



What's Happening

Navy Fire and Emergency Services Newsletter
Protecting Those Who Defend America



July/August 2021

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Email the Editor:

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The Insanity of Profanity

By Ronny J. Coleman

At the tender age of 17, I joined the United States Marine Corps. As a young man in the State of Oklahoma I learned my fair share of four letter words. After all, I had been partially raised on a farm and been around a lot of my Dad's friends who were truck drivers, bus drivers and rodeo performers. I don't think there was a single, solitary cuss word that I hadn't heard. But I was wrong!

When I went to boot camp I was introduced to a two Sergeants and Corporal that had raised the art of speaking with profane language almost to the status of a third language. It is not that they had invented any new cuss words but they were certainly experts at utilizing words in a wide variety of applications. As you probably know, most profane words can serve as a noun or a verb and many can be converted into adjectives and adverbs with the use of suffixes and prefixes. These non-commissioned officers, I honestly believe, could make up an entire sentence using only profane words and it would somehow make sense. But they were novices compared to the real expert that I had met soon after.

My platoon sergeant in my outfit after boot camp was a Gunnery Sergeant. Reportedly he had been the first Marine to go over the wall at Pusan Harbor in the Korean War and was a bona-fide hero. He had a chest full of medals. We both loved and feared him intensely. His use of profanity was legendary.

One evening after my platoon had performed miserably during an exercise he entered our barracks and commanded our attention. Over a period of approximately fifteen minutes he delivered a speech to us about performance, pride and responsibility that were literally laced with profanity. He was outright elegant. When he was done and he spun on his heel to exit our barracks I can actually remember thinking to myself, "I wished I could speak so powerfully." He had both humiliated and motivated us at the same time. But his choice of language would no doubt have badly insulted his brother who was reportedly a Monsignor in the Catholic Church.

What has that got to do with the firehouse? The answer that was given to me occurred roughly five minutes after I sat down at my first dining room table in a fire station. The language was as purple as I had ever heard in my platoon in the Marine Corps. It wasn't quite as eloquent. In fact most of it seemed to be based



Supporting the Fleet, Fighter, and Family



Clipboard (Cont.)

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Ronny J. Coleman

upon feeble attempts at humor and often it was used to express angst over something going on within the organization. But profane it was. It was an acceptable form of language. The choice of words around that table did not raise a single eyebrow.

The problem is this: is it possible that an individual or an organization can get into trouble as a result of using profanity today? Is it possible that profanity exists within the context of language in most firehouses in this country? Is it possible that specific people will be offended by the use of profanity? Is it possible that there is personal or professional liability in the use of profanity? Are there warning signs that the use of profanity can result in damage in a personal relationship? Is it possible that individuals will take the use of certain words to be directed at them individually?

Let me make the answer to all of these questions pretty simple; yes. The answer to all of the previous questions is likely to be yes in our contemporary society.

Now let me give you the other part of the examination. Are firefighters going to completely discontinue the use of profane language? Are there going to be times in which anger or frustration results in the use of profanity? Is it possible that you can be cursed at in another language and not understand it? Is it possible that a word that you take for granted as part of your vocabulary could be interpreted differently by another individual? Can a fire department effectively rule out the use of profane language in the context of a firehouse? Can the use of profanity in one context be appropriate and in a similar context be totally inappropriate?

That is a tougher exam to take. Frankly, I am not going to tell you what the answer to those questions are, because a lot of it centers around the organization, the individuals within it, the interpersonal relationships that are going on within that organization and the antecedent conditions that created the culture of your organization. In other words, some of you would have answered those questions one-way and some of you would answer those questions another.

One thing that is in play is the concept of “community standard.” Imagine for just a moment if we were to utilize the normal language around the dining room table with a dinner guest of the local priest, the head of the American Civil Liberties Union, the President of the Junior Women’s Club, and George Carlin. Now, I couldn’t possibly imagine that we would be able to get all those people around the table in the firehouse but imagine if you could who’s standard would apply to creating the conversation and discourse of the evening?

Today we live in an environment in which our young children can hear and see things on television that I was denied access to until I had left home and joined the service. I have actually heard language come out of a six-year-old child that can almost match my two drill instructors in boot camp. You can see things on television today that were declared to be pornography not too many years ago. So, where do we go in terms of determining whether or not the use of rude,

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obnoxious and risqué language fit into the scheme of operating a fire department or fire company today?

Sorry! I am not going to tell you. No, instead what I am attempting to do with this column is to raise the bar on the issue of discussing appropriate and inappropriate behaviors in the context of the current legal and moral environment. If you hadn't thought about this right this very moment you are already behind the learning curve. You see, ignoring this will not make it go away. To the contrary, acting as if this problem does not exist creates a greater potential that it will come into existence whenever a set of circumstances are correct.

And it goes without saying that we cannot legislate morality in the firehouse. But we certainly can consider the consequence if specific behaviors result in anger, anxiety or hostility in the firehouse. The short cut version of what I am talking about is that we need to deal with the issue of inappropriate behaviors overall.

One thing we need to keep in mind is that it is now considered a liability to an organization if it creates a hostile work place. And what determines whether a fire station is a hostile work place or not? One of the things is when people feel uncomfortable, unsettled, a feeling of being singled out. Any behavior that focuses on an individual's sense of loss as a member of a team or an organization is often interpreted being hostile.

Where is the best place to begin on this topic? In my opinion it begins around the dining room table at a fire company level and eventually lands on the fire chief's desk at some point. I will not be foolish enough to recommend in a column of this nature that you can bring people together and order them not to speak in a certain fashion or utilize specific words as expressions of their feelings. But, I think it is entirely reasonable to engage a fire company in the dialogue of what makes people feel a member of an operating team. Going back to the early days of my fire service career I remember sitting at the dining room table with one of my captains. He very carefully and very effectively laid out his expectations to us as crewmembers. I can distinctly remember one of his admonitions. He emphasized the fact that we must learn to respect each other. He reinforced that statement to the affect that we were to be hard on our problems but soft on our people. He made it real clear that disrespectful and/or malicious interchange would not be tolerated in his presence. I don't recall ever saying anything about the use of profanity but his message was pretty clear.

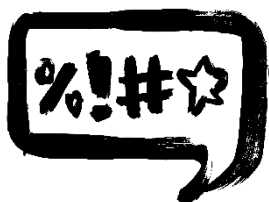
After that event I am quite sure that I along with others may have said things in humor that violated that sense of constraint yet, we never ended up with negative interpersonal relationships in that fire company. Moreover, belonging to that particular captain's company help shape my perspective on how to refer to other peers as my career developed further.

As I have had the opportunity to interact with personnel issues and to witness the change in the fire service over four decades there has clearly been a change in

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expectations around the dining room table. Diversity, while it is still not considered as being complete has arrived at the firehouse. Whether anyone wants to agree with it or not the domain of the fire service has been modified by the introduction of new values and expectations by the diverse members of the workforce. And, a lot of people do not wish to admit this but it doesn't necessarily mean that these values have a higher moral ground to stand on.

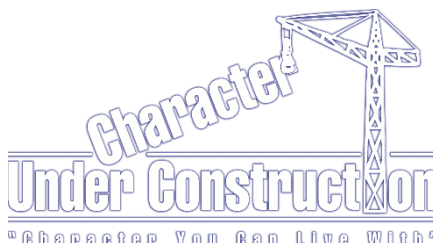
To the contrary, I was in a conversation once in a conversation with a member of one of the newer representatives of diversity in the fire service who bragged about the fact that "they could out raunch the raunchiest." This particular individual proved the point by telling the story that even made my face turn a little red.

