The Newsletter of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

FIRE FOCUS

Excellence in Public Safety

Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver, Commissioner Richard Mikutsky, Director and State Fire Marshal Spring 2020 New Jersey Department of Community Affairs New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Volume 16 Issue 2

WABC 7 OPERATION SAVE A LIFE 2020

Each year WABC 7 Operation Save a Life holds a kickoff celebration marking the start of another round of free smoke alarm distribution for the elderly, needy and disabled vets throughout New Jersey, focusing on the large cities of Newark, Jersey City and Paterson and surrounding communities.





IN THIS POSTING...



OPERATION SAVE A LIFE 2020

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SPRING COURSE CATALOGUE ONLINE

FEMA 'FIRE IN THE US 2008-2017'

ATTENTION CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

DRONES UNDER CONTROL

NEED VOLUNTEERS?

CLICK HERE FOR FREE RECRUITMENT TOOLS!







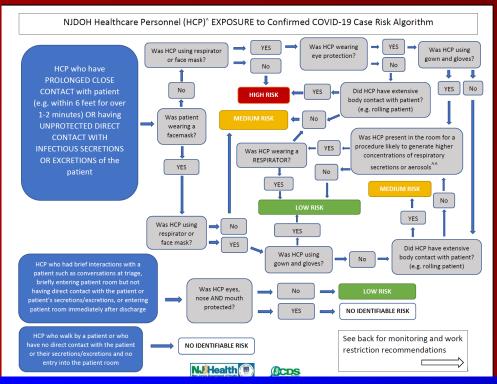
WABC 7 OPERATION SAVE A LIFE 2020



The practice during the many years of WABC 7 Operation Save A Life, is to entrust the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety to coordinate the distribution of smoke alarms annually to hundreds of career and volunteer fire departments in the state, who in turn document the smoke alarm giveaways to the elderly, needy and disabled vets within the community. Kidde Corporation donates the alarms each year.

Under the guiding hand of NJDFS Director and New Jersey State Fire Marshal Richard Mikutsky (center) Division personnel see to the program operations, joined this year by New Jersey Fire Protection and Prevention Association President Richard Silvia (third from right) are (left to right) Charles Lavin– NJDFS New Jersey State Coordinator WABC 7 Operation Save a Life, Bruce Tynan, NJDFS Office of Fire Department Preparedness, Timothy Weiss, NJDFS Office of Fire Department Preparedness, Richard Fareletta, Supervisor, NJDFS Office of Fire Department Preparedness, Richard Mikutsky, Lucille Ventres, NJDFS Logistics Coordinator, Richard Silvia, NJDFS Chief of Inspections Louis Kilmer and Robert Tharpe, NJDFS Office of Fire Department Preparedness.

NJDOH COVID-19 PROTOCOLS



CICK GRAPHIC FOR COMPLETE NJ DOH COVID-19 GUIDES

(CONTINUED) NJDOH HCP EXPOSURE to Confirmed COVID-19 Case Risk Assessment

Risk Exposure Category	Recommended Monitoring*	Work Restrictions for Asymptomatic HCP**
HIGH RISK	ACTIVE Monitoring until 14 days after the last potential exposure	Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure
MEDIUM RISK	ACTIVE Monitoring until 14 days after the last potential exposure	Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure
LOW RISK	SELF-MONITORING with delegated supervision until 14 days after the last potential exposure	NONE
NO IDENTIFIABLE RISK	NONE	NONE

[^]For this guidance, CDC defines HCP as all paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials, including body substances; contaminated medical supplies, devices, and equipment; contaminated environmental surfaces; or contaminated air. For this document, HCP does not include clinical laboratory personnel.

NOTE: This document is meant to be a supplement to the CDC's Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCOV). Guidance may be subject to change as new information becomes available. For more information please visit the NIDOH COVID-19 page (https://www.ni.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml) or CDC's COVID-19 website for healthcare professionals (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/index.html)





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^{*}Procedures likely to generate higher concentrations of respiratory secretions or aerosols include, but are not limited to, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, intubation, extubation, bronchoscopy, nebulizer therapy, or sputum induction.

