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| **From:** | Ouellette, Kara |
| **To:** | "cfpc_news@list.ct.gov" |
| **Subject:** | CFPC Listserv Notices 5/11/18 |
| **Date:** | Friday, May 11, 2018 4:31:00 PM |
| **Attachments:** | NHGA in CT .pdf<br>school_safety_conference_2018_1.4.pdf<br>2018 June Fire School.pdf<br>school_safety_conference_2018_1.4.pdf<br>OpioidConferencFlyerFINAL2.pdf |

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**State of Connecticut**
**Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection**
**Commission on Fire Prevention and Control**
**May 11, 2018**

1. **National Honor Guard Academy is Coming to CT**
2. **CT Firefighters Memorial - Baseball Tickets Fund-Raiser!**
3. **U.S. Senate Approves Firefighter Cancer Registry Act**
4. **School Safety Conference 2018 – The Woodstock Academy**
5. **2018 June School - Check out Accident Investigation and Reporting – Presented by CIRMA**
6. **2018 Boating Safety Course Sponsored by Gardner Lake Vol. Fire Company**
7. **CFMA Call to Action!!**
8. **Opioid Overdose Epidemic: The EMS Role" 1/2 day Conference Offering**
9. **Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**

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## 1. National Honor Guard Academy is Coming to CT

An incredible opportunity is coming soon to CT. The National Honor Guard Academy will be teaching at the CFA July 29-Aug 3. If your current Honor Guard needs some polishing or you are thinking about starting an honor guard, this is the workshop for you. Come learn first-hand where tradition meets precision.

The NHGA is one of the premier honor guard training units in the country. This week long course is dedicated to developing and elevating the ceremonial knowledge and skill level of honor guard units while reinforcing a sense of pride and compassion by upholding honor guard traditions with precise attention to detail. The NHGA specializes in providing honor guard training to firefighters, police officers, and EMS personnel.

See attached for more information

https://nationalhonorguardacademy.com/products/windsor-locks-ct-july-29-aug-3-2018-5-or-more-participants

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**2. CT Firefighters Memorial - Baseball Tickets Fund-Raiser!**

**Gowrie Group/VFIS Yankees v Red Sox Ticket Raffle to Support the CT Fallen Firefighters Memorial**

Brother Firefighters –

It's that time of year again…. That's right Baseball!

One again Gowrie Group/VFIS is looking to raise money for the CT Firefighters Memorial… We are raffling off a set of 4 New York Yankees vs Boston Red Sox tickets to the highest bidder:

**New York Yankees vs Boston Red Sox**
Tuesday, September 18, 2018
Game time: 1:05 pm
Section # 312
Row # 2

***All money raised will be donated to the CT Firefighters Memorial!***

Place your bid by contacting Jeff Rudzavice by e-mail (jeffr@gowrie.com) or by telephone (860-274-7601)
Deadline for bids: Wednesday, September 5, 2018

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**3. U.S. Senate Approves Firefighter Cancer Registry Act**

On Thursday, May 10th, the Senate approved by unanimous consent H.R. 931, the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act. The bill, which was amended by the Senate prior to passage, was unanimously approved by the House on September 12, 2017.

The bipartisan legislation creates a specialized national registry to provide researchers and epidemiologists with the tools and resources needed to improve research collection activities related to the monitoring of cancer incidence among firefighters.

H.R. 931 was introduced by Congressman Chris Collins (NY-27) and Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-9). Similar legislation, S. 382, was introduced in the Senate by Senator Robert Menendez (NJ) and Senator Lisa Murkowski (AK).

The amended bill will now go back to the House for final passage.

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**4. School Safety Conference 2018 – The Woodstock Academy**

The Woodstock Academy will be holding a School Safety Conference July 18-20 at The

Center for the Arts The Woodstock Academy-South Campus 150 Route 169 in Woodstock, CT. See the attachment for program information and registration.

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**5. 2018 June School - Check out Accident Investigation and Reporting – Presented by CIRMA**

Course #18446
Date: 6/5 Time: 1:00-4:30
Fee: $20 Class hours: 3.5

This course will be presented by CIRMA and will cover, in detail, general aerial safety issues and accident investigation and reporting specific to the fire service

http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/cwp/view.asp?Q=602298&A=833

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**6. 2018 Boating Safety Course Sponsored by Gardner Lake Vol. Fire Company**

Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company is sponsoring a Boating Safety Course conducted by the State DEEP Boating Division. The course will be held at Gardner Lake Fire Company 429 Old Colchester Rd (Route 354) Salem on July 10, 12, & 17th from 5:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. Please see the attached for course information and registration.

