

16<sup>th</sup> Annual New England  
FIRE SERVICE  
TRAINING WEEKEND

JANUARY 21 -22, 2006

UMASS/AMHERST  
MURRAY D. LINCOLN CAMPUS CENTER

Sponsored by TRADE Region 1

- \*MA FIREFIGHTING ACADEMY
- \*CT COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL
- \*VT FIRE TRAINING COUNCIL
- \*RI STATE FIRE ACADEMY
- \*NH FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION
- \*ME FIRE TRAINING AND EDUCATION
- \*PROVIDENCE RI FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*HARTFORD CT FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*NEW HAVEN CT FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*BRIDGEPORT CT FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*BOSTON MA FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*WORCESTER MA FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*SPRINGFIELD MA FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*BURLINGTON VT FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*MANCHESTER NH FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \*PORTLAND ME FIRE DEPARTMENT

General Sessions/Keynote Speakers  
Specialized Workshops

# 16<sup>th</sup> Annual New England Fire Service Training Weekend

Sponsored by FEMA Region 1  
Training Resource and Data Exchange

January 21 – 22, 2006  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

## Training Weekend Saturday, January 21, 2006

8 AM	<b>Registration</b>
8:30 – 10 AM	<b>General Session</b> Worcester Cold Storage and Warehouse Fire – <b>District Chief John F. Sullivan</b> A Personal Look from the Company Officer Perspective
10 – 10:30 AM	Break (Coffee/Donuts ) – Fire Service Vendor Exhibits
10:30 – Noon	<b>Workshop Sessions</b> Apparatus Safety and Driving Safety National Stand Down for Firefighter Safety, What Did We Learn?
Noon – 1 PM	<b>Lunch</b> – Fire Service Vendor Exhibits
1 – 2:30 PM	<b>General Session</b> Having the Courage to be Safe – <b>Cathy Hedrick</b>
2:30 – 3 PM	Break (Soda/Coffee ) – Fire Service Vendor Exhibits
3 – 4:30 PM	<b>Workshop Sessions</b> NFPA Investigations: Fire Fighter Fatalities Prevention and Education Can Prevent Firefighter Deaths

## Sunday, January 22, 2006

8:30 – 10 AM	<b>General Session</b> Crew Survivability Concepts – <b>Chief Peter Lamb</b>
10 – 10:30 AM	Break ( Coffee/Donuts )
10:30 - Noon	<b>Workshop Sessions</b> Firefighter IAFF Wellness Initiative Common Sense: A Different Approach to Firefighter Safety and Survival
Noon – 1 PM	<b>Lunch</b>

## **Workshop Sessions**

### **Apparatus Safety and Driving Safety**

*Stephen Coulon*

Firefighter deaths and injuries from vehicle related incidents are on the rise. The Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY) has taken a pro-active role in the reduction and prevention of FDNY apparatus and vehicle crashes by conducting research with regard to braking and acceleration on the multiple types of apparatus within the FDNY operating environment and engaging in training at the command level in apparatus safety, emergency vehicle operations and crash investigation. This course is an overview of the research and training currently ongoing within the FDNY Safety & Inspection Services Command in the effort to reduce apparatus and vehicle collisions in the FDNY.

### **National Stand Down for Firefighter Safety, What Did We Learn?**

*Robb Couture*

This course will present the topics and information that the South Portland (Maine) Fire Department used for the stand down and will discuss how other departments can evaluate and address safety concerns within their own department. It will also discuss how to address and educate members, administration, and even the public to these issues. You may be surprised what you find when you conduct a "safety evaluation" of your own department. Any one who participated in the stand down is welcome to share their ideas and topics, a great chance to "network" with others about safety.

### **NFPA Investigations: Fire Fighter Fatalities**

*Robert F. Duval*

This program will cover several Fire Fighter Fatality incidents studied by the NFPA. The case studies will look into the contributing factors that led to the fatalities including; building construction and fire behavior. Some of the incidents reviewed will include Albert City, Iowa, Phoenix, AZ, New York City, Chesapeake, VA, Keokuk, Iowa and Mark, MS.

### **Prevention and Education Can Prevent Firefighter Deaths**

*John Beatty*

This program will discuss how Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention programs, PSA's, education all hazard prevention programs and residential fire sprinkler systems are just a few of the steps necessary to prevent injury and death in the fire service. It will also include a lively discussion on how education and prevention techniques using the three E's, Education, Engineering and Enforcement can and will prevent the loss of life.