The one thing we have to remember is that the firehouse is a public facility that should be based upon a community standard and not upon our own point of value system. When we are in that firehouse we do have an obligation to those citizens that are paying the bill for us to serve. It is my personal belief that individuals will probably choose to do exactly what they think they can get away with. Under some circumstances a person's behavior will never be held accountable and right down the road another individual will end up in a lawsuit over doing or saying the same thing. The choice is yours.

Every time you or a member of your staff chooses to utilize words that are found to be unacceptable by some component of society you are vulnerable. If those words are charged with emotion and directed at another human being the vulnerability increases significantly. If intervening supervisors do not see the warning signs that animosity is being generated and deal with it effectively, the vulnerability increases again by an order of magnitude. If an aggrieved person objects to the manner in which they are being communicated with and individuals do not react by dealing with the issue immediately the order of magnitude increases again significantly.

And yes, there is a price to be paid for all of this. Gutter language can get you into court. There are numerous lawsuits that demonstrate this. I can almost guarantee you that the cost of defending these suits places a high premium on prevention as opposed to responding to these types of events.

I, for one, do not regret my experience of hearing the subtle nuances of profanity that verged on the poetic. Yet, I am to this very day extremely careful of how I communicate with other individuals. We need to be more aware of the sensitivities that exist in our modern fire service.



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Back in the Day

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Back in the Day – U.S. Navy P-17 ARFF Vehicles

By Tom Shand

During the mid-1970's the U.S. Navy was investigating avenues to replace the aging fleet of MB-1 and MB-5 ARFF apparatus that were approaching twenty years of front line service. The delivery of 73 Oshkosh MB-1 rigs in 1970 and 41 Oshkosh P-4A rigs in 1976 helped fulfil this need. The Navy liked the P-4A apparatus but



Photo by Garry Kadzielawski

desired a more compact vehicle for use at small naval air installations. During 1978, the technical specifications were developed with proposals reviewed for a 1000 gallon ARFF vehicle with the designation of P-17.

Snow Machines, Incorporated (SMI) of Quebec, Canada was awarded a contract for construction of 31 P-17's with an additional order for three vehicles. Sicard, the parent company of SMI-Snowblast, Inc had been manufacturing commercial snow removal equipment for airports since 1927 when Arthur Sicard sold the first commercial mounted rotary snow blower. Near the end of World War II SMI-Snowblast opened a production facility in Watertown, New York where the Navy P-17's would be built.

The SMI-Firemaster CRV-1000 was a 4x4 air transportable all aluminum body vehicle with seating for four personnel with sliding style cab doors. The P-17 measured 26 feet long, 8 feet wide and 11 feet tall with a short 190 inch wheel base. The rig was powered by a Detroit Diesel 8V-71T engine rated at 350 horsepower with an Allison HT-750DRD, five speed automatic transmission. With a top speed of 62 mph, the P-17 could accelerate to 50 mph in thirty four seconds.

The fire suppression system consisted of a Hale model P100-2 single stage 1000 gpm pump with a Feecon Model FBP-4 foam proportioning system, along with fiberglass 1000 gallon water and 130 gallon foam tanks. A Feecon model FH 200/1211 200 pound halon system was discharged through a one hundred foot hand line with a second water/foam hand line rated at 60 gpm. A structural pump panel was located on the left side of the vehicle with the fire pump powered by a separate Detroit Diesel model 6V-73N engine rated at 210 horsepower. Agents could be discharged using a manually operated Feecon 500 gpm roof turret along with a Feecon bumper turret rated at 250 gpm.

The majority of these vehicles were delivered to installations within the United States, the overseas deliveries included two for Cubi Point, Philippines, and one rig each to Andros Island in the Bahamas and NAS Guam. Adak, Alaska placed

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Tom Shand

two P-17 rigs into service with Cecil Field, Florida taking delivery of three SMI P-17's in late 1981. All Navy deliveries were finished in a chrome yellow paint scheme, including ARFF 34 that was assigned to North Island, San Diego with Navy property number 71—02538. One P-17 was assigned to the District of Columbia Fire Department for White House helicopter standby's and was painted white with red stripes and assigned as Foam Wagon 2.

Like many prototype vehicles, the P-17 suffered issues with the dual engine system that required enhanced maintenance and a doubling up of repair parts with the two different diesel engine models. While the sliding cab door worked well for station bays with limited space, the door design made egress from the cab difficult with the recessed cab steps, especially while wearing full protective gear.

The Navy did not pursue an additional order for the P-17 and during 1986 contracted with Oshkosh for 62 P-19 rigs as part of a larger order to the U.S. Air Force order. These lime green color 1000 gallon ARFF vehicles would become the backbone of the Navy airfield fire protection fleet for many years. Using a single Cummins model NTC-400 diesel engine for both road and pumping and provided a smaller vehicle footprint being just over twenty seven feet long and ten foot overall height with a 170 inch wheelbase, these P-19 ARFF trucks were among the most maneuverable vehicles at that time, Back in the Day.

Combs Cartoon



The Well of Knowledge



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Accreditation Update

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DoD Accreditation Update

By Karl Ristow, CFAI Program Director

Current numbers concerning DoD agencies involved in the process:

1. Accredited – 68
2. Candidate – 4
3. Applicant – 7
4. Registered – 29

[Accredited agency by service](#)

1. USAF – 28
2. USA – 10
3. USN – 15
4. Marines – 12
5. DLA – 3

Quality Improvement for the Fire & Emergency Services Workshops – [Register](#)

DoD only classes and start dates to consider:

1. NAS Bahrain – 20 September 2021
2. West Point, NY – 6 December 2021

Items covered by the DoD Contract with CPSE:

1. Registered agency status – get connected and access to tools, training, opportunities that are not all connected to accreditation. This is the first step in the process but offers a lot for agencies even though they may not want to go further.
2. Applicant agency status – this is the next step for the organization that is looking to get accredited. Once in status you are provided a dedicated SharePoint site and mentor to help finish the process you started.
3. Annual accreditation fee – once accredited your annual fee to maintain accreditation is funded at no cost to you.
4. Quality Improvement for the Fire & Emergency Services book – extra copies for those that are in the process can be sent at no cost to you.
5. Peer Team and Team Leader travel – site visits require a peer team to travel to your location. These costs are covered by the contract. The exception is the DoD member on the peer team as they may have to be funded through other means.
6. Workshops (in person and virtual) – registration for these classes are at no cost to you. You will be responsible for travel, lodging, and meals.

