# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY NEW JERSEY FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

### Meeting of May 22, 2013

The New Jersey Fire Safety Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, May 22, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Jersey City, NJ.

**Commission Members Present:** Mr. Pasquale Intindola, Acting-Chairman

Mr. Charles W. Schilling
Mr. Arthur Londensky
Mr. John Lightbody
Mr. Stanley Sickels
Mr. Kevin Krushinski
Mr. Lawrence D. Wood
Mr. Daniel DeTrolio
Mr. Gerard Naylis
Mr. Roger Potts
Ms. Kathleen O'Leary
Mr. Fredrick Collender
Mr. Richard Blohm

<u>Commission Members Excused</u>: Assemblyman John Wisniewski, Chairman

Mr. Kevin Bellew

Mr. Kenneth Swider

**DCA Staff Members Present:** William Kramer, Acting Director

Lou Kilmer, NJDFS Rick Farletta, NJDFS Jerry Clark, NJDFS Paul Elenio, NJDFS Charles Lavin, NJDFS James McFadden, NJDFS

Michael Whalen, Codes and Standards

Guests: Nicholas Kikis, NJ Apartment Assn.

Rich Silvia, NJFPPA John Caufield, NFPA

Jeff Shapiro, Rep. NJAA Marshall Klein, Rep. NJAA

John Garton, NJDOL/PEOSH Jeff Cartwright, Fire Triangle Consulting

Craig Babcock, MCFPPA Lt. Joe Batigley, ECDOC BC Kevin P. Nally, JCFD George Bolek, PFANJ

Richard Dressler, FDJC Carl S. Christensen, NJ Vol. Fire Chiefs

Frank Montague, NHRFR Steve Dyl, Kearny FD

#### A. Call to Order

In the absence of Chairman John Wisniewski, Vice-Chairman Pat Intindola called the meeting to order at 10:13 AM and began the meeting with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and pointed out the fire exits. A moment of silence was observed for all fallen brother and sister firefighters, as well as the victims of the recent tornados in Oklahoma.

Acting-Chairman Intindola thanked Commissioner Armando Roman for making the arrangements for today's meeting as well as the coffee and refreshments available.

# **B.** Approval of Minutes

With no discussion requested or necessary corrections, the minutes of the regular meeting of March 20, 2013 were approved.

### C. Correspondence

Acting-Chairman Intindola noted that all correspondence for today's meeting is contained in the Fire Safety Commission packets. With no discussion requested on any of the correspondence at this time, the meeting was moved to Public Comment I.

#### D. Public Comment I

Acting-Chairman Intindola opened up the meeting to any members of the public wishing to address the Fire Safety Commission.

Chief Carl Christensen from the New Jersey Volunteer Fire Chiefs read a letter addressed to the Fire Safety Commission from President Richard Kosmoski on the topic of the "Deputy Chief's Response Bill" (A-2593):

"All emergency responders receive the same training to become certified to the Incident Command Level I position so it would make no difference as to the title or position they currently hold in their volunteer or career departments.

When working in the Incident Command structure, titles are assigned and based on the position being filled, so little regard should be paid to the position or title held in their home department.

Unfortunately, this bill was supported by the New Jersey Deputy Chiefs Association without the input or consideration of the many other statewide fire service organizations. The NJVFC recommends that an impact study be conducted on any and all future proposed legislation that will affect the fire service and emergency responders, before it is introduced in the legislature. The impact study participants should be from various locations statewide and to include representatives from urban, suburban and rural locations and include volunteer and career firefighters alike. I am sure that

representatives from the many statewide organizations could provide some of the best information necessary to be included in future legislation and would be beneficial to the entire fire service and not just one segment.

Thank you for your consideration to our concerns regarding this unnecessary and unwanted 'Deputy Chief's Response Bill'".

Chief Christensen thanked the NJ Fire Safety Commission for their time and distributed a copy of the letter to each member.

Fire Protection Engineer Jeff Shapiro spoke briefly to inform the Fire Safety Commission that he, as well as his colleague Marshall Klein, are at today's meeting to represent the New Jersey Apartment Association and are available to answer any pertinent codes questions should they arise.

With no more members of the public wishing to comment at this time, the meeting was moved to Division of Fire Safety Activities.

