

The Newsletter of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

# FIRE FOCUS

**Excellence in Public Safety**

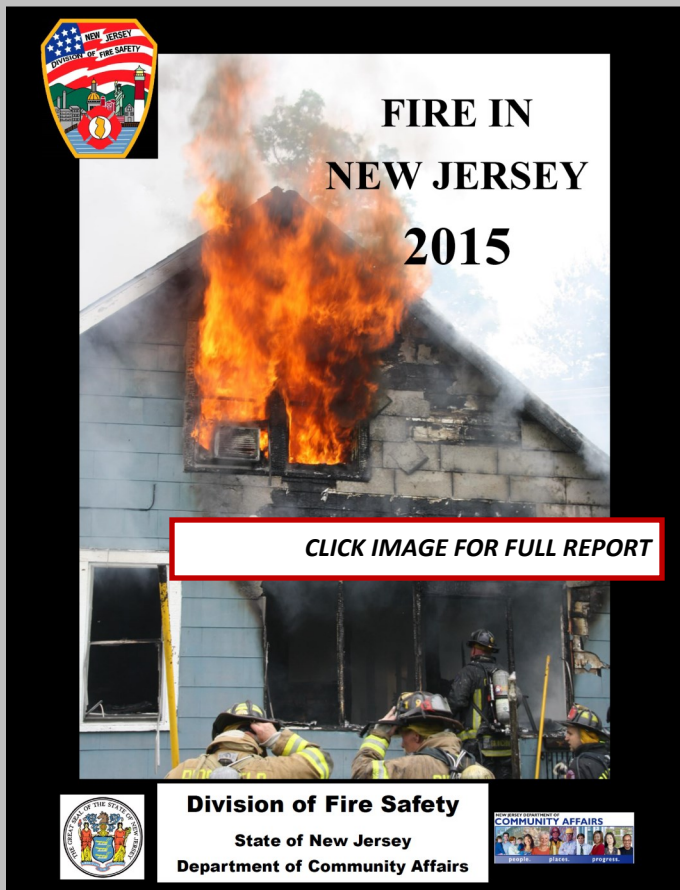
**Charles A. Richman, Commissioner**  
**William Kramer Jr., Acting Director**  
fall-winter 2016

**New Jersey Department of Community Affairs**  
**New Jersey Division of Fire Safety**  
Volume 12 Issue 4

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety recently released a statistical analysis of fire and emergency incidents that occurred in New Jersey in 2015. The data collected and used in the formulation of this report is submitted from fire departments throughout New Jersey that participate in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).

Fire service personnel enter incident data on a monthly basis and submit their data to the Division of Fire Safety, which processes the data into the State NFIRS database, which is then forwarded the data to the Federal NFIRS database.

"I am grateful for the continual efforts by the Division of Fire Safety to limit the potential for more casualties," said New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Commissioner Charles A. Richman.



**FIRE IN  
NEW JERSEY  
2015**

[CLICK IMAGE FOR FULL REPORT](#)

**Division of Fire Safety**  
State of New Jersey  
Department of Community Affairs

## **IN THIS POSTING...**

**[NJDFS FIRE IN NEW JERSEY 2015 ONLINE](#)**

**[MARGARET KNIGHT RETIREMENT](#)**

**[FALL TRAINING CATALOGUE PREVIEW](#)**

**[TEXT TO 911 FOR NEW JERSEY](#)**

**[2017 FIRE SAFETY CALENDARS](#)**

**[OPERATION SAVE A LIFE-NEW JERSEY](#)**

**[IN MEMORIAM](#)**



**FIRE SAFETY PROGRAM  
TOOLKIT**

A Comprehensive Resource for Fire Safety Educators

# ***FIRE BY THE NUMBERS SEEN IN NJDFS REPORT '2015 FIRE IN NEW JERSEY'***

*(continued from page one)*

“The report shows a decrease in fire fatalities and fires reported, as well as an increase in victims revived on the scene compared to last year. I credit the Division’s public education programs and firefighter training programs for the change,” Richman stated.

