



What's Happening

Navy Fire and Emergency Services Newsletter

Protecting Those Who Defend America



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OMNI CEDO DOMUS

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Email the Editor:

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From the Editor

There was a time not so long ago when I included an alphabet of initials behind my name in my signature block. I don't do that anymore, in my twisted little mind it started to feel a little self-centered. Don't get me wrong, every one of those initials came at a heavy price either financially, mentally, or physically; and they really do mean something special.

The United States Air Force and the GI Bill picked up the tab for the undergrad degrees. I paid for the MBA out-of-pocket and tuition assistance helped with the second graduate degree. The professional credentials all came out-of-pocket.

I understand there are many folks out there whose department picks up these expenses, and many others don't. I don't have a problem either way but there are some out there who absolutely will not pick up their own check when it comes to personal development. And I am also fine with that. I refuse, however, to lend a sympathetic ear to them when they complain they are "being denied" the opportunity to earn some of these credentials.

Sometimes a person must assume responsibility for his or her own career and stake some personal equity in professional development.

The way I see it, if an education or professional credential will serve to advance your career or make you better at what you do, you have to decide how important it is to you. In many cases the decision will be inconsequential but there will be instances where a promotion or job opportunity could hinge on whether or not you have a certain initial associated with your name.

Make no mistake, there are people out there who may be competing for that same promotion or job opportunity that have gone into debt to obtain the credentials you are waiting for someone else to fund.

I am not suggesting anyone play martyr when it comes to personal professional development; I firmly believe the employer should help offset these costs and that is always my first step when making these decisions. Unfortunately, in many cases the employer is not able to help or can offer very limited help for a variety of reasons. So the question becomes a personal one; What's important to me at this point of my career?

Sometimes the only one holding you back is YOU.

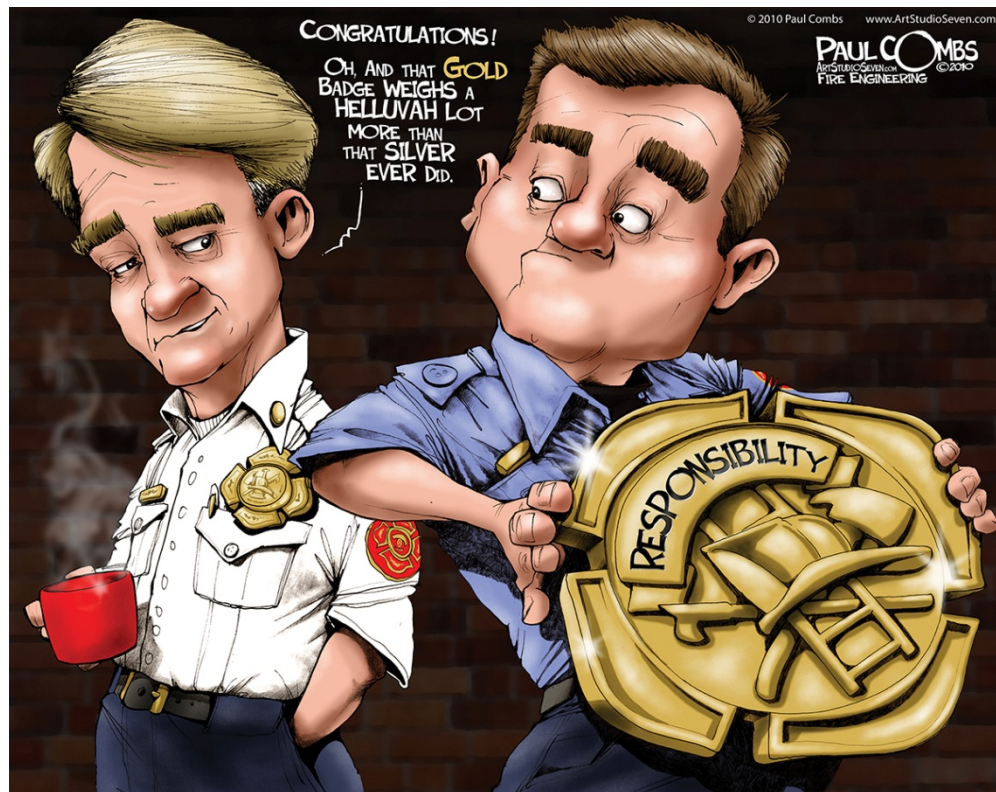
-Rick,
MBA, MS, BS, AAS, EFO, CFO

Combs Cartoon

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Heavy Responsibility



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Changes at the Top



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F&ES Leaders on the Move



Ernst Piercy has been chosen as the new Regional Fire Chief for Navy Region Southwest, replacing Regional Fire Chief Jaimie Wood, who is retiring in March 2013. Ernst was formerly the Fire Chief at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO and is the past Chairman of the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. Welcome aboard Chief Piercy!



Fletcher Dahman has replaced Glenn DeLaura as Regional Fire Chief in Navy Region Hawaii. Fletcher was previously the Regional Deputy Chief for Navy Region Southeast and is the Chairman of the Federal and Military Fire Services Section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Chief Dahman has also served in Navy Region Southwest and CNIC HQ. Aloha and Ho'omaika'i no ka 'oi Chief Dahman!

In other significant moves, Mr. Donald Warner recently retired as the Air Force Fire Chief, and Mr. John Erichsen retired as the Director of Army F&ES. We wish Chiefs Warner and Erichsen fair winds and following seas in their retirement. Additionally, Mr. Michael Smith left the U.S. Coast Guard for a position with the Department of Commerce. Best of luck Mike.

Last Alarms

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Last Alarms

The USFA reported 83 deaths to date in 2012 and one death to date in 2013. The following line of duty deaths were reported since we published our last issue:

2012

Philip Mortensen ♥

Age: 67
Brooklyn, WI

Mike Chiapperini

Age: 43
Webster, NY

Tomasz Kaczowka

Age: 19
Webster, NY

2013

Matthew Porcari

Age: 34
Owego, NY

2012 Totals

♥ 22 (27%) 🚒 8 (9%)

♥ Indicates cardiac related death

🚒 Indicates vehicle accident related

2013 Totals

♥ 0 (0%) 🚒 0 (0%)

♥ Indicates cardiac related death

🚒 Indicates vehicle accident related



TCOoO Update



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Taking Care of Our Own

Check with your Fire Chief if you wish to make a leave donation. There are currently 22 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
David Hamback	NAS JRB New Orleans, LA	John.B.Burgess@navy.mil
Stella Shimabukuro	USAG Presidio of Monterey, CA	Scott.Hudock@us.army.mil
Dana Picard	Westover ARB, MA	Diane.Lessard@us.af.mil
Edward Rust	DES Richmond, VA	Clyde.Hipshire@dla.mil
Billie Edwards	March ARB, CA	Melinda.Miller.2@us.af.mil
Wilson Humphries	USAG Camp Parks, CA	Alexis.A.Rivera8.civ@mail.mil
Stephen Dock	Altus AFB, OK	Nils.Brobjorg@altus.af.mil
Peter Giles	Kirtland AFB, NM	Curtis2.Ray@kirtland.af.mil
Brian Yohn	Cheatham Annex, VA	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Christopher Lumpkin	Fort Belvoir, VA	Joyce.R.Peck.civ@mail.mil
Chris Burke	Fort Wainwright, AK	David.Halbrooks@us.army.mil
Christopher Matthews	Portsmouth NSY, NH	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Mark Schultz	Dam Neck Annex, VA	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Annie Sands	Altus AFB, OK	Nils.Brobjorg@altus.af.mil
Mark Davis	JB Langley-Ft Eustis	Dale.E.Hankins.civ@mail.mil
Michael McClure	Niagara Falls, NY	Peter.Stein@us.af.mil
Russell Reynolds	Niagara Falls, NY	Peter.Stein@us.af.mil
Brandon LaMay	NAS Oceana, VA	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Richard Jefferson	Kirtland AFB, NM	Curtis2.Ray@kirtland.af.mil
Robin James	NRNW Keyport, WA	Carmen.Morris2@navy.mil

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Tom Shand

The Oshkosh P-15

Story and photo by Tom Shand

The U.S. Navy has operated different sizes of ARFF units for many years. Units have varied in size from smaller twin agent units capable of maneuvering in tight areas up to the size of today's modern 3000 gallon trucks with heavy fire attack capabilities.