^{*} If during monitoring the person develops any fever (measured temperature ≥ 100.0 °F or subjective fever) OR respiratory symptoms consistent with the 2019 Novel Coronavirus infection (e.g. cough, shortness of break, sore throat) they should immediately self-isolate (separate themselves from others) and promptly notify their local or state public health authority and healthcare facility for further evaluation.

^{**}In situations of suspected community transmission facilities could consider allowing asymptomatic HCP who have had an exposure to a COVID-19 patient to continue to work after options to improve staffing have been exhausted and in consultation with their occupational health program. These HCP should still report temperature and absence of symptoms each day prior to starting work. Facilities could have exposed HCP wear a facemask while at work for the 14 days after the exposure event if there is a sufficient supply of facemasks. If HCP develop even mild symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they must cease patient care activities immediately and don a facemask.

SPRING GOURSE CATALOGUE ONLINE



Department of Community Affairs

Division Administration



ATTENTION: ALL FIRE DEPARTMENTS

As threat of COVID-19 continues to expand globally, NFPA offers information and resources to help emergency responders, healthcare facilities, and AHJs mitigate its impact and help protect their communities

As recent reports indicate a rapid expansion of COVID-19 around the U.S., NFPA is committed to providing the information and resources emergency responders need as they work to minimize the virus's spread and mitigate its impact.

The following NFPA codes and standards support these efforts, addressing measures related to prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery:

- NFPA 1600®, Standard on Continuity, Emergency, and Crisis Management, is the recognized National
 Preparedness Standard®, offering vital information on conducting risk assessments, business impact analysis,
 capabilities, needs assessments, and developing emergency and recovery plans for myriad events including
 pandemic.
- NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code, is an indispensable resource for healthcare decision-makers, offering essential safety information and requirements for emergency planning, isolation spaces, infection control, IT and data infrastructure, and many other relevant topics.
- NFPA 1999, Standard on Protective Clothing and Ensembles for Emergency Medical Operations, provides
 requirements for the clothing and certain respiratory devices used not only by on-scene first responders but also
 by first receiver health care workers at facilities where treatment will be rendered.
- NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, provides the minimum requirements for
 infection control programs to help identify and limit the potential of an infectious exposure to fire department
 members as well as other first responders during the performance of their assigned duties and within the
 responder working and living environment.
- NFPA 3000, Standard for an Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Program, provides specific and tailored information about ASHER incident preparedness, response, and recovery but the best practices within that first-of- its-kind standard can be applied broadly for an all-hazards protocol and easier recovery.

As first responders proactively work to help slow the spread and reduce the impacts of coronavirus in our communities, we encourage you to access the critical provisions found in these documents, As the uncertainty and concerns around COVID-19 evolve, we all need to remain committed to being as responsive to the issue as possible, and to providing appropriate, timely information and resources as needed.

FEMARELEASES 'FIRE IN THE US'





Fire in the United States 2008-2017

20th Edition

November 2019



Over the 10 years from 2008 to 2017, the U.S. had an annual average of 1,344,100 fires, resulting in:





16,225 civilian injuries.



FIRE IN THE UNITED STATES

Department of Community Affairs

Division of Fire Safety

Division Administration



ATTENTION CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

In order to keep New Jersey Fire Departments updated on Safety and Security Alerts, Fire Code Bulletins, training and issues of importance at the state level, it is imperative that the Division have your fire department's most current information, specifically contact information for the current Chief of Department and a department email address. This gives the Division the ability to email the latest fire service information to your fire department at a moment's notice.

If the Division does not have your fire department's current email address, your fire department members are not receiving important, life safety information that they have the right to know about. The email address can be anyone in the fire department responsible for disseminating important information to its members.