The report states that 27,409 fires occurred last year; nearly 80 percent involve residential properties; 56 percent occurred in one or two-family dwellings. In addition, 648 firefighters and 260 civilians were injured as a result of last year’s fires.

The year was marked by the loss of five firefighters in the line of duty, while 77 civilians perished in single and multifamily house fires. However, 581 victims were revived on scene by first responders who used automatic external defibrillators.

Without the life-saving device, the total number of victims would be far worse.

“While the numbers demonstrate a small decrease in fires, our goal is to exponentially improve our fire safety throughout the state,” said William Kramer, Jr. Acting Director and New Jersey State Fire Marshal.

“We continue to strive to reduce the toll fire takes on our state. The fight must begin with creating innovate public awareness programs on how to avoid the deadly consequences of fire.”

As part of the “*Fire in New Jersey 2015*” report, officials have provided a “Fire Clock” that represents the timeline of fire incidents.

## **FIRE IN NEW JERSEY 2015 FIRE CLOCK**

- One fire occurred every 19 minutes 10 seconds
- Fire departments responded every 14 minutes 32 seconds
- One structure fire occurred every 33 minutes 52 seconds
- One vehicle fire occurred every 2 hours 42 minutes



Picture courtesy of Ron Jeffers:  
Kearny, New Jersey; January 31, 2015

# JOB WELL DONE...

# MAGGIE KNIGHT



**STEVE SPEICHER PHOTOS**

Senior Inspector Margaret Knight, our “Maggie,” celebrates her retirement from service flanked by New Jersey DCA Commissioner Charles Richman and William Kramer, Jr. Acting Director and State Fire Marshal.



Maggie had the affection of her fellow employees and the support of her family throughout her career and recent health challenges. We will miss you!

# DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY FALL SEMESTER:



[Click graphic for full catalogue](#)

## Fall 2016 TRAINING COURSES

*for Fire Officials, Fire Inspectors, Fire Instructors and Firefighters*

Presented by:

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs,  
Division of Fire Safety in cooperation with Kean University



***"Learning is not compulsory, but neither is survival."***

*Edward Demming*



*NJDFS Bureau of Inspections  
Chief Louis Kilmer*



In January of this year NJDFS Inspections Bureau Chief Louis Kilmer (above left) expressed appreciation upon the behalf of fire service interests in New Jersey for the annual donation of life saving 10 year sealed battery smoke alarms meant expressly for needy and disabled state residents.

Another 5,000 alarms were distributed in the 18th year the Division of Fire Safety has facilitated those distributions to fire departments throughout the state, including two “drive thru” giveaways hosted by New Jersey Operation Save a Life Coordinator Charles Lavin, bringing the total alarm distribution to over 100,000 alarms in the intervening years.



**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**



# **SAFETY ALERT**

PO Box 809, Trenton, NJ 08625-0809 (609) 633-6070

SAFETY ALERT 16-1

## **Carfentanil**

Issued September, 2016

### **Powerful Opiate Behind Overdose Surge is Danger to Responders -**

Experts believe a [deadly new drug](#) is to blame for the recent rash of



opiate-related overdoses in the Midwest that officials have called “unprecedented.”

In Cincinnati, Ohio, [174 people](#) have overdosed in less than a week, and similar increases were noted in several surrounding states, even causing the Pennsylvania Department of Health to issue a [warning](#). Officials believe this

spike is caused by [carfentanil](#), a synthetic drug 10,000 times more powerful than morphine that is used as an elephant tranquilizer. The antidote commonly used in the field - naloxone (or Narcan) – has proven somewhat ineffective, forcing responders to administer up to five times the usual dosage, according to reports.

**Assessment:** Carfentanil is a dangerous substance and poses a serious exposure threat to [responders](#). The drug can be absorbed through the skin and experts believe a dose “[smaller than a snowflake](#)” can kill a person, making personal protective equipment (gloves, etc.) critical. Some responders are even carrying Narcan to protect themselves, in the event they become exposed to the powerful opiate. Carfentanil, like the less powerful fentanyl, is mixed with heroin and sold on the street, making it impossible for responders to immediately know the exact nature of the substance encountered.

Reprinted with permission from the Watchline, an FDNY FOUO Product

**PLEASE POST IMMEDIATELY**

# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual New Jersey Youth Firesetter Intervention Conference

For Fire Service, Mental Health, Law Enforcement, Social Services and Educational Professionals

Middlesex County Fire Academy  
**December 1-2, 2016**

**Fusing the Legal and  
Social Issues of Youth Firesetting**

Registration Begins  
September 22, 2016

Registration information and  
forms will be available  
on that date at  
[www.keanfiresafety.com](http://www.keanfiresafety.com)

Presented by:  
New Jersey Division of Fire Safety & Kean University  
In association with NJ Chapter of International  
Association of Arson Investigators



# ***DIVISION MAKES 'SPECIAL DATA REQUEST' ON HOVERBOARD FIRE REPORTING***

**A hoverboard store fire in Garwood is the latest in a series of incidents to cause a Special Data Request by NJDFS-State Fire Marshal.**

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**



## **SPECIAL DATA REQUEST**

P.O. Box 809 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-633-6070

DATA REQUEST 16-1

### **HOVER BOARD RELATED FIRE, EXPLOSION, AND/OR BURN INJURY INCIDENTS**

**NOTE: Up to two incidents can be reported on this form**

Incident Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_  
Incident Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Structure: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupied at Time: Yes  No   
Hover Board Brand: \_\_\_\_\_ Model / Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Causal Factor: Battery  Charger  Power Cord  Other   
If Other Causal Factor, Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Injuries Sustained: Yes  No  Structural Damage: Yes  No   
Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Incident Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_  
Incident Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Structure: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupied at Time: Yes  No   
Hover Board Brand: \_\_\_\_\_ Model / Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Causal Factor: Battery  Charger  Power Cord  Other   
If Other Causal Factor, Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Injuries Sustained: Yes  No  Structural Damage: Yes  No   
Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email completed form to [jason.spiecker@dca.nj.gov](mailto:jason.spiecker@dca.nj.gov) or fax to 609-341-3472

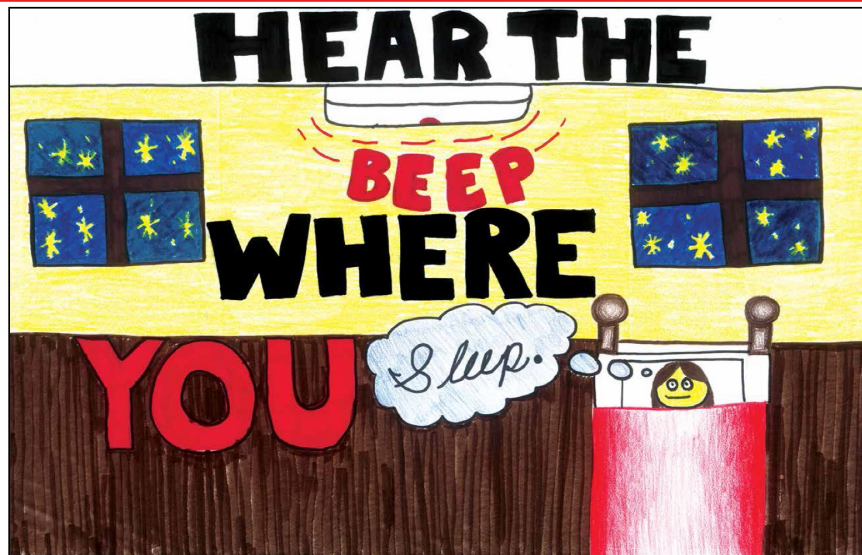


# 2016 POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

# GRACE 2017 FIRE SAFETY CALENDAR

## 2017 NJ Fire Safety Calendar

New Jersey Division of Fire Safety / New Jersey Fire Prevention & Protection Association



Printed Courtesy of



All of the artwork in this calendar was submitted for the 2015-2016 New Jersey Fire Safety Poster Contest. This program is cooperatively organized by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and the New Jersey Fire Prevention & Protection Association. The featured posters were selected from a pool of nearly 10,000 entries statewide.

The NJ Division of Fire Safety and NJ Fire Prevention & Protection Association would like to thank the program's generous sponsors:



American Fire Sprinkler Association  
Atlantic City Electric  
Bergen County Fire Prevention & Protection Association  
City Fire Equipment Company  
CVS Pharmacy  
Fire Sprinkler Fitters & Apprentices Local 696  
Joshua Marcus Group  
Monmouth County Fire Prevention & Protection Association  
New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board



Thank you to the thousands of dedicated teachers and students throughout New Jersey who participated in this year's contest!!

CONTACT YOUR COUNTY POSTER CONTEST COORDINATOR TO OBTAIN FREE CALENDARS

# ***NIST TAKES ON INTEGRATING CRITICAL ON SCENE RESPONDER COMMUNICATIONS***

*(From Nat'l Institute of Standards and Technology - NIST)*

First responders often have trouble communicating with each other in emergencies. They may use different types of radios, or they may be working in rural areas lacking wireless coverage, or they may be deep inside large buildings that block connections.



To demonstrate improvements to emergency communications and foster research on systems that can be quickly placed in strategic locations, the *National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)* has worked with industry partners to integrate commercial technologies into a mobile wireless communications system. About the size of a large file cabinet, the platform offers more capabilities and faster setup than typical “cell on wheels” systems. As some users call it fondly on social media, it’s a *Nerdcart*.

NIST’s Rapidly Deployable Public Safety Research Platform—the more official name—enables over 200 local users of broadband smart phones, Wi-Fi, data terminals and older walkie-talkie radios to all communicate with each other using voice, text, instant messages, video and data.

The range is about 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) in a rural environment. Crucially, the system interconnects Long Term Evolution (LTE) phones, the latest wireless standard, with the public safety community’s traditional Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems.

The nation’s estimated 5 million public safety personnel are expected to use a mix of both systems. LTE data transmission rates are 30 to 1,000 times higher than LMR.

“The portable system was built to enable research in diverse environments,” said Tracy McElvaney, an engineering supervisor in NIST’s Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) Division. “But it is modeled after FirstNet’s image of a vehicle-borne network system and the public safety community’s vision of a rapidly deployable system to be used when the nationwide network is not available.”



“Our role at NIST is not to develop the technology itself, but to integrate the state-of-the-art pieces into a conceptual platform that will help drive the industry to meet public safety needs—that is, to make portable systems smaller, more robust and with more capabilities,” McElvaney said. NIST’s research and demonstration platform was

# ***NIST TAKES ON INTEGRATING CRITICAL ON SCENE RESPONDER COMMUNICATIONS***

developed through PSCR's Broadband Consortium in which more than 70 vendors provide equipment and support. PSCR staff use the system for research projects such as evaluating how to improve audio intelligibility amid crowds and background noise and the development of a database of communications in high-stress, loud-noise environments. The platform enables research into factors considered critical to the public safety mission, such as how to establish "push to talk" (i.e., using a button to switch from sending to receiving) capabilities over broadband systems.

## **Emergency Communications**

PSCR staff recently tested the system at a convention center and a stadium in Harris County, Texas, an early adopter of LTE technology for public safety.

"Typically, it takes on the order of hours to deploy a 'cell on wheels' system to provide coverage at an event, and multiple deployable systems are needed to enable both LTE and LMR" McElvaney said.

system provides LTE, LMR, video and data. We rolled the system from the vehicle into the building, and once connected to an AC power outlet, we were making calls in less than 5 minutes."

The mobile system can also be connected to the internet, satellite or a commercial cellular network to link users to a broader community. PSCR staff are currently exploring integrating sensor data and analytics into the system, and developing requirements for linking up with both personal area networks that are already in place as well as temporary Incident Area Networks, which are created as needed and can expand as an incident grows in size and complexity.

NIST has Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) with the partners contributing to the mobile platform. CRADAs are the principal mechanism used by federal labs to engage in collaborative efforts with nonfederal organizations and allow the exchange of resources with private industry to advance technologies that can then be commercialized for the benefit of the public and the U.S. economy.

The mobile net is just one of a number of deployable systems PSCR plans to evaluate and leverage for research. Others include backpack systems that can rapidly serve a small team of users, vehicle-mounted systems and perhaps airborne systems. The work was funded, in part, by the Department of Homeland Security's First Responder Group.

"Our



**FirstNet**®

***MAKE SURE YOUR VOICE IS HEARD ON THE REDRAWING THE LINES OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TAKE THE FIRST NET SURVEY <CLICK THE LOGO LINK!>***



# ***DIVISION ENDORSED TRAINING AVAILABLE***



## **PER-222**

The National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT) at Louisiana State University invites you to join us for a unique training opportunity. The NCBRT is offering the following Department of Homeland Security (DHS) certified course:

### **Public Safety WMD Response — Sampling Techniques and Guidelines (PER-222)**

This course addresses specific fundamentals and skills associated with an emergency response to a WMD incident. As such, it provides detailed technical information and includes hands-on practice of actions required of emergency responders in such situations.

Participants are provided the opportunity to perform public safety sampling techniques required in the response to a WMD event. Of special interest is the course's emphasis on collecting forensically valid samples, which is accomplished through maintaining a secure chain-of-custody for the sample from the time of collection through laboratory analysis. This process is consistent with the FBI 12-step process for managing a crime scene, including those involving a WMD.

**Professional Disciplines:** Law Enforcement, Fire Service, Hazardous Materials Personnel, Public Health

The target audience for the **Direct Delivery** version of this course includes:

- Emergency responders most likely to be called upon to operate within the exclusion zone of a WMD incident involving hazardous materials

- Responders able to utilize personal protective equipment (PPE) at Level C or higher, employ monitoring and detection devices and procedures, and obtain samples from the scene for analysis
- Responders who work with HazMat teams in roles that do not require exclusion zone entry
- Personnel responsible for receiving and transporting a public safety sample from the HazMat team to a laboratory

**Date: November 15th, 16th and 17th, 2016**

**Location: Middlesex County Fire Academy  
1001 Fire Academy Drive  
Sayreville, NJ 08872**

**How to Register: Call or Email**

**Tpr. II Pakorn Patimetha #6961**

**(732) 721-4040**

**LPP6961@GW.NJSP.ORG**

**NCBRT**

# **Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist Level I October 24 and 25, 2016**

**Middlesex County Fire Academy  
1001 Fire Academy Drive  
Sayreville, NJ 08872**

*Conference details and registration available September 2, 2016 at [www.keanfiresafety.com](http://www.keanfiresafety.com).*

This two-day course covers the job performance requirements of a Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist Level I as detailed in the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1035. The course is designed for the person who is responsible or will be responsible for leading a Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Program.

