

The Newsletter of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

FIRE FOCUS

Lori Grifa, Commissioner
Spring 2011 Posting

Department of Community Affairs
Volume 5 Issue 1

NJDFS ABC-7 SAVE-A-LIFE KICKOFF MARKS ANNUAL ALARM GIVEAWAY

Deputy DCA Commissioner BettyLou DeCroce joined State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo, and lead representatives of the New Jersey fire service, including: Fateen Ziyad, Fire Director, City of Newark, John Centanni, Chief, City of Newark, Armando Roman, Fire Director Jersey City and New Jersey State Fire Commission member, Michael Postorino, Chief, City of Paterson, Tom Dolaghan, Chief, City of Harrison, Brian O'Connor, Chief, City of Carteret for the annual kickoff breakfast for **OPERATION 7: Save A Life** at the Hotel Pierre in Manhattan. Anchorman Bill Ritter hosted the event. It marked the 13th year of the program, which sees to the distribution of free smoke alarms to deserving residents in the WABC-TV, Channel 7 viewing area, including a large portion of North Jersey.



The kickoff breakfast drew attention to an annual special program on fire safety that focuses on the Tri-state area the program is part of a more permanent fire safety teaching tool which can be linked to at:

www.7online.com

This year the program includes a first hand story about the effectiveness of smoke alarms from two New Jersey residents.



IN THIS POSTING...

NJDFS 'KICKSOFF' FREE SMOKE ALARM DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM FOR 2011

FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION NOW LAW

'FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY' : THE DISABLED

NJDFS-KEAN SPRING COURSE DETAILS

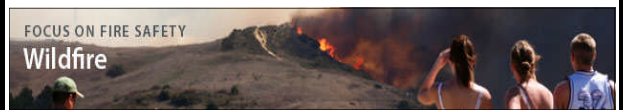
CO2 DANGERS ON THE FIREGROUND

ONLINE UL FIRE RATING RESISTANCE TOOL

NFPA HOSTS WILDLAND FIRE SEMINAR

FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY

Wildfire



NJDFS ABC-7 SAVE-A-LIFE KICKOFF MARKS ANNUAL ALARM GIVEAWAY

Working smoke alarms with fresh batteries are recognized as *the* most effective fire safety device an individual can have in their home, in the event of a fire emergency.

Hosted by Eyewitness News Anchor Bill Ritter, the half-hour Emmy-award winning public affairs special provides viewers with life-saving tips on a wide range of subjects. The event also acknowledges **OPERATION 7: Save a Life** sponsors. Sponsors at this year's breakfast were represented by Dr. Roger Yurt of the **Hearst Burn Center at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell**. Jim Ward, President and General Manager of **Kidde**, Aaron Flowe, Regional Vice President of the **Home Depot** and **Toyota**.

In the special, WABC-TV takes viewers behind the scenes at the William Randolph Hearst Burn Center, at New York Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center where physical therapists are using new tools like video games, Wii and Kinect, to help burn survivors get a jump start on rehabilitation.

It also focuses on the FDNY Foundation's new educational web initiative which trains children on how to react during an emergency. This interactive tool has proved to be important as in the case of a 5-year-old boy in Queens and some sisters in Staten Island who were able to rescue their families. The special program addresses the continuing need for safety tools like Carbon Monoxide Detectors in addition to providing a story from a New Jersey couple whose lives were saved by these devices. The program also informs viewers of the new rules that relate to CPR and the use of therapeutic hypothermia by first responders and explains how EMTs have improved the odds of survival.

The program shares safety tips for dealing with fires in public spaces like hotels and restaurants. **OPERATION 7: Save a Life** is part of a campaign that will distribute 40,000 smoke detectors this year to people who otherwise could not afford them. The smoke detectors are donated by Kidde and distributed by

firefighters in New York and New Jersey. Since its inception in 1999, **OPERATION 7: Save a Life** has distributed more than 615,000 smoke detectors

Charles Luxton, coordinator of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety alarm giveaway says the program is one of the most directly effective fire safety educational and preventative programs the Division is involved in.

"We are seeing that those *most* vulnerable to fire have access to these possibly life saving devices. Through a cooperative program with Fire Departments throughout the ABC 7 region, we can maximize our outreach," he says.

Luxton adds that the New Jersey portion of the annual giveaway is sizeable. The devices are stored in a centrally located facility and distributed throughout the year by firefighters, who also take the opportunity to remind recipients that they require an annual replacement of batteries.



"We are certainly extremely grateful to ABC 7 for their part in producing and posting the television special online, and most appreciative to Kidde, Home Depot and

Toyota for providing us the means to get these alarms to the public. It is so very important for a significant portion of the public we serve these days to have and use these devices properly. It could very well save a life," says Luxton, in speaking about the program.

Luxton adds that in the last 5 years alone over 75,000 smoke alarms have been distributed by fire departments in the northern region of the state. A similar program is conducted in south Jersey, hosted by the Disney station there, Channel 6.

For more information about how to obtain smoke alarms for your Fire Department please contact:

cluxton@dca.state.nj.us

NJDFS ABC-7 SAVE-A-LIFE KICKOFF MARKS ANNUAL ALARM GIVEAWAY



**DCA Deputy
Commissioner
BettyLou DeCroce**



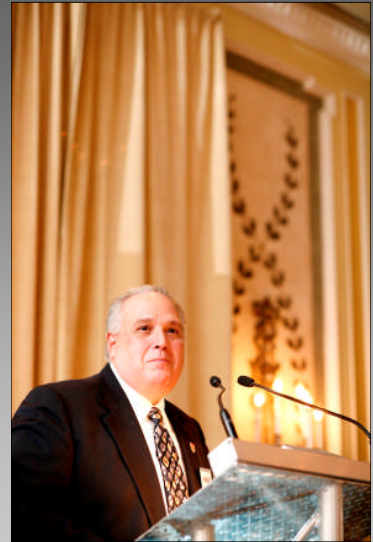
Deputy Commissioner BettyLou DeCroce joins ABC7 Anchor and kickoff breakfast host Bill Ritter, State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo and members of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety executive staff at the Hotel Pierre in Manhattan.



SPONSOR

NJDFS ABC-7 SAVE-A-LIFE KICKOFF MARKS ANNUAL ALARM GIVEAWAY

KICKOFF BREAKFAST



State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo addresses the New Jersey component of OPERATION 7 *Save a Life*



Jersey City Fire Director and NJ Fire Safety Commission member Armando Roman and Fire Chief Darren Rivers were among the invited guests.



SPONSOR

NewYork-Presbyterian
The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell

SPONSOR



SPONSOR



OPERATION 7 *Save a Life* state coordinator Charles Luxton shares a light moment with NJDFS staffer Lucille Ventres at the kickoff event.



STUDY SHOWS INCREASED FIRE RISK FOR MINORITY CHILDREN AT HOME

WASHINGTON - With home fires on the rise , and a new study showing that young children are at an especially high risk of getting seriously injured or dying in residential fires, today the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Commission on Children and Disasters are announcing a new public awareness campaign to help keep children and families safer from the threat of home fires.

As part of this effort, FEMA's *U.S. Fire Administration* released a new report on the risks fires pose to children. The report, which is based on the latest available data released by the National Center for Health Statistics, found that young children face the greatest - and a growing - risk of death or serious injury in home fires, with 52 percent of all child fire deaths in 2007 involving children under the age of four, a slight increase from the study conducted in 2004.

"This latest report reveals a deeply troubling trend and should serve as a wake-up call for all of us," said FEMA

Administrator Craig Fugate. "The bottom line is that one of the greatest threats our youngest kids may face during the winter months exist in their homes. It's critical that all families are aware of these risks and take the simple steps now to prevent fires due to cooking, heating or other causes at home. These deaths are preventable, and working together we can educate each other and save lives."

"During the past decade of unprecedented disasters, the needs of kids were too often left behind in disaster planning," said Mark Shriver, Chairman, National Commission on Children and Disasters. "We not only hope this partnership helps better protect children from home fires, but also puts a spotlight on the unique needs of kids when disasters strike. We're grateful that Administrator Fugate has demonstrated such strong leadership and made significant progress for protecting children in a very short time."

(continued on next page)



USFA REPORT:

- **AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILDREN ARE AT AN INCREASED RISK OF FIRE DEATHS**
- **LOW-INCOME CHILDREN SEE GREATEST RISK OF EXPOSURE TO HOME FIRES**
- **BETWEEN 2006 AND 2008 SMOKE ALARMS WERE *NOT* PRESENT IN OVER 20 PERCENT OF RESIDENTIAL FIRES**
- **YOUNG BOYS AT GREATER RISK OF DYING FROM FIRE THAN YOUNG GIRLS**

(Source: USFA "Fire Risk to Children 2011")

STUDY SHOWS INCREASED FIRE RISK FOR MINORITY CHILDREN AT HOME

The report contains more troubling findings according to FEMA Acting US Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines

"Children are our most vulnerable population. Through diverse partnerships we can highlight the dangers which are threatening children throughout the country," said Gaines.

"Through reports, such as this one, we can target specific types of hazards to keep children safe from fires."

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety through its NFIRS Unit, contributed directly to the FEMA national report. The Division posts annually online: "**Fire in New Jersey**" which is a statistical analysis of fire incidents in the state.

The online report enjoys a nearly 96 per cent reporting rate from all 21 counties which includes nearly 800 individual reporting volunteer and career fire departments and over 500 local enforcing authorities.

NJDFS joins FEMA and the National Commission on Children and Disasters in using discretionary online tools, such as its own website and its own electronic grassroots initiative, via email-alerts directed to the nearly 1500 fire authorities in the state, to in turn advise their local communities on their own respective municipal website or other on-line outlets such as Twitter alerts or Facebook pages to raise the public awareness of the critical fire safety issues addressed in the FEMA report. For the full report go to:

www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/vlii9.pdf



FEMA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND DISASTERS ONLINE TOOLS:

- **AN UPDATED WEB PAGE DEDICATED TO CHILDREN'S FIRE SAFETY**
- **A WIDGET THAT LINKS TO THE USFA AND COMMISSION WEBSITES**
- **A FACEBOOK TAB**
- **A DEDICATED TWITTER HASHTAG TO ENGAGE THE PUBLIC IN A DIALOGUE ABOUT HOW TO PROTECT KIDS FROM FIRES**

www.childrenanddisasters.acf.hhs.gov/

NJDFS PAMPHLET AVAILABLE TO MITIGATE FIRE SAFETY RISK FOR DISABLED

- Physical disability was a contributing factor in an estimated average of 360 (13%) home fire deaths per year.
- 54% of the victims died as a result of home fires with working smoke alarms compared to only 37% of home fire victims overall.
- One-quarter of victims with physical disabilities were unable to act to save themselves.
- 53% of the victims were involved in ignition and in the area of origin when the incident began.
- Victims were more likely to die from a fire that began with either mattresses or bedding (20% versus 13% of all home fire victims), or clothing (12% versus 5% of all home victims).

**SOURCE: "PHYSICAL DISABILITY AS A FACTOR IN HOME FIRE DEATHS NFPA 2009*

BROCHURE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD OR FOR IMPRINTING WITH LOCAL FIRE COMPANY LOGO OR MUNICIPAL SEAL: FIRE_PREVENTION@DCA.STATE.NJ.US



FIRE SAFETY FACTS

- People with disabilities are very self-contained. Do speak with your neighbors and share in their building evacuation plans.
- Contact your local fire department via a non-emergency line and inform them of your situation.

PREVENT FIRES SAVE LIVES!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE SERVICE

A FIRE SAFETY MESSAGE FROM THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY AND YOUR LOCAL FIRE SERVICE

New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

FIRE SAFETY FACTS

FIRE SAFETY FOR THE DISABLED

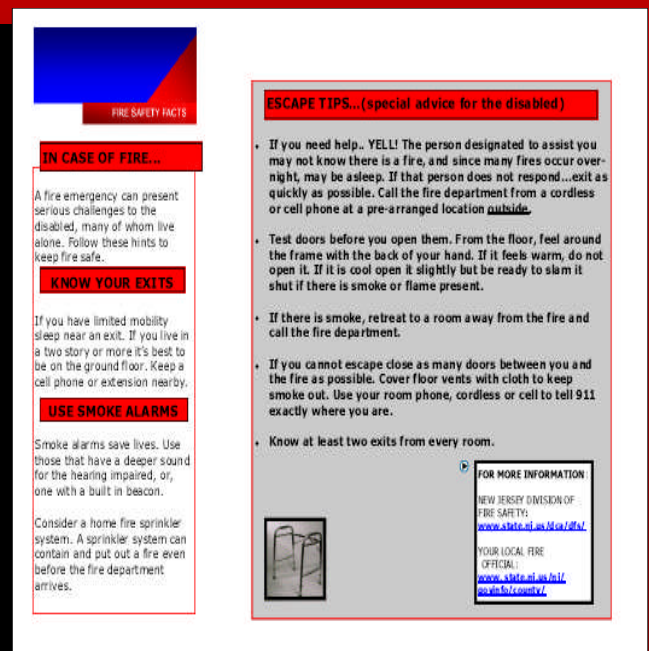
www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/

