



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

- 1. CFDIA December Meeting Notice**
- 2. 2017 Spring EMT Course Hosted by Hunters Ambulance**
- 3. IAFC Volunteer and Combination Officers Section Report from the Chair**
- 4. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**
- 5. US EPA EPCRA Compliance Workshop – Storrs, CT**
- 6. 2017 Connecticut Fire Officers Weekend – Note Additional Fire Marshal Credits**
- 7. EMT Course in Bethlehem**

1. CFDIA December Meeting Notice

The December meeting of the Connecticut Fire Department Instructors Association (CFDIA) will be held at the new North Farms Fire Station in Wallingford located at 864 North Farms Road on Wednesday, December 7th at 19:00 hours. The program will be the on the construction of the new North Farms fire station and a facility tour. The December meeting is the organization's Christmas Party with food. Members and guests are strongly encouraged to attend.

2. 2017 Spring EMT Course Hosted by Hunters Ambulance

Hunters Ambulance Service has openings in our 2017 Spring EMT course starting on January 5th, 2017.

This is a comprehensive 225 hour training course designed to prepare you to take the State of Connecticut Emergency Medical Technician certification examination.

Training is accomplished through both classroom and practical skill building sessions using State of Connecticut Certified Emergency Medical Services Instructors, experienced EMS field personnel and other specialized guest lecturers.

Cost of the course is \$975.00. Deadline for registration is December 19th, 2016 (but may be extended).

Additional information is available on the course brochure or by calling (203) 514-5142.

3. IAFC Volunteer and Combination Officers Section Report from the Chair

VCOS Webinar

Join us December 15 at 2:30 PM ET for the next VCOS webinar on “Volunteer/Combination Fire Service Hot Topics from Symposium in the Sun.” [Please register ahead of time online](#). Thanks to TargetSolutions for sponsoring this webinar.

Symposium in the Sun

Thanks to those of you who came to [Symposium in the Sun](#) and made it a success. We had a record number of attendees, with over 700 people! Attendees learned how to make their departments “Operation: Mission Ready.”

Congratulations to the following award winners, who were recognized at the Symposium:

- John M. Buckman III Leadership Award (sponsored by Provident Insurance): Chief Rich Cowger, Columbus (Mont.) Fire Rescue
- Retention & Recruitment Award (sponsored by VFIS): Old Mystic (Conn.) Fire Department
- Illness and Injury Prevention Award (sponsored by VFIS): IAFC's Safety, Health and Survival Section
- Chairman's Award (sponsored by VCOS): Provident Insurance and VFIS

Congratulations also to the following scholarship winners:

- VCOS Scholarship Winner (sponsored by VCOS): Chief William Rector, Dunkirk (Md.) Volunteer Fire Company
- Emerging Leader Scholarship Winner (sponsored by Gasaway Consulting Group): Captain Jeff Gooch, Cranberry (Pa.) Township Volunteer Fire Company

Save Now: Register for Symposium in the West!

We've taken what you love about Symposium in the Sun and moved it *west!* Gain firsthand insights from volunteer and combination leaders, as well as countless new connections. The theme for the Symposium in the West is “Be the Change – Create, Engage, Inspire.” [Register today](#) to attend May 5-6 in Reno!

VCOS Election

In an effort to consolidate the IAFC and section elections, the VCOS election timeline will change for 2017. Anyone interested in running for the VCOS board of directors must submit the required candidate information in February 2017. More information will be emailed and posted to the website in January, so keep an eye out. We hope you consider getting more involved with VCOS.

Follow Us on Social Media!

We hope you'll [like us on Facebook](#) if you haven't already. In addition, follow us on Twitter [@IAFC_VCOS](#). Use social media to stay connected, network with others and see all the latest VCOS news.

4. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

Unchoked Vehicle Rolls at Fire

SUMMARY

Firefighters responded to a vehicle fire. During the fire attack, the vehicle rolled away from its initial location.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

A three-person engine crew responded to a fire in an unoccupied light-duty pick-up truck. The engine compartment was fully involved with a partial-cab involvement.

The driver told firefighters that the vehicle was in park. However, the truck lurched forward and continued rolling while the hood was being pried up to make an attack. Our engine was almost struck by the flaming vehicle.