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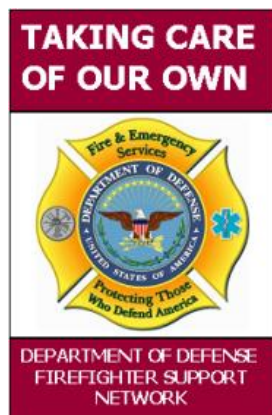
If you have questions or need clarification contact Karl Ristow, CFAI Program Director at kristow@cpse.org

Last Alarms

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TCoOO Update



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Last Alarms

The USFA reported 79 line of duty deaths in 2021. The following line of duty deaths were reported since we published our last issue:

Justin Hansen ♥
Wasilla, AK

Tyvaughn Eldridge ♥
Chesterfield, VA

Sean W. DeMuynck ♥
Wynnewood, PA

Matthew R. Miller ♥
Mesa, AZ

Jeff Piechura ♥
Tucson, AZ

Joseph Deltergo - S
West Palm Beach, FL

William "Billy" Shaffer ♥
Hillsborough, NJ

Janet Tracy ♣
Caballo, NM

Thomas Royds ♥
Belmont Hills, PA

Daniel "Danny" Ireton ♣
Stanton, TX

Larry D. Adams ♥
Yazoo City, MS

Derek Poole ♣
Catawba, NC

Joshua D. Laird ♥
Fredrick, MD

Colin McFadden ♥
Burlington, CT

Tommy A. Hopson 🌿
Carrollton, GA

Joshua Schwindt ♥
Elkhart, KS

William Stalls 🌿
Oak City, NC

Timothy Watson 🌿
Winder, GA

Willie Bunch 🌿
Oak City, GA

Dylan Rodiek ♥
Austin, TX

Mario J. Moya 🌿
Jacksonville, FL

Cory P. Collins 🌿
Pine Bluff, AR

Frumencio Ruiz Carapia ♥
Central Point, OR

Judy Spencer ♣
Gasport, NY

Cody Traber ♥
Mead, WA

Donald J. Trout ♥
Sayreville, NJ

James Krouse ♥
Colfax, WA

2021 Totals – 30 Aug 21

♥ 30 (38%) ♣ 9 (11%)

♥ 12 (15%) 🌿 27 (35%)

S 1 (1%)

♥ Indicates medical or cardiac related death

♣ Indicates vehicle accident related death

♥ Indicates fire/rescue or on-scene related death

🌿 Indicates COVID19 related death

S Indicates suicide death



Taking Care of Our Own

There are currently five DoD firefighters in the Taking Care of Our Own program.

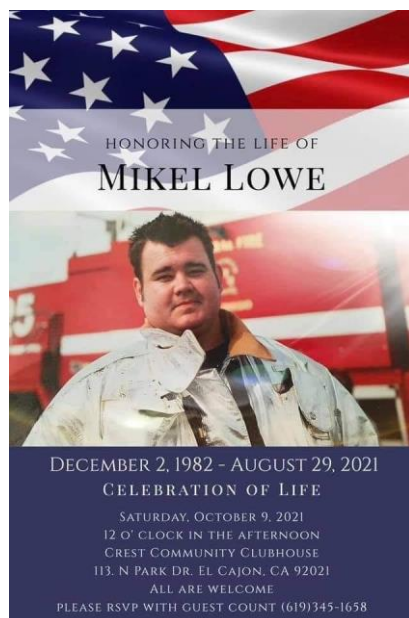
Taking Care of Our Own invites all DoD F&ES personnel to donate ONE HOUR of annual leave to DoD F&ES members in need to enable them to focus on recovery rather than financial distress.

Name	Location	Point of Contact
Matthew Derheim	JB Elemendorf-Richardson, AK	lisa.pascale.1@us.af.mil
Andrew Swick	USAG Yuma, AZ	daniel.p.goodwin2.civ@mail.mil
Daniel Manning	USAG Yuma, AZ	matthew.e.kelly8.civ@mail.mil
William Trott	USAG Ft Rucker, AL	lonny.r.keen.civ@mail.mil
Cory Orel	Camp Lejeune, NC	eric.m.baker1@usmc.mil

We provided all the service component chiefs with the proper procedures to enroll someone in the Taking Care of Our Own program. There was a trend of people using their own formats and forms until the inevitable breach of personal identifying information (PII). We were very concerned about protecting PII when the program was stood up in 2003 and we designed standard procedures and forms to address those concerns. Please contact your service component fire chief if you haven't seen this information recently.

Final Alarm

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'It was too late': Henderson man and firefighter dies from COVID-19; family urges community to get vaccinated

By Maddie White, Sep 3, 2021

Reprinted with the permission of Maddie White, News Reporter/Anchor Fox 5 Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (FOX5) -- After suffering the loss of her firefighter husband to COVID-19, a Henderson woman is voicing a plea for the community to get vaccinated against the virus.

Mike Lowe, a firefighter of 15 years, died this weekend after contracting COVID-19.

"It's horrible thinking of my children growing up without their father now," Christina Lowe said.

She and her husband were strongly against the COVID-19 vaccine and masks as recently as three weeks ago.



"I thought it was a political game... I didn't think it could happen to us," Christina Lowe said.

Not only is he survived by his proud and loving wife Christina, but also by his two young boys, who were his world.

"He loved taking them fishing, he loved to take them to all the fun places around town, Cowabunga Bay," Christina Lowe said.

The tragic ordeal happened just in the last two weeks, when the COVID-19 virus caused pneumonia in Mike Lowe's system, and a sudden need for a kidney dialysis.

"He's not gonna be there for birthdays and holidays," Christina Lowe said. "He's not gonna be there when they graduate, when they get married, when they have kids, he's gonna miss out on all of that. So it's gonna take time for them to fully understand."

Christina said their views on the virus changed completely in the days leading up to his death. She opted to get the vaccine while in the hospital setting. Her only side effect, she said, was site of injection soreness.

"That pain in my arm was not everything compared to the pain I had felt in losing my husband," Christina Lowe said.

Now, she is not allowing his death to be in vain. Just as Mike did in his firefighting career. She's working to save lives by speaking out about the importance of getting vaccinated.

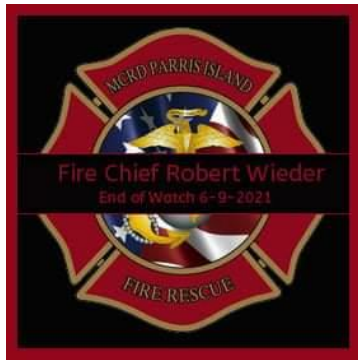
We asked her how the southern Nevada community can honor his legacy moving forward.

"By getting vaccinated, by wearing your masks. I understand some of you believe that this political-- and it might be, it could be political, I don't know that it's not," Christina said. "I do know that because of that decision of my husband believing it was political, that was why he did not want to wear a mask, he did not want to get vaccinated. He didn't trust them. It cost him his life."

A [Gofundme page has been set up to support](#) the family.

Final Alarm

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Final Alarm Fire Chief Robert Wieder

Article submitted by Chris Shimer

Robert K. Wieder, aged 54, of Florida peacefully passed away surrounded by loved ones on Wednesday, June 9th, 2021, at Haven Hospice, Jacksonville, Florida. He was born in Bennington, Vermont on June 27th, 1966, to Sheila & Martin Wieder. "Rob" was the Fire Chief at Parris Island Fire & Emergency Services at the time of his passing.

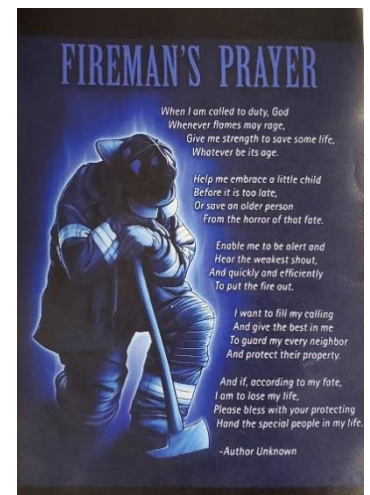
Chief Wider was a graduate of Miami Killian High School before joining the Army in 1983. He was honorably discharged and began his federal career at Naval Air Station Cecil Field and then the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Fire Department as a Firefighter/Driver-Operator in 1999. In 2004, he took a position with Souda Bay Fire & Emergency Services where he picked up the rank of Fire Captain. In 2009, he made his way to the NSA Naples Fire Rescue Division where he was promoted to Battalion Chief. Finally, in 2015, he was hired at Parris Island Fire & Emergency Services as an Assistant Chief of Operations and promoted to Fire Chief in 2018.



