



Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association

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www.colofirechiefs.org

MEMORANDUM

To: CSFCA Members
From: Paul L. Cooke, Executive Director
Subject: CSFCA Member Update
Date: March 15, 2010

Following is a general update on issues of interest to the members of the Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association.

Reckless Conduct Endangers America's Fire Service

Fire Service Reputation Management White Paper Examines Issue

Hagerstown MD, March 10, 2010 – Reckless and inappropriate conduct by a small minority of the nation's fire service is eroding the high moral ground occupied by firefighters says a [White Paper](#) sponsored by the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (CVVFA), a century-old organization dedicated to enhancing communication and continuing education among the fire service.

The contents of the White Paper represent a distillation of several fire service leadership meetings that identified a series of social, cultural, and ethical issues impacting the fire service nationwide that demand increased awareness.

The White Paper is intended as a wake-up call to the fire service. The detrimental impact from fire service members that engage in unethical, immoral, inappropriate, criminal, or other activities reflects back not just to these individuals, but to their departments and communities, and to the fire service as a whole.

Recognizing that the actions of a small minority of bad actors can have grievous widespread consequences, the fire service as a whole must be increasingly vigilant in policing itself. Through a combination of enhanced and improved internal controls, increased vigilance, and greater acceptance of personal responsibility perhaps including, but not limited to, abiding by a Code of Ethics, the fire service can ensure that it remains true to its roots and heritage of protecting and serving this great nation.

The [Fire Service Reputation Management White Paper](#) clearly identifies these individuals and behaviors in a clear and cogent manner, articulates some excellent solutions, and clamors for a Code

"Serving the Chief Fire Officers of Colorado Since 1968"

of Ethics as the next logical step for our profession. We may never have the opportunity again, and I urge all fire service leaders to develop, establish, disseminate, abide and enforce a Fire Service Code of Ethics” said Kelvin Cochran, United States Fire Administrator.

Copies of the White Paper are available at www.cvvfa.org. In the next several weeks the CVVFA will launch www.firefighterbehavior.com a website that will chronicle inappropriate conduct by members of, the fire service. The website will serve to raise awareness of danger to the reputation of the fire service and will advocate for a code of ethics and standards for proper behavior.

About the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association: Established in 1901 the CVVFA provides firefighters and other emergency responders with Training, Leadership, and Fraternalism. The Association created the Emergency Responder Safety Institute in 1999 to address dangers responders face on the roadways. Much of that work is carried out through its nationally recognized website www.respondersafety.com.

International Association of Fire Chiefs

Safety, Health and Survival Week 2010: Fit for Duty

Fairfax, Va., Mar. 11, 2010 – Today the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the International Association of Fire Fighters announced the theme for the 2010 Safety, Health and Survival Week: *Fit for Duty*.

Safety, Health and Survival Week is a collaborative program sponsored by the IAFC and the IAFF, coordinated by the IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section and the IAFF Division of Occupational Health, Safety and Medicine, in partnership with more than 20 national fire service organizations.

Fire departments are encouraged to suspend all non-emergency activity during Safety Week and instead focus entirely on safety, health and wellness-related training and education until all shifts and personnel have taken part. An entire week is provided to ensure each shift and duty crew can spend one day focusing on these critical issues.



With more than 50 percent of fire fighter line-of-duty deaths caused by health and fitness-related issues, both organizations believe it’s imperative that there be a concentrated effort in implementing wellness and fitness programs.

Safety Week’s *Fit for Duty* theme will cover a variety of topics that are extremely important to all fire fighters and EMS personnel. The program will assist fire departments with implementing their own programs to prepare fire fighters and EMS personnel with healthy habits that reduce the risk of many chronic diseases, such as heart disease, hypertension, diabetes and certain cancers, thereby increasing the chance for a longer and healthier life.

While departments are encouraged to identify activities tailored to their specific community, recommended areas of concentration include:

- General Health and Wellness
- Food and Nutrition
- Fitness
- Stress Management
- Smoking and Smokeless-Tobacco Cessation
- Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Infectious Diseases
- Suicide Prevention

During the week, departments are also encouraged to support comprehensive fitness assessments, medical screenings and educational programs that build and maintain medically and physically fit personnel and help in reducing health and fitness-related deaths or injuries.

Planning tools and resources are currently available on the [Safety Week website](#) courtesy of the IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section. Check out the [Resources > Health and Wellness](#) webpage for specific resources on this year's areas of concentration.

