 007 Waverly Sykes, 2007 | 024 Leroy Ellis, 2013 | 041 George Kennett, 2021 | 058 Mark Chaney, 2025 |
| 008 Hank Vescovi, 2007 | 025 Dr. Richard Tuve, 2013 | 042 Glenn DeLaura, 2021 | 059 Russell Tarver, 2025 |
| 009 William Albrittain, 2007 | 026 John Arruda, 2014 | 043 Joseph Thompson, 2022 | 060 Ruben Perez, 2026 |
| 010 Daniel Marshall, 2007 | 027 Augustus Bowling, 2014 | 044 Stuart Cook, 2022 | 061 Edward Stillwell, 2026 |
| 011 Nicanor Benavidez, 2008 | 028 Robert Darwin, 2015 | 045 Kenneth Jeffery, 2022 | 062 David Inman, 2026 |
| 012 Haraldur Stefansson, 2008 | 029 James Meagher, 2016 | 046 Andrew Arndt, 2023 | 063 William Casey, 2026 |
| 013 William Beniker, 2008 | 030 Frederick Seibel III, 2017 | 047 Mark Hendley, 2023 | 064 Kenneth Snyder, 2026 |
| 014 William Thomann, 2009 | 031 Gerald Makowski, 2017 | 048 Joseph Duke Sr., 2023 | 065 Jack Woodard, 2026 |
| 015 Harry Tagen, 2009 | 032 Gelacio Rodriguez, 2017 | 049 Charles Miedzinski, 2024 | |
| 016 Francis Brannigan, 2010 | 033 John McDonald, 2017 | 050 Bennie Williams Jr., 2024 | |
| 017 Lewis Meyer, 2010 | 034 Dudley King, 2018 | 051 Mark Weil, 2024 | |

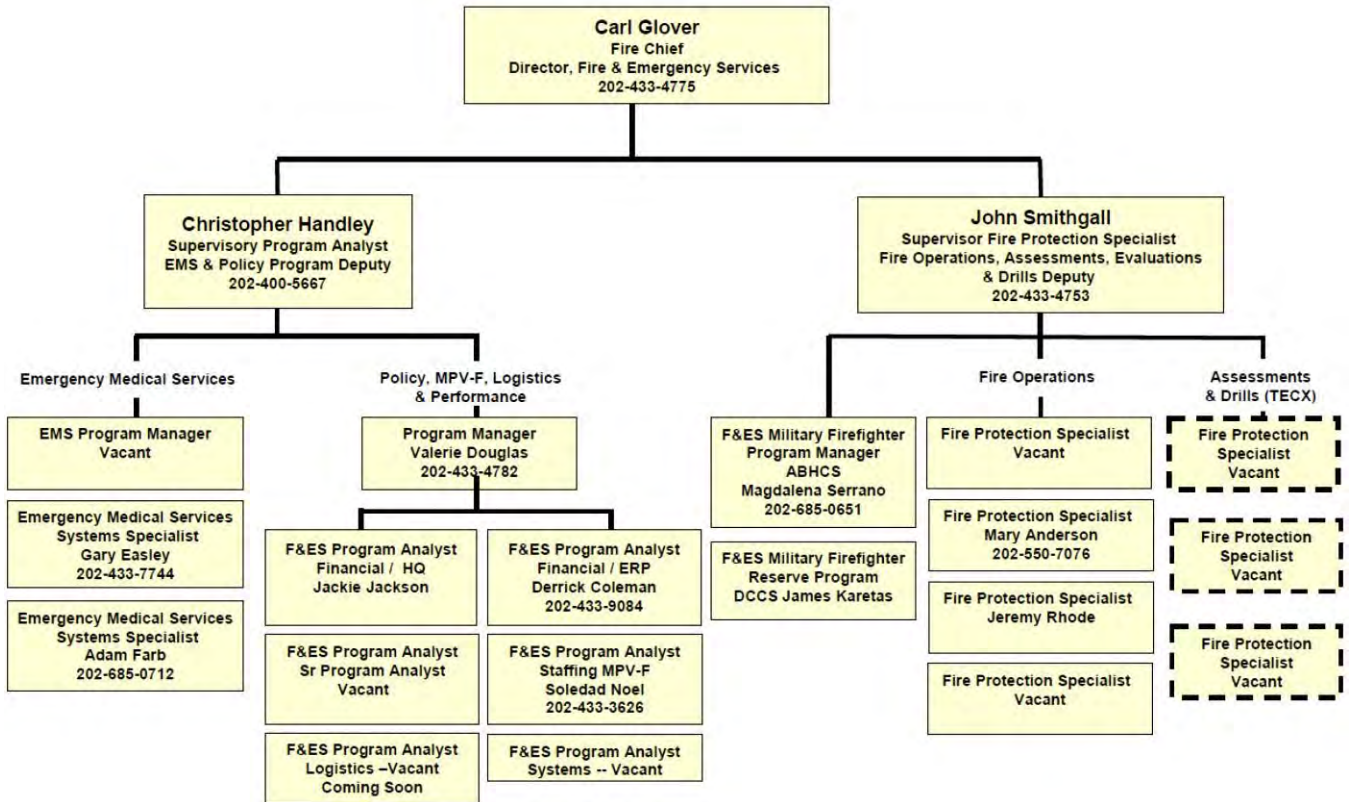
HALL OF FAME





Navy Fire & Emergency Services

Commander Navy Installations Command
716 Sicard Street, SE, Ste 100
Suite 305
Washington, DC 20374-5140



To read past issues of *What's Happening*, the Navy Fire & Emergency Services newsletter, visit <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/FES-Newsletter>

To submit stories and photos to *What's Happening*, send an e-mail to Director, Navy



WE ARE HIRING !

Please check [USAJobs](#) (search for 0081) or Contact the Navy Fire Chief at the Installation where you would like to work

