



**State of Connecticut
Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control**

- 1. Veteran's Day Holiday – CFA Closed**
- 2. 2016 SERC Conference – November 18th**
- 3. Connecticut Fire Police Association Biannual Meeting**
- 4. NHFD Signal 4 for Miguel Rosado**
- 5. 2016 Seminar Series – Responding to and Preventing Acts of Violence**
- 6. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**

1. Veteran's Day Holiday – CFA Closed

The offices of the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, Connecticut Fire Academy and CFA Bookstore will be closed on Friday, November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day. The CFA Bookstore will be open on Saturday, November 12th, normal bookstore hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thank you to all veteran's for your service to our country!

2. 2016 SERC Conference – November 18th

The 2016 State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Conference will be held on Friday, November 18, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. Registration begins at 8 a.m. **Approved for 5.5 Fire Marshal Credits.**

Please see the attached flyer for conference details and registration. Registration for this **free** program, lunch included may be faxed or mailed to the CT Fire Academy (860) 654-1889.

3. Connecticut Fire Police Association Biannual Meeting

The Connecticut Fire Police Association Biannual Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 12, 2016 and hosted by the South Windsor Fire Police at the South Windsor Fire Headquarters 1175 Ellington Rd in South Windsor, CT

Registration begins at 9:00 with the meeting at 10:00 meeting Agenda will include a discussion of our new 30 year patch, Reviewing a Bylaw change for life membership, New membership, Chiefs Office Report, Officer Report, Country Coordinator Report, Old Business, New Business.

A remainder, membership dues are due for next year. Also, any application for life membership requests are also due for our next meeting.

The menu is set as, Breakfast - Bagels and pastries, Coffee and juice. Lunch - Pasta and meatballs, garden salad, coffee and soda.

R.S.V.P. so we have a head count. Thank you President Jeff Tucker Email FP291chvfd@comcast.net

4. NHFD Signal 4 for Miguel Rosado

Please come and support a Signal 4 for New Haven Fire Dept. Assistant Drill Master Miguel Rosado. It is this Saturday, November 12th at 3pm at Bar 80 located at 203 Foxon Rd, North Branford. \$25 donation with pizza and beer. See the attached flyer.

5. 2016 Seminar Series – Responding to and Preventing Acts of Violence

Friday, December 2, 2016 @ CT Fire Academy – Course # 17037 - \$55.00 Lunch included

Speaker – Lt. Steven Hamilton, Fort Jackson Fire and Emergency Services, South Carolina

Description:

This presentation discusses fire service response to all aspects of violent scenes--single-company response to a victim of domestic violence through to the multiagency active shooter response. Elements of terrorism response are evaluated. Various scenarios are covered: violence, terrorism, active shooter, mass shootings, domestic violence, and suicide by secondary means. Covered are pre-incident planning, policies and procedures for response to such incidents, case history analysis, as well as reporting and documenting violent incidents involving responders. Statistical data are examined to support the hidden dangers emergency responders face at violent incidents.

6. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

Ventilation Concerns During an Apartment Fire

SUMMARY

During a fire attack, the ventilation crew established positive pressure at the front door. While they moved to

the rear exterior of the structure, a window shattered, giving the ventilation officer the impression the interior crew had vented the rear window. It was then the IC changed their assignment to search the building.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

Upon arriving at a fire in a third-floor garden-style apartment, crews found heavy smoke coming from a front window. The truck was directed to ventilate the unit, and the truck officer directed his crew to place a fan at the front door to support the engine.

The officer went to the rear with a pike pole to open the rear window, but as he approached the rear, the glass suddenly broke out and smoke began to come from the window. He assumed the engine company had cleared the window during fire attack. He then rejoined his crew at the front of the unit.

The truck was reassigned to conduct a primary search. As the truck crew entered ahead of the engine, they encountered very high heat and heavy smoke conditions. The truck crew had to quickly exit the unit through the front door due to a sudden increase in heat and fire rolling over and down.

There were no injuries and the engine crew reinitiated their attack and extinguished the fire.

Afterwards, it was discovered that the occupant had taped aluminum foil over all the windows, including the rear window, in an attempt to increase the heat inside the unit.

If the truck officer had known about the aluminum foil on the windows, he would have cleared the rear window instead of assuming it had been done. It was a lesson learned for him.

View the report: [Ventilation concerns during an apartment fire.](#)

TAKE-AWAYS

Attacking a fire, with either positive pressure (PPV) or traditional ventilation, must be coordinated and done properly. The recent studies regarding ventilation, door control and flow-path management have highlighted the importance of this tactic.

The lesson this officer learned is to ensure the ventilation opening is fully cleared and free of obstructions. This is especially true for PPV, as shown by recent studies from Underwriters Laboratory (UL). Using PPV is an appropriate tactic and can be done effectively under given circumstances.

DISCUSSION

- Describe the ventilation concerns when using positive pressure attack or positive pressure ventilation?
- What are the concerns when using traditional fire attack and its impact on flow path?
- Do you have a written guideline on ventilation techniques when using either fire attack methods?
- Do your guidelines consider the recent research from UL?

LEADING PRACTICES

The leading practices on ventilation are changing. Here are different fire-attack techniques and their ventilation considerations:

- During PPA, creating additional openings not in the fire room will create additional flow paths, making PPA ineffective with the potential to draw the fire into all flow paths. Additional openings not in the fire compartment will lower the pressure in adjacent compartments, allowing for more flow from the fire compartment to the remainder of the structure.
- The safety of PPA is decreased when the location and extent of the fire is not known with a high degree of certainty. To ensure the exhaust is provided in the most effective location, it's essential to identify the fire's location. Several indicators are available to aid firefighters in this identification, such as heat signatures identified via thermal imaging cameras and smoke/neutral two-plane conditions.
- The setback of the fan or development of a cone of air isn't as important as the exhaust opening.
- During PPA, constant flow-path management is imperative.
- PPA is exhaust-dependent.
- An outlet of sufficient size must be provided in the fire room to allow for effective PPA.
- Other outlets not in the fire room can draw the fire into other areas.
- The safety of PPA is decreased when the location of the fire is unknown.
- PPA will not be effective on an open-concept floor plan or under high ceilings.
- Quick water application will increase the likelihood of a successful outcome.
- Multiple outlets increase the effectiveness of ventilation after the fire.

You may already be familiar with the [Firefighter Safety Research Institute at Underwriters Laboratory](#). This is a gateway for educational information related to increasing firefighter knowledge. The latest installment is the third part of the ventilation study. The full report is included on the website, along with an online training tool. More information is available on the UL website summary report.

RELATED NEAR MISS REPORTS

- [PPV fans cause hazard for interior crew](#)
- [FF gets lost in basement with no radio](#)
- [Fire spreads as PPV fan turned on too early](#)
- [Training fire extends into acquired structure](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [UL-FSRI Positive Pressure Ventilation Summary Report \(PDF\)](#)
- [FSTAR.org: 8 Online UL Training Courses](#)
- [Fire Engineering Webcast: Rules of Engagement for Positive-Pressure Attack](#)
- [FireRescueMagazine.com: PPA Deconstructed: UL FSRI experiments reveal the value of ventilation](#)

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