**Material covered:**

- The difference between the titles Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist I and Youth Firesetting Prevention and Interventions Specialist II. A YFIP2 will manage or run the program; a YFIP 1 will screen and provide life safety education and work with the YFPI 2 who runs the program.
- Summarize the job performance requirements as detailed in NFPA Standard 1035
- Develop a youth firesetting prevention and intervention program in their own community
- Demonstrate how to evaluate a youth firesetting prevention and intervention program

**Instructors:**

Captain Helge Nordtveit (Ret.)  
Cranford Fire Department and Middlesex County Firewatch Program

Joe Ehrhardt  
Middlesex County Firewatch Program

**Cost:** \$60.00 **Time:** 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m.

**Please complete registration forms and mail to:**

Kean University  
Fire Safety Training Program  
Attn: Jolene Steele  
1000 Morris Ave, L-145 Union, NJ 07083  
(908) 737-0230

# **STATEWIDE TEXT TO 911 CAPABILITY A “QUANTUM LEAP” FOR FIRST RESPONDERS**

Citizens in the state of New Jersey have a new tool at their disposal should they need help in an emergency situation. State officials unveiled a new text-to-911 capability that will allow residents living anywhere in the state to interact with emergency dispatchers via text message.



The tool has been a topic of much discussion following recent high-profile mass shootings, which occur in areas where the ability to text emergency responders was not an option.

The feature allows citizens to directly message dispatchers and is a critical part in getting better information to first responders during an emergency event, said Chris Rodriguez, Director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP), at an event at Rutgers University.

“The text-to-911 capability will allow, in the event that the unthinkable happens in our backyard, the public in a safe way to text 911 and be able to provide vital information to the first responders arriving on the scene,” he explained.

Relying solely on voice calls, as many 911 networks do, makes the information-gathering process slower and can put callers in high-risk situations.

During the Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando, Fla., victims reportedly reached out to family members through text messages asking them to call 911. Unfortunately, the network did not have the technical capability to receive text messages directly.

“FBI surveys of active shooter situations that have occurred across the country show that about 70 percent of active shooter situations end in less than five minutes,” Rodriguez said. “And, in some cases, the speed at which those happen sometimes outpace the ability of first responders to arrive on scene.”



Attorney General Christopher Porrino said that while the technology represents a “quantum leap” in the natural evolution of 911 networks, the tools should only be used when a voice call is not possible or would put the caller in danger.

# **STATEWIDE TEXT TO 911 CAPABILITY A “QUANTUM LEAP” FOR FIRST RESPONDERS**



“As quickly as you may be able to text, your voice still works better to ensure the fastest and most appropriate and reliable response to your emergency,” he said. “But again, we fully recognize that there are going to be situations where voice-to-voice is just not an option. So, the thing to remember is call when you can, text when you can’t.”

Porrino said voice calls allow dispatchers to not only hear activity in the background, but also allow them to monitor other factors, such as caller stress level and condition. The attorney general also applauded the text feature for use within the deaf and hearing impaired communities.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) also warns that voices calls should always be the first resort in an emergency. Despite the prevalence of the mobile communication medium, many emergency dispatch networks rely heavily on reports made through landline or mobile phone channels.

State Chief Technology Officer Dave Weinstein said the technology came online in late July and represents an alternate way to communicate with first responders.

“This is about access and choice and expanding the options for our citizens to leverage the services of emergency service personnel in this state, all across our 21 counties,” he said.

Though the 911 system will be able to receive mobile messages, it cannot receive picture or video messages. If a text message does not reach a dispatcher, a “bounce back” notification is provided to alert the sender.

The capability was made possible through a collaborative effort that included the likes of the New Jersey State Police, the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, the Office of Information Technology, mobile service providers, and others.



# DRONES

**On the order of thermal cameras that had their own technological impact on the fire service are drones that are quickly being incorporated into search and rescue operations in rural areas.**

**However, they may have a key role to play for emergency services in urban areas sooner than you imagine.**

**Plan for both their arrival and use by getting the fire service component written into your local ordinances. Study the model one just released by the National League of Cities to do that.**

**Click the adjacent graphic for more information.**

## A model for Cities

### Ordinance for the Promotion of Drone Innovation & Accountability

The National League of Cities' model ordinance is designed to be flexible enough to foster innovation – and comprehensive enough to keep citizens safe. It empowers local leaders to implement solutions tailored to the needs of their community; ensures the safety of residents; avoids an undue burden on drone operators and the cities where they fly; and harnesses the transformative power of drones to improve our lives.

