

State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection Commission on Fire Prevention and Control

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1. Connecticut Fire Service Leaders Address Fatal Plainfield Home Fire and Lack of Fire Protection in State's New Homes

Connecticut's top fire service organizations joined the <u>National Fire Protection Association</u> (NFPA) today at the South Fire District in Middletown to address a home fire in September that killed a six-year-old girl in a new home and inaction by state decision makers to provide a key safety feature in new homes.

"I find it appalling that in 2016 we continue to witness the devastation from home fires when the solution to this problem has existed for years," Keith Flood, fire marshal for the West Haven Fire Department and chair of the Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition, said at today's event. "Inaction by our state's decision makers has led to another tragedy. We need them to finally start embracing home fire sprinklers and stop listening to the rhetoric by local fire sprinkler opponents. Now is the time to bolster laws that will lead to safer homes for future generations."

Earlier this year, the six-year-old girl and her family moved into their Plainfield home. Had the home followed requirements found in all U.S. model building codes when it was built earlier this year, it should have included fire sprinklers. This technology can reduce the risk of dying in home fires by 80 percent, according to NFPA.

However, Connecticut's code-making body has decided not to adopt this requirement each time it has updated the state building code since 2010. Similarly, legislative bills that would have required fire sprinklers in new homes have been defeated with help from local fire sprinkler opponents. These opponents, mainly the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Connecticut, claim this technology is burdensome, not necessary, and expensive—all myths countered by solid research.

At today's event, a side-by-side fire demonstration using two identical structures underscored how quickly fire spreads in homes and how rapidly home fire sprinklers can extinguish fires. Moreover, the local fire service once again urged state decision makers to pass a requirement to fire sprinkler all new homes following the recent tragedy. Backing this requirement is the Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition, which was formed in 2014 to educate the public and state's decision makers on how this technology can successfully combat the state's home fire problem.

Connecticut law requires homebuilders to offer fire sprinklers as an option to homebuyers, but state fire officials say this option doesn't go far enough to protect lives.

The Connecticut Coalition is part of a grassroots movement aimed at eliminating home fire deaths and injuries. There are now 30 state sprinkler coalitions addressing America's home fire problem. Eighty percent of all U.S. fire deaths each year, for instance, still occur at home, according to NFPA.

"Fire sprinklers are virtually commonplace in every other setting except the place where fire causes the most injury and death," Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy, said at today's event. "States and communities across the country have seen the successes of creating requirements for fire sprinklering new homes. Connecticut, too, can make a significant improvement in its home fire problem by requiring fire sprinklers, which research proves can be a cost-effective addition to new homes."

For more information on the Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition, visit

http://firesprinklerinitiative.org/state-coalitions/connecticut.aspx

2. Q Endorsement Train-the-Trainer

The Connecticut Fire Academy is hosting two Q Endorsement Train-the-Trainer classes. Dates are November 5th from 9:00AM to 12:00PM and 1:00PM to 3:00PM at the CT Fire Academy.

Registration is limited to 25 for each session. Email Ken Hanks at <u>ken.hanks@ct.gov</u> to register. There is no cost for this class.

The program will incorporate an overview of the Q Endorsement instructional program and a review of the static course testing. Instructional materials for the local delivery of the class will be available and handed-off. Completion of these or a previous Q Endorsement Train the Trainer program is required for eligibility to serve as a DMV Commissioner's Designee for testing purposes.

3. CFA Bookstore News

The following books are in stock or coming soon to the CFA Bookstore.

NFPA

NFPA 101: Life Safety Code, 2012 edition

Tabs for the NFPA: 101 Life Safety Code, 2012 edition

NFPA 1: Uniform Fire Code, 2012 edition

NFPA 54: Gas Equipment and Piping, 2012 edition

NFPA 72: National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 edition

NFPA 13: Installation of Sprinkler Systems, 2010 edition

NFPA 25: Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems, 2011 edition

INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL

2012 International Fire Code Loose Leaf

2012 international Fire Code Soft Cover

TABS for either the loose leaf or soft cover 2012 International Fire Code

2012 International Building Code Loose Leaf

2012 International Building Code Soft Cover

TABS for either the loose leaf or soft cover 2012 International Building Code

2012 International Mechanical Code Loose Leaf

2012 International Mechanical Code Soft Cover

TABS for either loose leaf or soft cover 2012 International Mechanical Code

Fire Inspector's Guide Based on the 2012 International Fire Code

Thank-you, Pam and Karen CFA Bookstore

4. Oral Interview Prep Class

Oral board interviews are approaching! Larus Institute will hold a one-day, entry-level, firefighter **oral interview prep class** at the Round Hill Volunteer Fire Company on Saturday, October 29. This course prepares applicants for all interviews, including those that are coming up. In this highly interactive, mock interview class, participants use templates to learn how to prepare their own responses, the kind of answers panelists want to hear. Participants receive a complimentary copy of *Firefighter Oral Interview Prep Workbook* and walk home with the beginning of some great responses.

Go to www.publicsafetyprep.com for more information and to register.

5. Basic Pump in East Haven

Openings available for Basic Pumps in East Haven for November 5 and 6th. This 2-day class covers pump panel controls, drafting and hydrants, "rule of thumb" principles for rely pumping, standpipe, sprinkler, and

hand line operations. PPE (except SCBA) required. Pre-requisite is Fire Fighter I. Course number 17005, tuition \$90. Student application:

http://ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/2016_CFA_Student_Course_Application_Form_with_CC_SC.pdf

6. Rescue Tech Core

Rescue Tech Core, 17032, in New Britain has openings dates run from 11/1 -11/10.

Must be EMR/EMT/Paramedic certified in order to take the course.

Please include proof of certification with application.

http://ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/2016_CFA_Student_Course_Application_Form_with_CC_SC.pdf

7. GoFundMe Page for Firefighter Bill Deford

For those who don't know Bill Deford, he is a loving husband, father, firefighter, instructor, friend and a mentor to many. Bill is known for his energy, knowledge, strength, and passion for firefighting and physical fitness. Bill is also a firefighter for Longmeadow Fire and an instructor at the CT Fire Academy. Bill is the lead physical fitness instructor at the CT Fire Academy and has always been known for his tremendous strength, athletic ability and healthy lifestyle. It is heartbreaking to hear an extremely healthy man, fellow firefighter to be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. This sad news has not only affected Bill and his family, but those who have met him or been impacted by him in some way. All the hard work and time bill has donated to the community let's do the same and support the Deford Family during this time.

A gofundme page has been set up to help the Deford Family https://www.gofundme.com/2mg7m3u4

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