# E. Division of Fire Safety Activities

Acting Director William Kramer began his report by giving an update on the new RIMS computer system. The Division of Fire Safety staff has been utilizing the new computer system for over two weeks now, both in-house and on the street doing inspections. The idea here is to work out as many bugs as possible before the system is fully released. It looks like the system will be rolled out to the LEAs and public as soon as next week. This will be done on a regional basis until everyone is up and running. Chief Kramer said some LEAs have expressed concerns about the new system, but he asked that they give it a chance first – and then the Division will be open to suggestions for enhancements, tweaks, etc.

Chief Kramer said the Division of Fire Safety is working on a credentialing system for fire departments that response onto limited access highways, and have taken the Highway Traffic Safety Program offered by NJDFS/State Police/DOT. It is hoped this will be up and running in the next month or two.

Chief Kramer announced that the NJ Division of Fire Safety's Arson Unit has – in addition to being the State Arson Unit of the Year – been awarded the National Fire Investigation Unit of the Year by the International Association of Arson Investigators. They received this award in Orlando, FL last week.

Chief Kramer announced that Senate Bill S-900 has been signed by the Governor. This requires all Division of Fire Safety recruit programs to be credentialed by both ProBoard and IFSAC. The NJDFS has already been visited by both organizations and is currently making the necessary adjustments to get those programs credentialed. One issue that has arisen in regards to this is several counties in South Jersey want to get their Firefighter I program accredited separately from the State as a whole. Chief Kramer feels it should all

fall under the same accreditation together and asked for the Fire Safety Commission's support on this matter. Commissioner Charles Schilling made a motion that the Fire Safety Commission supports Chief Kramer on this position. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stanley Sickels and passed unanimously.

Chief Kramer reported the Division of Fire Safety has been working with the Codes Advisory Council on the issue of "Sky Lanterns". These are the devices that, like mini hot air balloons, are ignited and set free to float away. It is the Division's determination that these devices are not permitted in New Jersey. Once the Codes Advisory Council has fully reviewed this, a bulletin will be sent out.

An ongoing issue stemming from Hurricane Sandy has been the housing of individuals that have come to the area to volunteer in the relief and recovery efforts. In many cases, organizations, churches, etc. have been housing people in areas that are not necessarily residences. Chief Kramer (along with the Director of Codes and Standards) has put out a guidance document on this matter, as the building code and fire code has provisions for these situations for certain amounts of time. The guidance document basically says this practice should be embraced at the local level, with some suggestions on minimum requirements for detection, egress, etc. There have been some questions locally that Chief Kramer and Director Ed Smith are answering case by case. Acting-Chairman Intindola spoke about the problem of unlicensed contractors coming into the state to do work at exorbitant prices, and the Codes Advisory Council is looking at this. Commissioner Sickels spoke about this being an issue in his town and explained a specific situation where people are being housed in day-care centers. He said he understands the intent of the guidance document, but his concern is what protections do the local officials have should things go awry? In his town they have adopted much of what the guidance document suggests, but the buildings have to be Subchapter 4 compliant. It has also been adopted with a sunset clause, and it can be extended via resolution should the emergency go on. Commissioner Sickels added that there is a lot of this going on in many areas around the State.

Commissioner Lawrence Wood asked if the costs of Firefighter I certifications would still be free under the new laws requiring IFSAC and ProBoard accreditations. Chief Kramer said that this will remain the same. The Division of Fire Safety will not be charging for the certifications as always.

Michael Whalen commented on the issue of unlicensed contractors coming into the State in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. He said the Department of Consumer Affairs has investigators following up on these people. You can make reports on their website and Consumer Affairs is going out into the field, finding them, and taking action.

Chief Lou Kilmer was pleased to announce that the Division of Fire Safety is in the process of conducting interviews to get the Inspections Unit up to full staffing. Also, Chief Kilmer spoke about the new RIMS computer system and how – after some learning – that DFS personnel has been reporting that it is making their lives much, much easier.

They have been able to master the system in about two weeks' time, and the reports have been very good.

Chief Kilmer spoke about designating extra local assistance staff to the Sandy-affected towns with the summer coming. This is normally the busy season with fireworks, tourists, special events, etc., so the Division is looking to help them get on track as best it can.

