



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

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**1. Passing of SWFD Ret' Chief William Lanning**

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of retired Chief William R. LANNING. Chief Lanning passed away February 20<sup>th</sup> at the age of 80. Chief Lanning served over FIFTY (50) years with the South Windsor Fire Department; Joining in 1962, promoted to Lieutenant March 1965 assigned to Company 3, promoted to Captain December 1966 assigned to Company 3, transferred as Captain February 1967 to the Ladder Company, promoted to Deputy Chief October 1968, promoted to Assistant Chief January 1987 and then Chief of Department July 1987 which he served for fifteen (15) years. Following his retirement as Chief, he remained an active member with Company 6 till his retirement from the Department in 2012 – serving over 50 Years!

Chief Lanning also served as a part-time, then Full-time Fire Marshal for the Town of South Windsor from 1972 till 2006 some thirty plus (30++) years as the Fire Marshal. All those years, he wore both hats very proudly as he loved the Department and the Community.

He leaves behind a large, loving and proud family. His wife, Pat and family honored the FD to be part of the planning process for the services.

Calling Hours will be Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1400-1700 hours (2pm-5pm) at the Samsel Carmen Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Road, SW. A FD Casket Vigil will be provided.

A Memorial Service will be Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 1300 hours (1:00pm) at Samsel Carmon Funeral Home. Following the Memorial Service, full Military Honors will be provided with a SWFD Color Team. Bury will be private at a later date

A full obituary will be forthcoming.

Share in our good thoughts and Prayers to the Lanning / Martin Families.

*Kevin E. Cooney,*  
*Fire Chief*

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## **2. IAFC Volunteer and Combination Officers Section (VCOS) Report from the Chair Update**

### **VCOS Election**

Consider running for the VCOS board of directors. Three seats with three-year terms through 2020 are open. Due to the limit of no more than two board members from each division, we cannot accept candidates from the Eastern Division.

All requirements, board member expectations and application details are on the VCOS Elections webpage.

Election Requirements

Candidate applications are due by *Tuesday, February 28, at 5 PM ET*. We hope you consider getting more involved with VCOS.

### **Symposium in the West Grows!**

Did you know that we added another day to the Symposium in the West? Join us May 4–6 in Reno for three days of volunteer-leadership training that address the unique needs of your department.

Register today!

### **CFSI**

VCOS will be represented at the Congressional Fire Services Institute's National Fire and Emergency Services Symposium and Dinner April 5–6. We encourage VCOS members to attend the dinner and visit with their elected officials to discuss important issues in the fire service.

VCOS and the IAFC's Volunteer Workforce Solutions program staff will conduct an educational session on [Volunteer Recruitment and Retention](#) on Wednesday, April 5, at 3 PM in the Monroe Room of the Washington Hilton. We hope to see some of you there!

### **Bullying/Harassment in the Fire Service Survey**

VCOS is working with the Safety, Health and Survival Section and other stakeholders on the IAFC Bullying, Harassment and Workplace Violence Prevention Task Group. We are gathering information from fire service personnel to discover *if* there is a trend toward bullying in our workforce. The information is being shared in

programs and on social media across the country in an effort to help departments better identify and mitigate the organizational dysfunction and personal stress a bully can cause.

We currently need more data from volunteer fire officials across the United States, so we're asking you to [take a survey](#), put together by Jerry Streich, fire chief and emergency management director with the city of Andover, Minnesota. By taking this survey, you'll help us better define the issue for proper planning.

### **NFPA Rural Fire & Life-Safety Symposium Interest Survey**

NFPA is hosting a [rural fire and life-safety symposium](#) May 12–13 in the Boston area to bring together representatives from rural fire departments across North America. The symposium will help NFPA assess fire and life-safety education needs and gain a clear picture of rural fire department challenges related to prevention. Participants will help NFPA better serve rural and volunteer fire departments in their public education, prevention and community risk reduction efforts.

[Rural departments are encouraged to fill out an online survey](#), which is open through *March 15*. Invitations to the symposium will be extended to some selected survey respondents by March 20.

