

**A Regular Meeting of the Fairfield Fire Commission was held on**

**Thursday October 11, 2018 @ 7 pm Fairfield Regional Fire School,  
Conference Room 205 Richard White Way (formerly 205 One Rod  
Hwy) Fairfield, CT 06824**

**CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Joseph Olzacki @ 7:00pm**

**Members Present:** Commissioners: Dorothea Brennan, Craig Van Steenberg, Bill Fitzpatrick Barbara Rifkin and Harry Ackley Snr.

**Also Present:** Chief McCarthy: D.C. Dunn

**Absent:** Commissioner: John Brannelly and Bill Fitzpatrick

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. (a) Approval of September 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes-**

Commissioner Brennan motioned, seconded by Commissioner VanSteenbergen to approve the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Chief's Monthly Report- Fire Prevention Month.**

The Annual Senior Citizen Battery Replacement Program has started and it has quite the following, and potentially may have gotten out of hand. This is all done at the town's expense. Chief is looking into better guidelines for the program. Lt Bob Smith working on social media etc. and putting out messages regarding Fire Prevention Month.

Chief said since the last big unexpected flood here in town they are trying to improve communication within the team as there was a lot of street closures etc that the public would have liked to be informed about. The public suggested a mobile application. As Chief stated this is a working progress and will work with Emergency Management and DPW.

**a) Administration-** Chief and D.C. finished First Quarter for FY19. They are reviewing the Salary and OT which is all contractual. Operating Budget stayed flat. Constant visual of shortfalls/overages.

**b) Maintenance- Under D.C. Report**

**c) Donations- None**

#### **4. Deputy Chief's Operations Reports-**

Deputy Chief reported on Sept 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> flooding. GFH, Congress St, Stratfield, Kings Hwy sections were especially hit. He said a lot of rescues, abandoned cars, and basements flooding in a 24 hr period of time. Army truck was great and might even look at getting another one. D.C Car 3 vehicle should be in service by January. It needs graphics, electronics/warning, outfitting. The drill that was held at Ludlow Health Center, Jefferson St. went well.

Roof at Station 5: met with contractor this morning, and should start work on Monday. Station I façade completed with some fixture replacements on the way. Grant for 2018 EMPG was submitted to Region 1. Hosted the DEMHS R1 "Finance/Recovery Tabletop Exercise" at Penfield Pavilion.

**5. Southport VFD Update-**

**6. Stratfield VFD Update- No report**

**7. Local 1426 Update – No report**

**8. CERT (community Emergency Response Team) Update-** Norma reported they had the Annual Cert Meeting September 20<sup>th</sup> was outstanding. Detective Beth Irizarry spoke to Cert on De-escalation Techniques. Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> was on sight shelter training at Fairfield Ludlowe School was very busy.

**. 9. Old Business-Fire Marshal's Office Update**

Chief explained that they were trying to work with the Union and HR to keep recently retired Chief Kessler on as a plant coordinator but could not reach an M.O.U agreement between both parties involved. Chief said since OT was approved they are trying to keep up with the demands of the office

and the workload. In addition Chief did speak with First Selectman Mike Tetreau to increase staff and he definitely can see the need. Since the new Fee Structure is in place we will do the best we can for a full time position in 2021.

## **10. New Business-**

### **a) Communications System- resiliency, backup, how this will be effected by the proposed combined dispatch center.**

Chief spoke about how the plans to merge the dispatch center is moving forward and all the work done this far has been by the Consultant. He is hoping to have a draft report out by end of October.

Police Chief McNamara is retiring from the Town of Fairfield but taking a position with Sacred Heart as Director of Security there and Chief said this will benefit everyone having him there.

D.C commented on how professional the dispatchers were from both communities as they were equally affected by the Sept 25/26 flooding. It was great to work with much more of a larger force of dispatchers and to have supervisors on hand too. Everyone is very excited about this and it will be great to work with all employees from a Fire perspective and treat it as One Dept.

D.C spoke about upgrading the communications system. On thought is going over to the back bone of the UASI system. In very early stages and D.C. will update the commission when is more information is available.

Commissioner Ackley noted how great the Fire Dept is along with the ECC dispatches. He feels the commission should recognize these people maybe with a thank you letter. Commissioner Ackley and Fire Chief will draft a letter for the Commission to review.