Commissioner Richard Blohm asked if the Division of Fire Safety was looking into builders using mesh behind sheetrock. He said this could be a major issue for firefighter safety. Chief Kramer answered that the information has been widely distributed throughout the fire service, but it is not a fire code issue that we can control. Unfortunately, this is just another challenge for the fire service to be wary of and overcome. Commissioner Blohm also asked about the report on the firefighter fatality in Asbury Park. Chief Kramer answered that the report – on our end – is completed. However, they are still waiting for the National Institute of Science and Technology to complete their report on the examination of the SCBA and gear. Commissioner Blohm stressed the importance of these types of reports, and getting them in a timely manner, because there is a lot to learn from them in regards to contributing factors. Chief Kramer added that reports are also being worked on from the Harrison fire and the Paulsboro train derailment.

Commissioner Sickels and Commissioner Blohm asked whether the reports take into account the manpower available at these fires. Chief Kramer answered that all factors of these incidents are examined. Commissioner Blohm cited the recent fire in Harrison where manpower was lacking, and used it as an example of the abuse of mutual aid.

Commissioner Sickels asked if there had been any movement in the appointment of Chief Kramer as State Fire Marshal. Chief Kramer answered that there had not. Commissioner Sickels also asked about the status of Peer Review. Chief Kramer said the Division has gone through the selection process and have recommended candidates to the Governor's Office. Commissioner Sickels also asked for an update on the staffing of the Division of Fire Safety. Chief Kramer said the Division has gotten permission to keep replenishing the inspectors' ranks. What they have not received is the permission to automatically backfill the positions when employees leave. They have to go through the process of seeking approval again and again. The Division is currently in the process of hiring six people for the Inspections Unit.

With no other questions on Division of Fire Safety Activities, the meeting was moved to Advisory Council Reports.

## F. Advisory Council Reports:

### 1. Codes Advisory Council

Commissioner Charles Schilling reported that the Codes Advisory Council meeting was held on April 17<sup>th</sup> and the minutes of that meeting are in the Commission packets.

Commissioner Schilling spoke about the Bulletin about "Sky Lanterns" and feels that the Codes Council and Division of Fire Safety had done a very good job with it. He and Commissioner Sickels concurred that it pretty well covers the problem. Commissioner Sickels also commented on the Bulletin on devices used to lock-down classroom doors. It is his feeling that you cannot cover every device that comes out for every possible situation, but the Bulletin addresses the issue in general terms to sufficiently control the situation.

Commissioner Schilling said the "windowless basement" issue has been discussed over the course of multiple meetings of the Codes Advisory Council. Commissioner Schilling referred to a Memo that was submitted to the Fire Safety Commission on May  $10^{th}$  with these proposed amendments to the uniform fire code. Commissioner Schilling said that the amendment reflects the consensus reached through two meetings of discussion on the matter. Commissioner Sickels spoke in detail about suppressing windowless basements and the attempts to change this over the years. He said that it creates an issue for those who originally complied and would now want to change it back – keeping in mind the fire officials that have given approvals before this change is made. Commissioner Sickels did not think one should pull specific pieces of the Code and apply them outside the entire system. Ultimately, Commissioner Sickels said he would respect and support the process, and the debate/voting that took place amongst the Codes Advisory Council on this issue. Therefore he would not go against it.

Commissioner Kenneth Swider asked if there were any questions on Windowless Basements to be directed to their experts present as members of the public. Commissioner Schilling and Acting-Chairman Intindola said unless there were any more specific question on this matter, they were ready to move forward with a vote. Commissioner Naylis added that this entire issue really centers around garden apartments and, in his experience, it is resolving itself because the buildings are not letting those areas being used for storage and are usually just empty.

Commissioner Schilling made a motion that the Fire Safety Commission adopt the proposed amendments on Additional Windowless Basement Opening Option as outlined in the May 10<sup>th</sup> memo. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gerard Naylis and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Schilling made a motion that Robert Lewis be added to the Codes Advisory Council and had his resume distributed in the meeting packets. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sickels and passed unanimously.

### 2. Training and Education Advisory Council

Commissioner Lawrence Wood reported the Training and Education Advisory Council had met on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The minutes of that meeting are contained in the Fire Safety Commission meeting packets.

