



# What's Happening

*Navy Fire and Emergency Services Newsletter*

*Protecting Those Who Defend America*

April 2011

OMNI CEDO DOMUS

Vol 9 No 4

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## *From the Deputy Director*

Do you remember what life as a firefighter was like in October 2001?

People would stop us on the street to shake our hand and tell us how heroic they thought we all were; others brought baked goods to the fire station; parked fire trucks were adorned with ribbons and thank you notes; everyone had a smile and a kind word for firefighters.

We were the knights in shining armor.

Fast forward to October 2011 (I know, a little soon but the message couldn't wait).

These are real-life comments and headlines from around the country;

*"The firemen have been doing this sick trick for years. Just look at the way some of them live: custom homes, summer homes, new SUVs and trucks every year."*

*"Firefighters 'banking' trade times have not worked as firefighters in over a year but received pay as if they were on duty."*

*"Firefighter retired due to a 'permanent and debilitating' back injury competes as body builder."*

What happened in ten short years? To say the shine has come off the armor understates an understatement; not only is the shine off the armor, we are in danger of becoming the black knights of public service.

What happened?

In my opinion, a few of us started believing our own press clippings and somehow developed a sense of entitlement and immunity from public scrutiny.

After all, we were the heroes of 911, remember?

Then the economy tanked and nothing was immune, not even the knights in shining armor. In fact, we became huge targets because of the expense involved with our jobs. Once people found out some of us were drawing time and half for collecting money for Jerry's kids on Labor Day (true) and manipulating sick days and overtime schedules to double or triple our take home pay...

Well, let's just say a few bad decisions by a few folks have come around to haunt us all and there is no one to blame but ourselves.

## From the Deputy Director (Cont.)

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An old adage says integrity is doing the right thing when nobody is looking. I think we all need to relook at that and how we apply it to ourselves.

It's hard enough battling budget challenges and the constant, intense scrutiny of everything we do or don't do; it is plain stupid to add to those challenges by not doing the right thing because "I earned that" or "it's always been that way".

People don't appreciate anyone squandering their trust by playing the system for personal gain and they perceive firefighters who fall into that pit as especially scurrilous.

Kind of like Brett Favre playing for the Vikings.

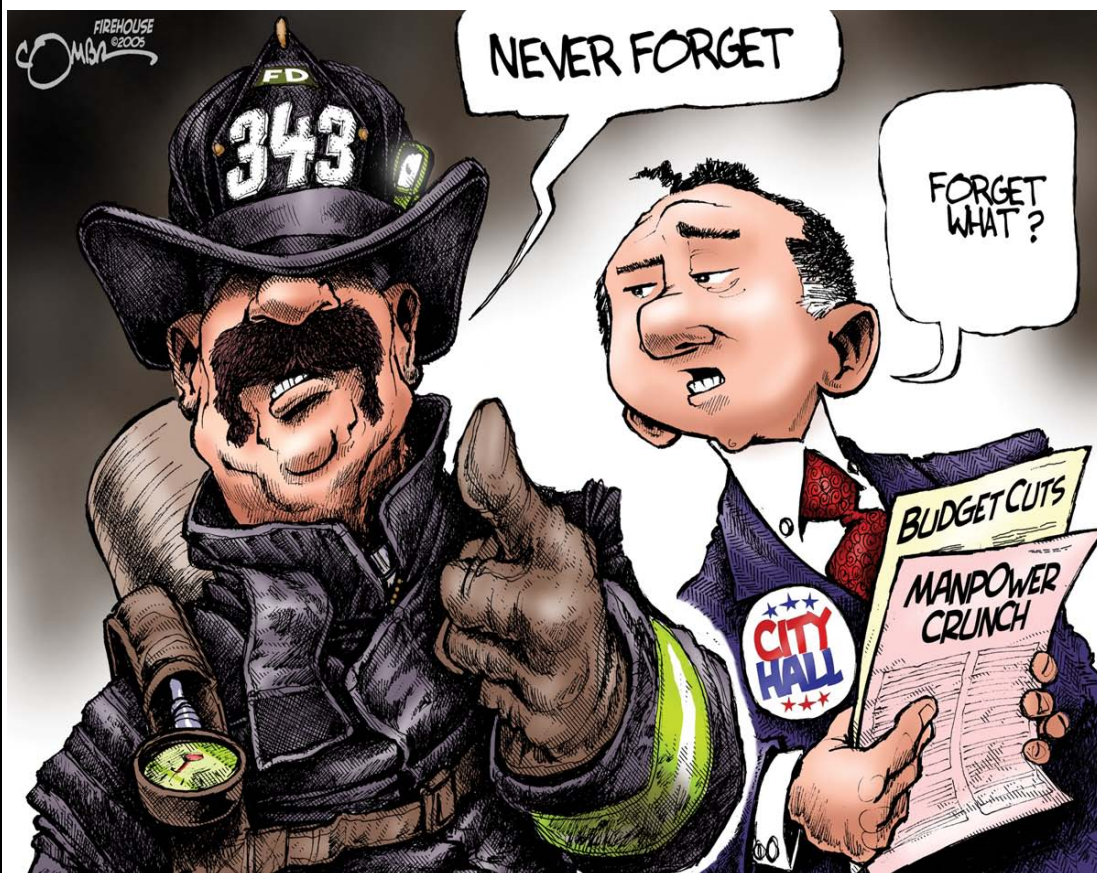
The choice is pretty straightforward; we can ignore or defend the shady practices that are drawing so much negative attention or we can straighten up, fly right, and do whatever needs to be done to clean up our business.

The public (and in our case, the Inspector General, et. al.) is watching closer than ever before.

- Rick

## Combs Cartoon

### Never Forget



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## Last Alarms

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## Last Alarms

The USFA reported 31 deaths in 2011. The following line of duty deaths were reported since we published our last issue:

**David Hunsinger, Jr.** 🚗

Age: 24  
Tar Heel, NC

**Gregory Simmons** 🚗

Age: 50  
Eastland, TX

**Jacob Carter** 🚗

Age: 18  
Becker, MS

**Robert Watts** ♥

Age: 51  
Windsor, CT

**Randy Boley** ♥

Age: 51  
Shreve, OH

**Elias Jaquez**

Age: 49  
Cactus, TX

### 2011 Totals

♥ 18 (58%) 🚗 5 (16%)

♥ Indicates cardiac related death

🚗 Indicates vehicle accident related

## TCOoO Update



## Taking Care of Our Own

Check with your Fire Chief if you wish to make a leave donation. There are currently ten DoD firefighters in the Taking Care of Own program.

Name	Location	Point of Contact
Gregory Feagans	NIOC Sugar Grove, WV	Nanette.Kimble@navy.mil
Joey Tajalle	NAVBASE Guam	Julie.Quinene@fe.navy.mil
Kurt McDonald	SUBASE New London, CT	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Erin Butler	Vandenberg AFB, CA	Sean.Glaser@vandenberg.af.mil
Robin James	Navy Region Northwest	Carmen.Morris2@navy.mil
Timothy Culver	Navy Region Northwest	Carmen.Morris2@navy.mil
Jason Frazier	NAVSTA Norfolk, VA	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Jason Thompson	Niagara Falls ARS, NY	Marilyn.Ruszala@us.af.mil
Donald Washburn	NAS Oceana, VA	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Leslie Gonzalez	USMC, 29 Palms, CA	Kerron.Moore@usmc.mil

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We have reached out to those who have participated in this vital program as leave recipients to solicit testimonials about how the program met their expectations and helped them return to duty. If you are a participant and have not been asked to provide feedback, please send me your impressions and a few lines about how the program personally benefited you.

-Rick

# 2010 Navy F&ES Awards

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## Annual Navy F&ES Award Winners Announced

### Team Awards

**Large Fire Department of the Year**

Joint Region Marianas  
Regional F&ES Department  
Guam



**Medium Fire Department of the Year**

NAVSTA Rota  
F&ES Department  
Spain  
CNREURAFSWA



**Small Fire Department of the Year**

NAS JRB Fort Worth  
F&ES Department  
Texas  
CNRSE



**Fire Prevention Program of the Year**

Joint Region Marianas  
Regional F&ES Department  
Guam



**Heroism**

NSA Mid South  
F&ES Department  
Tennessee  
CNRMW



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## Awards (Cont.)

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### Individual Awards



**Civilian  
Firefighter of the Year**

Mr. Takeshi Innami  
CNFJ Regional  
F&ES Department  
Japan



**Military  
Firefighter of the Year**

ABH2 Kevin Nabors  
ALF Fentress  
F&ES Department  
Virginia  
CNRMA



**Civilian  
Fire Officer of the Year**

Mr. William O'Meara IV  
Andersen AFB  
Joint Region Marianas  
Regional  
F&ES Department  
Guam



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**Military  
Fire Officer of the Year**

ABHC (AW/SW) Gilbert Chavez  
NAVSTA Rota  
F&ES Department  
Spain  
CNREURAFSWA



## Awards (Cont.)

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## Individual Awards (Cont.)



**Fire Service  
Instructor  
of the Year**

Mr. Yujiro Iwata  
CNFJ Regional  
F&ES Department  
Japan



**EMS Provider  
of the Year  
(Navy only)**

Mr. Patrick Null  
NAVBASE Guam  
Joint Region Marianas  
Regional  
F&ES Department  
Guam



**Navy  
Fire Chief  
of the Year  
(Navy only)**

Mr. Cort Jamison  
Joint Region Marianas  
Regional  
F&ES Department  
Guam



Congratulations to our Navy award winners, runners up, and nominees; it was a very competitive field and every participant should be proud of their accomplishments during calendar year 2010. The Navy award winners will formally receive their awards at the Navy-Marine Corps Award Luncheon on Aug 25<sup>th</sup> in Atlanta, Georgia and will compete for the DoD F&ES Awards. The DoD awards will be revealed and presented at the DoD Awards banquet on Aug 26<sup>th</sup>. Good luck to our Navy nominees!!

## *Navy F&ES Hall of Fame*

### *Class of 2011 Selected*

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**Orville J. Emory** was born August 26, 1903 in East Prairie, Missouri and grew up in Idaho where he was all-state football, basketball and baseball, graduating from high school in 1921.

After WW II, the Navy decided to establish an organization for its structural fire protection program. CDR Emory served as the first director of that program until 1949, during which time he authored *U.S. Navy Structural Fire Fighting, A Manual on Fire Department Practices for United States Naval Shore Establishments*, OPNAV-P415.



**Charles W. Peters** began his DoD fire service career in 1945 as a student at the U.S. Navy Fleet Fire School in Great Lakes, IL. After a brief break in the Federal service while he served as a Lieutenant with the Jonesboro, AR Fire Department, Chief Peters re-entered the federal fire service in 1950 and did not leave again until he retired, with 58 years of DoD fire service, in 2004.

He was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award in 2002, the highest honorary award the Chief of Naval Operations may bestow on a civilian employee in the Department of the Navy and the highest award granted at the major claimant level.



**Douglas E. Thomas** began his fire service career in 1941 as a firefighter at the Washington Navy Yard. Thomas interrupted his Navy fire service career in 1942 when he joined the United States Marine Corps.

In 1965, NAVFAC was assigned responsibility for administration and coordination of Naval District fire marshals and established a new position of Fire Marshal Program Administrator. Chief Thomas was the first Fire Marshal Program Administrator and served in that position until his retirement in 1976.

## Japan Earthquake

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### Japan Disaster

By Gifton A. Lawrence Jr., CNRJ Regional Deputy Fire Chief



District Chief Naoyoshi Igarashi (right) provides a check for 434,700 yen to Mr. Nakajima for the Great East Japan Earthquake Relief Fund

On the afternoon of Friday, March 11, Japan was hit by a 9.0 magnitude earthquake in the Northeastern part of the country. It was the most powerful earthquake to hit Japan and the fourth strongest on record in the world.

The epicenter was located offshore and nearly 300 miles away from CNRJ F&ES Regional Headquarters at Yokosuka Naval Base.

The earthquake created tsunami waves that came crashing into the coastal shorelines, wiping out some towns and touched off a nuclear reactor crisis.

As the nuclear situation escalated, the decision was made to evacuate the dependents to Safe Havens within the United States. Naval Air Facility Atsugi played a key role in this endeavor to provide Military Assisted Voluntary Departure for hundreds of dependents and non-essential employees to leave the country. Shortly after the departure of the dependents, we were faced with the prospect of having to relocate the Regional F&ES Headquarters to one of two installations further south; Sasebo and Okinawa. Although talks have died down about relocating, we continue to be ever mindful of that possibility.

In the days following the disaster, CNRJ Regional Fire and Emergency Services has provided several Tyvex suits, Hazmat equipment, and a fire truck to assist crews with keeping the nuclear reactors cooled. Three of our firefighters made the journey up north 20 miles outside of the plant to deliver the fire truck and familiarize the crews on site how to operate the vehicle. We have also provided assistance on the humanitarian side. Our Firefighters Association Fund donated 437,400 Yen (approximately \$5,027.00) for the Great East Japan Earthquake Relief Fund.

Although the crisis is still on going, I would like to point out just a few of the lessons learned along the way. Early on during the disaster, communications was an issue. Cell phone service was non-existent and the large volume of landline calls made it difficult to get through to anyone. Mobile devices such as Blackberrys would have been extremely useful. With the capability to send an email or text makes accountability and notifications much simpler. Another lessons learned is the need to have trained and certified Rescue Technicians. Valuable disciplines such as structural collapse and trench rescue would have been a significant skill set to have if the situation was worse in our areas.



## Marine Corps News

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## On the Job - Barstow



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## USMC Community of Interest

By Thomas Ruffini, USMC F&ES Program Manager

In August of 2001, General James Jones, 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps, established 21 Communities of Interest (COIs) to promote professional development within each Civilian Marine functional career field. Each COI was tasked with the responsibility to promote professional development, competency development, and career management. The Fire Protection and Prevention Occupational Series 0081 is represented on the Security and Emergency Services (S/ES) COI. Originally referred to as the Security and Law Enforcement COI, the name was changed in 2010 to more accurately reflect the occupational series represented.

Over the past several years, F&ES representatives to the S/ES COI have worked to identify career paths, competencies, proficiencies, and desired and required training courses. The product of their work is the Fire Career Road Map. This document shows the required and recommended certification for ranks from entry level firefighter to fire chief. It also lists the behavioral indicators and competency-based training opportunities for the various operations that occur within F&ES. The Fire Career Road Map is an excellent reference for those who wish to plot their career path in F&ES and can be found on the internet at <http://hqinet001.hqmc.usmc.mil/pp&o/PS/sle-coi/roadMaps.asp>.

Another excellent resource developed by the COI is the Civilian Workforce Development Application (CWDA). This CWDA can be found at [https://cwda.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page?\\_pageid=73,23167&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](https://cwda.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page?_pageid=73,23167&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL). USMC F&ES personnel can access this site, set up their personal profile, and complete a competency assessment. They can then assign an assessor, who then reviews the competency assessment and provides their own assessment of the individual.

I urge all of you take advantage of these excellent resources. They may allow you to see where you are today and allow you to chart your career path of the future. I would be remiss if I did not recognize Chief Tom Thompson and Assistant Chief Lance Milanez from MCAS Barstow, Assistant Chief Dwight Palermo from MCB Quantico, and Assistant Chief Brynne Burrough, formerly of MCAS Beaufort for their participation and contributions to the S/ES COI.

## Palm Tree Rescue



Firefighters from Barstow and the Marine Corps Logistics Base help Tracy Robinson (middle) out of a palm tree. Robinson, an employee with TJ's Tree Service, was trimming the palm tree when a clump of fronds slid down the tree trunk on top of him, another tree trimmer said. Robinson was trapped in the tree until emergency personnel arrived.

## On the Job - Bridgeport

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## Bridgeport F&ES Supports 9-11 Patch Project

By Chief Kevin Sullivan, MCMWTC Fire Chief



Three members of MCMWTC Bridgeport F&ES recently had the opportunity to show their support of the 9-11 Patch Project. Chief Kevin Sullivan and Firefighters Justin Thran and Jason Forgette traveled to Gardnerville, NV, where

the project tour bus had a planned stop. They had an opportunity to meet with the project staff and its coordinator, Craig Freeman, to express their support for the project.

The 9-11 Patch Project Tour began in Manhattan Beach, CA on 25 January and will travel across the country making numerous stops until it reaches Manhattan, NY. The purpose of the tour is to spread awareness of the ten year anniversary of 9/11 and recruit fire departments to wear the special ten year patches. Proceeds from the sale of patches and other items will be used to support the FDNY Bravest Scholarship Fund, the Terry Farrell Fund, and the Feel Good Foundation. More information can be found at;

<http://www.9-11patchproject.org>

Pictured in front of the tour bus are, left to right: Chief Kevin Sullivan, Firefighter Justin Thran, and Firefighter Jason Forgette.

## On the Job - Albany



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## Successful Resuscitation by MCLB Albany F&ES

By Assistant Chief Steven Walterman

On March 12, MCLB Albany F&ES responded to a trouble call that turned out to be anything but routine; while en route, crews were advised that a person had been electrocuted and was not breathing. A crane lifting a pipe had come in contact with a high voltage line, electrocuting a worker and causing a power fluctuation, activating the trouble alarm.

F&ES personnel found two co-workers performing CPR on the victim in a trench. Firefighter Paramedic Michael Workman entered the trench to assist in removal of the victim. Firefighters Workman and Neil Robinson resumed CPR and Firefighter Paramedic Matthew Webb applied the cardiac monitor/defibrillator. The patient was defibrillated twice, with the second shock converting the patient to a life-sustaining rhythm. Additional advanced life support was initiated and upon arrival at the local hospital, the patient had a pulse and was breathing on his own. He was subsequently transferred to a trauma/burn center and was discharged neurologically intact one week after being clinically dead.

## *Back in the Day*

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## *U.S. Navy Fire Apparatus*

By Tom W. Shand



Between 1963 and 1967 the US Navy took delivery of several orders of pumpers built by Fire Trucks Incorporated located in Mount Clemens,

Michigan. All of these workhorse units were built on an International R-185 model two door cab and chassis. These rigs were among the first to be equipped with a closed cab which was a nice feature in the day for at least the driver and officer.

During 1966 a number of these pumpers were delivered including one to the Naval Communications Unit located in Cheltenham, Maryland. This facility located in southern Prince George's County was established in 1938 as one of the five naval intelligence intercept sites to monitor diplomatic communications for all branches of the government. Cheltenham covered some 500 acres with 60 buildings and at its peak there were 500 military and civilian personnel assigned here. The fire department went into operation during 1958 as a single engine company from a station located at the intersection of Holden and Ammon Road and several years later placed into service an International chassis pumper with bodywork by Fire Trucks Incorporated.

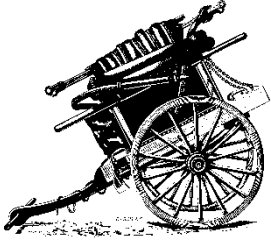
This unit was built on a wheelbase of 175 inches and powered by a gasoline powered engine rated at 285 horsepower with a five speed manual transmission. The apparatus was equipped with a Waterous fire pump rated at 750 gpm with a 300 gallon water tank. This unit operated as Engine 791 and responded with a four person crew to all incidents on the facility and outside into Prince George's County within a one mile radius.

During 1981 the pumper was rebuilt in house by department members using local resources. The body was rebuilt with new compartment doors, warning lights, preconnected deck gun and the installation of crosslay hose beds. The entire vehicle was repainted to a new yellow scheme with reflective scotchlite stripping. Self contained breathing apparatus were mounted on brackets above the lower body compartments along with a Clemmens standpipe pack.

Engine 791 continued to operate with this pumper until 1986 when it was replaced with one of the Pierce Dash custom chassis pumpers. The members of the Cheltenham Naval Communications Fire Department spent over 150 hours of their own labor to rehab and upgrade the capabilities of Navy property number 73-01905.

## In the Day (Cont.)

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Other Navy Fire Departments that operated with different vintages of these International/FTI pumpers included the Naval Amphibious Base at Little Creek, Virginia, Portsmouth Navy Shipyard, New Hampshire and the Naval Underwater Systems Command in New London, Connecticut. As the crew rode the back step on these pumpers several of them were retrofitted with protective windscreens to make cold weather runs a little more bearable.

Many of these pumpers provided twenty years of front line service and were rebuilt into different configurations to meet local needs.

Commercial chassis engine apparatus continued to be acquired by the Navy for several more years as these vehicles and replacement parts were readily available. Fire Trucks Incorporated supplied a large number of units to the Navy using GMC conventional and tilt cab chassis which were built with short wheelbase configurations to fit into older station facilities. In future articles we will attempt to look at some of the various makes and models of apparatus used to protect U.S. Naval installations "Back in the Day".

Photo from the collection of Tom Shand

## New Deputy Chief



## Kurt Waeschele Promoted to Regional Deputy



Kurt Waeschle was recently promoted to Regional Deputy Fire Chief for Navy Region Northwest after serving as one of the department's Assistant Chiefs of Operations since 2009. He previously worked as an Assistant Chief of Operations at NAS Sigonella, Italy. Starting his career in the California desert with the Bureau of Land Management then the China Lake Fire Division, he transferred to the Northwest in 1999.

Over the past two years Kurt has served as the department's Accreditation Manager working towards continued process improvement and the department's reaccreditation status in 2013. Chief Waeschle and his wife Amy and have two young children that keep things exciting while exploring the many wonderful outdoor areas of the Pacific Northwest.

## Useless Knowledge



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## What Song is This From?

Looks like I stumped you last month with my light opera selection.

That song was *Macchine Da Guerra* by Andrea Bocelli (and yes, it is on my playlist). Only two people guessed correctly (only five wagered a guess at all). We'll make it a little easier this month, here goes;

*Your brother brought me silver, Your sister warmed my soul*

Should be a no-brainer for you baby boomers out there.

## *Your Future Education*

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## *NPG's Executive Leaders Program*

By Richard R. Carrizzo

So you haven't applied to the Naval Postgraduate School's Executive Leaders Program yet? Too busy, too expensive, can't leave my organization, department doesn't have the funds, I thought of it just haven't done it? These are all very weak excuses for any fire chief, let alone any other chief officer.

I assume most people are like me—opportunities come to us on a regular basis, and the key is which ones to take advantage of. Which ones provide the greatest return on our investment? Whether the investment is time, money or being away from the organization, not to mention from our families, it plays significantly into our decision-making process.

As a strong advocate for continuing education—whether formal schooling in pursuit of a bachelor's degree, master's degree, even a doctorate or the NFA's Executive Fire Officers program—I believe such education is the future of the fire service. No longer will the road to success run only through the state fire school, even though there was a time and place for this in most of our career paths.

Once we've reached some of our personal and professional pinnacles, what do we do? How do we keep learning and improving our educational skill base?

Yes, there's the Harvard Kennedy School of Government's Senior Executive Program, a great program. But the investment of three full weeks, or possibly tuition, may not be an appropriate investment for everyone, due to some jurisdictions and the economic times.

Recently, I was afforded the opportunity to attend the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) Center for Homeland Defense and Security's Executive Leader Program, in order to continue to build on my educational foundation. But, I walked away with much more.

The NPS offers two Executive Leader Programs each year. This is an abbreviated version of their master's degree program, conducted in four separate, one-week sessions in Monterey, CA, over a nine-month period.

For each of the four sessions, you leave on a Sunday for school and return home on Friday. Each class is made up of about 33 students.

My cohort was developed with 30% federal employees (FEMA, Secret Service, ODNI, air marshals), 30% local officials (three fire chiefs, three police chiefs and two EMS chiefs) and the remaining from the state level, mostly emergency-management professionals, with two private-sector students. The cohort just before ours was predominantly federal employees, with a smaller portion of local and state.

The investment? Just time, invaluable networking opportunities, some reading (more if you wish) and one week away from the office, home and family.

## *NPG (Cont.)*

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Cost? None. For those accepted into the program, it's fully funded by the Department of Homeland Security. That's right: all flights, rental cars, hotel, travel and per diem for the full four sessions.

ROI: I can't say enough about the knowledge that was afforded to all the students. The program is driven by facilitators and instructors, with full student participation.

The program is taught at an upper graduate level; students need to realize this before attending their first session.

During a typical session, each morning consists of a class discussion on the events of the world and the nation. I thought I knew world topics and terroristic issues; I hadn't even scratched the surface of any of these issues before attending NPS.

Based on each of the four end-of-week briefings on national security and happenings, I'd say we really just uncovered the surface, with much more information for me to go research.

Each week is filled with discussions and instruction from outside instructors, authors, reporters, retired CIA operatives, educators and even undersecretaries. Topics throughout the course include security and threats, legal and cultural aspects of preventing and preparing for the threats, the collaborations necessary to effectively manage information sharing, threat recognition, protection measures and plans in preparation for action needed.

As with all courses, you gain a new network of colleagues and possibly some friends. It was the same for this course, but it opened the network wider and broader for all.

The program's theme is to bring together leaders to discuss, debate and explore strategies and policies related to homeland security. It enhances the senior leaders' capacity to develop policies and resolve homeland-security issues while strengthening their working relationships across regions, agencies and local-state-tribal-federal jurisdictional and private-sector lines.

Through an application process, students are chosen with extensive experience and recognized leadership in the disciplines that comprise homeland security. They represent a snapshot of homeland-security professions across the country from various-sized organizations.

To learn how you can apply, check out the Naval Postgraduate School's website at; <http://www.chds.us/>

Reprinted by permission. Richard R. Carrizzo is fire chief for the Southern Platte Fire Protection District. He holds a master's degree in business administration, is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program, NPS Executive Leaders Program. He is the director-at-large for the IAFC board of directors.

The educated differ from the uneducated as much as the living from the dead.

- Aristotle

# EMS News

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## Transitioning Scope of Practice Provider Levels

*Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach.* Included within this agenda is the National EMS Scope of Practice Model. Therefore, in order for NREMTs to maintain National EMS Certification as outlined in the *EMS Education Agenda for the Future*, all NREMTs must meet the minimum requirements of knowledge and skills outlined in the National EMS Scope of Practice Model.

Transition policies are currently being reviewed and the final policies will be announced in our 2011 Summer/Fall Newsletter, following the June 2011 Board of Directors meeting. The *proposed* transition plans use the currently established NREMT recertification periods to guide EMS providers through the transition process.

Each current provider level will be given two recertification cycles (four years) to complete a state-approved transition course, except Intermediate/99 – who will have three recertification cycles (six years) to complete a state approved transition course to the Paramedic level. The transition periods are designed to allow each state to evaluate their current provider level skills and determine the appropriate transition material needed to meet the new national scope of practice models.

The state-approved transition course, when used for NREMT recertification will take the place of the current recertification requirement of a Department of Transportation (DOT) refresher (or equivalent continuing education).

Current CPR credential for healthcare provider and ACLS will remain a requirement of recertification.

The *proposed plans* also call for current Intermediate/85 providers to successfully complete skills exams, included in the state-approved transition course. Intermediate/85 and Intermediate/99 providers will also need to successfully complete the current National EMS Certification cognitive exam for AEMT or Paramedic, respectively, by the transition deadline for that level.

### Plan Ahead – Make Note of Your Transition Deadline

#### First Responder to Emergency Medical Responder

Current Certification Expires	Complete Transition By
30-Sep-11	30-Sep-15
30-Sep-12	30-Sep-16

#### EMT-Basic, Intermediate/85 and Paramedic to EMT, AEMT and Paramedic

Current Certification Expires	Complete Transition By
31-Mar-11	31-Mar-15
31-Mar-12	31-Mar-16

#### Intermediate/99 to Paramedic

Current Certification Expires	Complete Transition By
31-Mar-11	31-Mar-17
31-Mar-12	31-Mar-18
31-Mar-13	31-Mar-19

# EMS (Cont.)

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It will be important that you contact your state EMS office for information regarding transition requirements for your state license. You can find your state office contact information on our website [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org) under National EMS System/State EMS Agency Information. In some states, there may be only a few new interventions and content that needs to be taught and evaluated, while in others there may be a large amount of new information to cover. The NREMT will not be able to answer specific questions on each state’s transition requirements.

Watch for the 2011 Summer/Fall Registry Newsletter in your inbox (see related article “It’s Critical to Create an Account on the NREMT Website!” on page 1). It will contain transition policies approved by the NREMT Board of Directors and other important transition information.

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## New Post-Nominals and Emblems

With the transition to the new Scope of Practice provider levels in progress, NREMT post-nominals and emblems have been adjusted. The Board of Directors approved the new post-nominals and emblem designs at the November Board meeting and copyrights have been filed.

The chart below shows the post-nominals for the new provider levels. This will not take place until the transition to each new provider level goes into effect.

After community feedback and surveys, new emblem designs were also approved, with the rocker being re-introduced for the advanced level emblems. The new emblems will be available when the transition for each new level goes into effect.

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Current Level	New Level
NREMT First Responder	Emergency Medical Responder (NREMR)
NREMT-Basic (NREMT-B)	Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT)
NREMT-Intermediate/85 (NREMT-I/85)	Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (NRAEMT)
NREMT-Intermediate/99 (NREMT-I/99)	
NREMT-Paramedic (NREMT-P)	Paramedic (NRP)



## On the Job - Rota

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## Joint Training Exercise

Rota Fire and Emergency Services and Bomberos de Base Naval joined forces last week to conduct a joint training exercise. The drill was designed to simulate what would occur in the event there was a fire or other structural emergency at a Spanish facility on base. The Bomberos frequently respond with Rota F&ES to a multitude of airfield emergencies but rarely respond to structural emergencies. This training helped set a precedence that will help the facility increase both response times and manpower capabilities.



The simulated fire was only the start of what proved to be valuable training for all. Shortly after extinguishing the fire and rescuing one of the occupants, an emergency distress call came in that there was a down firefighter in the facility. The RIC Team (Rapid Intervention Crew) immediately jumped into action to reenter the structure and rescued the down firefighter.

The drill concluded with an on scene debrief with both crews and was followed up with a lessons learned and debrief back at the Bomberos firehouse. Tactics and strategies were discussed as well as additional ways to seamlessly integrate our forces and solidify our support for Host Nation relationships.

## On the Job - DC



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## NDW Firefighters Earn Lifesaving Award



CDR David Varner, Naval Support Activity Washington Commanding Officer and Executive Officer Dennis Keck presented a CNIC Life Saving Award to the firefighters from the Naval District Washington Fire & Emergency Services, Washington Navy Yard

Station Two for resuscitating an unconscious 60 year old male civilian.

Pictured from left to right are, Executive Officer Dennis Keck, Commanding Officer David Varner, Firefighters Chris Ward, Arnold Papa, Charles Jerman, James Freeman and N3 Director Dr. Cynthia Brown.

## *iShore Report*

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**iShore**  
Management Framework

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## *Regional Humor*

### *G2 Team Space Leveraged during Japan Disaster*

By Cynthia Cartledge

CNIC Headquarters Code N81, Code N82, Code N83 and Region Japan utilized the Japan Event team space within Gateway 2.0(G2) to receive evacuee lists and generate travel orders for the evacuees from the Japan disaster, Operation Tomodachi. In a very short time, we were able to create an environment to collaborate with many key groups scattered across the globe, including CNIC employees in Japan, CNIC headquarters and regions Southeast, Southwest and Northwest. Code N82 and region Japan's goal was to ensure that all evacuees would have travel orders "in hand" as quickly as possible especially, before their arrival to the U.S.

The G2 team space offered us the functionality we needed to accomplish our mission. For example, we needed a secure environment to access and work with Personally Identifiable Information (PII). The ability to customize G2 team spaces by using a private setting allowed us to strictly invite members who needed the data to perform their duties. In addition, we used the general discussion boards in the public area of G2 to impart information about the site content. We used the document libraries to receive the automated travel order program from region Southeast and to receive evacuee lists from Japan. The evacuee lists arrived instantly with no bandwidth issues whatsoever. We used two other document libraries, one to store the completed travel orders for region Japan's distribution to evacuees and another document library to house undistributed travel orders for distribution stateside by regions Southwest or Northwest. We stored all reference documents in a read only document library for all members. Lastly, we added links to the United States Northern Command's site (for the most current news) and the Single Mobility System (to view the manifests for arriving evacuees).

In the past, this process would have been completed in email. It would not have been orderly and perhaps not as accurate with several versions of each file, size limitations enforced by Outlook and members not included as addressees. If participants did not send encrypted emails, data security would have been impaired. Timeliness would have also been a real issue as team members would have searched through emails for the data that they needed to perform this process.

By having G2 and its suite of tools as a resource, we were able to effectively carry out our duties and safely evacuate our family and service members during the Japanese crisis.

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### *Idioms*

In the store in Spokane, Washington where I work, we often get folks from out of town whose idioms are a little different from our own.

One day, after parking across the street in an attended lot, a young woman came in, made her purchase, and then asked, "Do you give validation?"

Without batting an eye, my manager replied, "You are an excellent person, and I love your hair."

## Wellness & Fitness

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### *Couch Potatoes Arise*



When most of us think of ways to improve our health and lower our risk for disease, activities like aerobic exercise and resistance training come to mind. But that's really only part of the story. Recently, scientists have begun to recognize that the time we spend doing sedentary things can also have a significant and direct impact on our health.

Specifically, recent studies suggest that adults who exercise regularly, but spend most of their days sitting, whether at work or on the couch, have greater health risks than active people who are more likely to be walking or moving throughout the day.

#### **One hour at the gym, five hours on the couch**

Recent data from the Nielsen Organization report that a typical American adult watches more than 151 hours of television per month. They also spend 27 hours surfing the Internet monthly and seven hours watching time-shifted television (e.g., DVR, TiVo). And most adults drive their cars to work and sit behind a desk all day. It is clear that all of this time spent doing sedentary activities may partially explain the obesity epidemic in the United States.

It is becoming clear that even people who have found a way to incorporate regular vigorous activity into their lives should look for strategies to reduce the time they spend sitting or relaxing. Research suggests that people who spend long, uninterrupted periods doing sedentary activities are at the greatest risk. So it may be helpful to look for strategies to break up the time spent in a low-energy state. Setting an hourly alarm to prompt you to go for a brief walk may help.

#### **More television = unhealthy habits**

Additional studies have found that for some people, watching television can also be a cue to snack and mindlessly consume unneeded calories. Furthermore, those who watch more television report consuming fewer fruits and vegetables than those who spend less time channel surfing. That's why it's a good idea to plan ahead and stock up on healthy snacks to nibble on while watching your favorite shows, sporting events or movies. Or better yet, skip the snacks and get up and move around during commercial breaks (just don't head to the fridge).

You might also consider setting daily television and Internet allowances, which has proven to be effective in reducing sedentary time. After all, many of us may watch shows that are of little interest – or drive others crazy by constantly changing the channel – while waiting for something interesting or entertaining to come on. Instead, an evening walk or bike ride would prove to be more enjoyable – and certainly more healthful – alternative to lounging on the couch.

#### **Six ways to be more active while watching television**

- Throw the remote away and get up to change the channels.
- Walk up and down the stairs (or around the room) during commercials.



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## Wellness (Cont.)

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## Future Shock?



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- Perform exercises using resistance tubing.
- Get a treadmill, exercycle or other equipment so you can exercise while you watch.
- Stand up and iron your clothes.
- Sit on a stability ball instead of the couch.

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## Future Firefighters Might Use Electricity

By Morgen E. Peck, InnovationNewsDaily



Firefighters wage war on flames with water, chemical retardants and sand. Studies presented this week on the interaction between combustion and electrical fields could soon arm them with electricity as well. The new effort, funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, could lead to firefighting tools that clear paths in flames by manipulating electric fields.

In an experiment recorded by the Whitesides Research Group at Harvard University, a single flame stands at attention over a gas burner until, suddenly, it wavers and disappears. No one has blown it out, and nothing around it has moved. The only thing that changes in the experiment is an electric field focused at the base of the flame.

"It's like a person walking very fast in a room full of people," said Ludovico Cademartiri, a chemist in the Whitesides lab. "This flow is what destabilizes the flame, what puts it out." The flow changes the shape of the flame, ripping it from its fuel source until it starves.

A device that fought fire with volts rather than water or chemicals could reduce damage to houses. But it would have to be very safe. The Whitesides group was dealing with a flame about 20 inches (50 cm) tall, small fry to a seasoned firefighter.

Nonetheless, their experiments have proven to be no more dangerous than shaking the static electricity out of a sweater in the winter.

"I've been electrocuted many times by that amplifier and I'm still talking to you," Cademartiri said.

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It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future.  
- Yogi Berra

## Safe Kids in Hawaii

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### Class Teaches Kids to Stay Safe Home Alone



Children learned how to be responsible and take charge when they're home alone during a class at the Kalakaua Community Center, here, July 22. Many children, commonly referred to as "latchkey kids," come home from

school to an empty house and will be alone until their parents come home from work.

To teach children how to deal with strangers, first aid, fire safety and Internet safety, the Army Community Service (ACS) Family Advocacy Program (FAP) offers the Home Alone education class geared towards keiki ages 9-11 prior to every school break. Lessons are taught through presentations made by subject matter experts, fun games and quizzes to keep the children on their toes.

Roma Rapoza, inspector with the Federal Fire Department (FFD), joined by firefighters Matt Fujimoto, Barron Choy, Dan Bennett and Capt. Ron Akiyama, started off the day as the first team of presenters.

With their well-equipped red fire truck parked behind them, the FFD team had no trouble keeping the children's attention as they discussed fire safety and showed the flashlights, medical supplies, water hoses and pumps they use. Choy demonstrated the fire protective gear, helmet and mask, including a self-contained breathing apparatus used to breathe fresh air rather than smoke. During the presentation, Rapoza said family fire drills should be practiced at least once a month.

"I learned don't use the stove when your parents are gone. Don't open the door when you're home alone, and don't mess with lighters," said 10-year-old Corbin Rivera, who attended the class with more than 20 other children. "I learned to test smoke detectors once a month," chimed in Tully Boylan, 10.

Johnson explained basic first aid procedures, such as how to tend to minor cuts by washing and applying pressure to stop bleeding. She talked about simple ways to avoid injury and urged them not to jump up and down on the sofa. Johnson also discussed what to do when a sibling is choking, how to stop nosebleeds and how to cope with minor burns and bruises.

"The kids really enjoyed the class," said Deidra Saina, licensed master social worker (LMSW) and prevention specialist, FAP. After the presentations, the children played a memory game to help reinforce what they had learned during the class.

The day concluded with a graduation ceremony and group photo; each child received a certificate of completion.

## ***Fatalities Down***

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## ***Is This Right?***



## ***Provisional 2010 Firefighter Fatality Statistics***

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) announced there were 85 on duty firefighter fatalities in the United States as a result of incidents that occurred in 2010, a 6 percent decrease from the 90 fatalities reported for 2009. The 85 fatalities were spread across 31 states. Illinois experienced the highest number of fatalities (9). In addition to Illinois, only New York (8), Ohio (8), Pennsylvania (7), and Kansas (5) had 5 or more firefighter fatalities.

Acting U.S. Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines noted that "When evaluating the trend in on duty firefighter fatalities over more than three decades, the past two years have seemed to reflect a possible change in the firefighting culture of the United States where Everyone Goes Home, including all firefighters." Gaines then added, "Working closely with our partners, USFA will continue every effort to be sure that when it comes to firefighter health and safety this downward trend in on duty firefighter deaths continues."

Heart attacks and strokes were responsible for the deaths of 51 firefighters (60%) in 2010, nearly the same proportion of firefighter deaths from heart attack or stroke (58%) in 2009.

Nine on duty firefighters died in association with wildland fires, about half the number that died in association with wildland fires in 2009 and a third of the 26 such fatalities in 2008.

Forty-eight percent of all firefighter fatalities occurred while performing emergency duties.

Eleven firefighters died in 2010 as the result of vehicle crashes, down substantially from 16 deaths in 2009, and for the first time since 1999, none of the deaths involved aircraft. Four firefighters in 2010 died in accidents involving firefighters responding in personal vehicles. Seven firefighter deaths involved fire department apparatus, one of which was a double firefighter fatality incident.

These 2010 firefighter fatality statistics are provisional and may change as the USFA contacts State Fire Marshals to verify the names of firefighters reported to have died on duty during 2010. The final number of firefighter fatalities will be reported in USFA's annual firefighter fatality report, expected to be available by July.

For additional information on firefighter fatalities, including the annual fatality reports from 1986 through 2009 and the Firefighter Fatality Retrospective Study 1990–2000, please visit the USFA at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov>.

## ***Does This AFFF Meet the Federal Spec?***

If in doubt check this website;

[http://qpd.daps.dla.mil/qpd/quick\\_search/default.aspx?qpl=QPL-24385#](http://qpd.daps.dla.mil/qpd/quick_search/default.aspx?qpl=QPL-24385#)

## *Ambulance News*

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## *NFPA Draft 1917 Could Mean New Rigs*

Gary Ludwig, MS, EMT-P

I recently saw a press release about a new ambulance the U.S. Army purchased for the treatment and transport of wounded soldiers from the battlefield. The mine resistant, ambush protected, heavy armored ground ambulance (HAGA) is like nothing I've ever seen.

The HAGAs, which will be deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, are designed to protect the crew and patient from improvised explosive devices and rocket grenade attacks. They have a specialized interior compartment design that allows four ambulatory patients or two stretcher patients to be transported side by side. They also have on-board oxygen, military-grade medical equipment and power for other medical equipment.

A similar attempt—although dramatically different in design—is being made in the civilian sector to protect crews from “rockets” in the form of cars and trucks that hit ambulances head-on, at intersections and on our nation's highways. Since the 1970s, the federal government specifications (KKK-A-1822) have been widely used by many ambulance services and state governments when designing, building and licensing ambulances. These federal specifications were intended to standardize purchasing. They weren't developed with a primary focus on safety.

For the past several years, a committee of EMS professionals, ambulance manufacturers and others have been working on ambulance specifications that may become the industry standard. The organization heading the change is the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the committee is developing the NFPA 1917 standard for automotive ambulances.

### **New Standard**

Initially, some critics said the NFPA was heading the writing and designing of specifications so the fire service could take control of the process. Not true. The NFPA has a long track record and a proven method for developing standards for manufacturing fire and EMS-related equipment and procedures that are widely used by many outside the fire service. Many of those standards take safety into consideration.

In the case of the ambulance specifications committee, the intent wasn't to write specifications for just fire department ambulances, but for all ambulances, regardless of the operator. To accomplish this process, committee members were selected from diverse backgrounds within the EMS profession, including private services, third-service agencies and fire departments.

It's also important to note that any ambulance specifications the NFPA 1917 committee develops will be consensus standards. Nothing will mandate the use of these standards unless the federal or a state government decides to adopt them and turn them into law. It's important to point out, however, that in lawsuits, the courts consider consensus standards when determining fault. In late 2010, the NFPA released the 83-page draft document that contained the ambulance specifications.

## *Ambulances (Cont.)*

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As part of the process, the NFPA had an open comment period during which anyone could provide comments. This process closed Dec. 15, and the comments are being reviewed before the document is finalized and released in 2013.

The new document has some changes to ambulance specifications that, if adopted, will increase the cost of ambulances in the future. The changes primarily come in the form of required equipment, testing and documentation that we didn't have in the past.

One potential change would be the requirement for a "black box," or data recorder that traces such things as speed, the use of sirens, headlights or emergency lighting, where providers were seated and whether they had their seatbelt on. Black boxes have been used for years in airplanes and were recently incorporated into some of the other NFPA standards for fire apparatus.

One standard in the document puzzled me, and to date, I haven't been able to get a clear explanation. The standard would limit the top speed of an ambulance to 72 mph. Why 72 and not 75 or 71? We need some empirical evidence or a study that shows why ambulance speeds should be limited to 72 mph.

One intention of the 1917 standard is to enhance the safety of those who ride in ambulances, whether they're a patient, a caregiver, the driver or a passenger.

A National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health analysis of data from 1991–2002 showed there were 300 fatal ambulance crashes during that time period. Of those 300 fatal crashes, 275 of those killed were pedestrians and occupants of other vehicles, and 82 deaths occurred in ambulances. Twenty-seven of these deaths involved EMS providers, of which 41% were drivers, 19% were in the right front seat and 26% were in the rear patient compartment.

It will be interesting to see what the final standard looks like. Will the committee lean more toward safety, or will it slant more toward savings on vehicle costs?

## *Medical Humor*



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### *Swollen Foot*

A man goes to the doctor with a swollen foot. After a careful examination, the doctor hands the man a pill big enough to choke a horse.

"I'll be right back with some water," the doctor tells him.

The doctor has been gone a while and the man loses patience. He hobbles out to the drinking fountain, forces the pill down his throat and gobbles down water until the pill clears his throat. He hobbles back into the examining room.

Just then the doctor comes back with a bucket of warm water.

"Ok, after the tablet dissolves, soak that foot for about 20 minutes."



## ESAMS (Cont.)

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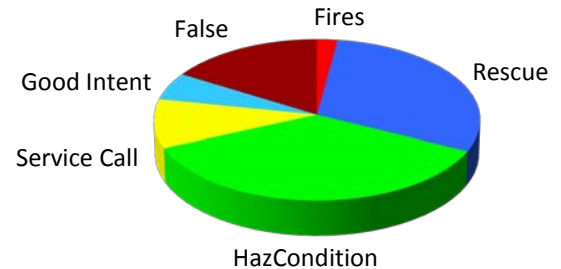
## ESAMS Corner

By Clarence Settle, ESAMS Fire Technical Support

### March 2011 Statistics

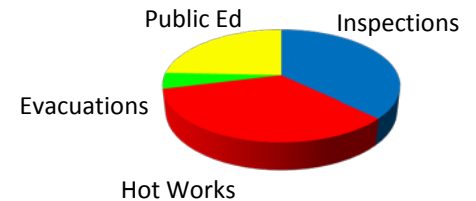
#### Operations

Total Incidents – 6,231  
 Fires – 133  
 Rescue & EMS – 1,864  
 Hazardous – 2,238  
 Service Call – 604  
 Good Intent – 344  
 False Alarm – 1,010



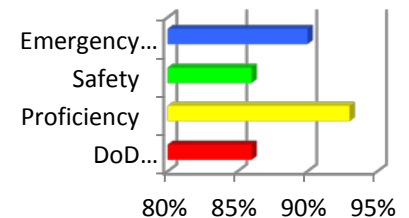
#### Prevention

Fire Inspections Completed – 4,337  
 Hot Work Permits Issued – 3,968  
 Building Evacuation Drills – 539  
 Public Education Contacts – 2,838



#### Training

DoD Certification – 86%  
 Proficiency, Skills, & Practice – 93%  
 Safety Training – 86%  
 Emergency Management - 90%



### F&ES On Duty Mishaps Report

Mishaps Reported – 25

Total Lost Work Days – 70

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Added: Check Box for (Airfield) and one for (Waterway) to the NFIRS Main Page section B Location. Added Check Box (SCBA) Used and text Box (to record Time on SCBA) on the Apparatus Page under Personnel Name

Class administrators can create a scheduled class on a future date that allows personnel (including those without an ESAMS account) to enroll in the class through the ESAMS website. External users will not have access to the ESAMS applications, but will be tracked through a special “External” account that must be authenticated by TRMS administrators and class administrators. (Users who already possess ESAMS accounts should log in normally to enroll in scheduled classes using the “Classroom Training Schedule” link on the ESAMS Main page.)

## Navy F&ES POCs

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## Navy Fire & Emergency Services (N30)

Commander, Navy Installations Command  
716 Sicard Street, SE, Suite 1000  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5140

<https://g2.cnrc.navy.mil/communities/service/html/communityview?communityUuid=2640240b-f9e3-4273-af9d-c20c128629e2>  
DSN 288

Carl Glover, 202-433-4775, [carl.glover@navy.mil](mailto:carl.glover@navy.mil)

Ricky Brockman, 202-433-4781, [ricky.brockman@navy.mil](mailto:ricky.brockman@navy.mil)

Gene Rausch, 202-433-4753, [gene.rausch@navy.mil](mailto:gene.rausch@navy.mil)

Tim Pitman, 202-433-4782, [timothy.pitman@navy.mil](mailto:timothy.pitman@navy.mil)

Kevin King, 202-433-7742, [kevin.king4@navy.mil](mailto:kevin.king4@navy.mil)

John Smithgall, 202-685-0882, [john.smithgall@navy.mil](mailto:john.smithgall@navy.mil)

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Lewis Moore, 202-433-7743, [lewis.moore.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:lewis.moore.ctr@navy.mil)

Chris Handley, 202-433-7744, [christopher.handley.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:christopher.handley.ctr@navy.mil)

Matt Garbow, 202-685-0712, [matt.garbow.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:matt.garbow.ctr@navy.mil)

## News Distribution

To receive this newsletter automatically, e-mail [ricky.brockman@navy.mil](mailto:ricky.brockman@navy.mil) to be added to the *What's Happening* distribution list.

## Job Links

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Interested in becoming a DoD firefighter? Follow these links;

OPM: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>

Army: <http://www.cpol.army.mil>

Navy: <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>

Marines: <http://www.usmc.mil/>

Air Force: <https://ww2.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb/>