Regarding the Fire Marshalls Office Commission Ackley is going to be an advocate for pushing for more help in this office. Commissioner Brennan stated this is what they have requested from the time the New Fee Structure went into place.

Chief noted there is a fundraiser on November 8<sup>th</sup> 2018 for one of their Fire Fighters and would like if the Commission would consider another date for the meeting.

Chief also noted the Field of Valour ran by Kiwanis: Lt Rich Kazzi puts the flags on Jennings Park for all Fallen Fairfield residents.

Chair Joe will get back to Commission regarding date of next meeting.

**b) Recent Storm Operations- Addressed under DC report**

**11. Adjournment:**

Being no further business Chair Joe motioned to adjourn at 8pm, seconded by Commissioner Vansteenbergen.

Respectfully submitted by Jude Fitzgerald

Recording Secretary

Fairfield Fire Department  
**Profit & Loss**  
October 2018

---

	<u>Oct 18</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Fire Watch	3,900.00
FM Fees	<u>36,370.28</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	40,270.28
<b>Expense</b>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>40,270.28</u></u>

Fairfield Fire Department  
Profit & Loss Detail  
October 2018

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
<b>Income</b>								
<b>Fire Watch</b>								
Invoice	10/01/2018	1582	Fairfield University	Fire Watch- 4 ...		Accounts Rece...	1,800.00	1,800.00
Invoice	10/15/2018	1592	Fairfield University	Fire Watch- 4 ...		Accounts Rece...	1,800.00	3,600.00
Invoice	10/22/2018	1595	Fairfield University	Fire Watch- 1 ...		Accounts Rece...	300.00	3,900.00
Total Fire Watch							3,900.00	3,900.00
<b>FM Fees</b>								
Sales Receipt	10/01/2018	4122	M & M Construction ...	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	240.00	240.00
Sales Receipt	10/01/2018	4123	Sacred Heart Univer...	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	5,210.00	5,450.00
Sales Receipt	10/01/2018	4124	Connecticut Permit ...	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	100.00	5,550.00
Sales Receipt	10/01/2018	4125	Abbey Tent	Tent Permit		Undeposited F ...	450.00	6,000.00
Invoice	10/01/2018	1583	Little Goose	Liquor Permit		Accounts Rece...	100.00	6,100.00
Sales Receipt	10/01/2018	4126	CASH	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	40.00	6,140.00
Invoice	10/01/2018	1584	CT Image Guided S...	Health Care F...		Accounts Rece...	300.00	6,440.00
Sales Receipt	10/02/2018	4127	New England Title	Construction		Undeposited F ...	125.00	6,565.00
Sales Receipt	10/04/2018	4128	RMB Builders	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	150.00	6,715.00
Sales Receipt	10/04/2018	4129	Stamford Tent	Tent Permit- ...		Undeposited F ...	75.00	6,790.00
Sales Receipt	10/04/2018	4130	Stamford Tent	Tent Permit- ...		Undeposited F ...	175.00	6,965.00
Invoice	10/04/2018	1586	Pizza Post	Liquor Permit		Accounts Rece...	100.00	7,065.00
Invoice	10/09/2018	1587	Kids Club	Before and Af...		Accounts Rece...	50.00	7,115.00
Invoice	10/09/2018	1588	Arthur Ave Pizza & ...	Annual State ...		Accounts Rece...	50.00	7,165.00
Invoice	10/10/2018	1589	Gingko's	Liquor Permit		Accounts Rece...	100.00	7,265.00
Sales Receipt	10/10/2018	4131	Mack Fire Protection...	Sprinklers- M...		Undeposited F ...	2,375.00	9,640.00
Sales Receipt	10/10/2018	4132	Halle Turoro-Testo	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	50.00	9,690.00
Sales Receipt	10/11/2018	4133	Structure Consulting...	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	100.00	9,790.00
Invoice	10/11/2018	1590	Black Rock Congreg...	Construction- ...		Accounts Rece...	19,933.78	29,723.78
Invoice	10/11/2018	1591	Trinity Parish Nurse...	Day Care/Nur...		Accounts Rece...	100.00	29,823.78
Invoice	10/12/2018	4134	Abbey Tent	Tent Permit- ...		Undeposited F ...	25.00	29,848.78
Sales Receipt	10/12/2018	4135	Sorrento Importing L...	Construction		Undeposited F ...	35.00	29,883.78
Sales Receipt	10/12/2018	4136	Bob McGuire	LP Gas- Tem...		Undeposited F ...	50.00	29,933.78
Sales Receipt	10/12/2018	4137	Mack Fire Protection...	Sprinklers- M...		Undeposited F ...	75.00	30,008.78
Sales Receipt	10/12/2018	4138	Tyco Integrated Sec...	Fire Alarm Sy...		Undeposited F ...	100.00	30,108.78
Sales Receipt	10/12/2018	4139	Sound Mechanical	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	175.00	30,283.78
Sales Receipt	10/15/2018	4140	Brake Fire Protectio...	Sprinklers- Nu...		Undeposited F ...	150.00	30,433.78
Invoice	10/15/2018	1593	Jewish Family Serv...	Annual State ...		Accounts Rece...	50.00	30,483.78
Sales Receipt	10/17/2018	4141	Rayvan Tent & Equi...	Tent Permit- 6...		Undeposited F ...	100.00	30,583.78
Sales Receipt	10/17/2018	4142	Abbay Tent	Tent Permit		Accounts Rece...	150.00	30,733.78
Sales Receipt	10/17/2018	1594	Hunt Ridge Montess...	Day Care/Nur...		Accounts Rece...	100.00	30,833.78
Sales Receipt	10/17/2018	4143	Ranney Michaeis LLC	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	15.00	30,848.78
Sales Receipt	10/18/2018	4144	Abbey Tent	Tent Permit		Undeposited F ...	100.00	30,948.78
Sales Receipt	10/22/2018	4145	Dalling Construction ...	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	100.00	31,048.78
Sales Receipt	10/22/2018	4146	Dalling Construction ...	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	100.00	31,148.78
Sales Receipt	10/22/2018	4147	Abbey Tent	Tent Permit		Undeposited F ...	125.00	31,273.78
Sales Receipt	10/22/2018	4148	L & R Plumbing & H...	Construction- ...		Undeposited F ...	100.00	31,373.78
Invoice	10/22/2018	1596	Thai Kit	Liquor Permit		Accounts Rece...	100.00	31,473.78
Invoice	10/22/2018	1597	Cambridge Manor	Health Care F...		Accounts Rece...	300.00	31,773.78
Invoice	10/22/2018	1598	J & R Service Station	Annual Inspec...		Accounts Rece...	100.00	31,873.78

**Fairfield Fire Department  
Profit & Loss Detail  
October 2018**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Cir	Split	Amount	Balance
Invoice	10/22/2018	1599	Hill Farm Preschool ...	Day Care/Nur...		Accounts Rece...	100.00	31,973.78
Invoice	10/23/2018	1600	Ukrainian Sick Bene...	Liquor Permit		Accounts Rece...	100.00	32,073.78
Invoice	10/24/2018	1601	Patterson Club	Liquor Permit		Accounts Rece...	100.00	32,173.78
Invoice	10/25/2018	1602	Child Link- Jennings...	Before and Af...		Accounts Rece...	50.00	32,223.78
Sales Receipt	10/25/2018	4149	Bismark Constructio...	Construction-...		Undeposited F...	754.00	32,977.78
Sales Receipt	10/25/2018	4150	Abbey Tent	Tent Permit		Undeposited F...	250.00	33,227.78
Sales Receipt	10/29/2018	4151	Bob McGuire	LP Gas- Tem...		Undeposited F...	100.00	33,327.78
Sales Receipt	10/29/2018	4152	Abbey Tent	Tent Permit-...		Undeposited F...	200.00	33,527.78
Sales Receipt	10/29/2018	4153	Bob McGuire	LP Gas- Tem...		Undeposited F...	100.00	33,627.78
Sales Receipt	10/29/2018	4154	RAM Building Group...	Construction-...		Undeposited F...	202.50	33,830.28
Invoice	10/30/2018	1603	Bill's Crossroads, Inc	Liquor Permit		Accounts Rece...	100.00	33,930.28
Sales Receipt	10/31/2018	4155	Westville-Crest Plu...	Construction-...		Undeposited F...	100.00	34,030.28
Sales Receipt	10/31/2018	4156	Brake Fire Protectio...	Sprinklers- Ro...		Undeposited F...	50.00	34,080.28
Sales Receipt	10/31/2018	4157	Patterson Club	Construction-...		Undeposited F...	2,290.00	36,370.28
Total FM Fees							36,370.28	36,370.28
Total Income							40,270.28	40,270.28
Expense								0.00
Net Income							40,270.28	40,270.28

# FAIRFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Inter-Office Correspondence

TO: Chief McCarthy

FROM: Assistant Chief Scott R. Bisson

SUBJECT: Monthly Facility Report for October, 2018

DATE: November 1, 2018

During the month of October, the Joseph S. Elias Fire Training School was utilized by the 1127 students over 391 hours.

### Agencies Using the Facility

- AMR
- Fairfield Fire Department
- Total Look Salon
- Keene State - OSHA
- Trumbull Police Cadets
- Ansonia Fire Dept.
- Qualified Food Operators
- Town of Fairfield, Mooring Committee
- Weston Fire Department
- OEDM
- Town of Fairfield, Health Dept.
- IMT
- CFA
- Fire Commission
- Coastal Training Officers
- Shelton Fire Department
- Town of Fairfield, FECB Erosion
- New Canaan Fire Department
- Valley Regional Fire School
- FCHIRT
- Bethel Fire Department

### Training and Administrative Highlights (Categories of use - FFD, FFD/FRFS, FRFS, Town)

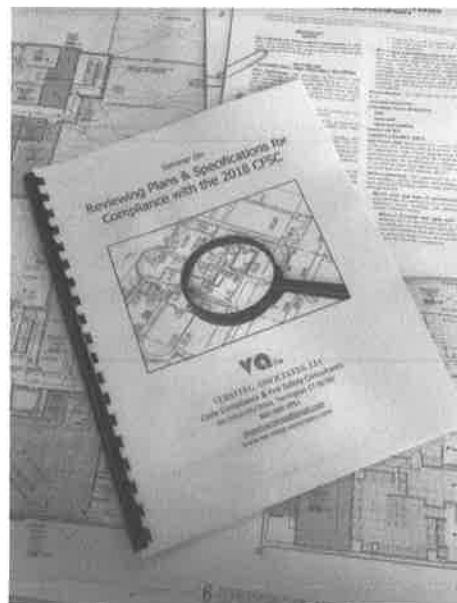
- **FFD** - Mayday Monday in-service drills were conducted by all Fairfield Fire Department personnel on October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.
- **FFD** – Annual Department Respiratory Protection / SCBA training was ongoing this month. This program included 2 major components: part 1) Manufacturer review training completed online in station using the Fire Rescue 1 Academy platform and part 2) practical training at training center.
- **FFD** – Firefighters Haller and LaCroix completed their Q Endorsement new driver training.
- **FFD** – Each shift of officer will attend an officer development class presented by Dr. Maloney at the fire school. The first was scheduled for October 19 and the remaining will be held in early November.
- **FFD** – Annual EMT Refresher training and PPD testing were scheduled through the training division for 2019.



- **FFD** – In conjunction with the Fairfield Fire Maintenance Division, Annual department ladder testing was scheduled for early November and some of the testing will be conducted on the fire training center site.
- **FFD** – Members conducted training at a commercial building scheduled for demolition on 59 Post Road. Members had the opportunity to practice roof ventilation and concrete wall breaches in a commercial building setting.



- **FFD** – A hurricane relief meeting was held at the school on October 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **FRFS** – The two September AMR classes continue to run. One is an accelerated day class and the other is an evening/weekend program.
- **FRFS** – A three-day data management class focusing on Excel will be held for area department members in early November at the school.
- **FRFS** – Firefighter 2 class began this month with 11 students.
- **FRFS** – An open enrollment Flashover training class has been scheduled for November 18, is filled and has a wait list.
- **FRFS** – The Fairfield County Hazardous Materials Team met on October 22.
- **OEDM** – The Office of Education and Data Management for the State of Connecticut held three classes at the training center this month for Fire Marshal Recertification including a special 3 day plan review program which Fairfield had five members attend.
- **FRFS** – A FD Prep physical fitness class began this month.
- **FRFS** – The conference room was used to hold a Port Jefferson Ferry exercise planning meeting



as well as a meeting with Aquarion.

- **FRFS** – Keen State University held an OSHA #510 Occupational Safety and Health Standards class here on October 1-4.
- **FRFS** – A satellite alternative fuel class has been contracted for the Redding Fire Department and will be delivered over two evenings, one in November and the second in December.
- **FRFS** – Multiple outside departments conducted training at the facility this month. They include: Bethel, Ansonia, New Canaan, Shelton, Weston and the Valley Regional Fire School. Several more have scheduled burns for November and into early December.
- **CFA** – A CFA written exam was held on October 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **TOWN** – Diabetes prevention program continued throughout the month.
- **TOWN** – Fire Commission met on October 11th at the FTG.

### **Physical Plant**

- The perimeter gate continues to have operational problems. A representative from Eagle Fence made repairs at direction of Training Center Staff on 10/31/18 which we are continuing to monitor. In addition, we are getting quotes to have a walk in gate installed in front of building in case of gate/power failure.



- Solar Installation work has begun- The solar company began work on the roof this month and is installing solar panels on the 2 “hump” roofs over the building. The panels are actually mounted on the vertical seams so as to not penetrate the water tight roof cover itself.



- Outside Lighting issue – Outside lighting timers that control the exterior exit lights have been malfunctioning.

James Ryan of Town DPW is working to troubleshoot and resolve the issues.

## Year to Year Incident Comparison

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>847</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>621</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>830</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>639</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>764</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>720</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>783</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>753</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>879</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>881</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>700</b>	
<b>December</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>691</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,664</b>	<b>9,056</b>	<b>8,727</b>	<b>7,717</b>

# Fairfield Fire Department

## Year to Date Report

10/01/2018 to 10/31/2018

### Incident Summary by Type

Building Fires	2
Cooking Fires	8
Car Fires	1
Dumpster Fires	0
Brush, Grass, Outside Fires	2
Smoke Scares	75
Furnace Fire/Malfunction	2
Explosion/Steam Rupture	4
Emergency Medical	422
Vehicle Accidents	60
Elevator Rescue	2
Extrications/Rescues	2
Hazardous Condition	36
Service Calls	126
Investigation	40
False Alarm	57
Malicious Alarm	2
Weather/Lightning Strike	9
Undetermined/Incomplete	31
<b>Total Incident Count</b>	<b>881</b>

**Property Loss** 6,405.00

**Contents Loss** 5,000.00

### Unit Responses

E-2	277
E-1	249
CAR3	202
LAD2	173
E-3	167
RES1	160
E-4	115
E-5	102
SQ14	4
CAR5	3
FM2	2
SU1	2
CAR2	1
FM1	1
FM3	1
RS15	1



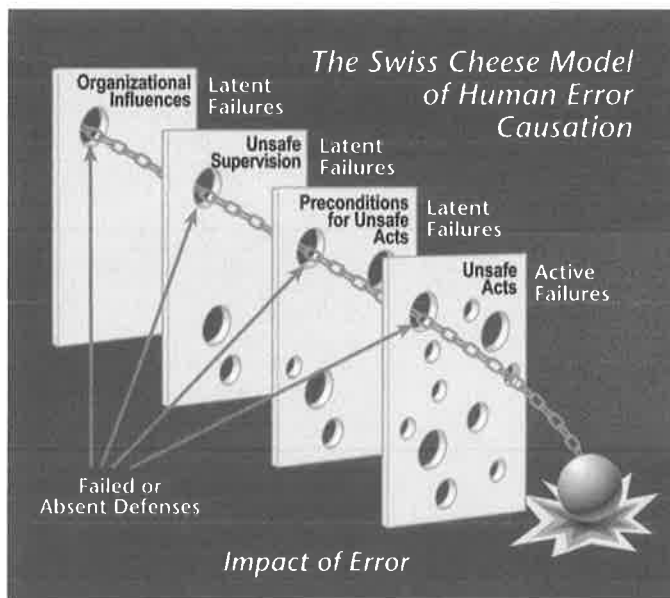
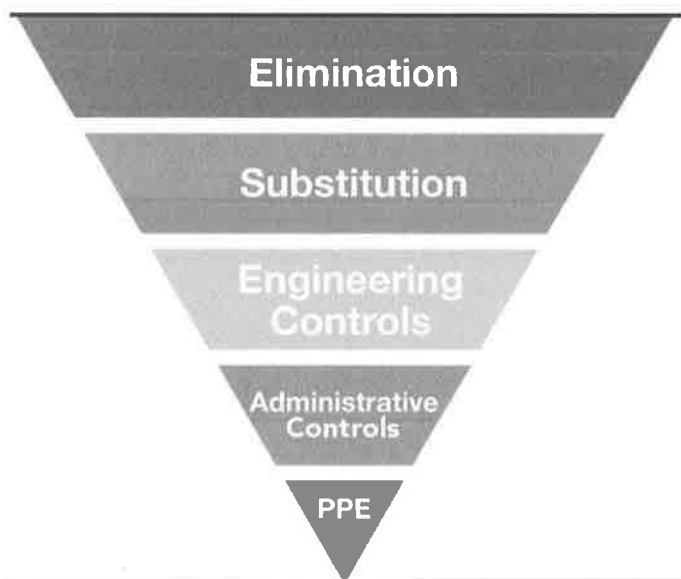
# Fairfield Fire Department Sunday Safety Topic