Chief Wieder enjoyed playing soccer, competing at the collegiate level and eventually making it into a Semi-Pro Soccer League. He coached youth soccer and baseball, and loved spending time with his six children and fourteen grandchildren. He loved golf, camping, traveling and anything outdoors. His greatest passion however, was his family and his love for firefighting. His hospital room was decorated with numerous pictures, awards, and a lifetime of memorabilia that truly reflected the impact he made to those around him.

He is proceeded in death by his father, Martin Wieder & stepfather John Star. He is survived by his wife Lisa, sons Timothy Hughes & Joshua Wieder, daughters Amber Myers, Brittany Myers, Jessica Wieder, and Chelsea Wieder, 14 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

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Final Alarm ABH2 Bryan Thompson

Passing along some sad news from Navy Region NW F&ES Dept, NAS Whidbey Island. On Monday 16 Aug, Navy F&ES responders responded to a structure fire at the Outlying Landing Field and found ABH2 Bryan Thompson inside the OLF Coupeville fire station.

F&ES crews attempted to resuscitate ABH2 Thompson, unfortunately they were not able to revive him. Bryan was a military firefighter assigned to the OLF Coupeville fire station, and he was 24 years old.

Please keep Navy Region NW F&ES and Bryan's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

Condolences and prayers for the family and department.



What Difference Does it Make?

What Difference Does it Make?

By Ricky Brockman, Retired Deputy Director Navy F&ES

I've participated in thousands of policy discussions over the course of my career and one memorable discussion revolved around firefighters wearing cancer awareness t-shirts. As I listened to the arguments for and against, I couldn't help but harken back to one of the very first conversations I had with the late Alan Brunacini.

He was describing his philosophy of focusing on performance-centric issues and more or less ignoring the rest. If something did not impact how effectively or safely a member performed their primary job he asked, "what difference does it make?"

As I listened to "if we let them wear cancer awareness t-shirts, we'll have to let them wear a t-shirt for every cause" and "we have to be able to exert authority or why even have a chief?" All I could think was, "what difference does it make?"

Chief Brunacini described how most Phoenix firefighters neatly folded their bedding and stowed it in their locker at the end of every shift. But there was one firefighter who simply rolled his up and tossed the bundle into his locker. His Battalion Chief viewed this as a breach of protocol and wanted to discipline the "sloppy" firefighter. Bruno then talked about a time when the Union was asking for new department t-shirts and the issue became so contentious it was all anyone could think about. Many of the same arguments I heard at CNIC HQ were voiced years before at Phoenix FD HQ. He pointed out that the public

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What Difference Does it Make? (Cont.)

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Professional appearance is key.

expects our firefighters to show up quickly and make things better, they could care less how we make our beds or what t-shirt we wear, so why are we dealing with this trivial BS when we need to focus on what's really important. Are we showing up on time and are we making things better?

Deep stuff right there. In my opinion, Navy F&ES leaders waste far too much time on inconsequential issues and worry too much about personal standing and ego.

There are plenty of much more substantial issues facing Navy F&ES today to be tied up with these "what difference does it make?" arguments.

My philosophy as a Fire Chief was to always do what was best for the firefighters riding the rigs and fire prevention folks working to minimize risk. You know, the tip of the spear? These are the people who are actually providing fire and emergency services.

Every other position in the department is there to support these service providers, period. If they can't properly and safely show up on time and make things better, we are failing.

Many leaders and managers lose sight of that and place themselves in false positions of importance. They forget the point of it all and focus on making their own jobs easier when the emphasis should be on the tip of the spear. Are we training and equipping our forces to be the most efficient response force we can make them? Are physical and mental well-being a priority? Do we care about our service providers as people first? Or are we wrapped around the axle with t-shirts and bedding?

The next time a potentially provocative issue comes across your desk ask yourself how this will impact the ability of our service providers to show up on time and make things better? In other words, what difference does it make?

Community Lifelines

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Maintaining Community Lifelines: Is Your Department Prepared?

By Mike Pritchard

September is National Preparedness Month. Explore [National Preparedness Month](#) and more on the USFA Website for resources to help you raise community awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

20 years ago, America witnessed the tragic events of 9/11. 343 FDNY firefighters died in a terrorist attack on our country. In the aftermath, the Department of Homeland Security was established and along with it, a national commitment to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies. We have learned many lessons since that day from other major disasters and emergencies, including hurricanes with names like Katrina,

Community Lifelines (Cont.)



Rita and Sandy, wildfires with names like the Camp and August Complex, and too many active shooter events. Since 9/11 major events like these have continued to increase in size, complexity and impact to the communities and economies where they occur. With every disaster there are efforts made to record the lessons learned and use them to make our incident response better and our recovery faster.

The National Response Plan (NRP) is an example of our collective lessons learned. It was created after 9/11 and later superseded by the National Response Framework (NRF). Now in its fourth edition the NRF is the foundational document for how we as a Nation respond to emergency incidents. With each edition the NRF has improved on its methodology allowing communities to enhance multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional response and to be better prepared for major incidents.

The current (4th) edition of the NRF identifies seven “Community Lifelines” that are crucial to enabling society to function within a community. The lifelines were created by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to prioritize incident information and efforts, and to provide a focus on stabilization of critical government and business functions during incident response.

Federal, state, local, tribal and territorial partners tested and validated these lifelines during the 2018 hurricane season, the Alaska earthquake (December 2018) and the COVID-19 pandemic. The 7 Community Lifelines are:

Safety and Security	Food, Water, Shelter
Health and Medical	Energy
Communications	Transportation
Hazardous Material	



As part of the fire and emergency services community, we are responsible for the continuous operation of several lifelines.

Fire services, search and rescue, and community safety are all identified as part of the Safety and Security lifeline. Medical care, patient movement and public health are part of the Health and Medical lifeline, and 911/dispatch and responder communications are part of the Communications lifeline.

As we continue to face new challenges in incident response, it’s important to reflect on the lessons learned over the past 20 years and how we can apply them to enhance future response efforts and maintain the lifelines that are so critical to the health, safety and economic security of our communities.

During National Preparedness Month, take the opportunity to learn more about [Community Lifelines](#), the [National Response Framework](#) and [National Preparedness Month](#).

PRIORITY: Life Saving

Assessment



EFFORT: Stabilization of Lifelines

Purpose



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NAS Fallon

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NAS Fallon NPG Training

By Robe Whittemore

Recently, Southwest Gas conducted natural gas education and live fire training with NAS Fallon Federal Fire Department. The training consisted of education on natural gas composition, detection, piping distribution system and emergency shut off actions.

Southwest Gas brought in live fire training meters for hands on training. Fire department personnel got to safely practice emergency actions. Shutting off natural gas meters fully involved in fire and crimping simulated leaking underground natural gas supply lines.

Thanks to our Installation partnerships (Mike Moody Risk Management and Safety) for making this training available.

Upcoming training with southwest gas is coming in September, when a special training group of Southwest Gas employees will be conducting training exercises for a large scale un-planned release.