The Division posts fire department information on our website in a document titled <u>Fire Department/LEA Directory</u>. Please visit the Division's website to verify your information. For your convenience, here is a link to the <u>Division's website at http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dfs/</u>. The link to the <u>Fire Department/LEA Directory</u> is on the right side of our home page toward the bottom.

If your department's information is outdated, please click on the <u>Fire Department Survey link</u> located directly below the <u>Fire Department/LEA Directory link</u>. Complete the survey and click "submit" to send your updated information to the Division.

The Fire Department survey should be updated each time there is a change in your fire department's information, specifically; Chief of Department, email addresses, and changes to your department's personnel statistics.



State of New Jersey

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver

Division of Fire Safety

Policy Modification

March 13, 2020

Due to the impact and severity of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) upon the communities of New Jersey, the Division of Fire Safety and Kean University Fire Safety Program Office has been directed to cancel many of its scheduled CEU programs which are required to renew code enforcement, fire investigator and fire instructor certifications. Additionally, many of the county training academies are not currently available to schedule CEU classes because of county decisions to cancel training within their facilities and may not be available for at least six months to offer CEU programs. The cancellation of these programs has created a severe hardship upon fire service members to meet CEU renewal requirements. Effective immediately and lasting as long as deemed necessary by the Director, New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, a modification in policy shall be adopted regarding the renewal of certifications for the titles of: Fire Inspector, Fire Official, Fire Investigator, Fire Instructor 1, Fire Instructor 2, and Drill Ground Instructor.

Policy: Renewal of Certification's (Effective Date: 03/13/2020)

Renewal applications for lapse dates of 04/30/2020 and 10/31/2020 shall be approved by the Office of Training and Certification when received with the required fee. Any CEU's deficient by the applicant to renew their certification(s) shall be added to the next certification cycle total. Enforcement shall take place at the end of the three year cycle. This policy shall be applied to the following certification titles: Fire Inspector, Fire Official, Fire Investigator, Fire Instructor 1, Fire Instructor 2 and Drill Ground Instructor.

FREE WATER FOR FIREFIGHTERS

(Editor's note: Urban grassland **and** forest fire season are well underway. If you are in the Skylands Region or the heart of the Pinelands National Reserve, this year's lack of significant snow could affect both. Reserve this resource! From NVFC)

Thanks to Anheuser-Busch, volunteer fire departments who respond to wildland fires can now apply for canned emergency drinking water through the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) for their immediate or upcoming wildfire response needs. The Emergency Drinking Water for Wildland Firefighters program supports volunteer

departments across the U.S. fighting wildfires throughout the year by helping provide critical hydration when it is needed most.

"We appreciate Anheuser-Busch's commitment to support our volunteer boots on the ground responders in fighting our nation's wildland fires, especially since many volunteer departments often work with limited budgets and resources," said NVFC Chair Steve Hirsch.

"It's critical that firefighters are well-hydrated to ensure the proper level of response. Anheuser-Busch has been an outstanding partner, and we are excited to continue our relationship together through this invaluable program to support our volunteer firefighters' health and safety," says Hirsch

This is the second year of the program, which is an expansion of Anheuser-Busch's longstanding tradition of providing emergency drinking water and supplies for disaster relief efforts.

In 2019, Anheuser-Busch teamed up with the NVFC to deliver over 1 million cans of clean

drinking water to help hydrate our nation's firefighters. This year, Anheuser-Busch has pledged to continue this support through a donation of 1.5 million cans of emergency drinking water to support fire departments across the country.



"Volunteer firefighters selflessly put their lives on the line to help protect our friends, families, and neighbors," said Adam Warrington, Vice President, Better World at Anheuser-Busch. "We are proud to provide valuable hydration support through our emergency drinking water program to our nation's brave firefighters and to work alongside our partners at the NVFC, highlighting their efforts and sacrifices for the continued safety of our communities."

CLICK THE CAN FOR MORE DETAILS



RESEARCH REDUCES FURNITURE FLAMMABILITY

In efforts to reduce the number of deaths from smoking-related fires, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has released a new supply of a specially designed cigarette used as an ignition source for measuring the flammability of soft furnishings such as mattresses and upholstered furniture.

Even though the number of smokers in the U.S. has decreased over the years, fires started by smoking materials such as cigarettes and pipes remain the leading cause of fire deaths in homes. According to the National Fire Protection Association, one out of every 31 smoking-related home fires in the U.S. results in death, and one out of every 20 home fires is started by smoking materials. More than 75% of smoking-related fire deaths are caused by fires that start in the living room or bedroom.

To combat this problem, regulatory and testing standards require the soft furnishings in these rooms, such as mattresses and upholstered furniture, to resist ignition — or catching on fire — from a lit cigarette. The cigarette used in these tests has long been NIST's Standard Cigarette for Ignition Resistance Testing, known to many as Standard Reference Material (SRM) 1196.

NIST's SRM 1196a (Standard Cigarette for Ignition Resistance Testing) ignites soft furnishings such as mattresses and upholstered furniture in order to test their flammability.

"SRM 1196 is the stable and reliable ignition source that is needed for us to be confident in these tests and in designing products to meet fire safety requirements year after year," said NIST researcher Rick Davis.





For these tests, SRM 1196 is typically placed on a mattress, a piece of upholstered furniture or furniture components to verify if these items have been manufactured to meet mandatory and voluntary federal, state or industry guidelines for resistance to ignition by burning cigarettes.

When NIST released its original supply of SRM 1196 cigarettes in 2010, it was expected to last more than a decade. However, it only lasted eight years because organizations increasingly adopted fire regulations and testing standards that required or recommended the use of SRM 1196. For instance, the SRM has been used in American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) testing standards, by the California Bureau of Household Goods and Services, and in Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) regulations.

(continued)

RESEARCH REDUCES FURNITURE FLAMMABILITY

The newly produced supply of this standard ignition cigarette is named <u>SRM 1196a</u>. It's designed to be a replica of its predecessor, SRM 1196.

"The manufacturers of soft furnishing products spent more than a decade designing to a test using SRM 1196," Davis said. "We felt it was critical to the sustainability of the market and for maintaining fire safety that SRM 1196a have all the same attributes as SRM 1196."

Trying to find a manufacturer to meet these physical specifications proved to be a significant challenge. SRM 1196a is different from current commercial cigarettes in that it is unfiltered, has a longer tobacco column and uses unbanded paper to help ensure it's a strong ignition source. Banded paper contains sections of less permeable paper to reduce the amount of air that is available to the burning tobacco and causes the cigarette to extinguish itself unless the user puffs on it. Unbanded paper lacks these sections and allows the cigarette to continue to burn.

According to manufacturers, these differences, especially the lack of a filter, were significant, and would result in serious downtime in order to reconfigure their cigarette production equipment.

"Fortunately, we found a manufacturer who was successful in replicating SRM 1196 properties in the new SRM 1196a," said Davis. "It has a similar ignition strength, tobacco column length and mass, uses unbanded paper, and has no filter."

SRM 1196a is now available, and organizations wishing to order the SRM can visit the <u>NIST SRM page</u>. NIST collaborated with the CPSC on the development of SRM 1196 and 1196a.

NIST also provides another standard reference cigarette, <u>SRM 1082</u> or Cigarette Ignition Strength Standard, which helps manufacturers produce "fire-safe" cigarettes that burn out on their own when unattended.

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In 2014, a cigarette carelessly tossed into an overstuffed chair in a lounge area killed four people at the Mariner's Cove Motel in Point Pleasant that led to the so-called safe cigarette legislation.

DRONES AND FIRES-MANAGED

(from nvfc)

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services, has announced a partnership with DRONERESPONDERS – the world's fastest growing nonprofit program supporting public safety – to help coordinate, cooperate, and promote efforts to enhance the use of drones in the pursuit of public safety.

The memorandum of understanding outlines the key initiatives under which the NVFC and DRONERESPONDERS will collaborate together to assist America's volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue

services in adopting and perfecting the use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) to help save lives.

"Our members are increasingly interested in learning more about how they can use drones to enhance their ability to serve the public," said Steve Hirsch, chair of the NVFC.

"At the same time, we are also hearing concerns from members about privately operated drones interfering with their operations. Our partnership with DRONERESPONDERS will focus on both of these issues, providing information to the volunteer emergency services about drone operations, and educating public safety and the public in general about the benefits and challenges associated with drone use at emergency scenes."

The partnership works towards the common goal of enhancing public safety and furthering the capabilities of emergency responders. DRONERE-SPONDERS was created to unite aerial first

responders, emergency managers, and search and rescue specialists to maximize drone operations for public safety. With volunteers comprising 65 percent of the nation's fire service, it is important to educate this segment of the emergency responder community on this growing technology. It could also benefit departments struggling to meet staffing needs by helping them be more effective and efficient in their operations.

"Volunteer firefighters are the backbone of our nation's fire service, providing life-safety services across most smaller towns and rural communities in the U.S.," said Charles Werner, director of DRONERESPONDERS and retired fire chief from Charlottesville, VA. "Drones represent an amazing

> new capability to help these departments conduct a widearray of operations, ranging from search and rescue missions to structure fires to HAZMAT incidents."

Werner says DRONERESPOND-ERS and the NVFC will work together to provide resources to help volunteer fire departments

adopt and implement Drones For Good™, a program designed to utilize unmanned aviation capabilities in disaster response.

DRONERESPONDERS is the world's fastest growing nonprofit program supporting public safety UAS. The DRONERESPONDERS mission is to facilitate preparedness, response, and resilience using unmanned aircraft systems and related technologies operated by public safety, emergency management, and non-governmental volunteer organizations around the world.

More Info: http://droneresponders.org.

EDGEWATER+BOUND BROOK = ASSEMBLY BILL 250

ASSEMBLY, No. 250

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex) Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO District 20 (Union) Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen Murphy, McKnight, Chaparro, Assemblymen Mazzeo

and Armato

New Jersey State Assembly Bill 250 establishes the appropriate fire safety standards and protocols for certain light frame residential construction.

Click graphic for full text

SYNOPSIS

Establishes fire safety standards and protocols for certain light frame residential construction; requires placards identifying primary structural systems of buildings.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

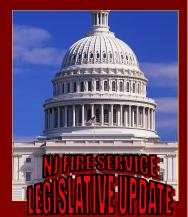
Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.





AT ISSUE:

TRUMP'S BUDGET INCREASES FIRE SERVICE FUNDING



President Trump's budget for FY 2021, shows \$4.8 trillion in federal spending. The budget request includes funding for specific programs that benefit the volunteer emergency services, including:

- * \$344.344 million each for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant programs, the same funding levels requested by the President in FY 2020. Congress ultimately increased funding for both programs from \$350 million to \$355 million last year.
- \$49.7 million for the United States Fire Administration (USFA), an increase from FY 2020 when the President requested \$46.6 million for USFA and Congress provided \$46.8 million. The budget proposes restoring grants to state fire training agencies to offer courses developed by the National Fire Academy. The state fire training grants were not funded in FY 2019 but were restored by Congress in FY 2020.
- * \$17 million for the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant program, which is administered by the U.S. Forest Service. The President only requested \$11.02 million for VFA in FY 2020, while Congress increased funding from \$17 million to \$18 million.