Sunday, October 14, 2018

## Hazard Control

The hierarchy starts with the controls perceived to be most effective and moves down to those considered least effective. As defined by NIOSH, it flows as follows:

- **Elimination** – Physically remove the hazard
- **Substitution** – Replace the hazard
- **Engineering controls** – Isolate people from the hazard
- **Administrative controls** – Change the way people work
- **Personal protective equipment** – Protect the worker with PPE



“You can’t eliminate every hazard, but the closer you can get to the top, the closer you can reach that ideal and make people healthier and safer,”

Jonathan Bach, director of NIOSH’s Prevention through Design Initiative.

**Train to Stay Safe  
AC Roger Caisse**



# Fairfield Fire Department Sunday Safety Topic

Sunday, October 21, 2018 - Week 2018-42

## “Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Part 2”

A Critical Incident Stress Debriefing has three main objectives. First the mitigation of the impact of a traumatic incident, second the facilitation of the normal recovery processes and a restoration of adaptive functions in psychologically healthy people who are distressed by an unusually disturbing event. And third, CISD functions as a screening opportunity to identify group members who might benefit from additional support services or a referral for professional care.

The 7 phases to a CSID are as follows;

**Phase 1** - The team members introduce themselves and describe the process. They present guidelines for the conduct of the CISD and they motivate the participants to engage actively in the process while participation in the discussion is voluntary it is recommended that all member try to share in the course of the discussion.

**Phase 2** -The Facts, only extremely brief overviews of the facts are requested. Excessive detail is discouraged. This phase helps the participants to begin talking as it is easier to speak of what happened before they describe how the event impacted them.

**Phase 3** - Participants' thoughts. The thought phase is a transition from the cognitive domain toward the affective domain. It is easier to speak of what one's thoughts than to focus immediately on the most painful aspects of the event. The typical question addressed in this phase is "What was your first thought or your most prominent thought once you realized you were thinking? Again we will go around the room to give everybody a chance to speak if they wish. If you do not wish to contribute something, you may remain silent. This will be the last time we go around the group."

**Phase 4** - The reaction phase. This is the heart of a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing. It focuses on the impact on the participants. Anger, frustration, sadness, loss, confusion, and other emotions may emerge. The trigger question is "What is the very worst thing about this event for you personally?" Group members are encouraged to add something if they wish. When the group runs out of issues or concerns that they wish to express they can move the discussion into the next transition phase.

**Phase 5** - Symptoms phase in which Team leaders ask, "What cognitive, physical, emotional, or behavioral symptoms have you been dealing with since this event?" The team members listen carefully for common symptoms associated with exposure to traumatic events. The CISM team leaders will use the signs and symptoms of distress presented by the participants as a kicking off point for the teaching phase.

**Phase 6** - Teaching phase. The leaders conducting the CISD normalize the symptoms brought up by participants. They provide explanations of the participants' reactions and provide stress management information as well as the avenues for more one-on-one focus for participants needing additional support.

**Phase 7** - Re-entry; here the participants may ask questions or make final statements. The CISD team summarizes what has been discussed in the CISD. Final explanations, information, action directives, guidance, and thoughts are presented to the group.