Photos provided by Robe Whittemore

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Work Hard – Play Hard

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Work Hard Play Hard

By Robe Whittemore

Members of Seal Beach Fire & Emergency Services Department recently competed in the 2021 United States Police Fire Championships. Athletes representing firefighters & law enforcement competed in 50 Olympic-Style sports at 35 venues throughout the San Diego County.

Chief Robe Whittemore, and Station Captain Steve O'Brien represented Seal Beach in the Surfing Competition. Held over two days at the North Oceanside Jetty the two competed in shortboard, longboard, and stand up divisions.

Captain O'Brien reached the podium in the Longboard Division earning a Gold Medal.



Photos provided by Robe Whittemore

NSF Indian Head - LSAs

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NSF Indian Head Firefighters Recognized for Lifesaving

(DVIDS, July 14, 2021) By Andrew Revelos, NSA South Potomac

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/400924/nsf-indian-head-firefighters-recognized-lifesaving>



Members of Naval District Washington (NDW) Fire and Emergency Services Indian Head Company were recognized for lifesaving during a July 13 ceremony at the fire house with Naval District Washington Commandant Rear Adm. Michael Steffen and Naval Support Activity South Potomac (NSASP) Commanding Officer CAPT Todd Copeland. The awards covered an astonishing four lifesaving events in the last quarter, with one additional incident too recent for inclusion in the ceremony.



"I just heard you saved another life this weekend," said Copeland, who praised the members of the department for their performance of duties on the base and on mutual aid calls in the community.

The visit marked the first trip to NSF Indian Head for Steffen since becoming the 92nd commandant of NDW on June 22. A naval helicopter pilot by trade and veteran of search and rescue missions himself, Steffen said he has a strong appreciation for the dedication required to be a first responder.

"Thanks for having me here; it's awesome to be at Indian Head," said Steffen. "I've never been to this installation before but it's an awesome place. You at the fire department play such an integral role, not just on the base but in the community. It's critical that you perform at a high level and I certainly appreciate it."

Firefighter-Paramedic Brent Debusk and Firefighter Frankie Hannah III received certificates of lifesaving for an incident on April 17, during which they provided pre-hospital care to a patient in cardiac arrest.

NSF Indian Head – LSAs (Cont.)



“It should be noted that this is Hannah’s 14th lifesaving award,” said Regional Fire Chief Kevin Grinder, who emceed the ceremony. It wouldn’t be the last.

Hannah and Firefighter-EMT Kevin McDermott received certificates of lifesaving for an incident on May 24, during which they provided pre-hospital care to a patient in cardiac arrest.

Firefighter Michael Baker, Firefighter-Paramedic Christopher Lumpkins and Battalion Fire Chief Charles Benson received certificates of lifesaving for a June 14th incident, during which they provided pre-hospital care to a patient in cardiac arrest.

Fire Inspector Karen Montgomery received a certificate of lifesaving for her off-duty actions on June 16, when she pulled a pinned motorist from a burning vehicle, directed bystanders, initiated patient care, and briefed responding units. Montgomery suffered minor burns in the course of her lifesaving effort; she’s returned to duty and was able to receive the award with her daughter Kennedy, 10.

“The exceptional care provided by the responders contributed to saving the lives of the patients,” according to the certificates of lifesaving.

Navy firefighters from the NSF Indian Head Stump Neck Annex were one of the responding units to the June 16 incident and delivered the patient to a medevac helicopter for transport to the hospital. For their efforts, the crew – Firefighter-EMT Michael Buck Jr., Firefighter-Paramedic Frank DeBuss, Firefighter-EMT Chris Foss, Hannah, Firefighter-EMT Charles German, McDermott, Firefighter-EMT John Price, Firefighter-EMT Daniel Russell, and Firefighter-EMT Doug Sprouse – received certificates of achievement.

“You guys continue to do amazing stuff and save lives,” said Copeland.

“I really appreciate what you do and am proud of this team here, especially with all these lifesaving and achievement awards,” said Steffen. “Keep up the great work and I look forward to hearing more great things about you.”

After the ceremony, Copeland and Steffen joined the crew for lunch in the Fire Station’s kitchen. Bravo Zulu, team.



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SA Matters!

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Aggressive Versus Conservative

By Rich Gasaway

There is an ongoing debate in the fire service. Unless you are unplugged from social media and online journals, you're surely aware of it. On one end of the argument are those who believe the fire service is tactically too aggressive and purport this may be contributing to casualties.

On the other side of the argument are those who believe the fire service exists to be aggressive and take a no-bars-held all-out, go-for-broke approach to save lives and property.

I am not going to take sides. I think there is a place and time for aggressiveness and there is a place and time to be conservative. The problem that I see is we are not giving each their due.

Decisions... Decisions

A decision is a choice made among alternatives. Where there is no alternative action that can be taken, no decision needs to be made. So let's apply this to firefighter training. Every training program focuses on the physical actions needed to perform a rescue or attack a fire.

Sadly, however, some programs fall short by not teaching firefighters how to make critical decisions (such as go or no-go). In such training sessions, the decision is ALWAYS go... and that decision is almost always made by the instructor, yelling at the firefighters to "GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO!"

Hands-on training is essential to build the skills of a firefighter. However, firefighters also need to be taught how to make their own decisions and how to distinguish the difference between go and no-go conditions. Not every fire is a "go" (interior) fire. As firefighters, we so much want them to be. We train as if they will be. But simply, that is not reality.

To even suggest that some firefighters consider the alternative of no-go will surely earn me criticism. I recently read on a social media post where a well-respected fire commander with decades of experience was referring readers to an article he had written that suggested there might be times when conditions warrant a no-go decision.

In the comments below his post was written: "When I read this article, I had to swallow my own vomit." The profile of the person making the comment revealed he was... ready for it... 19 years old. Where does this kind of bravado come from? I'd say his training had something to do with it.

Teaching conservative actions as an option

I'm not suggesting that firefighters always stand on the outside and spray their water in the windows. I don't think ANY instructor is

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SA Matters! (Cont.)

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Rich Gasaway, PhD.

advocating for that. What I am saying is that, when conditions are not right for entry, we need to learn how to make those decisions.

Making entry when conditions are not right and getting burned or killed doesn't make anything better, right? Making entry in an effort to save an unsavable life and then, in the process, becoming the victim yourself doesn't make anything better, right?

We would be making leaps and bounds progress if we could just get firefighters to realize, and acknowledge, that not every fire presents the conditions that support interior operations. Sometimes this can change with a quick exterior knock-down that takes the energy out of the fire. Sometimes the need to fight the fire from the exterior cannot be changed (i.e., there is not way to reverse the damage to a fire-weakened structure).

What kills firefighters?

At a residential dwelling fire, two of the leading ways a firefighter can die while in the act of firefighting is flashover (or being overrun by the fire) and building collapse. These conditions, and the precursors to these conditions, are often visually observable. But, they are only observable for the person who has been trained to look for them and the person who factors this information into their go or no-go decision making process.

The firefighter who has not been taught to consider fire conditions and building decomposition prior to entry will likely make entry... every time... just like he or she has been trained to do.

From the horses mouths

On the SAMatters Radio show (available on iTunes, Stitcher Radio and right here on the SAMatters.com website) I am interviewing firefighters who have survived near-miss events. These people are NOT my hand chosen messengers. They contact me... and volunteer to be interviewed.

In most cases, I don't even know them. But their stories are compelling and it amazes me how many of them have found themselves in compromising situations that nearly cost them their lives. When I press them for answers, they admit they should not have been there. But this revelation comes after the fact, not before.

Training should include options

When training, firefighters should be taught:

- What to do.
- When to do it.
- Where to do it.
- How to do it, and
- Why they are doing it.

Likewise, we would build smarter, thinking firefighters, capable of

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SA Matters! ***(Cont.)***

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making better decisions if our training included:

- What NOT to do.
- When NOT to do it.
- Where NOT to do it.
- How NOT to do it, and
- Why NOT to do it.

Granted, it is far less exciting to teach someone what, when, where, how and why NOT to take the aggressive action... and the accompanying lesson of what the conservative action is.

Chief Gasaway's Advice

I am a strong proponent of taking appropriate actions to keep firefighters safe. But I am not a safety zealot. I believe in aggressive actions to save lives and to give those endangered every opportunity to be saved. But, it is simply a fact that we cannot save everyone. I wish we could. It would have reduced the heartache I've experienced throughout my career.

Another recent social media thread I was engaged in was a discussion about aggressive tactics where I made the following statement:

"Expect that you can't save everyone. God's plan sometimes is determined prior to our arrival. Thinking firefighters are able to determine when the window of opportunity is still open and when it has closed."

This comment speaks to the reason for the article you are reading now... teaching firefighters how to think their way through situations. Never try to bully a fire that's bigger than your resources.

Here is a sampling of the responses I received:

"If we implant that thought process in young firefighters going out the door they are ready to lose on arrival."

My perspective: If a firefighter going out the door knows that it is not realistic to save all property and save every life, they have a grounded sense of reality and they will be less likely to rush into situations that will prove deadly to the firefighter.

Another respondent stated:

"Thankfully our military does not go into battle with the "you can't win every battle" attitude."

My perspective: Military commanders take calculated risks and don't sent soldiers rushing into situations where the commanders know they are outnumbered or out powered. The decisions of military commanders are strategic and calculated (yes, there are well-documented exceptions).

And other said:

"A good plan violently executed now is better than a perfect plan executed next week."

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SA Matters! (Cont.)

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My perspective: True... just make sure it's a good plan... not a foolish plan.

I avoid emotional debates on social media for one basic reason: A mind convinced against its will is of the same opinion still. When someone holds strong emotional beliefs, their mind is set and there is little that anyone will do or say to unlock their perspective.

The closest I've seen to this "unlocking" of the mind came from my discussion with a very aggressive minded firefighter that I knew. He had a friend die in a structural fire. The facts revealed the structure was quickly on its way to being a total loss and any lives would not have been savable (even though there was no one inside the structure).

He lost a friend and had to witness, first hand, the devastating impact on the widow and small children left behind. As he told me: "All that's left to show for his efforts is a fenced-in empty lot with knee high weeds and 'keep out' signs." This firefighter's perspective is quite different now. But what a price paid to change one mind.

If you take the term situational awareness and invert the meaning, it would read: Having an awareness of our situation. While SA is so much more than that simple definition, in this case, it may represent the simplest rendition of what I am trying to say. Be aware of your situation. Then think. Then make smart decisions.

Dr. Gasaway is widely considered to be one of the nation's leading authorities on human factors, situational awareness and the decision making processes used in high stress, high consequence work environments. His work has been chronicled in more than 450 books, book chapters, journals and website articles and he has delivered more than 4,000 presentations to over 43,000 first responders, business leaders and industrial professionals worldwide. Dr. Gasaway served over 30 years in fire, EMS, rescue and emergency management and held positions of firefighter, EMT-paramedic, lieutenant, captain, assistant chief and fire chief in 6 emergency service organizations in West Virginia, Ohio and Minnesota.

Speed of Trust



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The Speed of Trust



Article and photos submitted by Manny Alam

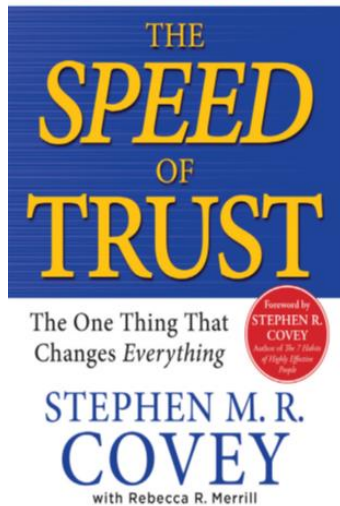
Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples, Italy Fire Department took advantage of the training to enhance development throughout the ranks. The half-day course focused on how trust is an economic driver and always impacts two quantifiable and measureable outcomes: speed and cost. This is applicable to the fire service in several ways. Thanks to instruction provided by Chaplain Commander Jack Carver of NSA Naples, he was able to teach the material and make it relatable to everyone. Chaplain Carver identified how lack of trust leads to

Speed of Trust (Cont.)

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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

OVER 2 MILLION COPIES SOLD



The Speed of Trust discusses 10 specific points showing how trust leads to success.

- ☐ We live in a world of declining trust.
- ☐ Trust is the engine of the sharing economy.
- ☐ The nature of work today demands increasing collaboration.
- ☐ Change is the new normal in a disruptive world.
- ☐ Our multigenerational workforce necessitates a different approach to how work gets done.
- ☐ Trust is the critical enabler of strategic initiatives.
- ☐ Trust itself has become a key strategic initiative.
- ☐ "Culture" has reemerged as an imperative for organization success.
- ☐ Yesterday's style of management is insufficient for today's leadership needs.
- ☐ Trust is the new currency of our world today.

There are two courses offered by the installation Chaplain at no cost. The training material is also provided at no cost so the principles can be continuously applied.

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several critical failures to include, relationships decaying, project failure, decrease in customer satisfaction, personnel underperforming, and a decrease in overall productivity. Using firefighters as an example, the results of loss/lack of trust causes issues that we cannot afford. Customer service, firefighter safety, and teamwork are the foundation of the fire service.

The two-day course takes a deep-dive into organizational trust, market trust, and societal trust. Participants, usually management, learn that the most perishable commodity in a high-change environment is trust. This provides the student with increased collaboration amongst agencies, employees, fosters an efficient workforce, and provides an in-depth 360 degree look into the organization. The organization is evaluated by the student and external stakeholders providing an unbiased assessment.



NSA Naples Training Chief, Anthony Dobbins, worked with installation Chaplain to enhance the department's developmental training. Working within financial constraints and language barriers with the Host Nation (H.N.) firefighters, Chief Dobbins successfully obtained the training. The training was attended by NSA Naples firefighters (U.S. and H.N.), BUMED personnel, and Region Fire.

This training not only brought to light the value of trust and how it benefits everyone in the organization, it also enhanced relationships with outside agencies which are now inquiring about the course. Chief Dobbins received great feedback from the students and is currently working with EURAFCENT Region Fire and Region Chaplain to provide this training course to all installations.

NSA Naples has accomplished several milestones and recently became a CFAI Accredited department. This training will be utilized as another tool to maintain continuous improvement in the department's pursuit of excellence. Building tomorrow's leaders, providing top-tier fire protection, and supporting those who defend freedom are at the forefront of NSA Naples Fire & Emergency Services.



Ben Franklin Award

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Benjamin Franklin Writer's Award 2021

By Christopher Baker, GFireE



The National Fire Heritage Center was established to preserve the history of America's fire services and fire protection disciplines. Currently, the archive library contains over 15,000 logged documents of major historical value. Benjamin Franklin, the father of America's Fire Service, left a vast legacy of written products. He encouraged writers to "go on record" as to their beliefs, observations, and support of public and private initiatives. Through the Benjamin Franklin Fire Writer's Award, the National Fire Heritage Center encourages today's fire writers to do the same.

