



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

1. CFA 2017 Seminar Series May 20, 2017
2. CPAT Special Session
3. Berlin Fire Department's 2nd Autorama Car Show
4. Study Looks at Possible Health Risks in Fire Stations
5. EMS Week is May 21-27, 2017
6. John's Ride Suicide Awareness Poker Run Fundraiser
7. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

1. CFA 2017 Seminar Series May 20, 2017

Extreme Leadership am session # 17344
Dealing with Negativity pm session # 17346

Extreme Leadership: During this program we start with learning about your own strengths and weaknesses. We also learn about what really scares you. Leadership starts from within. By doing so we will show you how to become a better leader in life and in the fire service.

This program covers all three phases of great leadership.

1. Intellectual Intelligence,
2. Emotional Intelligence and
3. Personality Based Human Dynamics.

Most leadership programs tell you how to be a better leader with one phase but we show the attendee how to be a better leader with all three. You will learn the 4 different personalities in the firehouse.

Dealing with Negativity: We will teach you how to read, map and identify the four different personalities in your organization. Learn what makes them engage, be motivated or tick. Have you ever asked yourself "What the hell was that guy thinking?" If you have, do you really know who you're leading? Learn how to provide behavioral modification for leading, coaching and even during disciplinary actions.

<http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/cwp/view.asp?Q=591944&A=833>

2. CPAT Special Session

We have opened up the first special session of the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) for those candidates who have taken the CPAT test before. The cost will be \$125.00 and you must register on line using the following address: <https://ctlms.ct.gov/Saba/Web/Main>. This will be a morning session only and check in begins at 0730. We are limiting the test to 50 candidates. If you have any questions, please send an email to CPAT@ct.gov.

Instructions for registering for the Special Session

1. Click "CPAT enrollment"
2. Click "offerings" tab
3. In search box type: special session
4. Click "search learning catalog"

The 2 offerings will then appear

3. Berlin Fire Department's 2nd Autorama Car Show

The Berlin F.D. will hold its 2nd Autorama Car Show on Saturday, August 15, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sage Park. See the attached for additional information.

4. Study Looks at Possible Health Risks in Fire Stations

When firefighters respond to a fire, their gear and other personal protective equipment protect them from exposure to dangerous chemicals. What protects them between calls, however, when they simply are sleeping or eating in the fire station? On the surface, the fire station seems like a safe environment, but it may contain hidden risks, according to a new [NIOSH-funded study](#) at Harvard with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, the Boston Fire Department, and Boston Firefighters Union Local 718.

The study started after the city's deputy fire chief expressed concern that local firefighters were diagnosed with and dying from cancer at high rates. Of particular concern is diesel exhaust from fire trucks housed in truck bays attached to the fire station's living quarters where firefighters eat and sleep during a shift. In some older fire stations, including some built in the 1800s still in use in Boston, these truck bays are next to the kitchen. In addition, firefighters returning from a call and parking the fire truck in the bay may let the truck idle briefly while attaching tubing to vent the truck's exhaust outdoors. This routine task may occur frequently throughout a shift and involve being close to hazardous diesel exhaust each time.

Working with the Boston Fire Department, the scientists tested air samples in three older fire stations in Boston and compared them to air samples from a new station in nearby Arlington, Massachusetts. They also interviewed firefighters in the stations. Preliminary results identified fire trucks as a possible source of poor air quality in the stations. They also showed that installing washing machines and using them for gear could

help reduce exposure to chemicals. When the study is completed, the investigators plan to use the findings to develop future research and, ultimately, interventions to protect firefighters.

In related research, last summer NIOSH and other federal and university partners released the results of a separate [5-year study](#) of 30,000 firefighters. The study found an increased risk of certain types of cancer among firefighters, compared to other people. This increased risk may stem from exposure to toxic substances released in a fire when plastic and other synthetic materials burn.

More information is available:

- [Firefighters' Workplace Cancer Risk Explored](#)
- [Firefighters and Cancer: Dana-Farber Scientists Investigate](#)
- [Findings from a Study of Cancer among U.S. Fire Fighters](#)
- [Harvard Center for Work, Health, & Well-being](#)
- [Harvard Education and Research Center](#)
- [NIOSH Extramural Research and Training Programs](#)

5. EMS Week is May 21-27, 2017

The Department of Homeland Security U.S. Fire Administration and Office of Health Affairs Support Emergency Medical Services Week — EMS Strong — Always in Service — May 21-27, 2017

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) and Office of Health Affairs (OHA) are proud to once again support the efforts of our partner federal agencies, fire departments and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations to promote EMS Week. This year's EMS Week is May 21-27, 2017, with the theme **EMS Strong –Always in Service**.

“Fire departments throughout America reflect this year’s EMS Week theme of ‘Always in Service’ by responding to those in need of emergency medical care,” said Acting U.S. Fire Administrator Dr. Denis Onieal. “USFA appreciates these efforts of the American fire service.”

“Every day EMS responders around the country demonstrate 'Always in Service' by delivering vital prehospital care around the clock, both on- and off-duty," said Larry D. Fluty, Acting Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer. “We are especially grateful to our EMS responders at DHS, whose service supports their immediate communities, strengthens the DHS workforce, and fulfills the DHS mission.”

National EMS Week is an important opportunity for fire and EMS departments to highlight their call to care through events such as open houses, demonstrations, educational presentations and media programs.

Further information on USFA programs and activities in EMS may be found on the USFA website: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/operations/ops_ems.html.

Additional information on OHA EMS initiatives may be found on the DHS website: <https://www.dhs.gov/office-health-affairs>.