For more information about the Rural Fire and Life Safety Symposium, contact [Karen Berard-Reed](#) at 617-984-7286.

### **E-learning**

Did you miss any of the VCOS webinars? Listen to them anytime by [visiting the e-learning page](#)! Stay in the loop for the latest information and register for upcoming webinars by visiting today.

### **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.

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### **3. Employment Opportunity – Fire Chief – Town of Salisbury (MA)**

The Town of Salisbury, MA is accepting applications from highly qualified individuals for the position of Fire Chief. The salary range is \$95,000 to \$110,000. The Salisbury Fire Department is a progressive and highly skilled, service-oriented career, part-time and call agency located on the North Shore of Massachusetts along the New Hampshire border. The Department provides fire and rescue services to this community on the Atlantic Ocean coast with a year-round population of approximately 8,300 and summer population of approximately 15,000, occupying almost 18 square miles. This is a working position where the Fire Chief responds to all working fires and several others calls for service, given the small size of the Department, which has 9 full-time personnel, 11 part-time (24 to 28 hours per week) personnel and 12 call personnel. The Fire Department operates out of one Headquarters building and has an operating budget for FY 2017 of \$1.44 million. All members of the Fire Department, with the exception of the Fire Chief, are members of the same collective bargaining unit. In 2016, the Salisbury Fire Department responded to 2,039 calls for service, a majority of which were medical.

Candidates for this position must have at least five years of progressively responsible experience in a management position (officer level) in a full-time or combination municipal fire department of similar size

and composition and have a Bachelor's Degree (Master's Degree preferred) in fire service administration, public administration or a closely related field, supplemented by substantial management training such as that provided by the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program or the equivalent. The successful candidate will be highly skilled in labor relations, must have successfully managed within a collective-bargaining environment, have excellent written and oral communication skills, be able to successfully manage people, have good human-relations skills, be adept at budgeting and community relations, and be a proven leader and visionary in the fire service.

Qualified persons should submit a resume of experience and qualifications, letter of interest, at least five personal and/or professional references, and salary history for the last five years to: Charles D. Hale, President, Resource Management Associates, 17037 S. Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park, Illinois 60477, (708) 444-2326, Fax: (708) 444-2844, Email: [RMA2500@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RMA2500@GMAIL.COM). Closing date for applications is March 31, 2017. EOE

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#### **4. MCFS Firefighter II Class – Westfield**

The Middlesex County Fire School is presenting a Firefighter II course to be held in Westfield (Middletown), CT.

This training class will meet the NFPA 1001 Standard for Firefighter Professional Qualifications for Firefighter II and will run on Wednesday nights and weekends.

IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting and Fire Department Operations 6th edition textbook will be used for this program. Students are required to provide this manual as it is NOT included in the tuition. Students must provide their own full protective clothing and SCBA with spare cylinder for classes.

**ALL STUDENTS MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD PRIOR TO FIRST DATE OF CLASS**

Location: Westfield Fire Dept.

653 East Street

Middletown, CT

Cost: \$700

Hours: weeknights 1900hrs-completion

weekends start 0830hrs-completion

Start Date: Wednesday March 15, 2017

Send applications or inquiries to:

Jay Woron

Director, Middlesex County Fire School

58 Bystrek Drive

Middletown, CT 06457

860-635-5914

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## 5. Resource Unit Leader Class

The Resource Unit Leader - (RESL) is responsible for maintaining the status of all assigned resources (primary and support) at an incident. This is achieved by overseeing the check-in/ out of all resources, maintaining a status-keeping system indicating current location and status of all resources, and maintenance of a master list of all resources (e.g., key supervisory personnel, primary and support resources, etc.). The Resource Unit Leader falls under the Planning Section Chief if assigned at an incident. This class is being held in Fairfield at Sacred Heart University, March 7-9 2017. The cost is \$125.00 #17224

Application

[http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/CFA\\_2017\\_App.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/CFA_2017_App.pdf)