The Benjamin Franklin Writer's Award was established to recognize current and past authors of books, magazines, newsletters, and a variety of media who have preserved America's fire services and fire protection disciplines history through their writings. Their stories keep alive the events and people who might otherwise have been lost through generations of change.

We are pleased to announce the 2021 Benjamin Franklin Writer's Award Winners and recognize their contributions to preserving diverse aspects of America's Fire Services and Fire Protection Disciplines history.

Gold winners included Bill Killen, author of *The History of the Apollo and Skylab Astronaut Rescue Team*, and Gregory Noll and Michael Hildebrand, co-authors of *Hazardous Materials: Managing the Incident*.

Silver winners were Sherrie Wilson, first female firefighter in Dallas Fire Department and author of *Faith by Fire*; Anton Riecher, co-author of *Disasters Man-Made*, and David E. Hedrick, author of the *University of Missouri FRTI 2017 Fire Service Training Survey Report*.

Bronze winners include Bill Killen, for three entries, *Firefighting with Henry's Model T*, the *Model T Times* newsletter, and *Hallock Chemical Fire Engine*; and, John Townsend, author of *Focus on Hazmat Column* in *Industrial Fire World* magazine.

Local National EVT

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Italian local national steps up to save Navy money and time while improving safety

By Lisa Woodbury Rama, NAVFAC EURAFCENT



Photo By [Lisa Woodbury Rama](#) | Fire Captain Charles Volhein, Naval Support Activity, Naples (left) stands in front of one of the engines in line to be certified by Giocchino Russo, Emergency Vehicle Technician (EVT), Public Works Department, Naples, Italy. Volhein established a process that allowed Russo to pursue his EVT certification which will enable more vehicles to be certified in less time, costing less money and keeping more of the fleet in operational status.

Installation Emergency Response Vehicles must be certified “operational” annually to remain in use. If the nearest qualified Emergency Vehicle Technician (EVT) is in another country, during a world-wide pandemic, timely certification can be challenging. Luckily, overcoming challenges is part of the DNA of emergency response personnel and, when you combine that commitment with other equally dedicated professionals, a solution WILL be found.

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Europe, Africa, Central (NAVFAC EURAFCENT) supports procurement and maintenance of fire and security vehicles on all naval installations in EURAFCENT. Fire Captain Charles Volhein, Navy Support Activity (NSA) Naples, knew that the lack of EVT’s was a huge issue and voiced his concern to Edgar Catala, NAVFAC Public Works Department (PWD) Naples Transportation Branch Head.

Volhein and Catala looked for a local solution to keep the fleet fully certified and, thanks to the willingness and dedication of an Italian local national staff member, they found one. Mr. Giochhino Russo, a PWD Auto Mechanic Technician, volunteered to take on the challenge of becoming EVT certified.

“My first thought was Giochhino,” said Volhein. Capt. Volhein had first-hand knowledge of Russo’s commitment and competency from working with him earlier on major repairs to two engines.

Brian Bartles, Deputy Fire Chief for Navy Region Europe, Africa and Central is inspired by this example of how leadership and collaboration at all levels can make such a contribution to mission success.

“Charlie (Volhein) identified a problem and didn’t hesitate to take it on and look for a solution to resolve it for the entire region - not just his own station here in Naples. He pursued getting certified as an EVT so that he could provide Giocchino the guidance and support he would need to get

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Italian EVT Cont.)



his own certification. He set up the pathway to allow us to internally certify over 100 emergency vehicles spread throughout the region without the need to contract externally. This will save money, save time and help us to keep the fleet as operational as we can which helps all of us to be as prepared as possible to respond to emergency calls wherever and whenever they come in. It's this type of collaboration and teamwork that allows us to find lasting and innovative solutions to our challenges," he said.

"I did a huge job (repairing aerial systems on two engines) and it was the first time for me, working on the fire truck. Working on it is a really interesting job and I'm developing step-by-step the passion on these trucks and this job. I'm really excited for every step I'm doing because I think it will be a great career for me," said Russo.

The path to becoming EVT certified involves learning maintenance, inspection, and testing of fire apparatus systems and aerial fire apparatus. An additional hurdle for Russo was that the exams are only given in English. Mr. Russo had to know the curriculum and understand each of the 100 questions on the test well enough to answer them correctly.

Russo passed the exams and certified as an EVT on May 10. He has already certified his first fire engine saving the government the \$4,000 per vehicle labor and certification costs.

"His initiative and will to succeed has left a footprint for all his colleagues to follow and created a path for future advancement opportunities. We have created a culture that will stand the test of time for many years to come," said Catala. Catala has already submitted to have an "Emergency Vehicle Technician" position officially added to the manning documents in Naples.

"I plan on achieving more certifications. I hope that I will be through the second level for next year. This way maybe I can support the trucks of all of the bases in the Europe region. I hope to do this job for the Navy," said a very grateful Russo when asked what was next on his list to accomplish.



NAVFAC EURAFCENT executes approximately \$1 billion per year in construction, professional engineering and facilities services for the U.S. Navy, U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and NATO commands in countries throughout Europe, Africa and Central Command where the Navy is the DoD lead agent for military construction.

Building Codes

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Building Codes Save

FEMA's landmark study, [Building Codes Save: A Nationwide Study](#) shows that modern building codes lead to major reduction in property losses from natural disasters. Over a 20-year period, cities and counties with modern building codes would avoid at least \$32 billion in losses from natural disasters, when compared to jurisdictions without modern building codes.

Paramedic of the Year

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New Fire Station



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2021 National EMS Awards of Excellence Recipients Announced

Clinton, Miss. — NAEMT and EMS World are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2021 National EMS Awards of Excellence.

The awards will be presented during NAEMT's General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 5, and at the Opening Ceremony of EMS World Expo on October 6 in Atlanta, Georgia. We congratulate the following recipients and recognize their outstanding contributions to the EMS profession and the patients they serve: Jeremy McElroy, Paramedic, Chesapeake, Virginia - 2021 NAEMT/Nasco Paramedic of the Year Award

Jeremy McElroy is a nationally registered paramedic and works for Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Fire & Emergency Services, in Norfolk, VA. Nominated by Jason Kinlaw, Regional EMS Chief, Jeremy constantly searches for learning opportunities and skill development. He has an immense impact on the quality of training throughout the department and is a champion of innovation and safety. Jeremy's passion for teaching and his mentorship to new firefighters is a shining example of how to develop the next generation of EMS practitioners.

A former U.S. Marine Corps Infantryman, Jeremy served two tours of duty, receiving a Purple Heart Medal and a Combat Action Ribbon. Jeremy has received two Navy Fire & Emergency Services Life Saving Awards, a Significant Achievement Award for his triage and treatment of a critically injured patient, and an Outstanding Pre-Hospital EMS Provider Award from the Tidewater EMS Council. A role model for his peers, Jeremy is dedicated to taking care of his military and civilian patients.

Fire Station at Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz on Guam

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam – Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Pacific awarded a \$33.5 million firm-fixed price contract to Core Tech-HDCC-Kajima, LLC, of Tamuning, Guam for the construction of a fire station at Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz (MCBCB) on Guam.



Front and side view of the Fire Station at Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz on Guam.

This contract supports the Defense Policy Review Initiative and is funded by the Government of Japan (GOJ) as part of the International Agreement between the United States and Japan. Work will be performed in Guam with an expected completion date of December 2023.