Additional information can also be found on the [IAFF's Health, Safety and Medicine's website](#). Online resources in a variety of topic areas are available online year-round to support continuous efforts to promote personnel safety, health and wellness programs.

CALL FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

We seek submissions for new SOPs, policies, articles, program summaries, program descriptions, etc., on this year's areas of concentration. The preferred format for submission this year is a URL link to a departmental or organizational website, in order to facilitate a timely posting of new resources and provide visibility to departments contributing to the program. If a link isn't available, PDF documents will still be accepted.

If you have submitted resources for Safety Week in the past, there's no need to resubmit the same information. However, if you have updated your resources or have new ones, we would like to add them to the website. If appropriate, please note that your submission is an update of a resource currently posted on the Safety Week website.

By providing resource links for use in conjunction with the Safety Week and overall fire/EMS safety efforts, you acknowledge that you:

- Have the authority to do so without infringing on copyright or ownership of the resources.
- Give the IAFC permission to post these links/resources on the IAFC's public website.
- Understand that the IAFC posts these links on the IAFC's website for use by public visitors to promote safety practices in the fire and emergency service, but the IAFC does not control who uses the resources or how they are used. The goal is to provide tools and resources that fire and

emergency service professionals can customize for use in their area. Please do not send resource links that cannot be used in this fashion.

- Understand that their availability on the website does not constitute endorsement of any kind by the IAFC.

Email your current resources to safety@iafc.org by Friday, March 26, 2010. In your email, please indicate which of the 2010 areas of concentration (listed above) the resource references.

Keep watching the Safety Week website www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=306 and the IAFC Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn pages for continuing updates to this year's program and planning resources. Remember to visit the IAFF's Health, Safety and Medicine's website for more information on health, wellness and safety programs or contact the IAFF by email at safety@iaff.org for additional resources.

Update on Chemical Suicide Incidents

Last week we distributed a Responder Safety Message on Chemical Suicides (which can be found at: http://www.colofirechiefs.org/ffsafety/CSFCA_Safety_Message_030910.pdf). Subsequent to distributing this message we learned that on November 17, 2009, the Cimarron Hills Fire Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (Patrol & HazMat) handles a suicide attempt with hydrogen sulfide, where the outcome is significantly different than the others . . . in that the victim was successfully rescued and resuscitated.

Also, working with the State Health Department, a technique was developed to neutralize the chemical reaction and dispose of the product. A summary of this incident may be downloaded from the CSFCA website at: http://www.colofirechiefs.org/ffsafety/H2S_Suicide_Attempt_111709.pdf.

Bill Mayfield, Emergency Response Coordinator for Memorial Health System has developed a 1-1/2 hour class that goes through the epidemiology, case review, basic toxicology, safety, and hazmat mitigation related to these "detergent suicides". He can also teach FDs the neutralization technique and how to build up a simple kit that would be needed. He can be contacted at:

Bill Mayfield, RN, FI1, HMS
Emergency Response Coordinator
Memorial Health System
Tel: (719) 365-2005
bill.mayfield@memorialhealthsystem.com

The CSFCA has put together a webpage to compile resources and information concerning chemical suicides, as an additional resource for our members. It can be found at: http://www.colofirechiefs.org/chemical_suicides.htm.

Status Report on Legislation of Interest to the CSFCA

The Status Report on Legislation of Interest to the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association in the 2010 Colorado General Assembly, as of March 14, 2010 has been posted to the CSFCA Legislative Page at: <http://www.colofirechiefs.org/legislative.htm>. CSFCA members are encouraged to routinely check this page for updates.

CSFCA Establishes LinkedIn Group to Enhance Member Interaction

In our continuing effort to improve communications with our members, and to facilitate communications between members, the CSFCA has established a LinkedIn Group. Consider joining the CSFCA LinkedIn Group at: <http://www.linkedin.com/e/vgh/2667807/>. For more information, go to: <http://www.colofirechiefs.org/news11.htm>.

Requests for Information

The Grand Junction Fire Department is requesting your help with the following two projects:

1. We are looking for ways to benchmark our workers compensation experience compared to other similar sized fire departments. Would any agencies be willing to share injury statistics with our Risk Management Division?
2. If your fire department performs in-house ambulance transport billing, which billing software product do you use? Also have you ever used a private billing company for this service?

If you can help with either of these areas please email Deputy Chief Jim Bright at jimb@gicity.org or call 970-244-1466.

Thank you for your assistance.