The lieutenant and firefighter jumped out of the way, but then stopped it by pushing and holding the vehicle until it was chocked by the engineer.

View the report: [Unchoked Vehicle Moves While on Fire](#)

TAKE-AWAYS

It's easy to focus only on the obvious, especially responding to a vehicle fire. When operating at this common fire type, make a continued assessment to address the potential hazards and scene safety. This awareness starts as personnel approach the scene and continues during fire attack.

Preventing further exposure and securing the vehicle from rolling, even if it's reported or verified to be in park, will ensure that the prime objective of extinguishment is accomplished.

In addition to considering vehicle roll-aways, consider fluid runoff. Vehicles have large quantities of fluids that may pose hazards to responders. Locate apparatus and hose lines uphill if possible or out of the way of runoff.

DISCUSSION

- What is your department's policy or guideline on vehicle fires? What does it say about chocking the vehicle?
- What are the options for command and other personnel on scene if the vehicle rolls?
- What options are there for chocking a vehicle that align with your department's resources?
- How do you properly chock a vehicle on fire?

- Do you have emergency-vehicle placement procedures?

LEADING PRACTICES

Vehicle fires may seem like they're easy when compared to building fires. Size seems to matter. But it's when we aren't expecting trouble that it can find us.

What are some of the things to consider when arriving on the scene of a vehicle fire? Is everyone out of the vehicle? What type of vehicle is it? What's its cargo?

Consider how you approach the vehicle because we've seen what can happen to the various struts on a vehicle when it explodes.

Houses also catch fire, but they don't roll away. Vehicles roll, so it seems obvious that chocking should be considered upon arrival in almost every instance. Is the vehicle going to go somewhere? Is it chocked? Where will the fluids runoff if a tank is ruptured?

Consider applying mechanical brakes if that's an option, but using the chock of your choice to prevent the vehicle from moving will prevent a larger problem: the fire vehicle rolling into something or someone else.

RELATED NEAR MISS REPORTS

- [Downhill Runaway Vehicle](#)
- [Vehicle Left in Drive while Conducting Patient Assessment](#)
- [Unchocked Vehicle Rolls at Scene](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [FireRescueMagazine.com Article: Two Drills to Prepare for Vehicle Fires](#)
- [FireRescueMagazine.com Article: Fighting Vehicle Fires: Firefighting Operations](#)
- [Best Practices for Emergency Vehicle and Roadway Operations \(PDF\)](#)

5. US EPA EPCRA Compliance Workshop – Storrs, CT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the CT State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) invites you to a **free half-day** compliance assistance workshop on Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and Clean Air Act, Section 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP). **These workshops are designed for environmental compliance managers.** The workshop will be offered in Connecticut on Thursday, January 12, 2017 from 8 a.m. to Noon at the University of Connecticut Chemistry Building-A120 55 North Eagleville Rd., Storrs, CT (Use the North or South Parking Garages- There is a parking fee). For workshop information see the attached flyer. A campus map is available by visiting <http://maps.uconn.edu>

6. 2017 Connecticut Fire Officers Weekend – Note Additional Fire Marshal Credits

Registration for the 2017 Connecticut Fire Officer Weekend in Emmitsburg, Maryland at the National Fire Academy is now open. We will be attending March 10-12, 2017.

Please review the attached documents for course information, Student ID requirements, application, and Driver License requirements.

Applications are due to the CT Fire Academy on January 27, 2017. Please prioritize your course choices as noted on the application. Also, note that the application has an expiration date of November 2016. The NFA has granted an extension on the application expiration date and will accept the form provided.

Updated Fire Marshal credit information for Officer Weekend courses in Emmitsburg, Maryland in March of 2017.

Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist: 7 FM credit hours.

Building Organizational Support for Community Risk Reduction: 10 FM credit hours.

Any questions, please contact Program Manager Jason Decremer at 860-264-9242 or jason.decremer@ct.gov

7. EMT Course in Bethlehem

Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department is hosting an EMT class Starting January 9th – April 22, 2017. Classes will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings 6pm-10pm @ 26 Main Street. See attached for more information

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL