

The Newsletter of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

FIRE FOCUS

Lori Grifa, Commissioner
William E. Kramer, Jr., Acting Director
Fall 2011 Posting

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
New Jersey Division of Fire Safety
Volume 5 Issue 3

NJDFS "FIRE IN NEW JERSEY 2010" STATE NFIRS REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) information collected by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal, NFIRS Unit is now posted as the report: "**FIRE IN NEW JERSEY 2010**" it shows fire to be no less a formidable foe last year for the men and women of the *New Jersey Fire Service*, and consequently the effort they selflessly put forth to protect people and preserve property in the state.

The most disheartening statistic concerns the number of state residents who lost their lives in fire related causes in 2010, which stands at **73**. **43 percent** died as a result of fire in single family dwellings, while another **27 percent** succumbed in a multi-family structure. Putting the number in historical perspective however shows just one fire in Bradley Beach in 1980 killed **24** people. In that year **62** people died within a period of just seven months.

Nearly **30,841** fires were reported state-wide and **16,477** involved a structure. Fully **80 percent** of all reported structural fires involved residential property. Firefighting remains among the world's most dangerous occupations, whether career or volunteer. *The New Jersey Fire Service* suffered **2** Line of Duty Deaths and **737** firefighters were injured. See the complete report, and a **2010 Participant Addendum** for individual reporting fire organizations results at:

WWW.STATE.NJ.US/DCA/DIVISIONS/DFS

{2010 STATISTICS}



73 FIRE FATALITIES



2 FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATHS



**NEARLY 80 PERCENT OF FATALITIES
IN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS**



IN THIS POSTING...

NJDFS HURRICANE RESPONSE

USFA ON-DUTY FATALITY REPORT

**FIRE FOCUS INTERVIEW WITH :
DAVID MATOS
NJ FIRE AND EMS INSTITUTE**

FDNY '343' BIKE RIDE IN CAPE MAY

NJDFS-NJFPPA POSTER CONTEST

THE LAST DUTY CALL...

**WATCH FOR STATE FIRE MARSHAL MESSAGE
IN YOUR INBOX EACH MONTH!**

NJDFS COORDINATES FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TO HURRICANE IRENE STATEWIDE

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety-Office of Fire Department Preparedness used a combination of 12 hour shifts at the *State Emergency Operations Center* (SEOC), County Fire Coordinators, conference calls, and daily weather updates for senior staff to muster a *New Jersey Fire Service* centered response to the impending threat that began fully 96 hours before the anticipated landfall of the 2011 hurricane season's most devastating storm thus far.

County Coordinators heard that in anticipation of Irene, all routine deployments of fire department mutual aid would need to be filtered through the *SEOC* for the sole purpose of "table top" accountability of all assets at all times. Those same County Coordinators had in hand a *Best Practices Hurricane Guide* from *NJDFS* field personnel which included specific guidelines with respect to safe response to any impending Hurricane caused emergency, predicated on the notion that the response, while swift must be measured as well, and at all times, to protect first responders from the their innate tendency to save lives and thus minimize risk.

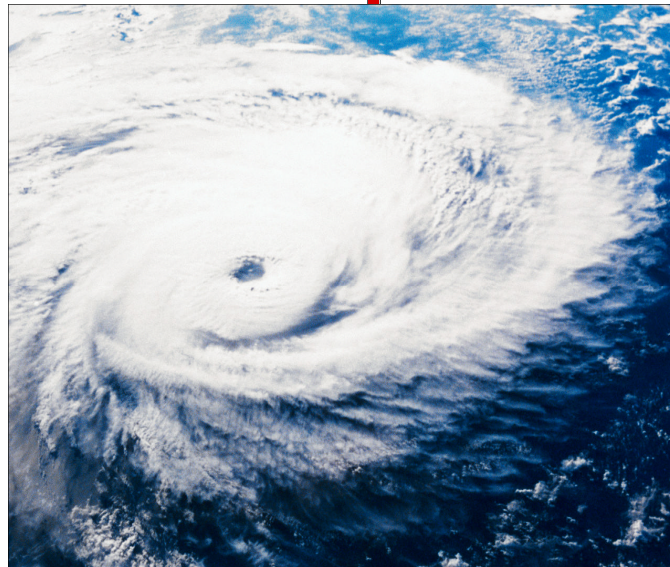
At 36 hours before anticipated landfall a conference call; including Regional County Coordinators and *NJDFS* field personnel featured the opportunity for the *NJDFS* Emergency Preparedness Unit senior staff to address any last minute concerns in the respective counties represented, as Irene grew into a record breaking rain event for the entire Northeast. This line of communication was kept open at the *SEOC* for the duration of the event.

To provide for any degradation of existing wireline communications infrastructure, *NJDFS* Emergency Preparedness Unit issued hand held multi-frequency radios and special state satellite telephones.

At the outset *NJDFS* Northern Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Regional Coordinator Bruce Tynan and the Middlesex County Fire Coordinator Mike Gallagher took on the challenge of providing an emergency firefighting water supply to the City of South Amboy owing to a failure in the municipal system to provide adequate water pressure for city fire hydrants.

Uncontained fire due lack of water pressure, rather than the earthquake itself, is what destroyed the City of San Francisco in 1906.

South Amboy has nearly 7,000 residents and features detached homes as the predominate residence type. Though as with many northern state urban centers, there are an almost equal amount of multi-family unit dwellings.



As a safety precaution, the operational plan provided for the deployment of three (3) water tenders, large capacity water supply vehicles, that were provided by the Gloucester County Fire Coordinator, Dennis Kappler, who worked with *NJDFS* Preparedness Unit Delaware River Region Coordinator Mike Gallagher, (no relation), in the arrangement for that particular deployment.

The crisis passed quickly as the municipal water pumps came back on line, but the consensus was that the standby water supply would have quickly dealt with any incumbent situation.

NJDFS UASI Coordinator Bruce Tynan again took the tireless operational lead ensuring the tenders stayed on line for the entire 24 hour operational period. Once the situation had stabilized and hydrants returned to normal demand pressure they were allowed to stand down.

NJDFS COORDINATES FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TO HURRICANE IRENE STATEWIDE



However on August 29th however at 0500, Division staff at the *SEOC* received an out-of-county assistance call from Essex County Fire Coordinator John D'Ascensio due to the failure of the entire Short Hills water supply system. The system serves nearly one quarter of a million residents including; West Orange, Millburn, Maplewood, Irvington, Florham Park, Summit, Springfield and Livingston, which is the site of Saint Barnabas, a major regional medical center.

In total the *NJDFS* brought to bear five (5) firefighting water tender "strike teams" of three to five tenders. Each of which were rotated in and out of the affected area under the supervision of Preparedness Unit staff, and thus coordinating a total 17 county response and ultimately drawing on resources from as far away as Cape May to the south and Sussex to the north, as well as Federal facility and New Jersey State Forest Fire Service firefighter water supply tenders as well.

"The deployment was well over 500 firefighters, the overwhelming majority of whom were volunteers, there on their own time and motivated by their own dedication to firefighting," said Rick Farletta, Fire Department Preparedness team leader.

"I cannot say enough about the effort put forth by the men and women of our state fire service. Their contribution amounts to nearly 7,000 hours of unselfish and uncompensated effort to protect the residents of those communities, just awesome really," he adds.

Farletta notes that on Sunday evening, September 4, the water pressure returned to safe levels and the tender strike force was allowed to finally stand down.

Farletta says the "after action" examination held after every *NJDFS* Preparedness Unit response shows the need to among other things-facilitate better communication among Regional Coordinators- moving them to air cards for field lap tops, upgrading cell phones and adding Blackberries to ensure that clear, accurate information is in play at all times.

"We are constantly re-evaluating our response, Each time we do, we improve it," says Farletta.

More information: RFarletta@dca.state.nj.us



NATIONAL FIRE DATA CENTER SAYS OVER 20 PERCENT LACK SMOKE ALARMS NATIONWIDE

- *An estimated 374,900 residential building fires are reported to U.S. fire departments each year and cause an estimated 2,630 deaths, 13,075 injuries, and \$7.6 billion in property loss.*
- *Cooking is the leading cause of residential building fires (44 percent). Nearly all residential building cooking fires are small, confined fires (94 percent).*
- *Residential building fire incidence is higher in the cooler months, peaking in January at 11 percent.*
- *Residential building fires occur most frequently in the early evening hours, peaking during the dinner hours from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., when cooking fires are high.*
- *Forty-six percent of nonconfined residential building fires extend beyond the room of origin. The leading causes of these larger fires are electrical malfunctions (16 percent), unintentional or careless actions (15 percent), intentional (12 percent), and open flame (11 percent).*

Smoke alarms were not present in 21 percent of the larger, nonconfined fires in occupied residential buildings.

(Source: USFA Residential Building Fires)

Emmitsburg, MD – The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) released a special report focusing on the causes and characteristics of fires in residential buildings.

The report, [*Residential Building Fires*](#) was developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center. Residential buildings include what are commonly referred to as homes, whether they are one- or two-family dwellings or multifamily buildings. It also includes manufactured housing, hotels and motels, residential hotels, dormitories, assisted living facilities, and halfway houses.

[Residential Building Fires](#) is part of the Topical Fire Report Series and is based on 2007 through 2009 National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) data. Topical reports explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS.

Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information. Also included are recent examples of fire incidents that demonstrate some of the issues addressed in the report or put the report topic in context.



Install. Inspect. Protect.
Smoke alarms save lives.

POST IRENE-EAST COAST EARTHQUAKE FEMA SHOWS THE WAY FOR DIGITAL DISASTER HELP

(Editor/Producer Note:) The onslaught of Hurricane Irene and the East Coast Earthquake of August 23 have demonstrated the effectiveness of digital communication channels, especially in the period before large scale power outages. The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal-Fire Department Preparedness Unit encourages fire departments and local fire officials to consider similar local digital communication methods and to promote their use throughout their respective communities. The information has been edited to narrow its relevance for the New Jersey Fire Service . Each heading underlined in blue links to more detailed information:

<http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/tech.html>

(Source: FEMA)

FEMA has numerous digital communication channels and tools as part of our mission to provide information to the public before, during, and after a disaster. This page outlines all of our official communication channels and resources and why we use them.

Mobile Website: m.fema.gov

The mobile website allows the public to easily access preparedness and disaster-related information directly on their smartphone. The site also includes a registration form that the public can fill out to apply for disaster assistance after a Presidential declaration.

FEMA App: (smartphone app)

The FEMA App contains disaster safety tips, interactive lists for storing your emergency kit emergency meeting location information, and a map with shelters and FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs). The app is free to download through your smart phone provider's app store:

Android: (coming soon)

iPhone: (coming soon)

Read the [FEMA App Terms of Use](#)

FEMA Text Messages:

Use your cell phone's text messaging capability to receive text message updates from FEMA (standard message and data rates apply). Here are basic commands to get started:

To signup to receive monthly preparedness tips: text **PREPARE** to **43362** (4FEMA)

To unsubscribe (at any time): text **STOP** to **43362** (4FEMA)

To search for Shelters or Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs): Text **SHELTER** and your Zip Code to **43362** (4FEMA) Before you go to a shelter, always check with your local emergency management agency for availability & services.

Text **DRC** and your Zip Code to **43362** (4FEMA) Searching for shelters or Disaster Recovery Centers will not add you to a list. Think of it like doing a search on the Internet.

Important Notes for your Safety:

For emergencies, call your local fire/EMS/police or 9-1-1.

FEMA's text message number is **43362**. If you receive a text message from another number and they say they are from FEMA, disregard it and report it to the authorities if you feel it is warranted. FEMA will not solicit info, ask for personal information, or ask you to donate money to FEMA. If you have any questions about FEMA Text Message updates, please don't hesitate to email us: fema-new-media@dhs.gov

FEMA Blog: blog.fema.gov

The blog provides a place for agency senior leaders to discuss the current topics of the day. It encourages open conversation and is open to user comments.

Tools on FEMA.gov

RSS/Data Feeds: www.fema.gov/help/rss.shtm RSS/data feeds automatically provide the public with updated information as soon as it's available.

Widgets : www.fema.gov/help/widgets Widgets provide information through web-based graphical interfaces. The public can place the widgets on their personal websites, allowing their visitors to see information that we provide.

POST IRENE-EAST COAST EARTHQUAKE FEMA SHOWS THE WAY FOR DIGITAL DISASTER HELP

Multimedia Library: www.fema.gov/medialibrary The Multimedia Library has all of our videos, photos, and audio files in one location.

Email Updates: www.fema.gov/help/getemail.shtm Email updates provide information to the public directly in their inbox. We never send unsolicited emails and the public can choose which updates they would like to receive. Our email updates are provided by a third-party company called GovDelivery.

Challenge.gov: www.challenge.gov/fema The website allows the public to submit solutions for specific challenges posted by FEMA and other federal agencies. Official FEMA Channels on Third Party Social Media Sites

(We are providing the following links to FEMA's presence on other third party sites for your reference. FEMA does not endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.)

YouTube: www.youtube.com/fema A social media website that allows us to provide information to the public using videos.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fema A social media website that allows us to provide information (including photos and videos) and interact with the public in a two-way conversation.

Twitter & TwitPic: Twitter is microblog service (twitter.com/fema) that allows us to provide information and interact with the public in a two-way conversation via short messages (in 140 characters), just like text messages. TwitPic is a photo social media site that allow us to provide pictures to the public via Twit-

ter and the web. (twitpic.com/photos/CraigatFEMA)

This is a list of all of our Twitter accounts:

Administrator Craig Fugate: twitter.com/CraigatFEMA

FEMA - twitter.com/fema

Ready: twitter.com/ReadydotGov The *Ready* Campaign is designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural and man-made disasters. Website: www.ready.gov

Citizen Corps: twitter.com/citizen_corps Citizen Corps helps coordinate volunteer activities that will make our communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation. Website: www.citizencorps.gov

U.S. Fire Administration: twitter.com/usfire The U.S. Fire Administration provides national leadership to foster a solid foundation for our fire and emergency services stakeholders in prevention, preparedness, and response. Website: www.usfa.dhs.gov

Region 2: twitter.com/femaregion2 New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Website: [Region 2 on FEMA.gov](http://Region2onFEMA.gov)

Google Books: We are using the Google Books digital library to share publications with stakeholders so we can provide published content in a free online format that is easy to access. If you think FEMA should use other third party sites or communications tools, then please contact us at FEMA-New-Media@dhs.gov. Please see our [privacy policy](#) to learn about privacy with new media tools.



Resolve to be Ready in 2011! Don't Drop the Ball!
ready.gov

USFA RELEASES FIREFIGHTER ON-DUTY FATALITY STATISTICS FOR 2010

- 
- ▶ **87 ON DUTY DEATHS NATIONWIDE ***
 - ▶ **HEART ATTACKS LEADING CAUSE**
 - ▶ **112 ANNUALLY BETWEEN 2004-2009**
 - ▶ **56 VOLUNTEER**
 - ▶ **28 CAREER**
 - ▶ **3 WILDLAND**

**The USFA identifies a firefighter on duty as someone who is involved in operations at the scene of an emergency, whether it is a fire or non fire incident; responding to or returning from an incident; performing other officially assigned duties such as training, maintenance, public education, inspection, investigations, court testimony, and fundraising; and being on call under orders, or on standby duty except at the individuals home or at work.*

Emmitsburg, MD – The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has released the report :

[Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2010](#)

The report continues a series of annual studies by the USFA of on-duty firefighter fatalities. The USFA is the single public agency source of information for all on-duty firefighter fatalities in the United States each year.

Eighty-seven on duty firefighters from 31 states lost their lives as the result of 83 fatal incidents that occurred in 2010. This is the second consecutive year of substantially fewer firefighter deaths in the United States. During the previous six-year period of 2004-2009, the average number of annual on duty firefighter deaths was 112. Illinois experienced the highest number of fatalities with nine firefighters killed; New York and Ohio had the next highest totals with eight firefighter deaths each.

USFA RELEASES FIREFIGHTER ON-DUTY FATALITY STATISTICS FOR 2010

- *The total breakdown included 56 volunteer, 28 career, and 3 wildland agency firefighters.*
- *There were 4 firefighter fatality incidents where 2 firefighters were killed in each, claiming a total of 8.*
- *11 firefighters died in duties associated with wildland fires. Along with 11 such deaths in 2007, it was the lowest number of annual firefighter deaths associated with wildland fires in a decade.*
- *Activities related to emergency incidents resulted in the deaths of 48 firefighters.*
- *22 firefighters died while engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.*
- *16 firefighters died while responding to or returning from 15 emergency incidents. 9 of the firefighters killed while responding to incidents died from heart attacks (8) or stroke (1).*
- *Heart attacks were the most frequent cause of death with 50 firefighter deaths.*
- *12 firefighters died while they were engaged in training activities.*
- *15 firefighters died after the conclusion of their on duty activity.*

The unique and specific objective of Firefighter Fatalities in the United States is to identify all on duty firefighter fatalities that occurred in the United States and its protectorates during the calendar year and to present in summary narrative form the circumstances surrounding each occurrence.

For 34 years, USFA has tracked the number of firefighter fatalities and conducted an annual analysis. Through the collection of information on the causes of firefighter deaths, the USFA is able to focus on specific problems and direct efforts toward finding solutions to reduce the number of firefighter fatalities in the future. This information is also used by many organizations to measure the effectiveness of their current efforts directed toward firefighter health and safety.

FOR MORE INFORMATION :
[National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend](#)
www.FireHero.org



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK MARKS NJDFS- NJFPPA FIRE SAFETY POSTER CONTEST



**OUR CONTEST
PARTNERS!**



**NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK KICKS OFF
THE ANNUAL NJDFS-NJFPPA 2011-2012
SCHOLASTIC FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION
POSTER CONTEST.**

**EACH DIVISION WINNER TO RECEIVE
LAPTOP COMPUTER**

Fire Safety education is a requirement for all students attending school in the State of New Jersey. To assist school districts in meeting the requirement, the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and the New Jersey Fire Protection and Prevention Association, an organization of fire officials from local and county fire prevention bureaus, annually host a "Fire Safety Education Poster Contest" open to all students statewide.

The National Fire Protection Association in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week annually debuts a fire safety theme for the celebration. This year's theme for the week and continuing into the academic year will be:

"PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM FIRE"

-The contest includes the following categories-

DIVISION 1 – Kindergarten through Second Grade

DIVISION 2 – Third through Fifth Grade

DIVISION 3 – Sixth through Eighth Grade

DIVISION 4 – Ninth through Twelfth Grade

DIVISION 5 – Vocational/Technical Students

Special Education Students:

DIVISION 6 – Kindergarten through Eighth Grade

DIVISION 7 – Ninth through Twelfth Grade

**ENTRY INFORMATION INCLUDING APPLICATION FORMS ARE
AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD ONLY ONLINE AT:**

**WWW.STATE.NJ.US/DCA/DIVISIONS/DCA/
Questions/comments: fireprevention@dca.state.nj.us**

Reproduced from NFPA's Fire Prevention Week website, www.firepreventionweek.org. ©2011

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY HOSTS NEW JERSEY FIREFIGHTERS FOR “NEW JERSEY WEEKEND”



The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal and the National Fire Academy, annually host state firefighters and local fire officials at the Academy campus located in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Fire service members in a college campus setting, avail themselves to in-service training courses, engage in professional development dialogue, and hear first-hand from state Division leadership, including newly named Acting Director William E. Kramer, Jr., about the critical issues facing the state fire service, in the Academy’s retreat-like setting.



The tone for the weekend, largely set the by the Academy’s centerpiece, The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, which honors all in the national fire service who have given their lives in the line of duty.



Not part of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial but one commemorating 9-11 and its 10th anniversary this year.



NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY HOSTS NEW JERSEY FIREFIGHTERS FOR “NEW JERSEY WEEKEND”

The National Fire Academy is the central training facility for what in other smaller countries, usually is a “national” fire service. Academy students come from all over the country, and foreign countries as well.

In New Jersey like the rest of the USA, the tradition of firefighting has largely arisen out of our many small towns, where volunteer companies formed, our larger cities, conversely, deploying career departments.

Yet what is common to all is the nature of fire. Both career and volunteer have ample opportunity in classroom settings to receive instruction from Academy experts to maintain the highest level of firefighting expertise no matter where they serve.



Go To: FirePreventionWeek.org

Protect Your Family From Fire

October 9–15, 2011 • It's Fire Prevention Week



Reproduced from NFPA's Fire Prevention Week website, www.firepreventionweek.org. ©2011 NFPA.

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY HOSTS NEW JERSEY FIREFIGHTERS FOR “NEW JERSEY WEEKEND”

Throughout “New Jersey Weekend” the Academy conducts courses focused on such varied topics as: “Decision Making For Initial Company Operations,” “Incident Command System for High Rise Operations,” and “Leadership for Fire and EMS: Strategies for Company Success,” it also holds with long time fire service traditions, such as the stationhouse supper.

Fighting fires is not only one of the world’s most dangerous occupations, it commands sufficient stamina to handle the very physical aspects of it. Consuming an adequate amount of calories is prerequisite to each firefighter’s ability to “answer the call.”

The Academy in no small way upholds that long and laudable tradition by hosting a Saturday evening barbecue for students at the aptly named Log Cabin, which along with the Academy is located at the foot of the northernmost extension of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Camp David, the Presidential retreat is located nearby.



USFA LARGE LOSS BUILDING FIRES REPORT SHOWS APARTMENT AND CONDO SPIKE

Emmitsburg, MD — The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) United States Fire Administration (USFA) issued a special report recently examining the characteristics and causes of **Large Loss Building Fires**. The report, developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center, is based on 2007 to 2009 data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety collects data within the state which contributes to this report

From 2007 to 2009, an estimated 900 large loss building fires were reported by U.S. fire departments annually. These fires caused an estimated 35 deaths, 100 injuries, and \$2.8 billion dollars in property damage. In this report, large loss building fires are defined as fires that resulted in a total dollar loss of \$1 million or more.

Large Loss Building Fires is part of the Topical Fire Report Series. Topical reports explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS. Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information. Also included are recent examples of fire incidents that demonstrate some of the issues addressed in the report or that put the report topic in context.

(Source USFA)

LARGE LOSS BUILDING FIRE FACTS:

Forty-eight percent of large loss fires occur in residential buildings.

Exposures are the leading cause of large loss building fires at 22 percent, followed by electrical malfunctions (12 percent), other unintentional, careless actions (11 percent), and intentional (9 percent).

A peak in large loss building fires is seen between the hours of 1 a.m. and 4 a.m.

Attics are the primary origin of all large loss building fires, along with cooking areas or kitchens.

(Source USFA Large Loss Building Fires)

the fire focus the fire focus interview interview



David Matos is the Executive Director of the New Jersey Fire and Emergency Medical Services Institute, formed in 1991, whose mission is to advocate for the benefit of First Responders in the state.

The Institute has been involved in various legislative initiatives upon behalf of volunteers, directed at the New Jersey State Legislature's Fire Service Caucus including the so-called "Move Over" law, among other specific legislative activities.

The Institute maintains a close liaison with the New Fire Safety Commission by briefing Commission members on issues the Institute considers important, and by providing information on the hundreds of volunteer EMS responders that the Institute gives a state-wide voice to.

In 2011 the Institute held "A Summit on Volunteerism" in order to focus attention on the now "crisis level" of volunteer staffing of emergency personnel suffered by communities throughout New Jersey.

Could you describe the history of the New Jersey Fire & Emergency Medical Services Institute, when did begin and why?

The concept of "one voice" for the fire service has been around for as long as there have been local fire companies spread across New Jersey. In 1991, shortly after the formation of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus in Washington, a group of leaders in New Jersey's fire service believed that the time was right to create a similar organization in the state to advocate for legislation and policies which supported emergency services for the benefit of the public and of firefighters. A key goal was to have New Jersey's legislature establish a fire services caucus. In 2003, the focus was expanded to include emergency medical services. In 2010, the goal of establishing a Fire Services Caucus in the NJ Legislature was achieved.

Why do the fire service and the emergency medical services in the state need the Institute's services?

Whether we like it or not, today's society is one where every group has become an interest group. Many interests organize themselves in order to maximize the opportunity to be heard among all the competing voices requesting attention, primarily from the government.

The fire and emergency medical services are no different, particularly since we are so dependent upon governments at all levels to do our jobs effectively and safely, be it as volunteers or career personnel. In addition, we are constantly hearing about "fragmentation", especially in New Jersey's fire service where the proliferation of organizations has led to literally dozens of groups out there, all with a claim to represent fire service interests.

The difficulties the Legislature is having in crafting an omnibus emergency medical services bill reflects a similar "fragmentation" in the EMS community.

The Institute, by virtue of having so many statewide and local fire and EMS organizations represented on its Board of Delegates, provides one source for State and local officials and the media to turn to for information on matters of importance to the fire and emergency medical services in New Jersey.

the fire focus the fire focus interview interview

With so many different interests represented on our Board, our meetings are usually quite lively, but positions taken by the Institute can certainly be said to reflect a strong consensus of the broader fire and EMS communities.

However, on some issues where two or more of our member organizations are on totally opposite sides and we cannot find common ground, we say so. In such cases, we do our best to present objective cases for each position and refer to the individual organizations for more details. Either way, the fire and emergency medical services are heard from, loud and clear.

What is the central mission of the Institute and more specifically its educational, informational and legislative tracking services?

I believe our mission can be summarized in two words: education and advocacy. Virtually all our activities can be placed in one or both of those categories. We have developed a Legislative and Policy Agenda which can be found on our website, www.njfemsi.org.

Earlier this year, we organized a Summit on Volunteerism in the Emergency Services to call attention to the shrinking pool of volunteers available to run calls for local fire departments and first aid squads, and to share best practices for recruiting and retaining volunteers. We are in the process of developing a series of workshops highlighting these best practices which we hope to present across the state.

We are working on two coalitions right now. One seeks to increase public (and law enforcement) awareness of the state's "move over" law which requires drivers to move over one lane or slow below the posted speed limit when approaching a stopped emergency vehicle.

We succeeded in having an electronic message displayed at all river crossings into New Jersey and Assemblyman Wisniewski, who also chairs the State Fire Safety Commission, has introduced legislation requiring NJ DOT to post signs on all state and interstate highways. K-12 curriculum, a poster contest, and an educational decoy program are planned.