Dating back to 1935 when mechanical foam replaced chemical foam agents, modern ARFF apparatus has progressed dramatically.



Many of these units have been produced by Oshkosh Truck which traces its roots back to 1917 when Bernard Mosling and William Besserditch formed their company producing all wheel drive trucks for use as snow plows, cement mixers and heavy off road applications. During the late 1960's the company began to produce ARFF units for the U.S. Navy with the introduction of the MB-5 model crash truck. Later versions of ARFF units utilized by the U.S. Navy included the MB-1, MB-5A, P-4A and the P-15.

During 1977 the U.S. Navy placed an order for four of the largest ARFF vehicles ever produced by Oshkosh, the P-15 model which by any measure was super sized. The P-15 had an overall length of 45 feet, 2 inches with a wheelbase of 304 inches and overall height of 13 feet, 9 inches. When filled with water and agents the vehicle weighted over 130,000 pounds across its eight wheels.

The twin Detroit Diesel 8V-92TA engines were each rated at 430 horsepower and were capable of moving the unit from 0 to 50 miles per hour in 70 seconds. The fire suppression system consisted of two single stage pumps rated at 1250 gpm that supplied twin roof mounted air aspirating turrets each capable of discharging 1200 gpm. A single handline rated at 100 gpm was also provided. The P-15 carried 6100 gallons of water with 515 gallons of foam in stainless steel tanks.

The aluminum cab provided seating for three personnel with an Allison DRD-750 automatic transmission to transfer the power to the 8 x 8 chassis. The U.S. Navy order for these vehicles were part of a larger order for 66 of these ARFF units that were produced for the Air Force. The U.S. Navy P-15 ARFF vehicles were originally delivered to Naval Air Stations at Norfolk, Virginia, Bermuda, Keflavik, Iceland and Anderson in Guam.

The Keflavik P-15 was assigned property number 71-02648 and operated as ARFF 11. Oshkosh also produced a civilian version of this vehicle with an M-23 designation that had a single roof turret. The size of these ARFF units required a lot of maintenance to keep them in front line service and no further vehicles of this size were placed into service.

Navy Fire and Emergency Services personnel are striving to provide the safest and most reliable ARFF vehicles that are available with a thorough specification and final inspection process.

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On the Job - Guam

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Best Christmas Gift

The last time Cameryn Nangauta was at the fire station at Naval Magazine, Guam she was unconscious, not breathing and turning blue. When she returned, she toddled out of her father's arms, shooting curious glances and spreading smiles.

Her family wanted to say thank you for saving the toddler's life on Christmas Eve.

For Fire Captain Nick Perez, seeing Cameryn alive and full of life was one of the greatest gifts he received for Christmas. Perez and other firefighters assigned to U.S. Naval Base Guam Fire and Emergency Services Fire Station 2 saved Cameryn's life on Christmas Eve.



Clint Diaz, Cameryn's father, said he is extremely thankful to the firefighters. "I still have my princess. I thank God. That's the best Christmas gift I've ever got," Diaz said.

Diaz said he and his family were having a family barbecue when he noticed his daughter didn't look so well. He said Cameryn felt like she had a fever and was turning red. Soon she was unresponsive and stiff. She was choking on a piece of meat.

Diaz patted her back but that didn't help. "She started turning blue", he said. Diaz's mother called 911. Officials there transferred her call to the Agat fire station. Frantic at his daughter's condition, however, Diaz decided not to wait. With his dad in the driver's seat, Diaz raced his daughter to the Naval Magazine fire station -- about 3 minutes from his parents' house. They arrived at the gate, which is guarded by a sentry. The family has no base access, but there were no boundaries for a life at stake. The guard on duty, seeing Diaz patting his daughters' back, and frantic with worry, waved them through.

At the fire station, Perez, along with Firefighters Andrew Babas, J.P. Taimanglo, and Ted Borja, and Paramedic Gregory Simon took control. The medics gave Cameryn several back blows to dislodge the piece of meat. Once her airway was clear, they administered oxygen.

Soon, her color returned -- a good sign that she would recover.

Yesterday, the firefighters got to see Cameryn alive and full of life. She ran around, curious about the fire trucks. At one point she blew a kiss to her rescuers.

"It's the greatest feeling that I could bring her back to life so she be here for Christmas," Perez said. "It's a good feeling to see her come here," Borja added.

Cameryn's brother, Coda Nangauta, 7, and her mom, Emily Nangauta, thanked the firefighters for keeping her in their lives. "I'm thankful she came home that night," Coda Nangauta said.

On the Job – PAX River

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Hygiene Humor



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Fire Prevention: Reaching the Masses

By Christopher Connelly, District Fire Chief NDW/PAX River



National Fire Prevention Week is observed in October but Naval District Washington Fire & Emergency Services, Naval Air Station Patuxent River wanted to take the message a little further.

NDW/PAX Fire Inspector Christopher Schaefer was a guest on the St Mary's County Metrocast Channel 10 television program *Be Your Best*.

The program is hosted by Mrs. Dawn Campbell and airs every weekday to explore topics like health, nutrition, fashion and local events. *Be Your Best* is a lively program that features tips and ideas for being your best inside and out. The program is seen by approximately 20,000 viewers.

Inspector Schaefer was the guest on the episode focused on holiday fire safety to be aired the week of 3 December. Mrs. Campbell and Inspector Schaefer discussed many issues that could lead to household fires during the holidays such as space heaters, fire places and candle safety. They discussed a variety of safety topics, including the use of artificial Christmas trees compared to live trees, properly checking your holiday lights and decorations before use, and the safety concerns of using turkey fryers.

Regardless of seasonal themes, Fire Prevention needs to remain on the front burner of every firefighter. We need to continue to look for every opportunity to stress the importance of our cause.

Having this media outlet allowed the NDW/PAX Fire Prevention Division to reach about 20,000 viewers with a strong message.



Hot Day

It was a really hot day at the office due to a malfunction with the air conditioning system. There were about twenty people in close quarters and everyone was sweating, even with a fan on. Suddenly, people started to wrinkle their noses at the most hideous smell anyone had ever smelled.

One man, popping his head out of his cubicle, said, "Oh, man! Someone's deodorant isn't working."

A man in the corner replied, "It can't be me. I'm not wearing any."

First in Navy

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Navy's First Credentialed Fire Officer



Fire Captain Mark Musso from Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES) recently became the first member of Navy F&ES to earn the Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) Fire Officer (FO) designation.