Commissioner Wood spoke about the ProBoard and IFSAC requirements, and mentioned how they asked that final exams not be faxed back and forth between facilities. They prefer the documents be scanned and emailed, so that provision is being worked on. There will be eight certification titles: Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Hazardous Materials: Awareness, Hazardous Materials: Operations, Fire Officer I, Fire Officer II, Fire Instructor II.

Commissioner Wood also spoke about a Go-To-Training program that UCC has been using for on-line training. It is an instructor-led, web-based training. The DFS is using this program for the RIMS training for Fire Officials/Inspectors. Up to 100 people can connect at one time. Commissioner Wood also mentioned the 2014 budget has a line in it to rewrite the RIMS training platform for use by the Training & Certification Office. This could possibly be a two-year project to update the computer system; also looking to update the EO component of the system.

The next meeting of the Training and Education Advisory Council is scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Dempster Fire Training Center in Lawrenceville.

Commissioner Wood made a motion that Wesley R. Suckey be added to the Training and Education Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gerard Naylis and passed unanimously.

### 3. Statistics and Information Advisory Council

Commissioner Gerard Naylis reported that the NFIRS Unit is looking to wrap up data collections for 2012. There are a number of agencies that still have not submitted their data, and members of the Statistics and Information Advisory Council are out there encouraging these departments to submit their data. Hopefully the data collections on 2012 will be completed shortly.

Commissioner Naylis also mentioned that the impact of Hurricane Sandy on the NFIRS Report for 2012. Numerous responses related to the storm were not able to be documented, so the actual numbers Statewide will be far short of what was done by New Jersey's fire service in the wake of the hurricane. The next meeting of the Statistics and Information Advisory Council is scheduled for October.

### 4. Master Planning and Research Advisory Council

Commissioner John Lightbody reported that the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council met on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Toms River Fire Academy. The minutes of that meeting are contained in the Fire Safety Commission meeting packets. Commissioner Lightbody gave the following report on that meeting:

"First, from the NJ Fire Sprinkler Coalition – The Chairman of the Legislative Committee gave a brief report on the Sprinkler Bill. They were advised that the Senate version of the bill will be put up soon. All members will be notified and hopefully we can have another good turnout of firefighters. Also, the ICC did not remove the sprinkler section for one- and two-family residences from the codes. No further action shall be taken at the convention in Atlantic City in October.

The NFPA conducted a seminar on one- and two-family sprinklers and invited two members from every state to attend, all expenses paid. The seminar was very informative, over 100 people attended. Coalition member Eileen Byrne gave a great presentation, and Commissioner Lightbody thanked her on the coalition's behalf.

The NJ Fire Prevention and Protection Association awarded Paul Allen the Francis X. Donovan Fire Protection Inspector of the Year Award at the NJ Builders Safety Conference.

The Chairman of the Membership Committee will be sending out the updated list of all members, including e-mail addresses. Each member will receive a list of various organizations to contact for membership. The Chairman of the Public Education Committee reported that they were now using examples from Hurricane Sandy in presentations on how to better prepare yourself and your family for emergencies. Also, Eileen Byrne mentioned that, at a firefighter awards function, she learned that some firefighters are concerned about sprinklers putting them out of business. It is possible that firefighters themselves need more education on this issue.

James Yates of the Career Chiefs Association mentioned that their organization had a luncheon with the Governor and the topic of residential sprinklers was brought up. The Governor assured them that he will meet with them before he takes any action.

At the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council meeting that followed, Shared Services Committee Chairman requested that this committee be tabled until he can find some new people serve on it who are willing to work. As it stands now, the committee has not been able to function appropriately and the Chairman has been looking for some new faces.

The Chairman of the Shared Resources Committee used local Nursing Homes as an example of organizations – when faced with an emergency of the magnitude of Hurricane Sandy – were not as prepared (resource-wise) as they had thought. These types of places were dependent on local fire and police departments, and only now are they developing new places to share resources so they can be better prepared.

The Chairman of the Recruitment/Retention Committee mentioned that the 1-800-FIRELINE volunteer recruitment hotline is still active. However, departments are running into the same problem of accepting and training new firefighters, only to have them stay for 2-3 years and leave.

On the topic of Lightweight Construction, Commissioner Lightbody said he would be working on a series of articles about the dangers and need for fire sprinklers to combat them. He also spoke about the deficiencies that are being seen from the building side of things, where trusses are being dumped, damaged, then repaired during construction. He said that this is something the building inspectors really need to keep an eye on, especially in today's economy where everyone is looking for a way to do things quicker and cut costs.