Taken together, the components of this model ordinance create an efficient and effective system of accountability for drones operating in cities.

#### Ordinance for the Promotion of Drone Innovation & Accountability

AN ORDINANCE TO ENCOURAGE INNOVATIVE AND SAFE USES OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT WHILE ADDRESSING CONCERNS ABOUT ACCOUNTABILITY.

##### Section 1 – Purpose.

The City encourages the safe and responsible use of Unmanned Aircraft. This ordinance is designed to empower innovation while protecting and promoting the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.

##### Section 2 – Definitions.

An "Unmanned Aircraft" shall mean an aircraft operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft. This definition includes devices commonly referred to as drones, remote controlled aircraft, and model aircraft.

##### Section 3 – Development of Rules.

In addition to the specific requirements set forth below, the City directs and delegates to its City Manager the authority to develop rules for the operation of Unmanned Aircraft within the City limits, consistent with this ordinance. The City Manager must publish such rules on the City's website, or through other equivalent internet accessible systems, and must periodically report to the Council at least once per year on the implementation of such rules, including information regarding enforcement actions and the costs associated with implementing and enforcing such rules. The rules developed by the City Manager must be consistent with the following:

A. The City Manager may adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner in which a person may land, launch, or otherwise operate an Unmanned Aircraft so as not to interfere with the health, safety, and welfare of City residents. Such







# AT ISSUE:

## **FIRE LEGISLATION BEFORE THE 114th CONGRESS**



**PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT**  
S. 2944 was introduced by Senator Charles Grassley (IA) on May 18, 2016.

*Summary: The legislation improves the timeliness and transparency in the Justice Department's processing of PSOB death, disability, and educational assistance claims.*

### **NATIONAL MITIGATION INVESTMENT ACT**

H.R. 5177 was introduced by Congressman Carlos Curbelo (FL-26) on May 10, 2016.

*Summary: The legislation incentivizes states to adopt state-wide model building codes and creates a grant program to assist states and localities in enforcing those building codes.*

### **HONORING EMERGENCY RESPONSE OFFICERS (HERO) BENEFITS REFORM ACT**

H.R. 5123 was introduced by Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-9) on April 29, 2016.

*Summary: The legislation improves timeliness and transparency in the Justice Department's processing of PSOB death, disability, and educational assistance claims, and clarifies that fire police and fire investigators are public safety officers for the purposes of the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) program.*

### **FIREFIGHTER CANCER REGISTRY ACT**

H.R. 4625 was introduced by Congressman Richard Hanna (NY-22) on February 25, 2016.

S. 2799 was introduced by Senator Robert Menendez (NJ) on April 14, 2016.

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

### **PROTECTING PATIENT ACCESS TO EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS ACT OF 2016**

H.R. 4365 was introduced by Congressman Richard Hudson (NC-8) on January 12, 2016.

*Summary: The legislation clarifies existing law to allow EMS providers to continue dispensing controlled substances under "standing orders".*

### **FISCAL YEAR 2016 CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

H.R. 2029 was originally introduced as the Fiscal Year 2016 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act by Congressman Charles Dent (PA-15) on April 24, 2015.

*Summary: The bill fund programs and activities of the federal government for Fiscal Year 2016. Note: H.R. 2029 was signed into law on December 18, 2015.*

### **FIRE SPRINKLER INCENTIVE ACT**

H.R. 3591 was introduced by Congressman Tom Reed (NY-23) on September 22, 2015.

S. 2068 was introduced by Senator Susan Collins (ME) on September 22, 2015.

*Summary: The legislation amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include automated fire sprinkler systems as section 179 property and classify certain automated fire sprinkler systems as 15-year property for purposes of depreciation.*

### **NICHOLAS AND ZACHARY BURT MEMORIAL CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION ACT**

S. 1250 was introduced by Senator Amy Klobuchar (MN) on May 7, 2015.

H.R. 4701 was introduced by Congresswoman Anne McLane Kuster (NH-02) on March 3, 2016.

*Summary: The legislation establishes a federal grant program to assist states in carrying out CO education programs.*

### **JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT**

S. 928 was introduced on April 14, 2015 by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (NY).

H.R. 1786 was introduced on April 14, 2015 by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY-12).



# AT ISSUE:

## **FIRE LEGISLATION BEFORE THE 114th CONGRESS**



*Summary: The legislation provides health care and economic compensation to those suffering from illness or injury due to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, as well as to the families of those who died since the attacks from related injuries. Note: The Zadroga Act was passed into law as part of H.R. 2029, the Fiscal Year 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act.*

### **SAFE BUILDING CODES INCENTIVE ACT**

H.R. 1748 was introduced on April 13, 2015 by Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25).

*Summary: The bill provides additional funding for post-disaster grants, under a program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to states that adopt and enforce state-wide building codes.*

### **PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT**

S. 420 was introduced on February 20, 2015 by Senator Pat Toomey (PA).

H.R. 2658 was introduced on June 4, 2015 by Congressman Lou Barletta (PA-11).

*Summary: The legislation ensures that volunteers are not counted as full-time employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.*

### **VOLUNTEER RESPONDER INCENTIVE PROTECTION ACT**

S. 609 was introduced on February 27, 2015 by Senator Charles Schumer (NY).

H.R. 2752 was introduced on June 12, 2015 by Congressman John Larson (CT-1).

*Summary: The legislation exempts from federal income tax any property tax benefit and up to \$600 per year of any other type of benefit that a state or local unit of government provides to volunteer emergency responders as a recruitment or retention incentive.*

### **VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ACT**

S. 616 was introduced on February 27, 2015 by Senator Susan Collins (ME).

H.R. 1171 was introduced on February 27, 2015 by Congressman Peter King (NY-2).

*Summary: The legislation modifies the federal tax code to make it easier for fire departments and local governments to provide recruitment and retention incentive to volunteer emergency response personnel through length of service award programs (LOSAPs).*

### **FEDERAL FIREFIGHTERS FAIRNESS ACT**

H.R. 1035 was introduced on February 24, 2015 by Congresswoman Lois Capps (CA-24).

*Summary: The legislation amends federal law to create a rebuttable presumption that heart disease, lung disease, specified cancers and infectious diseases contracted by federal firefighters are job-related and contracted in the line-of-duty for purposes of worker's compensation and disability retirement.*

### **FALLEN HEROES FLAG ACT**

H.R. 723 was introduced by Congressman Peter King (NY-2) on February 4, 2015.

S. 2755 was introduced by Senator Roy Blunt (MO) on April 6, 2016.

*Summary: The legislation allows the Representative of the immediate family of a deceased public safety officer who died in the line of duty to provide the family, at their request, with a Capitol-flown flag, together with a certificate, signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Representative providing the flag, which contains an expression of sympathy for the family. NOTE: S. 2755 was signed into law on May 16, 2016.*

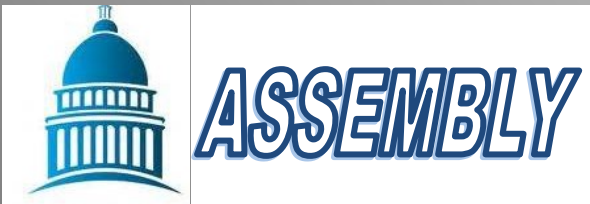
(From CFSI)



# AT ISSUE:

*Pending Fire Service Bills*

*<click bill number to search>*



- [A141](#)
- [A177](#)
- [A191](#)
- [A250](#)
- [A319](#)
- [A377](#)
- [A440](#)
- [A522](#)
- [A606](#)
- [A678](#)
- [A702](#)
- [A769](#)
- [A856](#)
- [A901](#)
- [A948](#)
- [A1090](#)
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