Department of Community Affairs

Lori Grifa
Commissioner
Department of Community Affairs

Chris Christie
Governor

www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/



FIRE SAFETY FACTS

IN CASE OF FIRE...

A fire emergency can present serious challenges to the disabled, many of whom live alone. Follow these hints to keep fire safe.

KNOW YOUR EXITS

If you have limited mobility sleep near an exit. If you live in a two story or more it's best to be on the ground floor. Keep a cell phone or extension nearby.

USE SMOKE ALARMS

Smoke alarms save lives. Use those that have a deeper sound for the hearing impaired, or, one with a built in beacon.

Consider a home fire sprinkler system. A sprinkler system can contain and put out a fire even before the fire department arrives.

ESCAPE TIPS...(special advice for the disabled)

- If you need help.. YELL! The person designated to assist you may not know there is a fire, and since many fires occur overnight, may be asleep. If that person does not respond...exit as quickly as possible. Call the fire department from a cordless or cell phone at a pre-arranged location **outside**.
- Test doors before you open them. From the floor, feel around the frame with the back of your hand. If it feels warm, do not open it. If it is cool open it slightly but be ready to slam it shut if there is smoke or flame present.
- If there is smoke, retreat to a room away from the fire and call the fire department.
- If you cannot escape close as many doors between you and the fire as possible. Cover floor vents with cloth to keep smoke out. Use your room phone, cordless or cell to tell 911 exactly where you are.
- Know at least two exits from every room.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY:
www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/

YOUR LOCAL FIRE OFFICIAL:
www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/yourlocalfireofficial/

FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION NOW THE LAW FOR ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES

Governor Chris Christie has signed into law a measure designed to improve the fire safety education standards for both incoming and current students, faculty and ancillary employees at the state's 31 public and 33 independent institutions of higher learning.

Legislation sponsored by New Jersey Assembly Representative Upendra Chivukula (D- Middlesex-Somerset) , Pamela R. Lampitt and Elease Evans. was signed into law by Governor Christie on January 26.

The new law which moved quickly through both houses was originally Assembly Bill (A-1570) and was sponsored by Fred Scalera (D- Essex /Bergen/Passaic before he retired from the Assembly in November.

The law sets forth specific guidelines to assure parents that children attending the state's institutions of higher learning including county community colleges have a good grasp on fire prevention and evacuation in case of an emergency procedures.

"The beginning of school is a time of chaos and excitement," said Chivukula

"Students are deluged with information which may go in one ear and out the other. It's important to provide them with this life-saving information that they can refer to."

That life saving information will be developed in cooperation with the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety. The Division is the central fire agency for the state and with its LEA partners enforces the state's Uniform Fire Code.

The issue of campus fire safety has been one that has spurred legislative action before.

In July of 2000 then Governor Christie Todd Whitman signed into law legislation making sprinklers mandatory in all university and college residence halls, following the tragic fire which had taken the lives of three Seton Hall University students.

The new law will now seek to incorporate a way of getting information about such things as escape plans, smoke alarms, sprinkler systems, and other fire safety measures into the hands of New Jersey college students, parents, faculty and employees.

The law follows other national initiatives like, "Campus Fire Safety Month" held annually in September, in addition to such initiatives as The Center for Campus Fire Safety.

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and the state Commission on Higher Education will responsible for implementing all aspects of the new law.

For more information:

www.campusfiresafety.com

www.campus-firewatch.com

<http://nj.gov/highereducation/>





THE ISSUES:

- **FIRE AND SAFER GRANTS**
- **LOSAP**

On Friday, February 11th, Congressman Harold Rogers (KY-5), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, introduced H.R.1, the Fiscal Year 2011 Full-Year Continuing Resolution Act. The bill, which will fund programs and activities of the federal government through the end of Fiscal Year 2011, is currently being considered by the House of Representatives.

Congress failed to pass any of the Fiscal Year 2011 spending bills during the 111th Congress. As a result, the federal government has been operating off a series of continuing resolutions since the fiscal year began on October 1, 2010. The current continuing resolution (also known as a CR) expires on March 4, 2011. If Congress fails to pass H.R. 1 before the current CR expires, they will need to pass another short-term CR or face a government-wide shut down.

H.R. 1 initially contained over \$100 billion in cuts compared to the President's FY11 budget request. According to Chairman Rogers, "The legislation includes the largest reduction in discretionary spending in the history of our nation." The cuts contained in the bill have been met with a variety of responses from Capitol Hill, both positive and negative. By Tuesday more than 700 amendments have been filed to the bill. Included in the initial spending cuts were drastic reductions to firefighter grant programs. The bill had reduced funding for the FIRE grant program to \$300 million (the program was funded at \$390 million in Fiscal Year 2010) and eliminated all funding for the SAFER grant program, which was funded at \$420 million in Fiscal Year 2010

But a large number of Democrats and Republicans alike expressed their opposition to these proposed cuts.

Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-8) introduced an amendment to restore funding for the FIRE and SAFER grants to the FY10 levels.

On Wednesday afternoon, the House of Representatives approved the Pascrell amendment by a vote of 317-113.

"Granted Congress is facing mounting pressure to address the budget deficit, but the proposed reductions for FIRE and SAFER would have a far-reaching impact on the readiness and response capabilities of our nation's 32,000 fire departments," said CFSI's Executive Director Bill Webb. "Both grant programs play an important role in homeland security. I applaud Congressman Pascrell, and all of the members of the House who voted in favor of his amendment, for their efforts to restore funding to FIRE and SAFER. While we must address the economic crisis currently facing our nation, we must not do so at the expense of public safety."

Introduction of H.R. 1 is the first step in this process. The full House of Representatives still needs to approve the bill. If the bill is approved by the House, it still needs to be approved by the Senate and signed into law by the President.

(From CFSI)

Congressman Peter King, who was recently named as Congressional Fire Service 'Legislator of the Year' for 2011' reintroduced the Volunteer Emergency Services Recruitment and Retention Act. The legislation (HR 376) amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow sponsors of certain deferred compensation plans to elect to include length of service award plans (LOSAP) for bona fide volunteers providing firefighting and fire prevention services, emergency medical services, ambulance services and emergency rescue services. In addition, the measure would increase the limit on how much can be contributed into an individual's LOSAP account each year from \$3,000 to \$5,500. The measure has been referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

(From CFSI)

LATEST UPDATES:

www.cfsi.org/

FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN HOSTS ANNUAL LIVE TREE BURN



The annual Live Christmas Tree Safety Reminder is a time for public officials to join firefighters in advising the general public about the hazards associated with them.

NJ Fire Safety Commission chairman John Wisniewski joined Middlesex County Freeholder Mildred Scott this winter for the annual reminder which included a demo of how quickly a tree can become a household fire hazard, by not following a few fire safety steps.

A video of the event marked the debut of the Division's You Tube channel.

www.youtube.com/user/NJfiresafety1

United Laboratories (UL) has introduced their safety partnership with Disney Online.

The site allows children to interact with various safety lessons, including fire safety. Features of the site are all based on a safety theme include interactive games, blogs and a photo wall. Visitors can also be certified as a "safety wizard" like Hogwarts, by teaching friends family how to be safety smart. Post the link below on your LEA or FD site:

www.ulsafetysmart.com

UL 'ULTIMATE FIRE WIZARD' GO ONLINE FOR FIRE RESISTANCE RATING



Underwriters Laboratories (UL) *Ultimate Fire Wizard*, an Internet-based tool that allows architects, designers and **code authorities** to quickly identify fire-resistance-rated assembly designs that meet their project specifications is a solid online resource

For nearly 60 years, architects, designers and code authorities have relied on UL fire-resistance-rated wall, floor ceiling, and column and beam designs for code-compliant installations. More than 1,500 designs are currently available through UL's Fire Resistance Directory or Online Certifications Directory.