Captain Musso is no stranger to setting the bar high. As assistant Accreditation Program Manager, he was the driving force behind the department becoming one of six Navy F&ES departments and only one of seventy-eight fire departments in the world to achieve department accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) in August 2012.

Immediately after achieving department accreditation, Mark started working towards the FO designation. Achieving this prestigious designation requires a strong educational background; diverse participation in emergency services at the local, state, and national level; and demonstrating involvement in the broader community which is validated by his emergency services peers.

The Commission had a meeting 27 December 2012 and voted unanimously to confer the CPC Fire Officer Designation on Captain Musso. This makes him the first member of the Navy F&ES and only one of seven DoD firefighters in the world to achieve CPC Fire Officer Designation.

New Navy CFO



Okinawa Fire Chief Earns Credential



Commander Navy Region Japan Fire & Emergency Services, Okinawa Installation Fire Chief Carey D. Waddell has received the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) designation from the Center for Public Safety Excellence, (CPSE). Chief Waddell is one of only 32 CFOs in DoD and 908 worldwide.

The CFO designation program uses a comprehensive peer review model to evaluate candidates seeking the credential. The CPC consists of individuals from academia, federal and local government and the fire and emergency medical services profession.

Chief Waddell began his fire service career in 1992. He has worked for three different military branches of service (i.e., Air Force, Army, and Navy) in numerous capacities.

Chief Waddell recently attained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Management with a minor in Public Administration. Through his continuous determination for self-improvement, he is currently pursuing a Master of Science degree in Leadership with an Emphasis in Disaster Preparedness and Executive Fire Leadership.

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EMS Study

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NIOSH Research Reduces EMS Responder Hazards

Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of work-related deaths in the United States. Between 2002 and 2007, an average of almost 1,400 U.S. workers died from roadway crashes each year; nearly all work-related deaths among ambulance service workers were due to transportation-related incidents between 2003 and 2006. The risk is even greater for emergency medical services (EMS) personnel whose time-urgent responses can themselves be hazardous. In fact, field investigators estimated that the fatality rate among EMS workers in 2002 was greater than 2 times the national average for workers in general.

As part of the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA), researchers at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) set out to reduce ambulance crash-related injuries and deaths among EMS workers. The Ambulance Crash Survivability Improvement Project addressed the layout and structural integrity of ambulance compartments, design of hardware, and occupant restraints. The project included an evaluation of both human and mechanical barriers to equipment access, as well as use of personal restraints.

NIOSH research has revealed a number of important factors involved in ambulance worker injuries and deaths. These risk factors include not using restraints and, consequently, striking patient compartment bulkheads, cabinets, shelves, and possibly even other occupants during a crash. Field investigators observed that in order to access supplies and perform patient care, EMS workers often ride on the squad bench without wearing a restraint. This practice enables them to lean forward, stand up, or change positions as needed. Investigators also noted that structural failures can be a contributing factor in adverse outcomes of EMS crashes.

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NIOSH partnered with the Ambulance Manufacturers Division of the National Truck Equipment Association (AMD) and the General Services Administration (GSA) to revise federal ambulance standards including increasing the head clearance for EMS workers above the seating positions, which effectively eliminates a significant source of head injury. In addition, NIOSH researchers are continuing to work with AMD and GSA on other recommendations that will improve occupational safety for EMS workers. These recommendations include the simultaneous use of lap and shoulder belts, as well as improvements in structural integrity to enhance the crash-worthiness of ambulances and crash-survivability of EMS workers. Suggestions for further structural improvements include redesigning and rearranging compartment seating and incorporating padding into ambulance patient compartments. These research-to-practice measures and collaborative efforts will improve the safety of EMS crew members in their mission to save the lives of others.

Relevant Information

About 201,000 emergency medical technicians and paramedics were employed by hospitals, private ambulance services, or public agencies in 2006, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

At least 700,000 workers are estimated to volunteer as emergency medical technicians or paramedics in addition to the 201,000 employed personnel. These figures do not include the many additional firefighters who are also trained in emergency medical services.

On the Job - Fallon

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Fallon EMS Honored

Story and photo by Zip Upham



NAS Fallon's Fire Department was honored for their service to rural Nevada during a presentation at the Churchill County Commissioners' meeting on 19 December 2012. The honor was shared with Banner Community Hospital's EMS ambulance service, and was presented by Chairman Norm Frey on behalf of Nevada's governor, Brian Sandoval. The citation reads in part:

On behalf of the University of Nevada School of Medicine and its Office of Rural Health, I congratulate and thank the Emergency Medical Professionals throughout the State of Nevada, its counties and cities, who provide emergency care to all of the residents of the state as well as visitors from around the country and the world traveling through rural Nevada.

Chairman Frey was particularly thankful for the Fed Fire response to the Amtrak train crash, pointing it out as an example of how the mutual aid arrangement with the Navy works to strengthen the local community. On hand to receive the award were both an ambulance and fire engine crew from the base.

Photo: NAS Fallon Fed Fire personnel are presented the Nevada Rural Health Day plaque by the Churchill County Commissioners. Pictured from the left are Emergency Medical Technician II Jorge Garcia, Firefighter Keith Ambler, Lieutenant Cody Bullock, Capt. Richard McKnight, Assistant Chief Sean Stratton, Chairman Norm Frey, Commissioner Pete Olson, and Commissioner Carl Erquiaga.

New KME ARFF



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KME Force A/T 1500 ARFF for Imperial Beach



EFOP Changes

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USFA Changes EFOP Entrance Criteria

U.S. Fire Administrator Ernest Mitchell announced changes to the selection criteria for senior fire executives and other qualified officers applying to the National Fire Academy's (NFA) Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP). These changes will be implemented over the next two years.

Background

In the past, the NFA only allowed students with bachelor's degrees from regionally accredited colleges and universities to be considered for acceptance into the EFOP. The primary reason for the policy was to assist in selecting students with a high probability of success in a demanding curriculum, and to maintain high standards in the EFOP. A number of graduates from nationally accredited schools have applied for, and been denied, entrance consideration. A review of the current policy was initiated by Administrator Mitchell in 2012. The primary focus of the review was a comparison of regional and national accreditation and their respective relevance to, and impact upon, quality of education.

Action

Based on numerous findings, research, U.S. Department of Education input and recommendations from the U.S. Government Accountability Office, changes to the policy and process for student evaluation for acceptance into EFOP were made.

EFOP candidates seeking enrollment in FY 2014 must submit their application packages by June 15, 2013. Applicants are required to enclose a copy of their baccalaureate degree diploma certificate from an institution whose accreditation and status is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Other selection criteria (e.g., rank, position, responsibilities, etc.) remain in effect.

For EFOP candidates seeking enrollment after June 15, 2013 (participation in EFOP commencing in FY 2015 and beyond), the process will change to a transcript-based system requiring the submission of an official transcript in addition to the required rank, position and responsibilities. A copy of the diploma will not be accepted.

The specific requirements and standards associated with the changes are available on the USFA's website at www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/efop/selection.shtm

The NFA will provide a review of the selection process and criteria to the Board of Visitors (BOV) at the end of each year. Based on that review, the BOV may recommend additional changes.

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.

-James Baldwin

Furloughs?