6. John's Ride Suicide Awareness Poker Run Fundraiser

John's Ride, Poker Run to honor John Meany and benefit the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention will be held on Saturday, June 4th. Entertainment*Raffles*Food*Prizes for Best Hand. Registration will be held from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Speed Demon Cycles 1393 Blue Hills Ave in Bloomfield, CT. \$30/bike. See the attached for additional information.

7. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

Confusion and Difficult Access Creates Water-Supply Crisis

Summary

Incident commanders use a variety of memory joggers to assist with making tactical assignments on the fire scene. Other decisions must take place before the first crew steps off the apparatus. Deciding on a water-supply strategy is an essential task to ensure crew safety. This command decision can dictate the success, failure or complexity of an operation.

Event Description

Initially dispatched on a lightning strike, the first arriving firefighter was a mutual-aid district chief, who reported a two-story residence with a long driveway and smoke showing. Two of the responding engine companies staged at a hydrant. One was directed to come in for an offensive attack with tank water; the other continued to stage. The nearest hydrant was 1700 feet away, and responding companies together carried 2600 gallons of water.

As the engine companies lined up in the driveway and shared their water with the attack engine, the attack crew continued to radio that they didn't have water. When a local commander arrived, he ordered crews to lay into the scene from a hydrant. Since crews continued to have issues with hand lines on a confirmed fire, additional resources were requested. A relay pumping operation was necessary to provide adequate water.

The interior crews kept the fire in check with limited water pressure until hose streams improved. Eventually, crews determined this was a natural gas-fed fire. Once the meter was secured, the fire was brought under control.

View the Report: [Confusion and Difficult Access Creates Water Supply Crisis](#)

Take-Aways

In this report, the initial incident commander directed companies down a long driveway with limited access and only the water carried on the apparatus; there was no back-up plan for when the water was depleted. Because access was limited, apparatus couldn't leave for a refill, and additional lines were stretched to the attack engine from other responding companies. Multiple operator and equipment problems eventually required changing to another engine company for fire attack.

Because it was a gas-fed fire, the interior crews had a difficult time bringing the fire under control. To complicate matters, the hose lines weren't assembled correctly; nozzle section colors did not match up with discharge section colors. This created confusion for the engine operator in pumping the correct pressures. When the lines didn't have adequate pressure, the mode should have transitioned to an exterior operation.

Training is necessary for every aspect of this operation, including command and control. Communication between the companies operating on the fireground was listed as needing improvement, and there was no early accountability for personnel operating inside the structure.

Discussion

- If you're the first to arrive on scene, who is in command?
- Do you have written policies that dictate establishing a water supply before fire attack?
- Should the decision regarding water supply be a command element or a standard practice? Why?
- In this report, two engine companies staged at a hydrant but were directed to come to the scene to use tank water for the fire. Discuss the pros and cons of this decision.
- Do you consider the type of driveway (asphalt, concrete, gravel) before driving an apparatus on it? Does that matter?
- How does your department conduct water-supply operations when a hydrant is not used?

Leading Practices

Fire scenes are dynamic, chaotic events. Maintaining structure in some fire incidents is difficult. Having a plan for successful water delivery at a fire scene is a drill that takes place well before the initial alarm. For the incident commander, applying these concepts should require almost no involvement from the command staff. When other than a pressurized water hydrant is used, command could consider using a water-supply officer.

Training for every aspect of this event was recommended in the report's Lessons Learned section. More to the point, the recommendation included training for command, pump operations and communication.

The author's recommendation for sharing preplans and written SOPs also indicated a difference in policy between departments. In fact, the author went on to say, "Written guidelines should be in place, enforced, followed, shared and adopted by all agencies working together." Having a shared playbook could make all the difference at the next event.

Related Near Miss Reports

- [Command Confusion Leads to Loss of Communication and Water](#)
- [Communication Misunderstanding Causes Fire Attack Team to Evacuate Structure](#)
- [Lack of Water Puts Attack Crew at Risk](#)
- [Attack Crew Initiates Entry with No Water](#)

Additional Resources

- [IAFC On Scene: New Emergency Response and Preparedness Standard at OSHA](#)
- [NIOSH LODD Report: Volunteer Fire Fighter and Trapped Resident Die and a Volunteer Lieutenant is Injured following a Duplex Fire – Pennsylvania](#)
- [Phoenix Regional SOPs: Water Supply and Fire Stream Management \(PDF\)](#)

- [Firehouse.com Article: Relay Pumping Operations](#)

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL

Cruise On Down To Sage Park!

on the **Berlin Turnpike** for the

• **Berlin Fire Departments** •



• **2nd Autorama Car Show** •

Saturday, August 15, 2015

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(rain date: **Sunday, Aug. 16**)

\$10.00 Show Car Entrance Fee
(**\$5.00 of which will benefit**)

“Local Veterans”

No Cut Off Year! Parking for 200+ Cars
Antiques, Street Rods, Classics (Domestic & Foreign),
Customs, and Muscle Welcome!

Dash Plaques for the first 200 show cars! Trophies Awarded!

Food available on the site! Music provided by DJ



For info: call Berlin Fire Dept. @ 860-250-0309 or CT Street Legends @860-383-6131
Weather permitting, if in doubt call either of the above numbers or visit: www.connecticutstreetlegends.org or
www.facebook.com/connecticutstreetlegends



JOHN'S RIDE

Poker Run to honor our good friend John Meany and
benefit the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention

Entertainment • Raffles • Food • Prizes for Best Hand

Registration from 9:00AM -11:30AM • \$30 Per Bike
at Speed Demon Cycles • 1393 Blue Hills Ave in Bloomfield, CT

For Info Email: McLoj001@hartford.gov -OR- ctrideguide.com/events/johns-ride

JUNE 4, 2017