"We recognized that the designs took a lot of time to locate and the search could become a daunting task for less experienced people just entering the profession," said Chris Hasbrook, Vice President and General Manager of UL's Building Materials & Systems Industry. "Given the value of fire-resistance-rated designs, UL developed the Wizard as a way to help architects, designers and **code authorities** to leverage the information commonly found in our directories and streamline the process for identifying the designs that meet project specifications."

The online Wizard incorporates an intuitive process for entering design parameters, and even allows comments to be embedded in the search summary to assist in the design and material procurement process. It uses a simple three-step process to significantly reduce the time needed to identify suitable designs. A user first enters design parameters on the Wizard's convenient pull down menus, then views designs that meet the search parameters before selecting the designs that best meet project specifications. A search summary can be viewed and printed out for future reference or as part of the construction plan package.

To access the *Ultimate Fire Wizard*:

www.ul.com/firewizard



NJDFS FIREBOWL '11 MOVES AHEAD



**NJDFS F.I.R.E. BOWL CHAMPS!
BAYONNE 2010**



The 2011 New Jersey Division of Fire Safety F. I. R. E. Bowl challenge is gearing up for yet another edition. Finalists have been selected, and this year's bowl features an annual Orientation at Middlesex Fire Academy on March 31st.

The competition is scheduled to commence at the Wilkins Theater on the campus of Kean University, Wednesday, May 18. Bayonne has dominated in the past but there is always a chance that a champion may arise from a new set of challengers in this classic battle of middle school student fire knowledge!

NJ WILDLAND FIRE SEMINAR SCHEDULED

Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Workshop

The spring wildfire season is upon us. The NFPA has scheduled a HIZ workshop for New Jersey firefighters on October 11, 2011 in Hasbrouck Heights.

This workshop will help you to identify hazards and reduce risks in the home ignition zone before a wildfire starts. Recent research has led to a greater understanding of how wildland fires ignite homes. By applying new knowledge of how wildland/urban interface fires occur and by using new approaches, future wildland/urban interface fire disasters can be significantly reduced.

This 2-day workshop is designed to (1) provide a basic understanding of fire behavior and structure ignition from wildfires, (2) increase an understanding and competency in wildland /urban interface fire mitigation, (3) provide an understanding of the risk assessment methods based on NFPA 1144: Standard for Reducing Structure Ignition Hazards from wildland fire, (4) identify corrective mitigation measures for the resident to implement to reduce the risk of ignition, and (5) provide an understanding of safety measures for new construction and community design, based on NFPA 1141: Standard for Fire Protection Infrastructure for Land Development in Suburban and Rural Areas.

The NFPA is offering the workshop during six of its Professional Development weeks in 2011. Each attendee will receive a Seminar Workbook, a copy of NFPA 1141, NFPA 1144, and an NFPA® Nylon briefcase. Attendees will receive a Certificate with 1.4 CEUs.

New Jersey Seminar is October 10-11-2011
Hilton Hasbrouck Heights Hotel
650 Terrace Avenue
Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey 07604

TO REGISTER:

<http://www.nfpa.org>

NJDFS-KEAN SPRING REGISTRATION FEATURES MORE USER CONTROL



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SPRING 2011 COURSES

**FOR FIRE OFFICIALS, FIRE INSPECTORS,
FIRE INSTRUCTORS AND FIREFIGHTERS**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Spring 2011 online registration will begin on March 7, 2011. In addition to the many popular training programs and educational courses returning to our schedule, there will be several new and updated offerings to serve the training needs of the fire service.

ONLINE REGISTRATION PERIODS:

MARCH 7 - MARCH 20 - LIMIT: TWO COURSES

MARCH 21 - LIMIT: FOUR ADDITIONAL COURSES

Course descriptions will be available online starting March 1 at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/DCA/DFS and WWW.KEANFIRESAFETY.COM



WEB-BASED REGISTRATION

New features added to the Division of Fire Safety Website give fire personnel more control over the process of registering for courses. You will be able to access and update your personal information, review and print your course enrollment list, review and print your completed course list, obtain a certificate of attendance for any course you have completed, and review and print your current certification list, and review and print your courses for certification.