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Sequestration to Hit Entire DoD Civilian Workforce

Emelie Rutherford, CHINFO Clips

If across-the-board defense cuts start in March, the Pentagon would be forced to furlough nearly all of its 800,000 civilian employees before October, a leading budget analyst said yesterday.

Todd Harrison, the senior fellow for defense budget studies at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA) think tank, said if Congress and the White House don't craft a plan to stop the so-called sequestration cuts, "one of the first" impacts would be the forced unpaid leave of civilian Pentagon employees for one month this fiscal year.

Harrison gave reporters a breakdown of how he interprets the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. That's the fiscal-cliff deal Congress and President Barack Obama reached that prevents the first two months of sequestration cuts to the Pentagon. Those politically unpopular sequestration reductions, which could total nearly \$500 billion over the next decade, now are slated to start in March.

Harrison estimates the Pentagon sequestration cuts for fiscal year 2013, which ends 30 September, would be \$48 billion, which is slightly more than the \$45 billion figure Pentagon Comptroller Robert Hale provided on Monday. While the two-month sequestration reprieve means the Pentagon is no longer facing a \$62.8 billion cut in FY '13, Harrison said the smaller \$48 billion reduction still would "have a very real impact."

He estimates the current sequestration cuts would slice 8.8% off of all Pentagon accounts, except for military personnel funding, which is exempt from the cuts.

Thus, the \$70 billion annual budget for the Pentagon's 791,000 full-time-equivalent employees would need to be cut by 8.8%, and done so from March through September. By March, the Pentagon will already have spent five months' worth of money in those accounts, and thus would have to "make up" that 8.8 % reduction in the remaining seven months of the year, Harrison said.

The Pentagon, therefore, would have to reduce its payroll expenses for the remainder of the fiscal year by 15%, he said.

"That means you have to furlough virtually every single DoD civilian for the maximum amount of time you can under the law, which is one month," Harrison said at CSBA's Washington office. "So virtually every DoD civilian employee will have to be furloughed for one month in the remaining seven months of the fiscal year if this goes into effect."

The Pentagon has options to prevent such massive furloughs, such as implementing a hiring freeze, laying off employees, and reprogramming funding within its coffers, he said.

Of course, if Congress and the White House don't stop sequestration all non-exempt Pentagon accounts would face the 8.8% reduction. And larger weapons programs with funding in varied accounts would be hit multiple times. The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, for example, has both research and procurement accounts in the Air Force and Navy's budgets, each of which would be cut by 8.8%.

Furloughs (Cont.)

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The impact of a potential \$48 billion FY 13 sequestration cut in March would not be immediate in the defense industry, Harrison noted. That's because contractors at that time will be working with obligated Pentagon funding.

Still, unobligated Pentagon funding would be cut. And such reductions would lead to delayed contract awards, reduced quantity orders, and renegotiated contracts with defense companies. Harrison noted that if the Pentagon reduces the number of a particular weapon system it is ordering from industry, that item's unit cost will rise and lead to an even greater reduction in the quantity purchased.

"So the long-term effect on industry and DoD is that it will reduce DoD's purchasing power in the future," if sequestration kicks in, Harrison said. "Unit costs are going to go up. And not to mention it's going to cause all sorts of contract modifications and renegotiations. It's going to create a backlog of contracting work."

He added: "The civilian workers at DoD who process those contract modifications, they're going to be furloughed for one month at some point in the remainder of the fiscal year. So this is going to be a contracting nightmare at DoD."

Harrison said he is not confident Congress and the White House will agree on a plan to prevent the sequestration cuts from starting in March. While both largely oppose the cuts, Democrats and Republicans have been at odds over how to reduce the federal deficit.

Harrison said the Pentagon is just coming to realize such impacts of sequestration, such as the civilian furloughs, because it did not start planning for sequestration until late last year.

"I think it would be a good public service for DoD to continue that detailed planning now, and start to go public with it, where it's appropriate," he said. He suggested the Pentagon notify all its civilian employees before March about how the furloughs would be implemented.

"Go ahead and make that planning public," he said, "I think that would help inform the public debate so we can make a good decision, as a nation, about what we want to do."

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CFAI Program Manager



Chief Karl Ristow Assumes Interim Role

CPSE Executive Director Paul Brooks announced the appointment of Fire Chief Karl Ristow, Jr. as the Interim Program Manager to the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) beginning on 7 January 2013. Chief Brooks said, "Karl is not new to CPSE. He is a credentialed Chief Fire Officer (CFO) and has taken both basic and advanced training for self-assessment and Community Hazard and Risk/Standards of Cover. He is a peer reviewer for our Commission on Professional Credentialing and has passion for and commitment to all of our CPSE programs."

VAP Progress

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Vulnerability Assessment Project Moving Forward

The Vulnerability Assessment Tool Project (VAP) has passed the half-way point in development. At a meeting of the Core Planning Team and the Fire Service Partners at FDIC in Indianapolis, major steps forward were accomplished as the VAP survey questions were thoroughly vetted. Phases Two and Three represent the last research and sorting steps prior to pilot testing.

The VAP is a fire service risk assessment/management tool that will provide fire department leaders with a free on-line survey. This allows them to identify community risks, safety gaps and resource deficiencies to identify areas of vulnerabilities based on historically predictable and preventable risks. At the end of the process, a department will have a customized report identifying areas of vulnerability linked to firefighter injuries and deaths. Each report will contain suggestions for risk reduction alternatives specific to each identified vulnerability as appropriate and will transmit to the department industry standards and suggestions to address identified problems. Consequently, fire departments will have results based on scientific analysis to develop operational and strategic plans to implement the risk reduction recommendations necessary to minimize or eliminate predictable causes of line of duty deaths and injuries.

Phases Two and Three will conclude with the VAP pre-test. The purpose of the pretest is to evaluate whether the assessment questions are interpreted by subjects as intended, the questions and their format are easy for subjects to understand, to identify any questions that might be interpreted as invasive or sensitive by subjects and to solicit commentary from subjects regarding possible wording and format improvements.

The sample type for this kind of pretest is exclusive availability (sometimes called convenience) samples.

Typically, one matches key characteristics in the sample to the people who will ultimately be subjects in the larger research. In this case, fire officers and supervisors with multiple years on the job are suitable for the pre-test. This strategy is based on the questions that will be asked in the Vulnerability Assessment Tool.

This pretest will be multiphase:

- Questionnaires will be sent to participants for pretest
- Completed questionnaires will be examined after returned
- Each person will be contacted to further discuss the questionnaire response

The elimination of risks to firefighters will support the USFA's goal to eliminate all preventable firefighter line of duty injuries and deaths. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is providing staff and is managing the VAP. Honeywell, one leading corporation dedicated to citizen and firefighter safety, is underwriting this project and providing leadership for three years.

Anyone seeking more information on the VAP is asked to contact Dr. JoEllen Kelly at jkelly@everyonegoeshome.com or visit the EGH Web site at www.everyonegoeshome.com.

Pay & Taxes

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Pay Checks Shrink with Payroll Tax Hike

By Kellie Lunney, Government Executive

Federal employees saw less money in their first 2013 paycheck because of the end of the payroll tax holiday.

The payroll tax holiday officially expired on 1 January 2013, and Congress did not renew it as part of the final compromise on the fiscal cliff. The government reduced the payroll tax funding Social Security for individuals from a rate of 6.2 to 4.2% in 2010 and 2011 to help stimulate the economy. For individuals, the rate has now reverted to 6.2% of annual wages up to \$113,700, which means most Americans will see their paychecks shrink this year. Employers and individuals each pay 6.2%, with the combined 12.4% going to finance Social Security.

Federal civilian employees can find the change on their leave and earnings statement under the OASDI (Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance) category. Military personnel should look under the FICA (Federal Insurance Contributions Act) category for Social Security withholdings.

Increases in allowances, pay raises and promotions could affect service members' net pay, according to a report from the American Forces Press Service. "Service members could see an increase in net pay or a decrease," military personnel and readiness officials told AFPS. Active duty personnel will see adjustments in their mid-January paycheck, AFPS reported.

For civilian employees, the change likely means less money overall, particularly in light of the continued pay freeze. President Obama issued an executive order lifting the pay freeze on 27 March, but there's no guarantee Congress will let that happen.

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DoD Award Presented



DoD Fire Service Instructor of the Year CY 2011



Joint Region Marianas, Andersen AFB Fire Chief John Thompson presents the CY2011 DoD Fire Service Instructor of the Year Award to Assistant Chief of Training, Stanley Torres.

Accreditation News

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Record Number of DoD Agencies Accredited

DoD Fire & Emergency Services experienced a record-setting year in the arena of fire department accreditation with five DoD F&ES departments earning accredited agency status or successfully completing the reaccreditation process.

The U.S. Marine Corps made a major push toward embracing accreditation and saw three bases become accredited in 2012 and two more earning recommendation for accredited status from their peer assessment teams. Here is the scorecard up to now;

Accredited in 2012

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar
Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island
US Army Garrison Fort McCoy
Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans
Pacific Missile Range Facility (Navy)

Recommended for Accreditation YTD 2013

Marine Corps Air Station Yuma
Naval Air Station Sigonella
Naval Support Activity Souda Bay
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst
Ramstein Air Base
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

Self Assessment and Basic Standards of Cover Workshops scheduled for 2013

12-14 February: Fort Drum, New York

<http://publicsafetyexcellence.org/news/upcoming-workshops-events/moduleid/448/itemid/198/mctl/eventdetails.aspx>

24-26 April: Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii

<http://publicsafetyexcellence.org/news/upcoming-workshops-events/moduleid/448/itemid/199/mctl/eventdetails.aspx>

3-7 June: Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas

<http://publicsafetyexcellence.org/news/upcoming-workshops-events/moduleid/448/itemid/200/mctl/eventdetails.aspx>



Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

Who: Fire Chiefs, Chief Fire and Medical Officers, Senior Command Staff, Accreditation Managers, Fire Prevention Officers, GIS Analysts, Company Officers, Records and Data Managers, and EMS personnel

What: A must attend conference held once a year by the Center for Public Safety Excellence

When: March 4-7, 2013

Where: Green Valley Ranch Resort & Spa, Henderson, NV

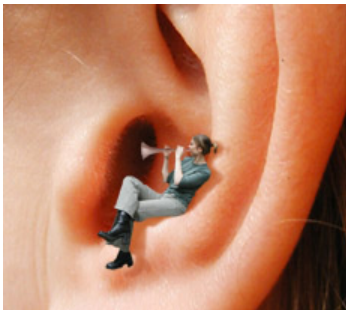
Why: An Excellent Conference in an Excellent Location!

How: Register at;

https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=CPSE&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=2a8290c6-5348-4cb4-971c-9b725586fdd3

Can You Hear Me Now?

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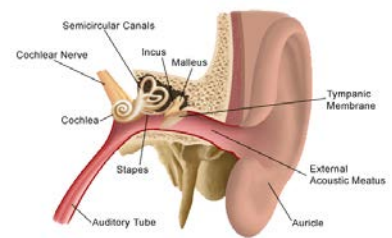
A Warning! Ever Heard Of Tinnitus?

By Robert M. Winston

I am no authority on Tinnitus. I do, however, suffer from chronic severe Tinnitus with some hearing loss that has been documented to have been caused by noise induced exposure to excessively loud sounds. The loud sounds, in my case, from sirens, air horns, loud diesel motors and other loud noises that are germane to the fire service. I had been on the job for 33 years, was hired in 1969 and the Tinnitus is still with me. I began to notice a low level of Tinnitus sound since about 1982. During the winter of 2000 the Tinnitus noise level increased dramatically causing me great emotional stress and anxiety. Through this writing I hope to warn as many firefighters as possible about this preventable and insidious malady.

ABOUT TINNITUS

When I mention Tinnitus most people tell me that they've never heard of it. Then I'll mention noises in the ears or in the head and most people say that they have heard of that and do experience infrequent ringing in the ear or ears that disappears after a few seconds. According to the American Tinnitus Association, (ATA) located in Portland, Oregon, *"Tinnitus is a subjective experience that can be described as chronic ringing, hissing or other noise in the ears and/or head. The word is of Latin origin and it means to 'ring like a bell.' It is pronounced as 'tin-night-us' or 'tin-nit-us.' Either pronunciation is correct."*



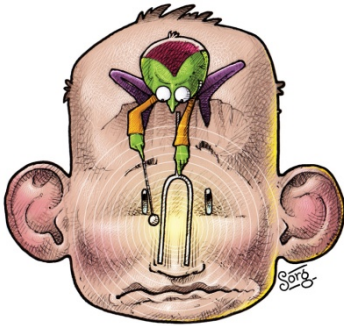
Tinnitus can be of little or no consequence to you. However, in the extreme cases Tinnitus can be debilitating. It has literally driven some people to insanity and to suicide. It can be like a "gorilla on one's back." Says Randy L. Tubbs, PhD, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), retired. "When people think of hearing loss and partial deafness, they immediately think about a quiet world that they will be forced to live in. In some cases, that cannot be further from the truth. Few people realize that noise-induced deafness results in a loud, annoying sound inside one's head that just never quits. It interferes with sleep, watching TV, listening to people, reading a book, almost all facets of daily living. So, loss of hearing does not equal a quiet day of fishing during our retirement years. It can be a screaming inside our heads that never stops."

According to the ATA, approximately 12 million people in this country experience Tinnitus so severe that they seek medical help. It is also estimated that another 50 million adults in this country alone have Tinnitus to some degree. At the present time there is NO cure for Tinnitus.

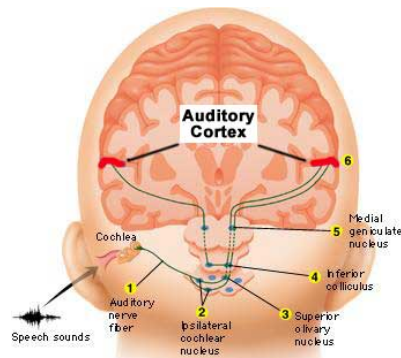
The known causes of Tinnitus are many, i.e., ear infection, ear wax buildup, disorders of the neck vertebrae, jaw problems, allergies, certain medications, cardiovascular problems and high blood pressure. However, one of the most common causes of Tinnitus is exposure to excessively loud sounds especially repeatedly over periods of time. Noise induced Tinnitus is caused by damage to the inner ear's microscopic hair like nerve endings called hair cells or cilia. Tinnitus is usually associated with some hearing loss in the high frequency range.

Tinnitus (Cont.)