Re-credentialed

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DoD's Longest Credentialed Chief Fire Officer Re-credentialed

By CNIC Staff

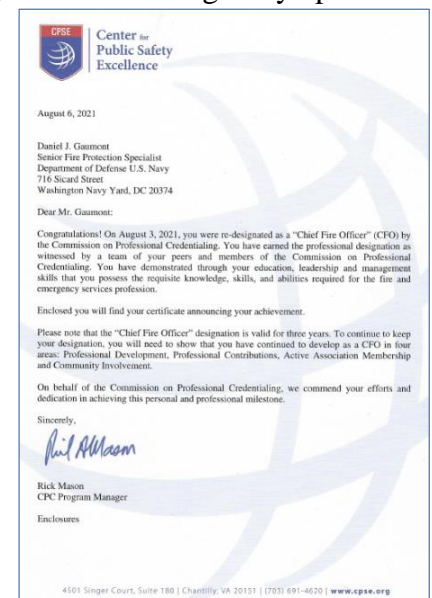


Chief Fire Officer Dan Gaumont

of today's Chief Fire Officer leading the way for other DoD Chief Fire Officers to follow.

Professional fire officer credentialing began back in 2000. It is an intense and rigorous process where candidates must demonstrate to peers (other elite fire service professionals) and members of the Commission on Professional Credentialing, advanced requisite knowledge skills and abilities required for the fire and emergency services profession. In addition to being one of the first ever Chief Fire Officers, he remains one of approximately 1,550 Chief Fire Officers worldwide to hold this esteemed designation. CNIC Fire and Emergency Services is proud to have Dan as part of the CNIC F&ES Team, as he is just one of the many top-notch professionals here at CNIC F&ES directing the Navy's fire protection activities worldwide. CNIC F&ES commend you on your efforts and dedication to the Navy and the Fire Service in achieving this personal and professional accomplishment, as this reflects greatly upon you and CNIC F&ES.

CNIC Fire & Emergency Services is please to acknowledge and recognize Mr. Dan Gaumont, who is a Senior Fire Protection Specialist at CNIC Headquarters, Washington Navy Yard, on his re-credentialing as a Chief Fire Officer Designee. Mr. Gaumont is the DoD's longest Credentialed Chief Fire Officer, having been one of the initial 15 Chief Fire Officers credentialed in 2000. This is Mr. Gaumont's 8th re-credentialing. He is a shining example



Community Risk Reduction

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Community Risk Reduction

By Mike Pritchard

Community Risk Reduction (CRR) has taught us that fire prevention is much more than going out to elementary schools with our Safety House, wearing a spotted dog suit, handing out flyers at the next Air Show or doing inspections. Progressive fire departments are using available data to categorize their communities into common areas based on such things as age of buildings, construction types, zoning, and other available demographics. These departments are digging deeper into these areas to address specific problems identified by data analysis tools such as data visualization and business intelligence software.

This data may show a rise in pedestrian accidents at a particular intersection in a neighborhood. Once identified, personnel can visit the intersection and investigate the root cause of these accidents. Once the cause is determined they can investigate how to mitigate the incidents; install a traffic light or crosswalk timer. The solution could be as simple as painting a reminder on the sidewalk for pedestrians to look both ways before crossing. Armed with this intelligence Fire Chiefs can inform community leaders and reduce the risk in their community.

Another example might be an identified increase in residential home fires caused by nearby wildfires. Seeing the increase, the fire department can propose actions to mitigate the risk like making changes to local fire codes to require a defensible space surrounding the home. or offering homeowners economic incentives to replace roofs with fire-resistant materials since flying embers are likely the cause of ignition. Each of these courses of action requires the fire department to identify the problem and then work with the community to address the issue.

At some level all firefighters understand that although nothing compares to fighting a good working fire, if we are called to put out a fire that is preventable, we have failed in our efforts to some degree. In today's world the position of firefighter includes the hat of risk manager. We must manage risks to our own health and wellness by doing things like reducing exposures to unhealthy byproducts of smoke. Doing things above and beyond wearing SCBA throughout the incident; like making operational changes, employing a clean cab policy, or improving fire station design.

It also means we are community risk analyzers. We can start with evaluating the risk in our first due response area. What do we know about the area? What can we find out by analyzing available data? What risks does the data identify? How can the risks be mitigated to protect both ourselves and those we serve? Who can we partner with to make it happen? Fire is Everyone's Fight!

Find out more about CRR <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/crr.html> and the [Fire is Everyone's Fight](#) *Fire is Everyone's Fight*.

TSP Update

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SW Wildland Fire Photos



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TSP Funds Snapshot

As of Friday, Sep 3, 2021

FUND	PRICE	%	YTD
G Fund	\$16.66	0.00%	0.89%
F Fund	\$21.07	-0.17%	-0.60%
C Fund	\$68.17	-0.03%	21.93%
S Fund	\$87.11	-0.13%	17.39%
I Fund	\$40.12	0.20%	13.36%
L Income	\$23.31	0.00%	4.63%
L 2025	\$12.13	0.01%	8.72%
L 2030	\$43.07	0.01%	11.08%
L 2035	\$12.97	0.01%	12.09%
L 2040	\$49.19	0.01%	13.11%
L 2045	\$13.50	0.01%	13.98%
L 2050	\$29.65	0.02%	14.88%
L 2055	\$14.66	0.03%	18.13%
L 2060	\$14.66	0.03%	18.13%
L 2065	\$14.66	0.03%	18.13%

[TSP Data Center](#)



Caldor Wildfire photos provided by Region SW

Navy F&ES POCs

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Navy F&ES Hall of Fame



News Distribution

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Navy Fire & Emergency Services (N30)

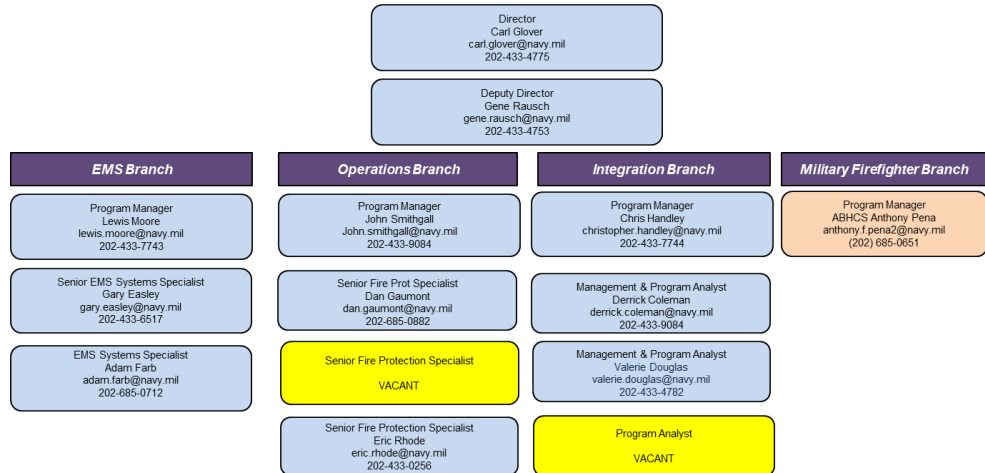
Commander, Navy Installations Command

716 Sicard Street, SE, Suite 305

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http://www.cnic.navy.mil/om/operating_forces_support/fire_and_emergency_services.html

DSN 288



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