

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR

DANIEL BENNETT
SECRETARY

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services

P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road

Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 567~3100 Fax: (978) 567~3121

www.mass.gov/dfs



PETER J. OSTROSKY
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heads of Fire Departments

FROM: Peter J. Ostroskey
State Fire Marshal

DATE: March 1, 2016

RE: **Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit Response Protocol**

I would like to provide you with the following information on the Response Protocol for the Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit assigned to my Office. The current response protocol has been in effect since 2003 but I am reissuing it now, as there have been many personnel changes in recent years.

Pursuant to Massachusetts law, the local Fire chief is legally responsible for conducting an examination to determine the origin and cause of each fire or explosion in his/her community. (M. G. L. Chapter 148, section 2). The State Fire Marshal is mandated to investigate fires and explosions where local fire authorities are unable to determine the cause, where a violation of law exists, or when the fire or explosion is or may be incendiary nature (M.G.L. c. 148, section 3).

By statute, the State Fire Marshal also investigates cases including but not limited to explosive devices, blast explosions, houses of worship, fires causing fatal or serious injuries or which damage state property or any public records.

State Police fire investigators and bomb technicians are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Please notify the Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit immediately of:

- Fatal fires or explosions;
- Fires resulting in personal injury;
- Fires resulting in firefighter injuries;
- Large commercial loss fires;

Administrative Services • Division of Fire Safety
Hazardous Materials Response • Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

- Arson fires that damage occupied buildings or any residential property;
- Fires involving properties owned by the Commonwealth or municipalities;
- Fires that involve the destruction of public records;
- Fires or explosions involving facts which indicate that such fire or explosion is the result of a “hate crime” or crime based on the race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation of the victim;
- Fires or explosions involving churches or houses of worship; and
- Any other fire or explosion situation where the fire department would like assistance or consultation.

Requesting Services

Normal Business Hours

Requests for response during business hours should be directed to the Fire & Explosion Investigation Section Desk Officer at (978) 567-3310.

After Hours

After hour requests should be directed to the State Police Troop Headquarters in your jurisdiction. Go to <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/law-enforce-and-cj/law-enforce/msp-troops/> for details.

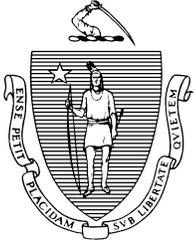
Special Circumstances

If a Fire chief or incident commander has a special set of circumstances that might influence a response, consider providing a cell phone number for a call back-point of contact so that the investigator can speak with you directly.

Response Protocol

Please do not hesitate to call and request a response at the time of any incident. If the on call investigator cannot justify an immediate response, arrangements will be made for the response during the next business hours.

If you have any questions regarding this response protocol, please feel free to contact Detective Lieutenant, Paul Zipper, Commanding Officer, Massachusetts State Police, Fire & Explosion Investigation Section directly at (978) 567-3312.



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PETER J. OSTROSKY
 STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heads of Fire Departments
FROM: Peter J. Ostroskey
 State Fire Marshal
DATE: March 1, 2016
SUBJECT: **Completion of Transition to DFS – Springfield Campus**

The western Massachusetts office of the Department of Fire Services (DFS) has relocated from Northampton to our new facility in Springfield.

The mailing address is:

Department of Fire Services
P.O. Box 51025
Springfield, MA 01151

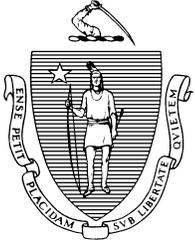
The physical address:

Department of Fire Services
100 Grochmal Avenue
Springfield, MA 01151

DFS Main telephone number:
 978-567-3100

Western Massachusetts fax number:
 978-567-3819

In addition to the office move, Special Operations Units have been relocated from Northampton and Easthampton to the Springfield Campus.



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PETER J. OSTROSKY
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heads of Fire Departments

FROM: Peter J. Ostroskey
State Fire Marshal

DATE: March 1, 2016

RE: **Fire Standard Compliant (FSC) Cigarette Program & Cigarette Fire Investigation Checklist**

A recent initiative has been undertaken by the DFS Fire Standard Compliant (FSC) Cigarette Program, the Fire Safety Division’s Code Compliance Office, and the State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit (F&EIU) to more robustly investigate fires caused by cigarettes.

Beginning this past January, the State Police fire investigators have been making a concerted effort to not only identify, photograph, and document which specific cigarette brand style(s) are involved in these fires but also to identify the retailer(s) that sold them. The Division of Fire Safety’s Code Compliance Officers are then purchasing this same brand style in bulk at that retailer. The cigarettes from both the fire scene and the store are then sent to our independent lab to ensure they pass the required ignition strength test. The results are then tracked to identify if certain brand styles perform better than others. The goal is to evaluate the effectiveness of the FSC cigarette standard and to ensure that cigarettes sold in Massachusetts, especially those that are involved in fires, are actually meeting it.

Attached is a revised version of the [Cigarette Fire Investigation Checklist](#) (Form FP-38) that the Department of Fire Services has asked local fire departments and the State Police fire investigators assigned to the agency to complete since the Fire Standard Compliance (FSC) Cigarette Program was created in 2008. I am requesting your help with this initiative and ask that your department complete this form and forward it to the Fire Data and Public Education Unit any time your community has a fire that was started by a cigarette. You may also download this FP-38

form from the DFS website from the [Fire Prevention Forms page](#). Please note this checklist is in addition to and not a replacement for a fire department's mandatory reporting of fires required by the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS).