## **Firefighter IAFF Wellness Initiative**

*Michael E. Carroll*

This program will discuss how the WFI is a joint labor/management effort that was developed with the help of the following 10 Departments: Austin, Texas; Miami Dade, Florida; City of New York; Phoenix, Arizona; Seattle, Washington; Los Angeles County; Indianapolis, Indiana; Fairfax County, Virginia; Charlotte, North Carolina; and Calgary, Alberta. It will also describe how the WFI can improve the quality of life of uniformed personnel. In addition, the following elements of the WFI Program will be discussed: behavioral evaluations; medical evaluation; fitness evaluation; educational; non punitive; testing that promotes progressive improvement; and labor/management commitment to positive individualized wellness and fitness.

## **Common Sense: A Different Approach to Firefighter Safety and Survival**

*Deputy Chief Wayne Bindas*

The topics to be covered will be risk vs. benefit analysis, rapid intervention crews, incident scene communications, fire flows vs. percentage of involvement or "when do we really go defensive".

## Keynote General Sessions

### **Worcester Cold Storage and Warehouse Fire A Personal Look from the Company Officer Perspective**

*District Chief John F Sullivan*

This presentation will take an in-depth look at the circumstances surrounding this multiple line-of-duty death incident from the perspective of the company officer. Then Lt. Sullivan will guide the presentation using his personal experiences from the Worcester Cold Storage fire as a line officer who led multiple search-and-rescue attempts into the building and subsequently lost two crew members to the inferno. This first-hand account provides critical insight into the event and emphasizes the “lessons learned” aspects of analysis. The Worcester Fire Department is resolute in its mission to insure that the same fate never befalls another department for lack of insight.

### **Having the Courage to be Safe**

*Cathy Hedrick*

This workshop will discuss the firefighter’s responsibility to “Have the courage to be Safe” and the effect risky behavior can have on the community and the family. Including the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives and a summary of “Taking Care of Our Own,” what to do if a tragedy (LODD) occurs.

### **Crew Survivability Concepts**

*Chief Peter Lamb*

This program takes the firefighter individual survival training currently being offered and applies it to crew integrity and how that improves the potential safety and survival of a firefighter. The best method of survival and rescue is an intact crew. It stresses individual accountability as well as crew accountability in the overall ICS system. This truly is the first line of defense and a look at some case histories where this has proven to be the case or where the system has failed us. These are the steps taken while waiting for the RIT team.

## Our Presenters

### **John Beatty**

John Beatty is a retired Fire and Life Safety Educator III/Public Information Officer for the Portland, Maine Fire Department. John presently is the Western Maine Fire and Life Safety Education Coordinator/Public Information Officer for Maine Fire Training and Education and an adjunct faculty member in the Fire Science Program at Southern Maine Community College. John is a graduate of the University of Southern Maine and the National Fire Academy with a degree in Fire and Life Safety. John has also obtained Certificates for Basic and Advanced Public Information Officer from the Emergency Management Institute.

John has received national recognition for presenting fire and life safety in new and innovative ways. His development of a fire and life safety film and home safety survey in twelve different languages has reduced the risk of injury by fire to the immigrant and refugee population of the State of Maine as well as that of all citizens of the United States as a whole.

### **Deputy Chief Wayne Bindas**

Wayne Bindas is a retired Deputy Chief of the Hartford, Connecticut Fire Department. Wayne is a long time adjunct faculty member of the National Fire Academy and has presented an extensive number of programs across the country. Chief Bindas is also a long time adjunct faculty member of the Connecticut Fire Academy.

### **Michael E. Carroll**

*FF/EMT-P IAFF/IAFC ACE Fitness Trainer*

Michael Carroll started out as a volunteer firefighter EMT with Gray Fire Rescue, in Gray, Maine. He spent over 20 years with Gray. During that time he was employed by United Ambulance, a private ambulance service, in Lewiston, Maine for 20 years. In that time he earned his Paramedic Certification and worked his way up into management. He also obtained his Fitness Coordinator's Certification through ARA Human Factors. While working in the fire and EMS arena Mike has become a Haz-Mat Awareness Instructor, EMS Instructor Coordinator-Paramedic, American Heart CPR, ACLS, and PALS and PHTLS Instructor. Mike has been active in Fire Safety Education, being a Risk Watch Educator, Juvenile Fire Setter Interviewer, Learn Not To Burn Teacher and A Child Seat Technician.

