



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

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1. CT Fire Academy Summer Recruit Orientation

The Connecticut Fire Academy Recruit Firefighter Program is a 14 week resident course that focuses on developing the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for the newly hired career firefighter, or for the volunteer firefighter to perform entry-level tasks under direct supervision. The Academy is offering two orientation sessions to anyone interested in learning about the Recruit Program and its comprehensive classroom instruction and training in firefighting techniques and equipment use. The orientation offers insights into what to expect, and how to prepare for this intensive training opportunity.

The 2016 Summer Recruit Orientation dates are:

- ❖ **Wednesday: July 13, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Course Number 17042**
- ❖ **Thursday: July 14, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. Course Number 17043**

Registration Required: Use the Standard CFA Application – Write “No Fee”

Recruit Class 58 will be held from August 29, 2016 to December 09, 2016.

Recruit Class 59 will be held from February 14, 2017 to May 24, 2017.

The next Orientation will be held during December of 2016.

For any questions, please contact: cfprecruit@ct.gov or 860-264-9243

2. Monroe FD Wake/Funeral Details for FF Forrest Ryan

Any personnel that are attending the wake for Monroe FF Forrest Ryan please see details below.

Wake-

Calling hours will be 1600-2000 hrs at the Abriola Parkview Funeral Home, 419 White Plains Road, Trumbull

Funeral-

Funeral will be held at St Jude Church 707 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe at 11am for a Mass of Christian Burial. Interment will follow in St. John Cemetery

Any personal attending the funeral are to meet no later than 1030 hours on Friday at the Monroe Vol. Fire Dept. 18 Shelton road in Monroe. Please utilize the field across from the firehouse for parking. Bus service should be running from the field to the cemetery following Church services.

There have been questions regarding apparatus. There is plenty of room on our field. If you are bringing Apparatus please contact Deputy Chief Krize @ JKRIZE@monroefire.com so that we can plan accordingly.

Coverage companies have been already set for both the wake and funeral. Thank you to all who have offered.

3. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

Toxic Ash Cloud Envelops Unprotected Firefighter

SUMMARY

During a fire at a steel mill, a cloud of toxic lead ash unexpectedly releases from a hopper and surrounds an engine operator.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

Firefighters were operating inside a bag house at a local steel mill, fighting a fire. A bag house is a multistory, elevated metal structure with large filter bags inside that remove harmful pollutants from air used in industrial processes. The bottom of the baghouse is a hopper shaped like a funnel or upside-down pyramid; when the particulates build up in the filter bags, they are shaken loose and fall into the hopper, through which they can be removed.

A fire engine operator was supplying water to the baghouse's standpipe when he noticed that a drain to the standpipe was open. After he walked over to the baghouse and closed the drain, the hopper underneath the baghouse unexpectedly opened, dumping a billowing cloud of ash and lead particles that completely enveloped him. Without SCBA protection and with zero visibility, the operator couldn't avoid breathing the toxic ash as he made his way out of the cloud and towards fresh air.

The engine operator was taken to the hospital, but was not properly decontaminated either before transport or while at the hospital. According to the operator, hoppers on these baghouses normally won't dump

automatically because the lead ash is toxic and is considered a hazardous material. However, it could have opened because of the large amount of water that firefighters inside the structure were flowing.

[Go here to view the report: Toxic Ash Dumps on Apparatus Operator During Industrial Fire](#)

TAKE-AWAYS

The engine operator was truly fortunate to not have been immediately incapacitated or badly hurt. Had the ash cloud gas been hotter, it could have seared his lungs, resulting in severe injuries. He also could have easily been hurt trying to escape the cloud in zero visibility. We thank him for taking the time to submit this report to Near Miss.

The engine operator wrote that his department didn't have a protocol for lead exposure and so didn't properly decontaminate him. The hospital wasn't prepared to decontaminate him, as they expected the fire department to have done so. The lack of proper decontamination and proper communication with the hospital could have exposed other fire and medical personnel to the lead ash.