Our second coalition effort is to adopt legislation to mandate home sprinkler systems in new home construction, in conformance with the International Building Code (ICC). This effort will focus on educating legislators, the public and the fire service on the safety benefits of residential sprinklers while debunking the many myths and misconceptions out there regarding this technology.

Could you describe the membership levels and requirements?

We've simplified our membership categories while expanding them at the same time to allow more opportunities for support and input. Individuals can be members at various levels. We recently established membership categories for county level organizations as well as for individual fire companies/ departments and EMS squads.

Of course, statewide organizations can always apply for membership and representation on our Board of Delegates which guides the Institute's policies and positions such as our legislative agenda.

Could you describe the state of volunteerism in the state, especially with respect to it as a fire safety issue?

We have recognized volunteerism issues as a top priority in fire and EMS in New Jersey. We recently organized a statewide Summit on Volunteerism in Emergency Services to try to get a

the fire focus the fire focus interview

better handle on the extent of the problem in the state, since one of the biggest problems is the lack of good data which would give us a clear picture of where we stand when it comes to volunteers.

We had over one hundred leaders in fire and EMS come together and discuss the status of the volunteer service across the state and come up with some recommendations regarding recruitment and retention strategies. The Institute hopes to follow up the Summit with local seminars geared specifically to assisting local fire companies and squads with their volunteer needs.

This year the Institute held a *Summit on Volunteerism*, what are some of the “actionable” items that arose from that Conference buttressed against the rising concern about the issue?

Among the issues raised was the need to improve communication within the fire company/squad, as well as improving communication with external stakeholders such as local and state elected/appointed officials and with the local community at large, that is, our customers. Mentoring of new recruits was also cited as an effective retention strategy.



**David Matos, Executive Director
NJ Fire and EMS Institute**

You are involved in grass roots legislative activism on legislation. What are some of the key bills you see as support and those that need the fire service to get grass roots support on in the upcoming year?

We recently had a success when Governor Christie signed into law the junior firefighter bill which was one of our legislative priorities for this session.

Two other bills we are supporting are related to projects we are engaged in: A-3278/S-2287 would require fire suppression systems in newly constructed one and two family homes.

We believe sprinklers are, first and foremost, a firefighter protection issue, particularly in dwellings with lightweight construction.

A second bill we are supporting is A-4262 which would require the State DOT to put up signs on State and interstate highways making motorists aware of the requirement to “move over” for stopped emergency vehicles. Sadly, the State has not been aggressive in making the public aware of this law enacted in 2009. Again, this is a first responder safety issue.

the fire focus the fire focus interview interview

Could you describe your role as a participant with the New Jersey Fire Safety Commission?

Right now, I simply attend meetings and bring the Commissioners up to date on Institute activities and positions by addressing them during the public portion of the meetings. Of course, I listen carefully to the Commission's proceedings and try to integrate as much information as I can into what the Institute may be doing.

While at the moment we have three Institute Board members sitting on the Commission through other organizations, I would love to see a seat on the Commission dedicated to a representative of the Institute.

Do you have a characterization of the volunteer fire and emergency services in the state, where do you think we fall in terms of ranking for volunteer services nationwide?

When I speak or attend national meetings, I always refer to New Jersey as a national leader in emergency services. This is even more remarkable when you realize that so much of our services are delivered by volunteers. Our emphasis on proper training, equipment, communication and collaboration are models that many other states can learn from.

What are the significant challenges the services face in the near and long term?

I am very concerned about the growing restlessness the public, fed by the media, seems to have toward public employees including fire and EMS. Paid departments are obviously

impacted by this phenomenon, but so are volunteer departments and squads who face decreased budget support and increased calls for accountability. This environment makes transparency in operations and governance so much more important for local volunteer fire companies.

Attracting and retaining volunteers is an ongoing concern, as is the increasing demands placed upon smaller, suburban and rural fire departments who are called upon to back up urban departments dealing with personnel cutbacks; as well as facing additional roles and responsibilities in homeland security matters, be they terrorism, pandemics or natural disasters.

David, upon behalf of Fire Focus and the New Jersey Fire Service we appreciate the time you have taken to share some of your concerns. Anything you would like to add we have not covered?

I encourage everyone reading this to support the Institute and help us represent your interests. Thank you for this opportunity.

For more information:

www.njfemsi.org

Help us Eliminate

NOVELTY LIGHTERS

**NJDFS-KEAN FALL TRAINING COURSE
ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW UNDERWAY**

FALL 2011 COURSES

**FOR FIRE OFFICIALS, FIRE INSPECTORS,
FIRE INSTRUCTORS AND FIREFIGHTERS**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Fall 2011 online registration will begin on September 6, 2011. In addition to the many popular training programs and educational courses returning to our schedule, there will be several new and updated offerings to serve the training needs of the fire service.

COURSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 19, 2011

Course descriptions will be available online starting September 6 at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/DCA/DIVISIONS/DFS and WWW.KEANFIRESAFETY.COM



INTERNET REGISTRATION INFORMATION

WEB-BASED REGISTRATION

New features added to the Division of Fire Safety Website give fire personnel more control over the process of registering for courses. You will be able to access and update your personal information, review and print your course enrollment list, review and print your completed course list, obtain a certificate of attendance for any course you have completed, review and print your current certification list, and review and print your courses for certification.

TO REGISTER, YOU WILL NEED TO LOGIN TO YOUR MYNEWJERSEY ACCOUNT.

If you do NOT have a myNewJersey account, please call 908-737-0230 for technical assistance only, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In order to assist callers, you will need your NJ DFS Fire Service ID and computer access when calling for technical support. No telephone registrations will be accepted.

If you already have a myNewJersey account, follow these steps:

STEP 1 - Open the State of New Jersey's website: WWW.STATE.NJ.US

STEP 2 - Click on Login, located in the upper left hand side of the screen

STEP 3 - Complete the fields for Log On ID and Password and click on the "Log On" button

STEP 4 - Check that you are clicked on the "myNewJersey" tab, which is located on the left side of the screen under "The State Of New Jersey"

STEP 5 - Click on "NJ Firefighters Certification" located under DCA Applications. If you do not have this link, go to http://www.16.state.nj.us/dca/DCA_FFcert/ or call 908-737-0230 Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. for technical assistance.