In 2000 he left the private ambulance sector and became the EMS Coordinator for South Portland Fire Department in South Portland, Maine. Since that time Mike has attended the National Fire Academy for Management for Emergency Medical Services, Advanced Leadership in EMS, EMS Special Operations, and Hazardous Materials Incidents EMS, Managing Company Tactical Operations, Emergency Response to Terrorism – EMS, and ICS for EMS. Most recently he has obtained his Peer Fitness Trainer Certification through the IAFF, IAFC and ACE. He is very enthusiastic about getting firefighters and emergency responders fit and healthy. In doing so reducing the number of line of duty deaths we see every year. Mike is a health and fitness consultant for Southern Maine EMS, Maine Fire Training and Education and the Maine Firefighter Magazine. Currently Mike is building a new home, which will have a fitness studio in it where he plans to do private fitness training for emergency responders.

## **Stephen Coulon**

Steve Coulon is a veteran of over 42 years in public safety. He has career experience in all three areas of public safety; Police, Fire and EMS. He began his career as a career firefighter and EMT who then moved over to the law enforcement sector as a Police Officer and Crash Investigator for the Accident Investigation Squad of the New York City Police Department's Highway Patrol Division. Upon his retirement from the NYPD Steve returned to the fire service as a volunteer firefighter and fire service instructor. He currently operates a private consulting and training firm that specializes in Emergency Vehicle Operations, Crash Reconstruction and fleet safety. Steve currently serves as a consultant to the Fire Department of the City of New York in matters concerning apparatus safety and crash investigation. He is the author and Lead Instructor of the FDNY Basic Crash Investigation and Apparatus Safety Course that is a major part of the FDNY's crash reduction and apparatus safety program.

## **Robb Couture**

Robb first became involved in the fire service in 1990. He was hired by South Portland Fire Rescue in 1995 and became a paramedic in 1999. Robb was promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant in 2004. His current certifications and duties include: Firefighter I and II, Hazardous Materials Technician Level, Maine State EMS Instructor Coordinator, Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor, Pediatric Advanced Life Support Instructor, NFA Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist I and II, and Acting Public Information Officer for the South Portland Fire Department. Robb is currently assigned to the Squad 4 Technical Rescue Unit.

## **Robert F. Duval**

Bob Duval is the New England Regional Manager and Senior Fire Investigator for the National Fire Protection Association. Robert is responsible for conducting investigations of technically significant incidents in order to gather, "lessons learned" from each incident to apply those lessons to improving NFPA codes and standards. The investigation of these incidents includes documenting the emergency services response, the structure(s) involved as well as the events leading up to and following the incident. Robert has conducted investigations into several recent incidents including: fire fighter fatalities in Albert City, Iowa; Lake Worth, Texas; Marks, Mississippi; New York City, New York; Phoenix, Arizona; Keokuk, Iowa; a cruise ship fire in Miami, Florida; a grain elevator explosion in Kansas and a bulk retail warehouse in Phoenix, Arizona, among others.

## **Cathy Hedrick**

Cathy Hedrick began volunteering during the Memorial Weekend after her firefighter son, Kenny, was honored in 1993. She joined the Foundation staff in 2004 after a 30-year career in nursing. Cathy works with the Taking Care of Our Own training program, manages family registration during the Memorial Weekend, and makes presentations at local, state and national fire service meetings. She works from the Foundation's Crofton, Maryland, office. Cathy and her husband live in southern Maryland and enjoy get-togethers with their daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons.

## **Chief Peter Lamb**

Peter Lamb is the Fire Chief for the North Attleboro Fire Department located in southeastern Massachusetts. Peter is a fire service professional with more than 20 years of experience. He began his career with the Harris Fire Department in Coventry, Rhode Island, and moved through the ranks and became chief. Peter then accepted a new opportunity becoming the Chief of the Tiverton, Rhode Island Fire Department. He served in this position for 10 years until he accepted a position as the Recruit Coordinator with the Department of Fire Services, Massachusetts

Firefighting Academy. He then served in the position as the Manager of Program Development, Certification, and Staff Services for the agency, and later as the Director of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. Peter has been a strong advocate for fire service training and firefighter safety for many years. His extensive background in training, his personal positive and negative experiences, and his thought provoking insights have offered him many speaking and lecturing opportunities throughout the New England area.

### **District Chief John F. Sullivan**

District Chief John F. Sullivan is an 18-year veteran of the Worcester Fire Department. He is a Coordinator and Lead Instructor of the Worcester Firefighter's Safety and Survival Seminar. Chief Sullivan is an Instructor II level trainer for both the Worcester Fire Department and Massachusetts State Fire Academy; specializing in Firefighter Skills Development (including RIT), Structural Firefighting, Recruit Firefighter Training, and Fire Officer Development. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Science and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Chief Sullivan is an adjunct professor at two local Worcester colleges in the Fire Science division, and an active member of the National Fire Academy's Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education committee. He and his wife Beth have four children and reside in Worcester.