Commissioner Lightbody also spoke about the International Code Council's conference that is coming to Atlantic City in October. As many New Jersey representatives as possible are being urged to attend. Also, a group will be travelling the coastal areas to photograph the devastation from Hurricane Sandy – this will then be presented at the conference to illustrate the effects to the attendees.

The next meeting of the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council is scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville.

### 5. Public Education Advisory Council

Chairman Daniel DeTrolio reported that the Public Education Advisory Council met on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Middlesex County Fire Academy and gave the following report on that meeting:

In regards to the "Fire Is" program, Commissioner DeTrolio reported that Dr. Field is looking to work with St. Barnabas to secure the funding to at least keep the interactive "Fire Is" website operational.

Commissioner DeTrolio spoke about the 2013 FIRE Bowl Final that was held at Kean University on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Nicolas Oresko School of Bayonne defeated Dwight D. Eisenhower School of Freehold in a close competition. Both teams (8 students total) were awarded KindleFire HD tablets for their achievements in the program this year. The event was hosted by News 12 New Jersey reporter Tony Caputo and received great coverage on the channel throughout the day. Commissioner DeTrolio thanked all those who attended, and encouraged more NJ Fire Safety Commissioners to attend next year's.

The NJ Division of Fire Safety and NJ Fire Prevention and Protection Association announced the winners of the 2012-2013 Fire Safety Poster Contest. Commissioner Stanley Sickels reported that he and his staff are still working out the details on the luncheon and prizes, which should be known shortly. The winners, whose artwork will be featured in a calendar this year, are as follows:

Division 1 Chloe Genzel

New Albany Elementary School (Burlington Co.)

Cinnaminson, NJ

Division 2 Aryan Thapar

Martin Luther King Jr. School #11 (Hudson Co.)

Jersey City, NJ

Division 3 Sakou Kromah

Arts High School (Essex Co.)

Newark, NJ

Division 4 Emily Lockwood

Bergen County Academies (Bergen Co.)

Hackensack, NJ

Division 5 Katarzyna Sierant

Union County Vo-Tech High School (Union Co.)

Scotch Plains, NJ

\*\*Division 6 Shymaine Armstrong

(overall winner) Martin Luther King Jr. School #11 (Hudson Co.)

Jersey City, NJ

Division 7 Heather Loughran

Central Regional High School (Ocean Co.)

Berkeley Twp., NJ

Also, Commissioner DeTrolio reported that the smoke detectors from WABC's Operation Save-a-Life have been delivered to Montclair State University. This year New Jersey received 6,000 sealed 10-year battery detectors. Paul Elenio will be distributing the detectors at various upcoming events state-wide.

The next meeting of the Public Education Advisory Council is scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville.

### 6. Firefighter Safety and Health Advisory Council

Commissioner Richard Blohm reported that the Firefighter Safety and Health Advisory Council met on May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. The minutes of that meeting are contained in the Fire Safety Commission meeting packets. Commissioner Blohm gave the following report:

The NJ Department of Health has indicated that they will soon start reviewing Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) throughout the state in part due to the Paulsboro Hazardous Materials Incident. The report is being reviewed due to the release of vinyl chloride at the incident.

The NJ Department of Labor has advised that OSHA has a new document that is downloadable for dust explosions. It is Document 3641 at their website, <a href="https://www.OSHA.gov">www.OSHA.gov</a>. The NJ Department of Labor is also investigating the unfortunate incident that recently took place in Harrison, NJ – at which five Jersey City firefighters were injured.

There was a line-of-duty death in the NJ Forest Fire Service in March in Clinton Township. The incident took place around Easter weekend when a firefighter was struck by a driver of a vehicle on a county road. They are anticipating that a report on this incident will be finalized around the end of the summer or early fall.

The next meeting of the Firefighter Safety and Health Advisory Council is scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup> at the Toms River Fire Academy at 1:30 PM.

Commissioner Richard Blohm concluded his report by speaking about the passing of Assembly Bill 1196 and Senate Bill 1778 – The Thomas Canzanella 21<sup>st</sup> Century First-Responder Protection Act. The bill concerns workers compensation for public safety workers and emergency responders of all types (volunteer, career, etc.) Commissioner Blohm asked that a motion be made stating that the NJ Fire Safety Commission be in favor of these bills, which are now on the Governor's desk waiting to be signed. The motion was made by Commissioner Stanley Sickels, seconded by Commissioner John Lightbody, and passed unanimously.

# 7. Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Advisory Council

Commissioner Kathleen O'Leary reported that the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Advisory Council met on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. The minutes of that meeting are contained in the Fire Safety Commission meeting packets.

The Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Advisory Council had also spoken about keeping the "Fire Is" program afloat and its potential partnership with St. Barnabas. There could also be the possibility of adding a Burn Awareness element if this happens. Also, there is a "Fire Is" class taking place today in Atlantic County.

The Council continues to work on the Parents Legal Responsibility Pamphlet and is reviewing an older one that had been created but not approved. Also, Commissioner Kevin Krushinski is continuing to work on getting a representative from the Attorney General's Office to attend meetings.

Commissioner O'Leary spoke about Firefighter Background Checks. It is the Council's thought that proper checks are not being conducted at this time, and Joe Ehrhardt is looking into what laws there are requiring this and if new ones are needed.

Paul Elenio is currently planning the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Conference. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for the program, please get in touch with Mr. Elenio to discuss it.

The next meeting of the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Advisory Council is scheduled for September 5<sup>th</sup> at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville.

### **G.** Committee Reports

# 1. Residential Sprinkler Committee

Commissioner Gerard Naylis reported that we are now awaiting the posting of the Residential Sprinkler Bill in the State Senate and for a hearing to be scheduled. It is his feeling, however, that the State Budget will take precedent and a hearing will be scheduled some time in the fall when the legislature reconvenes.

#### H. Old Business

Acting Chairman Intindola opened up the meeting for any Old Business to be addressed at this time. There being none, the meeting was moved to New Business.

#### I. New Business

Commissioner Gerard Naylis announced that former NJ Fire Safety Commissioner Bruce Scott had passed away about a month ago. The Fire Safety Commission members expressed their condolences.

Commissioner Wood spoke about Assembly Bill 2593. He expressed the need for there to be discussion on the Bill now that it has been vetoed by the Governor and referred to the Division of Fire Safety. He pointed out that people across the state all have different ideas and ways of doing things, so it is important for there to be input from all areas. Because of the diversity throughout the State, Commissioner Wood's belief is that things should be decided at the county level and the state law be less rigid.

Commissioner Lightbody asked if the Division of Fire Safety had seen any kind of uptick in arson after they distributed a Bulletin related to Hurricane Sandy-affected buildings. Chief Kramer answered that they have not really experienced this just yet, but he is pleased at the cooperation on the local level. He is awaiting more reports on these buildings as they continue to be worked on and people get back into them.

Chief Kramer announced that a smoke detector giveaway event was planned for this afternoon at 1:30 PM at the North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue Headquarters in West New York. This is part of the Operation Save-a-Life program, and he urged any Commissioners who would be remaining in the area to attend. Also, Chief Kramer announced that the annual Homeland Security Conference was scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> at Kean University.

#### J. Public Comment II

Chief Carl Christensen from the New Jersey Volunteer Fire Chiefs spoke in reference to Commissioner Lightbody's inquiry about post-Sandy arson incidents. He said that this was a problem in Mississippi post-Katrina after people learned how much of their losses would not be covered by insurance. He stressed that this is something to keep a close eye on.

Commissioner Armando Roman took a moment to publicly thank the Hyatt Regency Jersey City for their support and hospitality at today's meeting. He presented the Hyatt's Terry Dunbar with an official Jersey City Fire Department helmet, naming him an Honorary Battalion Chief. Mr. Dunbar thanked Commissioner Roman and the entire NJ Fire Safety Commission for all they do.

With no more members of the public wishing to comment at this time, the meeting was moved to Adjournment.

# K. Adjournment

Acting-Chairman Intindola asked if anyone had any additional business they would like to bring before the Commission. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 11:46 am.

\* The next meeting of the Fire Safety Commission will be held on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>July 17</u>, <u>2013 at 10am</u>. It will be held at the Toms River Fire Academy in Toms River, NJ \*