The budget request proposes that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and continue implementation of the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018..." which "...requires CDC to develop a voluntary registry of firefighters to collect relevant heath and occupational information to better understand the link between workplace exposures and cancer." However, the budget does not specify a funding level for the registry, which is authorized at \$2.5 million, and proposes cutting the overall budget for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which is responsible for developing and maintaining the registry, from \$342.8 million in FY 2020 to \$190 million. The budget request also proposes that the Sub-

stance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), "...continue to support grants to rural public and non-profit fire and emergency medical services agencies to recruit and train personnel and acquire emergency medical services equipment..." in addition to funding "...14 new First Responder Training grants." The budget request proposes \$41 million for all of these grants, flat funding from FY 2020.
"Each year the President's budget request is the

first step in the appropriations process," said
National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Chair
Steve Hirsch. "I am pleased to that the budget
proposes increasing funding for USFA and restoring the state fire training grants."



AT ISSUE:

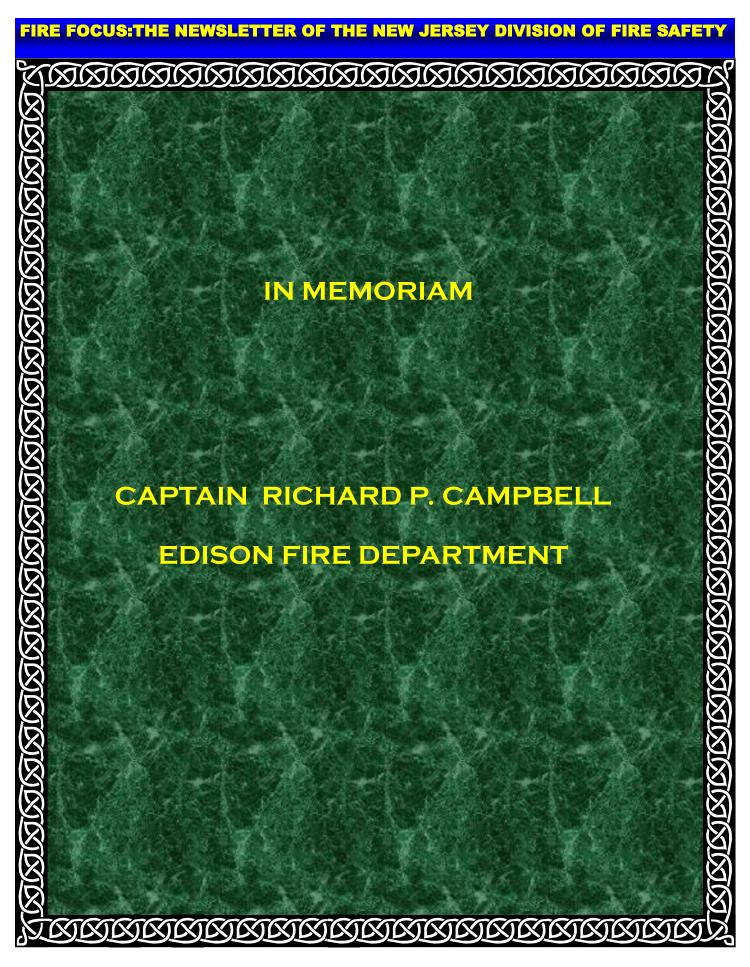


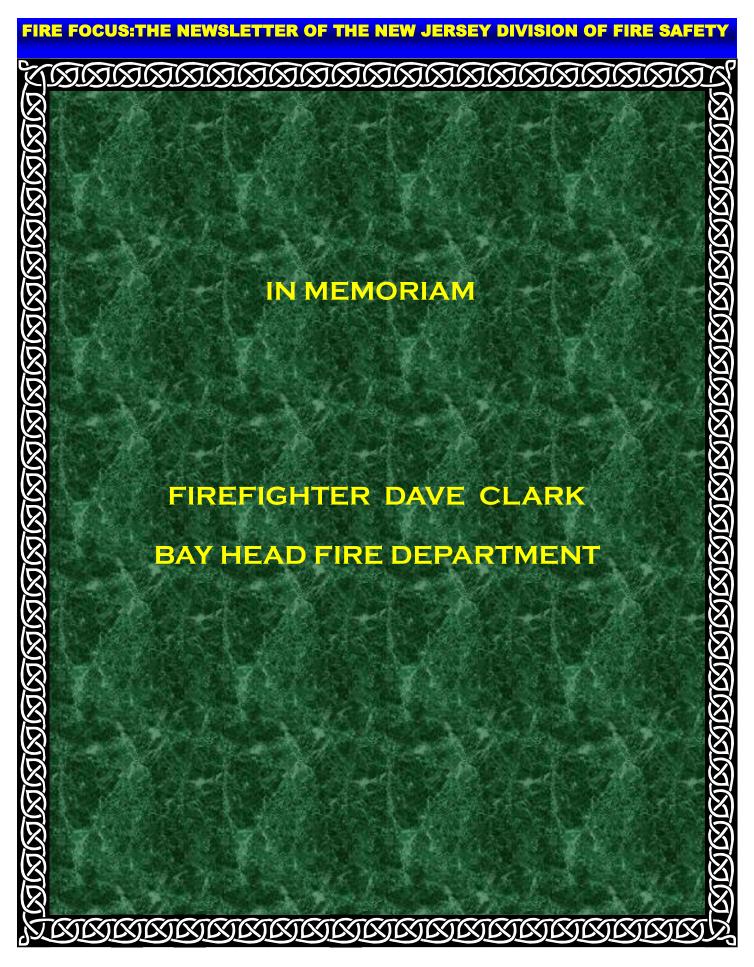
NEW JERSEY FIRE SERVICE LEGISLATION

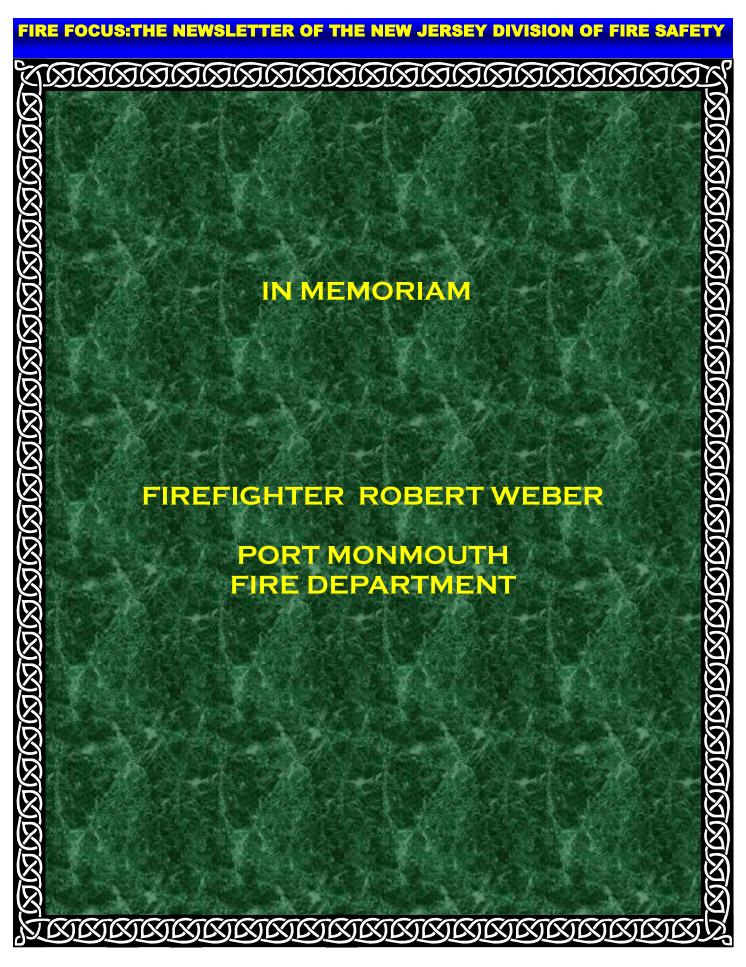














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