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Tinnitus can be made worse by continuous or intermittent additional loud noises; excessive alcohol consumption; caffeine found in coffee, tea, chocolate, cola drinks; Nicotine; aspirin and some other drugs; and stress. Especially the stresses inherent in fire services. A firefighter's bio-rhythms are constantly in flux because our sleep patterns are continually broken. Even when we are "sleeping" during a night shift, that "sleep" is not restful and this has a negative effect on our body's need for rest and rejuvenation. While we are on duty our adrenaline levels are up and are higher during responses. Depending on the incident that we are at, our adrenaline levels can be even higher. This affects our nervous system to a high degree. It is also known as the "fight or flight syndrome." According to doctors and medical researchers, high levels of stress and adrenaline will cause the autonomic nervous system to stimulate and aggravate Tinnitus. Additionally, loud noises also release more adrenaline causing an exacerbation of Tinnitus. Fatigue is also known to cause Tinnitus noise to worsen. The very nature of a firefighter's work is fertile ground for the development and worsening of Tinnitus. Those with Tinnitus can often times be in a more irritable mood due to the constant noise that they just cannot evade. Once a firefighter is diagnosed with occupationally noise induced Tinnitus and the Firefighter remains on regular duty, Tinnitus is more difficult to treat for obvious reasons. And the Tinnitus will probably get worse. It did for me.

TINNITUS AND THE FIREFIGHTER

Noise induced hearing loss and inner ear damage to firefighters (and to other emergency service workers) has been documented for many years. This occupational damage is commonly manifested by hearing loss that gets worse with the passing of time for the individual. Oddly, very little has been mentioned over the years about Tinnitus. Thankfully, that is changing and Tinnitus is finally being recognized for what it is and what it can do to firefighters both in terms of physical and psychological damage. The ravages of Tinnitus are only just beginning to be realized by the fire services.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the United States Fire Administration (USFA) in concert with the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) have produced a document entitled, *Fire & Emergency Service Hearing Conservation Program Manual*. This document recognizes the dangers of noise induced trauma to the hearing system and outlines a program to reduce and/or prevent the occupational noise induced hearing damage associated with sirens, air horns, loud motors and other loud noises associated with our emergency services. The following are some excerpts from this document.

Noise is probably the most underrated health hazard affecting fire and EMS personnel.... The dangers of excessive noise exposure to emergency service personnel are finally being addressed. The cases of hearing loss are irreversible and incurable. They are also PREVENTABLE!

Tinnitus (Cont.)

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The effects of noise are cumulative and often take a long time to become permanent and then it is too late. Noise induced hearing loss is recognized as a significant health hazard throughout the fire services. Another result of occupational noise exposure is a complication known as **Tinnitus**. It is often associated with hearing loss. This “ringing” in the ears can become so loud as to disturb one’s ability to sleep.

NFPA 1500 Standard and Hearing Damage

To comply with the requirements of NFPA 1500, a fire department **MUST** provide hearing protection for all fire fighters riding on apparatus who are subject to noise levels above 90 decibels. (A decibel is a unit of measurement used to express sound levels. OSHA has developed an occupational noise exposure standard.) NFPA 1500 considers the use of hearing protection as an interim measure only until engineering controls can be instituted to reduce noise levels produced by vehicles, warning devices and radios. When hearing protective devices are utilized as an interim measure, protective ear muffs are recommended since ear plugs can be difficult to fit and insert. For those fire fighters that must listen to the radio, NFPA 1500 recommends the use of earmuffs with built-in speakers and volume controls for radio and intercom communications.

Hearing protection is required by NFPA 1500. Fire fighters are often exposed to noise levels above 90 decibels while using power tools or equipment. Finally, NFPA 1500 requires a fire department to establish a hearing conservation program that identifies potential sources of harmful noise and seeks to reduce or eliminate them. A hearing conservation program should address as a minimum, monitoring noise sources, audiometric testing (to be administered in an annual physical and included in a data base), noise reduction engineering controls, noise reduction techniques and hearing protection devices.

According to OSHA standards, the acceptable noise level in the work place is not to exceed 90 decibels for an 8-hour period. The action level is 85 decibels, which is the level where a hearing conservation program must be offered to employees. Firefighters and other emergency service personnel are often exposed to decibel levels well above 100. A rule-of-thumb is that if you have to shout to talk to a coworker, noise levels probably exceed OSHA’s acceptable noise levels. Noise levels during and at emergency responses/incidents exceed safe decibel levels. If you are not wearing ear/hearing protection during times when decibel levels are high, you **ARE** damaging your ears and your hearing.

OTHER SOURCES OF DAMAGING NOISE

There are other sources of potentially damaging noises that are subtle and not often thought about.

The use of power tools especially when operated inside of a building or other enclosure where high decibel sounds cannot readily dissipate or be absorbed is an example. Other examples are the in house and apparatus

Tinnitus (Cont.)

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department radios whose volume is turned up loud enough to wake the dead; loud and harsh alert tones broadcast over radios or through microphone speakers on portable radios; TVs and radios whose volumes are turned up too loudly because the firefighters or other emergency personnel are simply either hard of hearing or trying to hear over loud background noises; the momentary high impact noises of steel forcible entry tools hitting each other causes sudden high decibel level noises; PASS devices emit extremely loud noise, but for a good reason. A real Catch 22 issue; the smoke/fire alarms in buildings can emit a variety of sounds that can be so loud that the sounds distort radio communications on portable radios. Just think of the noise induced damage that is being caused to firefighter's ears when we are in a building where the alarms are sounding loudly and continuously.

Yet another location where loud noise is a major problem is at the street level at the front of a fire building or other emergency incident. Pump operators and incident commanders are subjected to high decibel noises, over extended periods of time, from the sirens and air horns of incoming emergency vehicles, apparatus motors running at high RPMs and loud radio chatter.

Our ears and auditory systems are being bombarded with potentially damaging environmental noises. We live in a world of increasing noise pollution. Many of those noises can be controlled and attenuated. Any efforts to reduce loud noises now will produce both immediate and long-term health benefits later in life.

The WARNING is clear. The proof that loud noises will damage our bodies, permanently is a matter of factual accounts. Losing your ability to hear or hear well is one of the consequences of the inaction to reduce damaging noise levels. The horror of Tinnitus is one lesser-known and understood reason to....**STOP THE NOISE!**

The American Tinnitus Association is committed to control and cure Tinnitus through the development of resources that advance Tinnitus research. They have a wealth of information about Tinnitus. www.ata.org 1-800-634-8978

Robert M. Winston is a retired Boston Fire Department District Fire Chief, former Pickens County, GA Fire Chief, fire service journalist, and advocate for Tinnitus prevention. He is available for discussions and presentations about Tinnitus. dfcwinsret8@tds.net or 706-632-6475...770-815-7010 (cell)

About Aksents



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Menu Commands

A Canadian customer was calling to find out if there was a faster way to trigger menu commands.

Agent: Well, you just press Control-A.

Caller: Well, that's not working for me.

Agent: That's odd. If you press Control-A the whole document should be highlighted. Try it again. Press Control-A. Tell me exactly what's happening.

Caller (nearing his Canadian breaking point): Listen. I'm pressing Control, eh? And nothing's happening, eh?

Why Pay Reduced

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Why You Saw Your Net Pay Reduced

By Mark Brown, High 3 Team, Inc.

The intent of this article is to inform, not make a political commentary. I receive many phone and e-mail inquiries on this subject. Certainly, on 19 January I expect a substantial number of inquiries.