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## 6. 2017 CPAT Registration Now Open - Registration Will ONLY be Available Online

Connecticut Fire Academy is now accepting applications for the 2017 CPAT season. The deadline to apply for the Spring 2017 CPAT season is March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Registration will ONLY be available online for CPAT. Please use the following link to register for the 2017 Spring CPAT season:

<https://ctlms.ct.gov/Saba/Web/Main>

*All those interested must use the online system.* The CFA is not accepting registrations for CPAT over the phone, faxed, or mailed applications. The Registration fee is \$150.00. When using the online registration system please do use mobile Apple devices. PC/Mac users will need to turn off pop-up blockers. AMEX is not accepted for payment, VISA or MasterCard only.

For further information or questions, please contact CPAT Program Manager Jason Decremer at 860-264-9242 or [jason.decremer@ct.gov](mailto:jason.decremer@ct.gov)

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## 7. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

### Firefighter Falls During VEIS Training

#### SUMMARY

During a training scenario, rescue from a second-story window resulted in a firefighter falling from a ground ladder. Several reasons are listed as contributing factors. Injuries that occur during training may reveal more about us than we think.

#### EVENT DESCRIPTION

During a scheduled training evolution, a firefighter had to rescue a live victim from a division-two window. Using a 24-foot extension ladder, the firefighter had to lower the victim down the rungs to additional

rescuers waiting on the ground. During the descent, the victim was wearing a harness and fall protection was in place. As the pair descended, the firefighter performing the rescue fell about 10 feet to a concrete surface below.

[View the report: Firefighter Falls During VES Training](#)

#### TAKE AWAYS

This specific scenario had been accomplished earlier in the day with the exact same equipment set-up, but the rescued firefighter in this event was heavier than in the previous exercise. The factors contributing to this near miss include a lack of protection for the firefighter performing the rescue and inadequate training for this type of event before performing it at a height above a spotter's reach.

Additionally, the climbing angle of the ladder was reported to be too steep for the evolution and there were no clear departmental guidelines on how to perform the evolution.

Post-incident investigation revealed that the firefighter performing the rescue had no documentation identifying previous training in this type of rescue.

#### DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. What are the best angles for climbing and rescuing on a ground ladder? Discuss why the angle should be shallower for rescuing an unconscious victim.
2. Maintaining three points of contact with the ladder at all times is important for preventing a fall. Discuss the ways you would accomplish this task.
3. What are some techniques you would use to provide fall protection for both personnel in this drill?
4. Completing a hazard analysis could have identified critical skills for this task and formalized the necessary training steps needed to accomplish it. Does your department have formalized training tasks to teach firefighting skills? Which skills have written steps?
5. What are some important factors you address when teaching a skill?

#### LEADING PRACTICES

One recommendation from this report was to have a designated safety officer present during this type of activity. Before the drill began, a safety risk assessment would have identified the necessary skills and steps before attempting a full-scale evolution.

The training documentation for the rescue firefighter was incomplete and didn't identify previous skill training. Utilizing a safety officer may have given the training staff additional resources for course development and accountability for previous employee training.

The goal of training should be to learn new skills. In most cases, this begins with a slower pace, systematic instruction and an overabundance of safety practices in place. These are the lessons that were learned from this near miss. Reducing hazards during instruction lets students focus on task assimilation and encourages safe practices in the field.

Stressing safe practices throughout each drill will reinforce the department's view of what's needed to prevent injuries or worse. It's easy to confuse skill training with skill evaluation. Firefighters' skills should never be evaluated before they're thoroughly trained using the safest techniques. Learning skills while reinforcing safe techniques can help create a culture of safety in our fire service.

## RELATED NEAR MISS REPORTS

[Ladder Bailout Training Turns Treacherous](#)

[Firefighter Falls During Confined Space Training](#)

[Technical Rescue Training Results in FF Injury](#)

[Firefighter Injured While Climbing Ladder](#)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[IAFC Webinar: Eliminating LODDs in Fire Service Training](#)

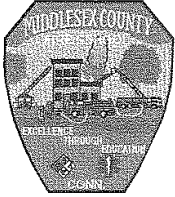
[ISFSI Article: Live to Train Another Day](#)

[USFA Coffee Break Training – Designing Adult Training:](#)

1. [Training Needs Assessment \(PDF\)](#)
2. [Conducting a Training Needs Assessment \(PDF\)](#)
3. [Course Design, Goals, Objectives and Learning Outcomes \(PDF\)](#)

[Firehouse.com Article: Change the Culture of Firefighter Training – Part 1](#)

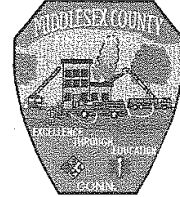
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**Middlesex County Fire School**

58 Bystrek Drive  
Middletown, CT 06457

860-635-5914



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**IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting and Fire Department Operations 6<sup>th</sup> edition textbook will be used for this program. Students are required to provide this manual as it is NOT included in the tuition. Students must provide their own full protective clothing and SCBA with spare cylinder for classes.**

**ALL STUDENTS MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD PRIOR TO FIRST DATE OF CLASS**

**Location: Westfield Fire Dept.  
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**Cost: \$700**

**Hours: weeknights 1900hrs-completion  
weekends start 0830hrs-completion**

**Start Date: Wednesday March 15, 2017**

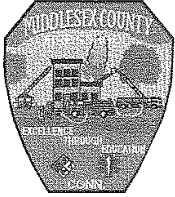
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**Jay Woron**

**Director, Middlesex County Fire School**

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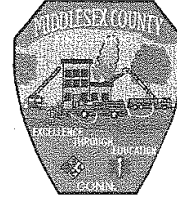




## Middlesex County Fire School

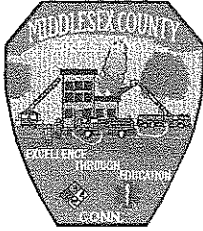
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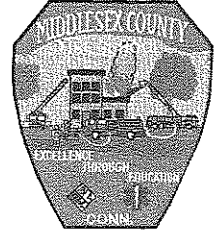


### Tentative Firefighter II Schedule:

Wednesday, March 15, 2017	FD Communications/Building Construction
Wednesday, March 22, 2017	Fire Origin and Determination/Fire & Life Safety Initiatives
Wednesday, March 29, 2017	Fire Protection Systems
Saturday, April 1, 2017	Vehicle Extrication and Tech Rescue (classroom)
Sunday, April 2, 2017	Vehicle Extrication and Tech Rescue (practicals)
Wednesday, April 5, 2017	Fire Hose/Fire Streams (classroom)
Wednesday, April 12, 2017	Fire Control (classroom)
Saturday, April 15, 2017	Fire Hose (pract)/Fire Control (pract)/Fire Stream (pract)
Wednesday, April 19, 2017	Final Exam (Practice)
Wednesday, April 26, 2017	RIT (classroom)
Saturday, April 29, 2017	RIT (practicals)
Sunday, April 30, 2017	RIT (practicals)
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	Written Review
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	Practical Skills Review
Saturday, May 13, 2017	Fire Control (Live Burn)
Sunday, May 14, 2017	CFA Practical Skills Exam
Wednesday, May 24, 2017	CFA Written Certification Exam



**Middlesex County Fire School**  
 58 Bystrek Drive  
 Middletown, CT 06457  
 860-635-5914



**Application for Class**

Class Applying For \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number Day (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Evening (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Starting Date of Class \_\_\_\_\_

Class Location \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment**

P.O. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

As Chief/Training Officer, of the \_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department/Ambulance Co. I give permission to the above mentioned member to attend and participate in the above noted class. Further I certify that the above member will be fully covered by this departments insurance for the duration of the class. I also certify that this member has full medical clearance to participate in this class and has been fit tested.

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If a class prerequisite is required please furnish copies.