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**7. CFMA Call to Action!!**

The CFMA is asking for the Fire Services assistance one more time this legislative session. The Fire and Building Codes will be going before the **Regulation Review Committe**e on **May 22nd at 11:00am at the LOB** for review and hopefully adoption. DAS, CBOA, and CFMA have work very hard through the Codes and Standards Committee to get residential fire sprinklers required in new townhouse construction while one and two family residential fire sprinklers will still be eliminated. This proposal has survived 3 votes in Codes and Standards and remains in the current IRC before Regulation Review Committee. The Home Builders Association of CT has been working very hard over the last 2 weeks talking with the Representatives and Senators to remove this requirement in Committee Action.

I am asking that members of the CT Fire Services to show up for this meeting in uniform to show visual support for residential fire sprinklers in new townhouses.

*Walter Summers, Fire Marshal*
*Connecticut Fire Marshals Association*
*Walter.Summers@southwindsor.org*

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**8. Opioid Overdose Epidemic: The EMS Role" 1/2 day Conference Offering**

The Department of Public Health Office of Emergency Medical Services is hosting a no-cost, pre-conference "Opioid Overdose Epidemic: The EMS Role" on Wednesday, May 30th at Mohegan Sun Casino during EMS PRO. Details are in the attached flyer. To register directly, click here.

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**9. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**

Swift Water Rescue Boat Techniques

## Summary

Training for each type of incident is one of the most important things we do. Making sure we don't create a real victim out of a crewmember is the challenge when water-rescue training requires live bait.

## Event Description

Our technical-rescue crew was training from a boat attached to a highline setup in moving water. One of the tech-rescue firefighters was in the water, floating through the area to simulate a swift-water victim. All personnel were wearing helmets, gloves and personal floatation devices (PFDs) for this training event. The goal for this training was to grab the victim when he passed the boat and pull him to safety. A secondary means of rescue was using a safety line thrown from the boat.

In this evolution, the crew was not able to rescue the simulated victim as he passed. They quickly tossed the safety line and the simulated victim was able to grab hold. Simultaneous to the retrieval, the boat captain dropped his oar in the river. He called for the firefighter in the water to grab the oar as it passed by.

When he reached for the oar, his ankle tangled in the safety line and he began to submerge; the current was dragging him under the water. He surfaced long enough to yell for the boat crew to release the line; crewmembers on shore also noticed the firefighter in distress and began yelling to cut the rope. Once released, he was able to swim to shore. There were no reported injuries.
View the Report: Water Rescue Training Victim Submerged By Fouled Rope

## Take-Aways

This reporter shared two lessons: First, the crew in the boat should constantly have a spotter maintain visual contact with the victim in the water. If the victim had not surfaced or other crewmembers on shore were not heard, the firefighter in the water could have drowned.

Second, the firefighter who simulated a victim in this scenario was wearing his steel-toed shoes. The heavy structure of these shoes may have contributed to the line tangling around his ankle. Though you can never tell what a real victim will be wearing, for this exercise a water boot may have prevented the line from tangling.

As a side note from this report, the crew recommends securing all gear aboard the boat.

## Discussion

- Does your department have a policy on rescues near the water? Take a moment to review these guidelines together. If you don't have written policies, discuss your best practices for working near the water.
- There are many positions to fill when storm water rises. Do you have a protocol for the order positions are staffed?
- This department used a boat to rescue the victim. Discuss the equipment and techniques required for establishing a highline and boat rescue.
- Do you use common terminology for a river rescue?
- How often do your downstream safeties practice with a throw rope? Have they practiced deploying the same rope quickly a second time if the first throw misses?

## Leading Practices

The mantra for water rescue of any kind is reach, throw, row and then go. Simply stated, this keeps the rescuer in the safest position to affect the rescue and to attend to the victim once they're out of the water. Knowing our limitations and knowing the condition of the victim in the water are keys to sizing up the rescue.

Also worth noting is that when the simulated victim grabbed the line, he placed tension that would have rocked the boat. This could have caused chaos for the crew in the boat. It becomes even more important to maintain visual contact with the person in the water.

When working as a team to complete a rescue, we have a responsibility to each other to give due regard for safe practices in or around the water. Swift water and soft riverbanks are an unpredictable combination. You don't need to be a swift-water technician to be an upstream spotter or a downstream safety. However, training in water-rescue awareness and being able to use the correct terminology are important. There's a big difference in terms like "river right" and "over there."

When discussing any practice in the fire service we try to steer away from words like always and never; there are usually more than one way to accomplish tasks on the incident scene. In this case, we have to emphasize to our crews the importance of always wearing a PFD when near the water and never wearing turnout gear for any swift-water assignment. Even firefighting boots can fill with water and become an anchor for someone struggling to climb back up the riverbank.

## Related Near Miss Reports

- Wrong Rope Selection Puts Water Rescue At Risk
- Engine Crew Saves Family with Four Children from Rising Floodwaters
- Water rescue poses several challenges
- Water rescue team saves one of their own

## Additional Resources

- The 15 Absolutes of River Rescue

- Swift Water Rescue Resource
- Preparing for Swift Water Rescue Incidents