Ken Watkins, Fire Chief
City of Grand Junction
330 S. 6th Street
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501
970-244-1415

Off-Duty DUI Policy

If you have an SOP that addresses an off duty firefighter who gets a DUI and loses their driver's license, could you please email me the doc. We are working on updating our policy and would appreciate seeing how other fire agencies handles this type of incident.

Thanks for your assistance,

Chris Riley, MS, CFO, MIFireE
Fire Chief, City of Pueblo F.D.
Internationally Accredited Agency, CFAI
Phone: 719.553.2830
Email: criley@pueblo.us

Fleet Maintenance Management Database System

The Pagosa Fire Protection District is considering the purchase of a Fleet Maintenance Management database system. Chief Ron Thompson is requesting information from other departments who are using one they like, or ones to stay away from. Please respond directly to:

Ron Thompson, EFO, Fire Chief
Pagosa Fire Protection District
Tel: 970-731-4191
Email: ronthompson@pagosafire.com

Upcoming Meetings

March 26, 2010 – 7:00 AM Breakfast / 7:30 AM Meeting
Denver Metro Fire Chiefs Association Meeting; Lakewood, CO
For more information: <http://www.colofirechiefs.org/denvermetro.htm>

March 29, 2010 – 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
CSFCA Accreditation Consortium Meeting; Pueblo, CO
For more information:
http://www.colofirechiefs.org/events/2010/CSFCA_Accreditation_Consortium.pdf

April 16, 2010 – 0930 AM
CSFCA Combination Chiefs Section Meeting; Larkspur FPD
For more information: <http://www.colofirechiefs.org/combo.htm>

Upcoming Events

The following upcoming events are posted on the CSFCA Training & Conference Page at:
<http://www.colofirechiefs.org/trainingconf.htm>.

March 16, 2010; 11:30 am or 6:00 pm
Retirement Educational Symposium; Sponsored by Public Safety Financial Group; Denver, CO

March 17, 2010; 11:30 am
Retirement Educational Symposium; Sponsored by Public Safety Financial Group; Denver, CO

COLORADO STATE FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

March 19, 2010

Castle West Presentation - Colorado Springs Fire; Pueblo, CO

IAFC Firefighter Rehabilitation and Medical Monitoring Workshops

March 23, 2010; 9:00AM - 12:00PM; Englewood Safety Services Complex

March 23, 2010; 6:00PM - 9:00PM; Pikes Peak Community College

March 24, 2010; 9:00AM - 12:00PM; North Metro Fire Rescue

March 25, 2010; 9:00AM - 12:00PM; Summit Fire Authority

April 10, 2010

Operation Lifesaver Railroad Training; Rock Creek VFD; McCoy, CO

Apr 10 - 11, 2010

Instructional Methodology; Loveland Fire Rescue; Loveland, CO [CLASS FULL]

April 19, 2010

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Awareness Course, Colorado Springs, CO

April 21 - 23, 2010

Fire & Life Safety Educators Conference of the Rockies; Estes Park, CO

Apr 24, 2010

"YOU AND ISO" - What Every Fire Department Should Know and Understand About ISO in Your Community, Sponsored by VCOS & ISO; Evergreen, CO

May 4 - 5, 2010

High Rise Firefighting Tactics & Operations Course; Black Hawk, CO

May 5 - 6, 2010

ICS-300 – Intermediate ICS Principles; Lower Valley Fire Protection District, Fruita, CO

May 7 - 9, 2010

PSDS - Swiftwater Rapid Response Tech 1 Course; Grand Junction, CO

May 21 - 25, 2010

PSDS - Swiftwater Rapid Response Tech. I; Burning Mountains Fire Protection District; Silt, CO

May 22, 2010; 9:00 AM or 1:00 PM

Making the Pieces Fit through Cooperative Service; Fort Lupton, CO

May 22, 2010; 9:00 AM or 1:00 PM

Deployment, Master Planning, and Standards of Cover; Fort Lupton, CO

June 7 - 13, 2010

Colorado Wildland Fire & Incident Management Academy; Cañon City, CO

July 7 - 8, 2010

2010 Missouri Valley Fire Chiefs Conference; Colorado Springs, CO

See additional events on the Fire Service Event Calendar at:

<http://www.colofirechiefs.org/calendar.htm>.

Job Announcements

The following positions are currently posted on the CSFCA Classified Ads – Job Announcements page at: <http://www.colofirechiefs.org/classifieds.htm>.