STEP 6 - Click on the gray rectangle "Register for Course" on the Division of Fire Safety Personal Information screen



**FALL 2011 COURSES
FOR FIRE OFFICIALS, FIRE INSPECTORS,
FIRE INSTRUCTORS AND FIREFIGHTERS**

DEPUTY USFA ADMISTRATOR SAYS ALL FIRE PREVENTION BEGINS AT HOME

EMMITSBURG, MD — The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has issued a special report examining the characteristics of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings. The report, [Civilian Fire Fatalities in Residential Buildings](#) was developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center and is based on 2007 to 2009 data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). According to the report:

- **Ninety-one percent of all civilian fatalities in residential building fires involve thermal burns and smoke inhalation.**
- **Bedrooms (55 percent) are the leading location where civilian fire fatalities occur in residential buildings.**
- **Fifty-one percent of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings occur between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. This period also accounts for 49 percent of fatal fires.**
- **Seventy percent of fire victims in residential buildings were escaping (36 percent) or sleeping (34 percent) at the time of their deaths.**
- **Smoking was the leading cause of fatal residential building fires.**
- **Males accounted for 57 percent of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings; women accounted for 43 percent of the fatalities.**
- **Approximately 43 percent of civilian fatalities in residential building fires are between the ages of 40 and 69.**
- **Thirteen percent of civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings were less than 10 years old.**

Fires that affect our homes are often the most tragic and the most preventable. This September, as our Nation marks the ten-year anniversary of 9/11 and the eighth annual observance of [National Preparedness Month](#), FEMA encourages all Americans to prepare for emergencies – including home fire emergencies.

“By preparing for a home fire emergency, you can greatly reduce your chances of becoming a fire casualty,” said Deputy U.S. Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines.

“Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, test them once a month, change the batteries at least once a year, and make and practice a home fire escape plan.”

Civilian Fire Fatalities in Residential Buildings is part of the Topical Fire Report Series. Topical reports explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS. Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information.

Also included are recent examples of fire incidents that demonstrate some of the issues addressed in the report or that put the report topic in context. For further information regarding other topical reports or any programs and training available at the U.S. Fire Administration, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.



THE FIVE W'S

WHO: MALES –57 PERCENT

WHEN: 10PM TO 6AM-51 PERCENT

WHERE: THE BEDROOM-55 PERCENT

WHY: SMOKING

WHAT?

“PREVENTION!”

Glenn Gaines Deputy Administrator USFA

FDNY “343 BIKE RIDE” GETS NJDFS PREPAREDNESS UNIT ESCORT SOUTH TO DC



FDNY FIREFIGHTERS FROM ENGINE 50, LADDER 19, BATTALION 26, RIDE THE NEW JERSEY PORTION OF THE “343” MEMORIAL BIKE RIDE FROM MONTAUK, LI, TO THE PENTAGON.

THE RIDE FEATURED EACH FDNY FIREFIGHTER BIKING ONE MILE IN COMMEMORATION OF THE THREE HUNDRED AND FOURTY THREE FDNY FIREFIGHTERS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES ON 9/11/01, AND TO RAISE FUNDS FOR WOUNDED IRAQ AND AFGANISTAN VETERANS.

NJDFS PREPAREDNESS UNIT PERSONNEL TEAMED WITH SEAVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1 TO HOST THE RIDERS THROUGH PORTIONS OF CAPE MAY COUNTY.

THE SEAVILLE VOLUNTEERS OFFERED THE RIDERS AT THE FIRE HALL SOME VERY IMPORTANT CARBO AND LIQUID RE-CHARGE BEFORE THEY CONTINUED THEIR JOURNEY SOUTH TO WASHINGTON, DC.

“we will never forget...”

**[FDNY 343 RIDE](#)
-click link to donate-**



THE ISSUES:

NJ SENATE BILL S-3018 *Representative Shirley K. Turner District 15 (Mercer)*

SENATE, No. 3018
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
214th LEGISLATURE

Sponsored by:
Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Permits municipality to establish restricted parking spaces for certain volunteer firefighters.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.

An Act concerning volunteer firefighter parking, amending R.S.39:4-8, R.S.39:4-138, and R.S.39:4-197, and supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

Be It Enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey: 1. R.S.39:4-8 is amended to read as follows:

39:4-8. a. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no ordinance, resolution, or regulation concerning, regulating, or governing traffic or traffic conditions, adopted or enacted by any board or body having jurisdiction over highways, shall be of any force or effect unless the same is approved by the commissioner, according to law. The commissioner shall not be required to approve any such ordinance, resolution, or regulation, unless, after investigation by the commissioner, the same shall appear to be in the interest of safety and the expedition of traffic on the public highways. The commissioner's investigation need not include more than a review of the ordinance, resolution, or regulation, and the supporting documentation submitted by a board or body having jurisdiction over highways, unless the commissioner determines that additional investigation is warranted.

Prior to the adoption of any municipal or county ordinance, resolution, or regulation, which places any impact on roadways in an adjoining municipality or county, the governing board or body of the municipality or county shall provide appropriate notice to the adjoining municipality or county.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, any municipal

or county ordinance, resolution, or regulation which places any impact on a State roadway shall require the approval of the commissioner.

Where the commissioner's approval is required, a certified copy of the adopted ordinance, resolution, or regulation shall be transmitted by the clerk of the municipality or county, as applicable, to the commissioner within 30 days of adoption, together with: a copy of the municipal or county engineer's certification, a statement of the reasons for the municipal or county engineer's decision, detailed information as to the location of streets, intersections, and signs affected by the ordinance, resolution, or regulation, and traffic count, crash, and speed sampling data, when appropriate. The commissioner may invalidate the provisions of the ordinance, resolution, or regulation if the commissioner finds that the provisions of the ordinance, resolution, or regulation are inconsistent with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, inconsistent with accepted engineering standards, are not based on the results of an accurate traffic and engineering survey, or place an undue traffic burden or impact on the State highway system, or affect the flow of traffic on the State highway system.

b. (1) A municipality may, without the approval of the commissioner, and consistent

This bill would permit a municipality that has a volunteer fire department to adopt an ordinance, resolution, or regulation, permitting the establishment of restricted parking spaces in front of volunteer firefighters' homes. By allowing a volunteer firefighter additional parking space, it is the sponsor's intent to remove barriers which might slow the firefighter's ability to respond to emergencies. The designation of restricted volunteer firefighter parking spaces would only be permitted if it would not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

A municipality that designates such parking spaces would issue permits to volunteer firefighters. The permits would identify the specific motor vehicle and the location where the vehicle may be parked. The permit would need to be displayed prominently within the vehicle when it is parked so as to be seen from the middle of the street.



THE ISSUES:

HELP EMERGENCY RESPONDERS OPERATE EMERGENCY SYSTEMS (HEROES) ACT Representative Steve Rothman (D-NJ)

Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) and House Homeland Security Chairman Peter King (R-NY), introduced the Help Emergency Responders Operate Emergency Systems (HEROES) Act. Together, they are fighting to ensure that First Responders, true heroes of our nation, have the communications equipment to do their jobs and that the already overburdened local taxpayers do not have to unfairly pay for an unfunded federal mandate.

"Immediately following the horrific September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the capacity of our nation's radio and communications networks was overwhelmed. This not only meant despair for individuals looking for family members, this also meant that First Responders were not able to coordinate or communicate their efforts to save lives and respond as effectively.

"We must make sure that never happens again," said Congressman Rothman.

In 2004, the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) ensured more efficient use of the communications spectrum and greater spectrum access for First Responders. This federal mandate is known as the "Narrowband Mandate," which forces all First Responders to upgrade their communications equipment and spectrum licenses by January 1, 2013 to avoid the communications pitfalls in the aftermath of 9/11.

This issue was highlighted by the "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007," which included provisions to aid states and local governments in complying with the 2013 deadline. Unfortunately, the funding for the FCC mandate and elements of the 9/11 Commission Act has been drastically reduced because of budget cuts and in some cases these programs have been eliminated.

"More than 18,000 police departments, more than 26,000 fire departments, and millions of First Responders across the country are impacted by this mandate," said Congressman Rothman. "Without adequate funding, many of these local First Responders will be left with radio and communications equipment that will be unable to operate during an emergency."

"I am pleased to join Congressman Rothman in introducing The Help Emergency Responders Operate Emergency Systems, or HEROES Act of 2011, which will provide much needed assistance for our Nation's first responders as we approach the January 1, 2013 narrowbanding deadline. More importantly, this legislation reaffirms my commitment to reallocating the D Block to public safety for the development of a national interoperable public safety wireless broadband network," said Chairman King.

The HEROES Act will address the vulnerability of our emergency communication networks by setting up a DHS-administered grant program for local municipalities to apply for funding for essential communications equipment that the federal government requires them to upgrade.

The HEROES Act of 2011 will:

- Establish a \$400 million DHS-administered Narrowbanding Compliance Assistance Program to assist first responders in meeting the January 1, 2013 narrowband mandate
- Use the sale of federally owned spectrum to pay for the competitive grant program
- Reallocate the D block to public safety and provide funding for the construction of a national interoperable public safety wireless broadband network

More information: aaron.keyak@mail.house.gov

9TH ANNUAL FIRESETTER CONFERENCE FEATURES INTERNATIONAL INPUT

NEW JERSEY JUVENILE FIRESETTER INTERVENTION CONFERENCE 1

**9TH ANNUAL
NEW JERSEY JUVENILE FIRESETTER
INTERVENTION CONFERENCE
DECEMBER 1 & 2, 2011
MIDDLESEX COUNTY FIRE ACADEMY**

Addressing Youth Fire Setting: Connecting Community Resources



FOR FIRE SERVICE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, MENTAL HEALTH,
EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONALS AND SOCIAL SERVICE
(Social Worker CEU Credits Available through Kean University)

PRESENTED BY:
THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY & KEAN UNIVERSITY
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
NEW JERSEY CHAPTER OF INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARSON INVESTIGATORS



<http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dfs/>

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION!

Credit card payment accepted online after 10-17-11 . Registrations and payment must to be sent to NJ Chapter IAAI at the address on the form. Registration forms must be received by November 21st. Hotel information and directions can be found at the NJIAAI website: www.njiaai.org

**Complete Brochure online at:
www.keanfiresafety.com
www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dfs/**

**Questions:
cluxton@dca.state.nj.us**

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, the Kean University Fire Safety Training program, and the International Association of Arson Investigators, New Jersey Chapter host the 9th Annual Juvenile Firesetter Conference, December 1, (Thursday) and December 2 (Friday), at the Middlesex Fire Academy.

This year's Conference features the international aspect of juvenile firesetting by way of the Friday Plenary session guest lecture given by Rachael Lind of the New Zealand Fire Service and David Utumapu its National Recruitment Manager. More information: [New Zealand Fire Service.](#)

This year's keynote speaker, Judy Okulitch is the statewide coordinator for the Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program at the office of the State Fire Marshal in Oregon. Judy took her Masters degree at the University of Wisconsin at Madison in rehabilitation counseling and has spent over 20 years in the field including lecturing nationally on the multi-disciplinary aspects of juvenile firesetting. Judy is a contributing editor of: "*The Handbook on Firesetting in Children and Youth*," by Dr. David Kolko, and is the editor of *Hot Issues*, the newsletter of the Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal.

"The conference grows larger each year sadly since the problem does also. If you are a firefighter, a fire administrator, a fire official, or, working in some capacity with youth, this conference is definitely worth your while," says New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Conference Coordinator Charles Luxton.

Luxton adds that popular presenters from previous conferences such as Don Rimer, a 33 year law enforcement veteran who gives a compelling presentation on the rising influence of cultism in juvenile firesetting,

Passaic County Prosecutor's office detective Nancy Petrara-Stafyleras enlightening presentation on so-called "Female Gangs" and the use of "fire" as a gang related arson crime should provide conference attendees with the very latest insights in the growing problem of juvenile firesetting and its impact upon families and on our communities.



CHIEF C. KENNETH ANDERSON
1932 ~ 2011

Chief C. Kenneth Anderson has answered the final call and he leaves behind a remarkable level of achievement in the *New Jersey Fire Service*.

Ken began as a Junior member of the Delran Fire Co. No.1 in 1948 and graduated from the Burlington County Fire School in 1949. He was a very active member, in addition to answering the calls and other duties, he served both as Assistant Chief and Chief in 1960 and 1961. In addition he served terms as Recording Secretary and Company President.

Ken was a life member and a past President of the Burlington County Fire Chiefs Association, the Burlington County Firefighters Association, The Burlington County Fire Police Association and the Burlington County Exempt Firefighters.

Ken served at the state level of the Exempt Firemen's Association and served two terms as its President.

A 50 year member of the Eastern Division, International Association of Fire Chiefs, he served on the Constitution, By-Laws and Resolutions Committee.

He was an active member of the New Jersey State Chief's Association and edited *The Five Trumpet Journal* newsletter as well as *The Relay*. In 2006 he was named President, Emeritus of the Association.

State Senator John Caulfield, author of the *New Jersey Uniform Fire Safety Act*, that chartered the New Jersey Fire Safety Commission, appointed Ken as the Chair of the Training and Education Advisory Committee. During Ken's nearly 30 year tenure there and until his passing, the Committee worked tirelessly to put in place standards for firefighter safety and fire officer certification and training.

Post 9-11, Ken was appointed to the state Domestic Security Preparedness Planning Group as NJ State Fire Chiefs representative.

The Emergency Services Advisory Board gave Ken their Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008.

"Our Brother and Our Good Friend"

REST IN PEACE



CHIEF GARY LICKNACK
1953 ~ 2011

Gary Licknack, firefighter and Supervisor of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Contractor Certification and Emblems Unit has answered the final call.

Gary retired from the Division in 2010 after nearly 33 years of government service. As with many of the employees of the Division Gary was an active and busy member of the *New Jersey Fire Service* until his passing.

Gary began his career with the then Dover Township Bureau of Fire Prevention, headed by Chief John Lightbody. Gary also was employed by the Department of Inspections of Ocean County.

Gary was a life member of the Pleasant Plains Volunteer Fire Company in Toms River Township, and had served as Chief of the Company, Company President and as its Chaplin. In addition, Gary was also a long serving Fire Commissioner in Toms River Township Fire District 2.

He was Division Liaison to the Master Planning Advisory Council of the New Jersey Fire Safety Commission.

The Council is instrumental in making recommendations to the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs to promote fire code protection standards.

Many of those changes contribute today to the fall in both civilian and firefighter injury and fatalities in New Jersey.

Gary attended Ocean County College and obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Stockton State University in Pomona.

He was born in Staten Island, New York, and grew up in the Pleasant Plains section of Toms River Township. Gary was a devoted family man, a very active member of his fire company and a competitive league bowler.

All those who called him friend and co-worker, who benefited from his easy going manner and his caring concern, are deeply saddened by his passing.

"Our Brother and Our Good Friend"

REST IN PEACE

remember...
remember...

9-11-2001

9-11-2011



STAFF MEMBERS

**THE NEW JERSEY
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
101 SOUTH BROAD STREET
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625**

**William E. Kramer, Jr.
Acting Director**

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	609-633-6106
INSPECTIONS UNIT	609-633-6132
LEGISLATIVE UNIT	609-984-1947

REGULATORY OFFICER	
ANDREW J. KONDOR, ESQ.	609-984-0039

<u>ARSON UNIT</u>	609-633-8161
<u>CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION UNIT</u>	609-984-7860
<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS UNIT</u>	609-292-4109
<u>NFIRS UNIT</u>	609-984-3476
<u>PUBLIC EDUCATION UNIT</u>	609-633-9722
<u>SMOKE ALARMS</u>	609-633-6432
<u>TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION UNIT</u>	609-633-6315

ARSON-K9 UNIT
CHRISTOPHER ECKERT **SUPERVISOR**
 Stephen Letts K-9 Investigator/North
 Rod Meyer K-9 Investigator/South
 Jason Spiecker Investigator/South
 Jeff Silver K-9 Investigator/North

CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION UNIT
 Chris Michallis Chief Investigator
 Kim Lake Technical Assistant

BUREAU OF FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICES
 Patricia Persico Technical Assistant

DIVISION FISCAL UNIT
AIDA JONES **SUPERVISOR**

FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM UNIT
HEATHER PUSKAR **SUPERVISOR**
 Fred Connin NFIRS Representative
 Steve Hearn NFIRS Representative

PUBLIC EDUCATION UNIT
 Charles Lavin Public Information Assistant
 New Jersey Fire Safety Commission

Jerry Clark Public Information Assistant
 FD/LEA Local Public Education Assistance
NJDFS Fire Focus
State Fire Marshal Message

PUBLICATIONS Marylain Kemp

**DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
STAFF MEMBERS**

BUREAU OF FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT

LOUIS KILMER **BUREAU CHIEF**
609-633-6131

(TEAM 1-NORTH)
JOSH LAZARUS **SUPERVISOR**
609-633-6741

[CTY CODE: 02-07-09-10-12-13-14-16-18-19-20]

Charles Wian-(NW) **Steve Speicher-(SW)**
609-633-6132 609-633-6717

(TEAM 2-SOUTH)
GLENN SMYTH **SUPERVISOR**
609-633-6103

[CTY CODE: 01-03-04-05-06-08-11-15-17]

Bob Kozlowski-(SE) **Pete D'Amore-(SW)**
609-984-1478 609-633-2604

FIRE DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS

RICHARD FARLETTA **SUPERVISOR**
609-633-6315

Shore Region **609-292-2705**
Craig Augustoni Regional Fire Coordinator

Delaware River Region **609-943-4726**
Mike Gallagher Regional Fire Coordinator

Southern Region
vacant

Northern Region **609-292-3502**
David Hughes Planner

Northwest Region **609-292-5148**
Timothy Weiss Regional Fire Coordinator

RIOC-SEOC **609-947-7468**
James McFadden Planner

UASI Region **609-324-7411**
Bruce Tynan Regional Fire Coordinator

**DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
STAFF MEMBERS**

JUVENILE FIRESETTER PROGRAM
SMOKE ALARM DISTRIBUTION

Charles Luxton **609-633-6432**
Coordinator

FIRE CODE LOCAL ASSISTANCE
PAUL ALLEN **SUPERVISOR**
609-633-6111

NORTHERN [CTY CODE 07-10-11-16-18-19-21]
George Cramer **609-633-6112**

NORTHERN [CTY CODE 02-09-14-20]
Paul Elenio **609-633-6147**

CENTRAL [CTY CODE 01-05-12-13-15]
Frank Clark **609-633-6738**

SOUTHERN [CTY CODE 03-04-06-08-17]
George Beckett **609-826-5551**

OFFICE OF TRAINING AND
CERTIFICATION

609-777-3552
Main Number

KENT NEISWENDER **SUPERVISOR**
609-341-3473

Gregory Kirkham **609-633-6424**

Debra Jones-Stevenson **609-633-6424**

Teresa Lockhart **609-633-6731**

Marge Jones **609-777-1461**

NJDFS TELEPHONE HOTLINES

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT
1-800-FIRELINE

JUVENILE FIRESETTER
1-800-357-5230



~Notice and Disclaimer~

Fire Focus posted exclusively four times yearly on the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety – Office of the State Fire Marshal website (www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dfs/) is the official electronic newsletter of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal for the *New Jersey Fire Service*.

Any rights not expressly granted herein are reserved. Reproduction, transfer, distribution or storage of part or all of the contents in any form without the prior written permission of The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal is prohibited. The use of this electronic newsletter and the content therein is permitted for private, noncommercial use. The use of press releases and other documents classified as public is permitted in public communications with proper source attribution.

For your easy accessibility, The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal may include links to sites on the Internet that are owned or operated by third parties. By linking to such third-party site, you acknowledge and agree that the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal has no control over the content of that site and cannot assume any responsibility for material created or published by such third-party sites. In addition, a link to another site not affiliated with The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal site does not imply that the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety-Office of the State Fire Marshal, endorses the site or the products or services referenced in such third-party site.

Fire Focus gladly accepts editorial contributions meeting its internal electronic publication standards from members and affiliates of the *New Jersey Fire Service* and the general public exclusively via email and email attachment only. Please send material c/o Jerry Clark, Producer/Editor, Public Information Assistant, New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, Public Education Unit to:

fireprevention@state.nj.us