I feel it is also important to note that the decision to have one of these debriefings does not need to come from a supervisor or commander and can be requested by anyone involved if they feel there could be a need for it and it is best for all members involved in the incident be extended an invitation.

Please take care of yourselves, TC Devin Mulligan



# Fairfield Fire Department Sunday Safety Topic

Sunday, October 28, 2018

## Know when to use and when to remove SCBA

Over the past month the department has focused on SCBA usage, inspection, and maintenance. It goes without saying that the proper use of SCBA is essential to our safety. The need to use SCBA is highlighted when we look our exposure to toxic products. There are four methods of exposure to toxic products.

They are:

- **Inhalation- 70% of exposures**
- Ingestion-20% of exposures
- Absorption/Skin Contact- 8% of exposures
- Injection- 1-2%of exposures

As you can see, 70% of toxic exposures are from inhalation and 20% ingestion. So if you have an SCBA on and wash your hands when you are done, you reduce the likely hood of being exposed to toxic chemicals by 90%.

We have procedures in place to guide us when to wear SCBA. Structure fires are obvious. Don't forget these possible usages:

- Car fires
- Dumpster fires
- EMS Calls
- Unknown odors
- Carbon monoxide calls
- Others?

### When do we remove our SCBA?

Air monitoring or metering are tools we have to know when to use SCBA but equally important when to remove SCBA. As we meter, please remember three very basic concepts:

- **Meter SLOW.** The meter takes time to respond. You need to stop and check the readings in the locations that you are standing. If you are walking and metering, you are reading a diluted reading of the air that was a good distance behind you
- **Know where to meter.** If you know the vapor density of a product, that will tell you where to look first. Air has a vapor density of 1. Products with a vapor density of less than 1 will rise, greater than 1 will sink. The molecular weight of a product will tell us the same information. The molecular weight of air is 29. Products with a molecular weight lower than 29 will rise and higher than 29 will sink. The bottom line is most products are heavier than air.
- **Use the tools we have.** We have numerous meters available, use them. We should be metering all the time with multiple meters. When was the last time you metered a home when there was an automatic alarm and you did not know the cause of the alarm? We should be.

**Be Safe AC Sherwood**

# Fairfield Fire Department

## Sunday Safety Message



Sunday November 4, 2018

AC George Gomola

### *Become a Quality Multiplier*

Several weeks ago, I had the opportunity to speak with Dr. Ken Mara, NSW Assessment Directorate and listen to him address a group of SEAL candidates. Dr. Mara is in charge of the selection and assessment process for Navy SEALs, SEAL Officers (SOAS), and Special Boat Operators (SWCC). He described an event that occurred during BUDS training several years ago. The Los Angeles Kings had won the Stanley Cup and it was on display at the training center in Coronado. Being an ardent hockey fan Dr. Mara had left his office to come down to the grinder to see the Cup. At Coronado – everything that is important happens on the grinder.

As he was admiring the Cup he heard the bell ring 3 times, signaling a candidate quit, or dropped on request. He then heard another 3 rings, followed by another. Three candidates had just ended their quest to become Navy SEALs. He watched as they placed their green training helmets on the sidewalk under the pull up bars that line the grinder at BUDS. The Stanley Cup was just a few feet away and none of the candidates even noticed. They had made their decision. Nothing else mattered.

According to Dr. Marra, candidates rarely quit alone. They do it in groups of 2 or 3. When they hit their breaking point, and everyone does, they seek out someone else who is ready to quit. They commiserate, question the strength of their “why”, redefine their level of commitment, and quit together. Instead of lifting their brothers up, they help them quit.

The candidates who succeed make a different, and much more difficult choice. When they reach their breaking point, they turn to a team mate and ask for help. Asking for help is hard to do, especially for alpha males like seal candidates and firefighters. It requires humility and risk. The irony is that humility and risk equate to the true definition of courage. No one makes it though BUDS without asking their buddies for help. No matter how good you are there is always somebody better. By asking that person for help you empower them, more importantly you empower yourself. Dr. Marra calls this process becoming a **quality multiplier**.

Firefighters are helpers. We are really good at helping others, but not so good at asking for help ourselves. The key to success is the understanding that it's not a competition. Any time men work together in high risk/high reward environments we are faced with this challenge. Making the team and more importantly, realizing the mission that the team was created for requires humble acknowledgement of our own personal limitations and more importantly, an understanding that doing the impossible becomes commonplace when we rely on the strength of our team mates. As team mates, we are either a source of strength or a path to weakness. Weakness is not about ability, it is about willingness to ask for and seek the right kind of help. By giving our brothers the opportunity to help us when help is needed, we set the bar. Asking for help is not viewed as a sign of weakness, but rather a sign of strength, humility, interdependence, and brotherhood. I am my brother's keeper!

Stay safe! – AC Gomola



To Chief Dorn,  
Thank for your help  
with our fire safety kick off.  
It was a huge success and  
a lot of children had their dreams  
come true. Hope to see you next year.

You are!

Thank You

Thank you to

Engine 2

Lt. Corbo

Macky Haller

Ron Peterson

Company 2

Tom Janik

Jeff Denitto

Tim Ward

Loei Bayne  
Dept Supervisor  
Tool Rental  
Home Depot  
6206

## Tesei, Sheila

---

**Subject:** Checking In

**From:** Dunn, Kyran

**Sent:** Monday, October 29, 2018 1:34 PM

**To:** Berger, Allison F. <aberger@fairfield.edu>

**Cc:** Tesei, Sheila <STesei@fairfieldct.org>; McCarthy, Denis <DMcCarthy@fairfieldct.org>; Gomola, George <GGomola@fairfieldct.org>; Patrick Barry <pbarry344@gmail.com>; Madia, Brian <BMadia@fairfieldct.org>; Eidam, Christopher <CEidam@fairfieldct.org>; Sherwood, Schuyler <SSherwood@fairfieldct.org>

**Subject:** RE: Checking In

Thank you Allison, I'll forward to the crewmembers who were on scene!

Kyran

---

**From:** Berger, Allison F. <aberger@fairfield.edu>

**Sent:** Monday, October 29, 2018 1:06 PM

**To:** Pelazza, Todd <tapelazza@fairfield.edu>; Ficko, Frank J. <FFicko@fairfield.edu>; Lyddy, Chris <CLyddy@fairfieldct.org>; Dunn, Kyran <KDunn@fairfieldct.org>; Bisson, Scott <SBisson@fairfieldct.org>

**Cc:** Donoghue, Karen A. <kdonoghue@fairfield.edu>

**Subject:** FW: Checking In

Good afternoon,

I hope this message finds you well.

A student who's residence was evacuated on Saturday gave me permission to the following email exchange with you. She is very grateful to you all for making a very stressful situation manageable.

Thank you for all that you do.

With great appreciation, Allison Berger Assistant Dean of Students



**From:** Julia Pisani [mailto:julia.pisani@student.fairfield.edu]

**Sent:** Monday, October 29, 2018 1:02 PM

**To:** Berger, Allison F. <aberger@fairfield.edu>

**Subject:** Re: Checking In

Yes you may! They deserve the thanks and recognition!

Best,

Julia Pisani

On Mon, Oct 29, 2018 at 12:53 PM Berger, Allison F. <aberger@fairfield.edu> wrote:

Hi Julia,

Glad to hear all is well. May I pass along your email to the folks you mentioned? If not I can share your feedback without using your name.

Have a good day,

Allison Berger Assistant Dean of Students 203.254.4211

**From:** Julia Pisani [mailto:julia.pisani@student.fairfield.edu]

**Sent:** Monday, October 29, 2018 11:18 AM

**To:** Berger, Allison F. <[aberger@fairfield.edu](mailto:aberger@fairfield.edu)>

**Subject:** Re: Checking In

Dean Berger,

We are doing well. We were able to come back home later that night. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Fairfield Fire dept., Fairfield police, DPS, the university and everyone else involved for being so helpful and comforting during that stressful time.

Best, Julia Pisani

On Mon, Oct 29, 2018 at 8:36 AM Berger, Allison F. <[aberger@fairfield.edu](mailto:aberger@fairfield.edu)> wrote:

Good morning,

I am checking in to see how you are doing after the evacuation of your residence. Are you back home? Do you need anything? Please let me know how you are doing.

Take good care, Allison Berger Assistant Dean of Students 203.254.4211