Plateau Valley Fire Protection District – Fire Chief
Evergreen Fire Rescue – Fire Inspector/Community Educator
Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue – Firefighter and EMS Provider Recruit Program
Fort Lupton Fire Protection District – Out of District Volunteer Firefighter
Copper Mountain Consolidated Metropolitan District – Fire Paramedic
Sable Altura Fire Protection District – Career Hiring Eligibility List
Elbert County Government – Communications Manager
Ute Mountain Fire/EMS – Firefighter/Paramedic
Park County, Colorado – Director of Emergency Management
Platteville/Gilcrest Fire Protection District – Reserve Firefighter

Apparatus/Equipment for Sale

The following Apparatus/Equipment for Sale is currently posted on the CSFCA Classified Ads page at: <http://www.colofirechiefs.org/classifieds3.htm>.

1989 GMC 3500 Brush Truck – Greater Brighton Fire Protection District
1982/1992 Type III Wheeled Coach Ambulance – Bennett Fire Protection District
1984 Pierce Suburban Pumper – Boulder Rural Fire Protection District
1996 Chevy Rescue Truck – Southeast Weld Fire Protection District
2004 Ford 550 Light Rescue (Squad) – Elizabeth Fire Protection District

To post a job announcement, apparatus or equipment to be donated or sold, or upcoming events, please send the details to me at: paul@colofirechiefs.org.

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning this memo.

Be safe!

Paul



13th Annual AirLife Memorial Run/Walk and EMS Celebration

Join us for the 13th Annual AirLife Memorial 5K/10K Run/Walk and EMS Celebration on May 23, 2010, benefiting the non-profit Friends of AirLife. The event includes a Kids Fun Run, EMS vehicle muster, volleyball tournament, as well as numerous activities for all ages to enjoy. The race honors air medical, EMS, fire and police professionals who have lost their lives in the line of duty. For more information, visit www.airlifedenver.com.

Background

Each year, the non-profit Friends of AirLife hosts the Annual AirLife Memorial Run/Walk in honor of the everyday heroes in EMS and those who have lost their lives. The race was created in memory of Pete Albplanalp, Beth Barber, Leslie Feldmann and Julie Olmstead, who died on December 14, 2007, in an air medical helicopter crash and related car accident. Since its inception, the race has evolved to include honoring the fallen heroes of air medical, EMS, fire and police, as well as beloved Friends of AirLife founder, Jim Ulrich. Donations are used to maintain the AirLife Memorial Park located at the site of the helicopter crash; support Colorado EMS education through the Jim Ulrich Scholarship Fund; fund the Jim Ulrich Silver Falcon Award recognizing local EMS leaders; and provide charitable assistance to families of EMS professionals who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Colorado Fallen Firefighters Foundation
P O Box 470097
Aurora, CO 80047-0097
303-331-2121



"Dedicated to those
Colorado firefighters who
made the ultimate sacrifice."

March 15, 2010

Dear Fellow Firefighters:

The Colorado Fallen Firefighters Foundation will be sponsoring, on **May 8, 2010**, a Memorial Service and a Procession of Fire Apparatus in celebration of the lives of **ALL** Firefighters who have made the ultimate sacrifice protecting the lives and property of the people in our communities here in Colorado. We would be honored to have you attend the Memorial Service, as well as bring a fire apparatus to join in on the procession.

Fire apparatus will gather and stage in a parking lot south of Alameda on Garrison Street in Lakewood on the morning of May 8th, starting at 9:30 a.m. There will be staging coordinators on hand to direct your crew. The apparatus procession will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will head north on Garrison Street to Alameda; east on Alameda to Allison Parkway; then, south on Allison Parkway to the end near Belmar Library.

Parking will be available for attendees not riding on apparatus, in the parking lot just north of the round-about at Allison Parkway and Virginia Avenue, adjacent to the Memorial site. Honor Guard members riding to the event on apparatus, should be left off at the Memorial site.

A Memorial Service will follow the parade and will begin at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the Memorial for a time of fellowship and support to our families of fallen firefighters. Dress code for this occasion is your department uniform.

To confirm your participation, we ask that you contact our Memorial Committee Chair (*his contact information is shown at the bottom of the page*) with the following information:

1. Number of apparatus you wish to bring.
2. Number of people you wish to bring.
3. Will any Honor Guard members from your department be attending?
4. Who can we list as the contact person for your department? Their names, telephone number, email address.

Please confirm your participation to us no later than **May 3rd** to allow us time to prepare this event.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at the Memorial.

Lloyd See, Memorial Committee Chair

303-881-6089 (cell)

seesee2@msn.com