He also wrote that fires in this mill's baghouses were a common occurrence. Generally, the filter materials in baghouses are capable of withstanding high temperatures from the polluted air, but in this mill they were catching fire. We'll discuss the implications of this fact below.

DISCUSSION

- Which facilities in your area have similar risks as the steel mill in this report?
- If you were exposed to such a cloud, what could you do to lessen your risk of injury and harm?
- How would you decontaminate a firefighter exposed to toxic ash?
- What are your procedures for notifying and working with hospitals regarding decontamination?
- What immediate and longer-term health risks might this firefighter face?

LEADING PRACTICES

If you're fighting a fire in a building with hazardous materials, consider this event as a hazardous materials incident, and expect that the material won't stay safely contained. Ensure all personnel are wearing full PPE, including SCBA. Wearing SCBA will make exterior operations more difficult, but if the hazardous materials suddenly release, firefighters will have as much protection as possible. If structural PPE doesn't afford sufficient protection, consider going defensive and coordinate with a hazmat team.

Consider how firefighting operations will affect the function and stability of buildings and mechanical systems. Adding thousands of pounds of water to a structure will weaken it, as may ventilation and overhaul. Try to determine if water will react with any of the hazardous materials. Make sure your crews are protected from any negative impacts.

Repeated fires at an industrial facility warrant inspection and action from fire-prevention officers and fire marshals. Alert the proper authorities if you see a pattern of fires.

If suddenly surrounded by a cloud of ash and dust, do your best to hold your breath as long as possible. Recall from experience or training how far you can move on one breath! If the gas is superheated, get low to escape the heat.

Exposure patients, such as the engine operator in this report, must receive decontamination before leaving the scene. If you're uncertain how to do so, request advice from the Hazmat team, the facility's safety data sheets or CHEMTREC. Properly contain any runoff and properly collect any clothing from the patient.

4. Suicide Awareness: An Introduction for Crisis Responders

Course sponsored by ICISF to increase awareness of suicide and equip participants with information and basic skills to respond to a person considering suicide. Discussions, verbal talk skills demonstration and scenario-based learning will be used to facilitate learning.

Location: Rocky Hill Fire Department, Co. #3
3050 Main St.
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Date: September 17, 2017 08:30-4:00pm
Costs: \$150.00 includes text and certificate, lunch on your own.
CT CISM Team Members: \$25.00

See attached application.

5. Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Co. 1 - Mattress Fundraiser

Join the Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Co. 1 and the Auxiliary on Saturday, June 18th from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM at 379 Coram Avenue in Shelton for our HUGE 1st Annual Mattress Fundraiser!

Be advised that name brand and mattress sets will be sold at up to 50% below retail prices! These are all top quality mattresses with full factory warranties!

- All sizes and price ranges for everyone!
- Delivery is available for everyone!
- Floor models will be displayed!

Proceeds will be going directly to Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Co. 1 - Please see the flyer below and share with your family and friends! \$50.00 off your purchase of a mattress set over \$500.00 with the flyer on the day of the event!

****The SALE is ONE DAY ONLY - so take advantage of it*****

On behalf of all the volunteer men and women of Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Co. 1 - we thank you for your continuous support!

6. 9/11 Memorial Museum Trip Presented by Avon Volunteer Fire Department

Please see attached memo for an upcoming trip to NYC for the 9/11 Memorial Museum. Information is on the attached memo, if you have any additional questions please feel free to call the Avon Volunteer Fire Dept. office at (860)677-2644. Feel free to distribute to your departments - Thank you & stay safe

7. Middlebury Fire Departments Golf Tournament Fundraiser

The Middlebury Fire Department is hosting its first Golf Tournament Fundraiser on June 24th at Western Hills Golf Course in Waterbury. 8 a.m. Shotgun Start-Scramble Format.
Contact Brian @ (203)592-1952 for additional information.

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL