



Department of Fire Services
Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

March 24, 2016

Course Number:

200-014-SOG-2016-SP-A

Location:

Massachusetts
Firefighting Academy
One State Road, Stow, MA
MFA – Link 105

Time:

1000-1500

Course Fee:

\$20.00

Check or money order
made out to "MFA Trust
Fund"

Notes:

Application deadline is
March 8, 2016.

Applications must include
payment.

Walk-ins and day-of
registrations will not be
allowed.

Lunch will be provided.

SENIOR FIRE OFFICER FORUM

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: ETHICS, THE FUTURE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Presented By: Dr. Denis Onieal, Deputy Fire Administrator for the United States Fire Administration (USFA)

I. *Ethics in the Emergency Services*

In his book "How the Mighty Fall," Jim Collins describes individuals, particularly very successful individuals (who will eventually fall), begin by believing that they are talented rather than just lucky. This presentation will identify those four major steps that lead to ethics lapses and the steps leaders can take to avoid them.

II. *The Future of the Fire and Emergency Services*

The future of the fire and emergency services (FES) is very predictable: look at the US Census; pay attention to the methods and materials of construction; think about today's communications and watch the news! These issues are neither good nor bad, right nor wrong – they are. How we choose to deal with them is our choice. We can take advantage of the knowledge and prepare; or we can bury our heads in the sand and try to deal with the consequences. They're coming nonetheless. This presentation will highlight the significant issues that the FES will face over the next 35 years.

III. *Professional Development in the Fire and Emergency Services*

Following the paths that other professions have followed in the journey from occupation to profession, this presentation explains the tenets of professional development, the processes required to achieve professional status, a description of where the FES is in the process and how we know when it will be achieved.

Registration –

Register at [List of Current MFA Courses](#) by completing a standard [DFS/MFA student application](#) and mail with the \$20 course fee payment to: Registrar, Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, P.O. Box 1025, State Road, Stow, MA 01775.



Presenter Biography

Dr. Denis Onieal is the Deputy Fire Administrator for the United States Fire Administration (USFA). He was named to this position in May of 2015. He is responsible for managing USFA facilities, data and public education programs and training activities at the National Emergency Training Center.

He joined the Jersey City Fire Department in 1971, rose through the ranks from firefighter to Deputy Chief, and then acting chief in 1995, leading a uniformed force of 620 firefighters and officers. He spent his entire time "in the street" as a line fire officer.

Dr. Onieal was appointed Superintendent of the National Fire Academy (NFA) in 1995. He completed a Bachelor of Science Degree from New Jersey City University in 1976, a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Fairleigh (Fair-Lee) Dickinson University in 1978 and a Doctor of Education degree from New York University in 1990. He taught in the Master and Doctorate programs in Education at NYU for five years and has written numerous articles in the fire field.

During his tenure, the National Fire Academy expanded its outreach program to work more closely with state and local training agencies to increase NFA training from 15,000 in 1995 to 110,000 today. All NFA courses have been completely revised to include college credit recommendation and continuing education units for all resident and off-campus deliveries. The Academy's on-line training program trained over 45,000 people last year. In cooperation with over 100 colleges and universities, the NFA has standardized the Associate and Bachelor degree curriculum across the Nation. The NFA now offers courses from 10 minutes to 10 days in all professional development topics depending upon the students' needs.

Beginning September 12th, 2001, he led the US Fire Administration's team at the World Trade Center, working behind the scenes to help the New York City Fire Department re-establish their systems of command, control and on-site communications. In 2005, he was sent to Atlanta, GA to lead the in-processing, training and dispatch of 4,000 firefighters to assist in the response to Hurricane Katrina.

In March of 2015, Dr. Onieal was awarded the James O. Page EMS Achievement Award from the International Association of Fire Chiefs EMS Section. This award honors those who demonstrate professionalism, a drive for excellence, and exemplary performance and leadership.

In April of 2015, the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) awarded Dr. Onieal the CFSI/Motorola Solutions Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award. The award recognizes individuals who have been proactive at the local, State and Federal government levels to improve and advance fire/emergency services and life safety issues.

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