TO REGISTER, YOU WILL NEED TO LOGIN TO YOUR MYNEWJERSEY ACCOUNT.

If you do NOT have a myNewJersey account, please call 908-737-0230 for technical assistance only, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No telephone registrations will be accepted.

If you already have a myNewJersey account, follow the steps below:

STEP 1 - Open the State of New Jersey's website: WWW.STATE.NJ.US

STEP 2 - Click on Login, located in the upper left hand side of the screen

STEP 3 - Complete the fields for Log On ID and Password and click on the "Log On" button

STEP 4 - Check that you are clicked on the "myNewJersey" tab, which is located on the left side of the screen under "The State Of New Jersey"

STEP 5 - Click on "NJ Firefighters Certification" located under DCA Applications. If you do not have this link, please call 908-737-0230 Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. for technical assistance.

STEP 6 - Click on the gray rectangle "Register for Course" on the Division of Fire Safety Personal Information screen



SPRING 2011 COURSES

**FOR FIRE OFFICIALS, FIRE INSPECTORS,
FIRE INSTRUCTORS AND FIREFIGHTERS**

NEW WEBSITE POSTS DANGERS OF FIREFIGHTER CO2 POISONING

Even though first responders are trained to understand the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning and to recognize potential signs and symptoms, CO poisoning can go unrecognized and untreated, leading to short-term risk and long-term health problems.

Know the facts about CO poisoning...

1. CO poisoning can present with flu-like symptoms, but it is also possible to be poisoned without having any symptoms.
2. CO poisoning puts firefighters at significant risk at the scene of a fire.
3. Even mild CO poisoning causes mental confusion, which can lead to poor decision making, putting both the exposed firefighter and others on the fire scene at risk. Mild CO poisoning can also rob the heart and brain of oxygen nearly 50% of line of duty firefighter deaths are attributed to heart disease or stroke.
4. That's why new NFPA 1584 rehab standards support the use of on-scene CO testing.
5. CO poisoning significantly increases long-term health risks.

6. Just one severe CO poisoning almost doubles the risk of early death. Consistent exposure to CO poisoning may cause long term heart and brain damage.

What you can do to protect yourself...

Wear your mask during overhaul

Test for carbon monoxide in the blood with an approved noninvasive device.

1. Hampson NB et al. American Journal of Emergency Medicine. 26:665-669, 2008.
2. Jakubowski G. FireRescue Magazine. 22(11):52-55, 2004.
3. Bledsoe BE. FireRescue Magazine. September 2005.
4. NFPA 1584: Standards on the Rehabilitation Process for Members During Emergency Operations and Training Exercises. Annex A section A.6.2.B.4(1)
5. Hampson NB et al. Crit Care Med. 2009; 37(6): 1941-47.
6. Bledsoe BE. Journal of Emergency Medical Services. 32:54-59, 2007.

For more information::

www.thesilentkiller.net

USFA REPORT SHOWS FIREFIGHTER INJURY LIKELY AT STRUCTURE FIRES

EMMITSBURG, MD - The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) issued a special report today examining the details of firefighter injuries sustained on the fireground or while responding to or returning from a fire incident. The report, [Fire-Related Firefighter Injuries Reported to NFIRS](#) (PDF, 945 Kb), was developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center and is further evidence of FEMA's effort to reduce the number of firefighter injuries through an increased awareness and understanding of their causes and how they might be prevented.

The report is part of the Topical Fire Report Series and is based on 2006 to 2008 data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).

Topical reports are designed to explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS. Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information. Also included are recent examples of fire incidents that demonstrate some of the issues addressed in the report or that put the report topic in context.

For further information regarding other topical reports or any programs and training available from the U.S. Fire Administration, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.

U.S. Fire
Administration



FEMA

- **AN ESTIMATED 81,070 FIREFIGHTER INJURIES OCCUR ANNUALLY**
- **49 PERCENT OF FIREFIGHTER INJURIES OCCUR ON THE FIREGROUND AND 6 PERCENT OCCUR WHEN RESPONDING TO OR COMING FROM AN INCIDENT**
- **OVEREXERTION/STRAIN IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF FIREFIGHTER INJURY**
38 PERCENT OF ALL INJURIES AT FIRES RESULT IN LOST WORK TIME
 - **NEARLY 90 PERCENT OF INJURIES OCCUR AT STRUCTURE FIRES**
ON AVERAGE STRUCTURE FIRES HAVE MORE INJURIES THAN OTHER FIRES
- **INJURIES ARE MORE LIKELY AT BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 2 TO 5PM IN JULY**

Editor's note: The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety collects NFIRS data and sees a nearly 95 percent compliance rate.



STAFF MEMBERS

**THE NEW JERSEY
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
101 SOUTH BROAD STREET
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625**

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	609-633-6106
INSPECTIONS UNIT	609-633-6132
LEGISLATIVE UNIT	609-984-1947

ARSON UNIT	609-633-8161
CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION AND EMBLEMS UNIT	609-984-7860
FIRE DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS UNIT	609-292-4109
NFIRS UNIT	609-984-3476
PUBLIC EDUCATION UNIT	609-633-9722
SMOKE ALARMS	609-633-6432
TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION UNIT	609-633-6315

ARSON-K9 UNIT
CHRIS ECKERT **SUPERVISOR**
 Stephen Letts K-9 Investigator/North
 Rod Meyer K-9 Investigator/South
 Jason Spiecker Investigator/South
 Jeff Silver K-9 Investigator/North

CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION AND EMBLEMS UNIT
 Chris Michallis Chief Investigator
 Kim Lake Technical Assistant

BUREAU OF FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICES
WILLIAM KRAMER **BUREAU CHIEF**
 Patricia Persico Technical Assistant

DIVISION FISCAL UNIT
AIDA JONES **SUPERVISOR**

FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM UNIT
HEATHER PUSKAR **SUPERVISOR**
 Fred Connin NFIRS Representative
 Steve Hearn NFIRS Representative
 Sonia Salva Technical Assistant

PUBLIC EDUCATION UNIT
 Charles Lavin Coordinator
 New Jersey Fire Safety Commission

Jerry Clark Coordinator
 Fire Focus-Public Information

PUBLICATIONS Marylain Kemp

**DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
STAFF MEMBERS**

BUREAU OF FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT
LOUIS KILMER **BUREAU CHIEF**
609-633-6131

TEAM 1-NORTH
JOSH LAZARUS **SUPERVISOR**
609-633-6741

[CTY CODE: 02-07-09-10-12-13-14-16-18-19-20]

Charles Wian-(NW) **Peter D'Amore (NE)**
609-633-6132

TEAM 2-SOUTH
GLENN SMYTH **SUPERVISOR**
609-633-6103

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Steve Speicher (SW) **Bob Kozlowski (SE)**
609-633-6132

FIRE DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS
RICHARD FARLETTA **SUPERVISOR**
609-826-4764

Shore Region **609-292-2705**
 Craig Augustoni Regional Fire Coordinator

Delaware River Region **609-943-4726**
 Mike Gallagher Regional Fire Coordinator

Southern Region **609-292-7419**
 John Honer Planner

Northern Region **609-292-3502**
 David Hughes Planner

Northwest Region **609-292-5148**
 Timothy Weiss Regional Fire Coordinator

RIOC-SEOC **609-947-7468**
 James McFadden Planner

UASI Region **609-324-7411**
 Bruce Tynan Regional Fire Coordinator

**DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
STAFF MEMBERS**

JUVENILE FIRESETTER PROGRAM
SMOKE ALARM DISTRIBUTION

609-633-6432
 Charles Luxton Coordinator

FIRE CODE LOCAL ASSISTANCE
PAUL ALLEN **SUPERVISOR**
609-633-6111

NORTHERN [CTY CODE 07-10-11-16-18-19-21]
 George Cramer **609-633-6112**

NORTHERN [CTY CODE 02-09-14-20]
 Paul Elenio **609-633-6147**

CENTRAL [CTY CODE 01-05-12-13-15]
 Frank Clark **609-633-6738**

SOUTHERN [CTY CODE 03-04-06-08-17]
 George Beckett **609-826-5551**

OFFICE OF TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION
KENT NEISWENDER **SUPERVISOR**
609-341-3473

Gregory Kirkham Coordinator
609-633-6424

TELEPHONE HOTLINES

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT
1-800-FIRELINE

JUVENILE FIRESETTER
1-800-357-5230