In the past two years I have been asked by Federal Employees what exactly is the middle class tax cut. For 2011, Congress authorized The Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Act of 2011, and at the end of 2011, authorized the Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011.

This means that employees' contributions to Social Security were reduced from 6.2% to 4.2%. This was a 32.26% reduction being paid into Social Security over two years for approximately 160 million people. In order to not damage usual revenues to Social Security, the 2% reduction in payroll taxes was to be transferred from the General Treasury Fund, estimated to be in the amount of 120 billion dollars. In other words, the average reduction in Social Security payroll taxes was \$750 per year per person. Ergo, your Middle Class tax cut.

Two things to note here; First, this served to increase your taxable wages for two years which, in our progressive tax system, ended up costing 25% - 40% of the increase in net pay. So, the actual average savings for 160 million people was \$450 - \$562 for the year. Second, for Federal employees under the Civil Service Retirement System, as well as other State and Municipal employees in which Social Security is not a component they pay into, there were no savings.

Calculate the Effect on Your Net Pay for FERS/FERS Changeover/CSRS Offset
(Does not apply to CSRS)

1. Regardless of Job Series, or whether you are Special Category or not, take a current LES (the 24th or 25th pay period of 2012). Make sure the LES does not have any un-scheduled overtime, monetary awards, etc. In other words, a "clean LES".
2. Take the Gross Pay and deduct the "non-taxable wages" amount.
3. Multiply the new amount by 2%.
4. That is the amount your Net Pay will be reduced.

Example:

\$3,000.00 Gross Pay

(\$ 194.56) Non-Taxable Wages (Health, Dental, Vision)

\$2,805.44

x .02

\$ 56.11 reduction in net pay

Reduced Pay (Cont.)

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At first glance this may not look to be substantial until you consider the following:

1. If you are a FERS employee, look on your LES in the section BENEFITS PAID BY GOVERNMENT FOR YOU and look for TSP BASIC. That amount of money is exactly 1% of your true Base Pay. The value of the \$56.11 reduction in Net Pay is equal to the value of approximately 2% (rest of US Locality) going into TSP for:

A G/S-9/8 on a 56 hour schedule
A G/S-9/3 on a 60 hour schedule
A G/S-7/8 on a 72 hour schedule

Imagine having put 2% more into TSP for two years, and if you were only at 3% contributions, your TSP contributions would have increased 4% overall.

In 2010 I went to Guam to work with Navy and Air Force civilian employees specifically to discuss the effects of transitioning from COLA only to a three year phase-in of Locality blended with a reduced COLA. This was also to apply to Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. In each of the Workshops over a three year period, the focus was to show employees the positive impact of locality pay on retirement as locality pay is part of your High 3 average. The negative was the fact that taxable wages were increasing as locality pay, unlike COLA, is taxable.

The resolution to keep employees from not being negatively impacted with taxes was to start or increase TSP contributions. Some did, and others did not. You can guess the negative impact of taxable wages in the same Grade/Step over three years increasing \$5,000 - \$9,000 on average. For those that did not start or increase TSP contributions, usual tax refunds were reduced or eliminated, and many ended up owing taxes that had not been owed previously.

Summary

ANYTIME FOR ANY REASON your Net Pay increases (other than unscheduled overtime or other cash awards), so do the taxes you owe.

Over the past few years, I have shown Workshop participants how to start or increase TSP contributions with little or no effect on Net Pay.

The changes to tax withholding in 2011 created problems for some and unanticipated advantages for others. At the time the Maximum Exclusion Allowance Calculation was provided, the calculation was based upon current Grade/Step, as well as current tax percentages.

TSP Investment Choices

1. If you sell shares in TSP for more than you pay for them, you will turn a profit approximately 100% of the time.
2. When TSP balances drop, you still own the shares that now have a reduced value. However, the shares are now "on sale". Most of us are much better thinking as consumers than as investors?
3. For more tips on TSP, visit www.high3team.com and click on the page HARVESTING TSP GAINS.

Wellness Corner

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Don't Just Sit There: Move For Your Health

Had an exhausting day? Think you deserve to kick back and relax? You might want to think again. If you're like most people nationwide, you've spent more than half of your waking hours sitting or inactive for long stretches of time – at work, at school, in the car or watching TV or another type of screen. Maybe it's time to try standing up instead of putting your feet up.

Scientists estimate that Americans ages 12 and up now spend most of their time – about 8 to 10 hours a day – sitting and doing things that require little energy. The groups who sit the most are teens and older adults.

What's so bad about sitting? Sedentary behavior – which usually means sitting or lying down while awake – has been linked to a shorter lifespan and a wide range of medical problems.

Studies have found that any time you get up and move, you're improving your chances for good health. "Some of us are sort of forced into sedentary lifestyles by our jobs, by school or by commuting," says Dr. Donna Spruijt-Metz, who studies childhood obesity at the University of Southern California. "But research suggests that breaking up sedentary time with even short bouts of activity – like getting up from your desk and moving around – is associated with smaller waist circumference and other indicators of good health." When you're upright and active, even briefly, your body is at work. "You're engaging a wide range of systems in your body when you move throughout your day," says Dr. Charles E. Matthews, who studies physical activity and cancer risk at NIH. "Your muscles are contracting, you're maintaining your balance, and you're resisting the force of gravity."

When you're sitting, Matthews says, "muscle contractions go way down, and your body's resistance to gravity decreases." When you sit for long periods, your body adapts to the reduced physical demand and slows down its metabolism. When metabolism slows, you burn fewer calories and boost the chance that extra energy will be stored as fat.

The best way to raise your metabolism is simply by moving. The more you move, the better. A new study led by NIH's Dr. Steven Moore looked at data on more than 650,000 adults, mostly age 40 and older. The researchers found that leisure-time physical activity was linked to a longer life expectancy, regardless of how much people weighed. "We found that even a low level of physical activity – equivalent to about 10 minutes a day of walking – was associated with a gain of almost 2 years in life expectancy. High levels of activity – equivalent to about 45 minutes a day of walking – were associated with a gain of 4 years or more," says Moore.

The outcomes weren't so positive for those who were both overweight and did no exercise. "People who were obese and inactive lost about 7 years of life compared to normal weight people who were active," Moore says.

The many benefits of moderate to vigorous activity have been much studied. Moderate to vigorous exercise gets your heart pumping and boosts blood levels of "good" cholesterol. Moving at moderate to vigorous intensity also strengthens your bones and muscles and lessens your risk for a wide range of health problems,

Wellness (Cont.)

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including stroke, diabetes, certain types of cancer, osteoporosis and arthritis. That's why the experts recommend that adults aim to exercise at least two and a half hours a week at moderate intensity or 75 minutes a week at a vigorous level. You might exercise at moderate intensity for 30 minutes, 5 days a week, or try 45 to 60 minutes, 3 days a week. If your goal is to exercise for a half hour a day, you might break that up into shorter periods (of at least 10 minutes at a time) that add up to 30 minutes.

An NIH-funded study by Matthews and colleagues found that extended periods of sitting might take a toll on your lifespan even if you exercise. The decade-long study looked at more than 240,000 adults. "Even those who were exercising a lot – 7 or more hours per week – had an elevated risk for death from all causes or from cardiovascular disease if they also watched a large amount of TV (more than 7 hours per day)," says Matthews. "It suggests that a substantial amount of exercise may not always protect against the adverse effects of prolonged sitting."

"Sedentary behavior is not simply the opposite of physical activity," says Dr. John Jakicic, who studies the biology of exercise at the University of Pittsburgh. "It's not as if you're either sitting and doing nothing or you're physically active. There's a gray zone that includes light activity," such as standing up, casual walking or grocery shopping.

"Is it really the sedentary behavior that causes harm? Or is it the lack of physical activity at the right intensity that's the problem? I don't think we have the answers yet," says Jakicic. With the help of new technologies, Jakicic and others are working toward answers.

"Based on findings we've seen in several studies to date, I think it's a combination of lower levels of sedentary behavior and higher levels of activity that provide the most benefit," says Matthews. "You can alter your routine just a little bit every day so you'll move more and sit less," says Spruijt-Metz. "Don't use the phone or email if you can take a walk and talk to someone in person. Get yourself a step-counter and try to get in 10,000 steps a day. There are many ways to add movement without going to the gym."

The bottom line is, look for opportunities to be active throughout your day. Get moving as much as you can!

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Sit less, move more

- Take the stairs instead of the elevator. Park at the far end of the street or parking lot.
- Have "walking meetings" with colleagues at work.
- Rearrange your home so you can stand upright or walk on a treadmill while watching TV or using the computer.
- Set an alarm on your computer to go off every hour and prompt you to move around for a minute or two.
- Try walking as if you're already late for the bus or an important meeting.
- Have small weights in your office or around your home for doing arm exercises.

Reprinted courtesy of NIH News in Health. For more information, please visit newinhealth.nih.gov.

ESAMS Update

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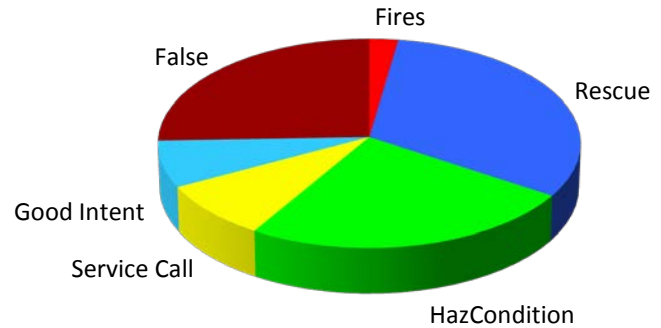
ESAMS Corner

By Clarence Settle, ESAMS Fire Technical Support

Total Incidents – 5,534
 Fires – 141
 Rescue & EMS – 1,696
 Hazardous – 1,360
 Service Call – 374
 Good Intent – 490
 False Alarm – 1,453

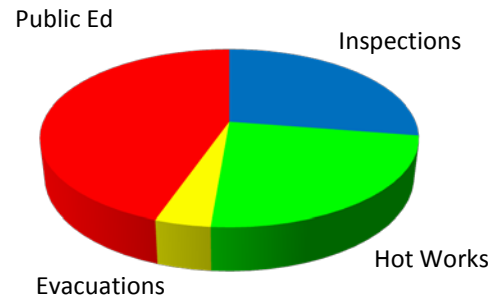
December 2012 Statistics

Operations



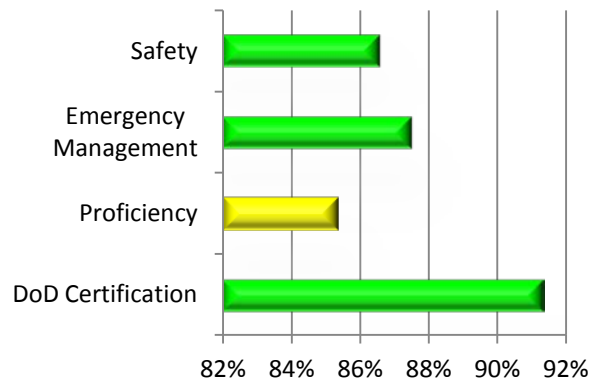
Prevention

Fire Inspections Completed – 1,899
 Hot Work Permits Issued – 1,970
 Building Evacuation Drills – 340
 Public Education Contacts – 5,244



Training

Emergency Management - 90%
 Safety Training – 90%
 Proficiency, Skills, & Practice – 83%
 DoD Certification – 91%



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F&ES On Duty Mishaps Report

Mishaps Reported – 19
 Total Lost Work Days – 15

ESAMS Summary

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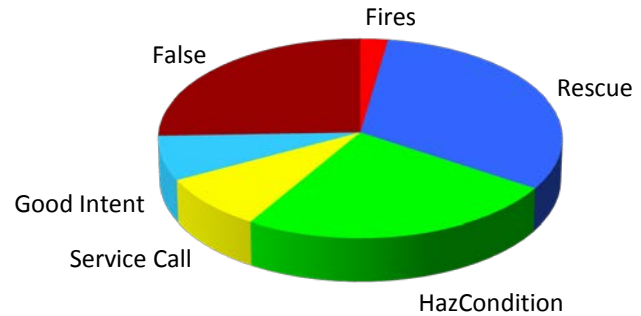
ESAMS 2012 Roll Up

By Clarence Settle, ESAMS Fire Technical Support

Calendar Year 2012 Statistics

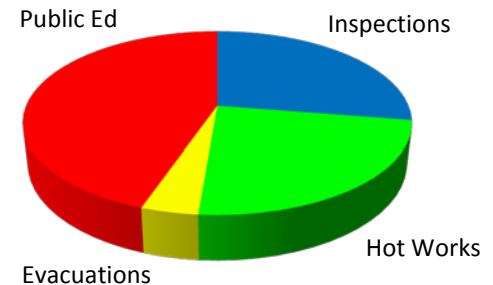
Operations

Total Incidents – 73,461
Fires – 1,712
Rescue & EMS – 23,316
Hazardous – 17,827
Service Call – 6,282
Good Intent – 5,290
False Alarm – 18,683



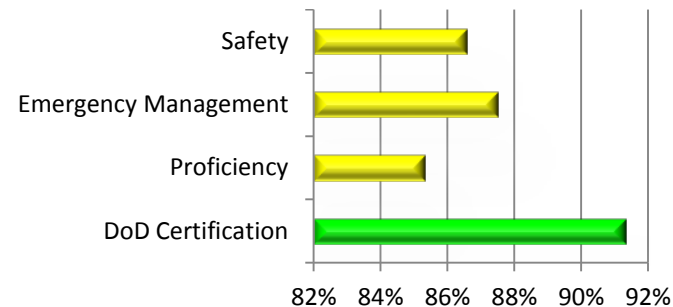
Prevention

Fire Inspections Completed – 36,685
Hot Work Permits Issued – 31,740
Building Evacuation Drills – 5,346
Public Education Contacts – 59,617



Training

Emergency Management - 88%
Safety Training – 87%
Proficiency, Skills, & Practice – 85%
DoD Certification – 91%



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F&ES On Duty Mishaps Report

Mishaps Reported – 317
Total Lost Work Days – 929

F&ES POCs

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Navy Fire & Emergency Services (N30)

Commander, Navy Installations Command

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<https://cnicgateway.cnic.navy.mil/HQ/N3/N30/default.aspx>
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News Distribution

Job Links

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

Interested in becoming a DoD firefighter? Visit <https://www.usajobs.gov/>



"Darkness cannot drive
out darkness; only
light can do that.
Hate cannot drive
out hate; only
love can do that."

— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