If you have any questions about reporting these fires or use of this form, please contact Derryl Dion, Research Analyst and MFIRS Manager at (978) 567-3382 or Derryl.Dion@state.ma.us.



Department of Fire Services Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Cigarette Fire Investigation Checklist (FP-038)

On January 1, 2008, fire standard compliant (FSC) cigarettes became the law in Massachusetts. The State Police Commander of the Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) has set unit policy to determine, whenever possible, if cigarettes involved in fires were FSC or not. The State Fire Marshal is requesting local chiefs to adopt similar policies. This information is considered most probable based on the initial results of the investigation.

If possible, attach a copy of the fire department's MA Fire Incident Report (MFIRS).

Fire Date: _____ Fire Time: _____ FDID #: _____ Incident #: _____

Fire Address: _____

Casualties: Civilian Injuries _____ Civilian Deaths _____

Fire Service Injuries _____ Fire Service Deaths _____

Brand		Type	FSC	Material First Ignited
<input type="checkbox"/> Maverick	<input type="checkbox"/> USA Gold	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Bedding
<input type="checkbox"/> Marlboro	<input type="checkbox"/> Merit	<input type="checkbox"/> Menthol	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Clothing
<input type="checkbox"/> Camel	<input type="checkbox"/> Grand Prix	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-filter	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Mulch
<input type="checkbox"/> Winston	<input type="checkbox"/> Vantage	<input type="checkbox"/> 100s		<input type="checkbox"/> Potting Soil
<input type="checkbox"/> Basic	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Gold	<input type="checkbox"/> 120s		Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Newport	<input type="checkbox"/> L&M	<input type="checkbox"/> Hard Pack	UPC Pack Code #: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Your Own Cigarette		<input type="checkbox"/> Soft Pack		
Other _____				

Store location(s) where cigarettes were purchased? _____
Store Name/Town

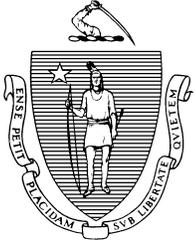
FIU Case#: _____ Report by: _____
Rank, Name, Department or Agency

Return completed checklist to Fire Data Unit

Mail: Department of Fire Services, P.O. Box 1025 – State Road, Stow, MA 01775

Fax: 978-567-3199

Email: MFIRS.Report@state.ma.us



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PETER J. OSTROSKEY
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heads of Fire Departments

FROM: Peter J. Ostroskey
State Fire Marshal

DATE: March 1, 2016

SUBJECT: **Training Opportunity: New England Arson Seminar**

The attached training flyer for the New England Arson Seminar is being shared with you at the request of New Hampshire State Fire Marshal William Degnan. Please share with fire investigators within your department.

Monday, May 23, 2016

7:00-8:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION – Dana Building Room D1**

8:00- 8:15 a.m. **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**
Professor Thomas Hammond (Professor Emeritus)
Department of Criminal Justice
Saint Anselm College

8:15-8:30 a.m. **Dr. Steven R. DiSalvo**
President, Saint Anselm College

8:30 –8:45 a.m. **Attorney General Joseph Foster**
New Hampshire

8:45-9:00 a.m. **Senator Kelly Ayotte**
United States Senate

9:00 a.m.-Noon **ORIGIN AND CAUSE**
Investigator Michael Knowlton
New York State Office of Fire Prevention & Control
Investigation Unit

Noon-1:00 p.m. **LUNCH**

1:00 –5:00 p.m. **ORIGIN AND CAUSE (continues)**

5:30 p.m. **BARBEQUE**

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

8:00- 8:15 a.m. **Daniel J. Kumor, Special Agent in Charge**
Boston Field Division
Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Fire Arms and Explosives

8:15 a.m.-Noon **ORIGIN AND CAUSE (continues)**

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. **IDENTIFICATION AND PRESERVATION OF**
FIRE SCENE EVIDENCE
Herbert Dopfer
New Hampshire State Police Crime Lab
Arson Specialist/Analyst

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. **BRENTWOOD CASE REVIEW**
District Chief Danielle Cole
New Hampshire Fire Marshal’s Office

5:30 p.m. **DINNER**

6:30-8:00 p.m. **COPING WITH STRESS**
Professor Paul Finn
Saint Anselm College

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

8:00 - 12 noon **ARSON FOR PROFIT**
Tom Chapasko
Supervisory Forensic Auditor

1:00-2:30 p.m. **FIRE FIGHTER FATALITIES**
Sergeant Donald Bossi
Massachusetts State Police
Fire and Explosion Investigation Unit

2:45-5:00 p.m. **921 AND 1033 UPDATE**
Jon Jones
Chair, CFI Training Program

5:30 p.m. **DINNER**

6:30 -8:00 p.m. **CRIME SCENE PHOTOGRAPHY**
Trooper Michael Perry
Massachusetts State Police
Crime Scene Services Section

Thursday, May 26, 2016

8:00 a.m- Noon **FIELD EXERCISES: Field exercises will include observation**
of several full-scale fire tests and hands on participation in experiments related
to ignition phenomena and fire behavior. The field exercises have been designed
specifically to expose attendees to critical fire science principles relevant to fire
investigators. Instructors will include experts from the Connecticut State Police,
Manchester (NH) Fire Department, Massachusetts State Police, NH State Fire
Marshal’s Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Noon-1:00 p.m. **LUNCH**

1:00 p.m. -5:00 **FIELD EXERCISES continued**

5:30 p.m. **DINNER**

Friday, May 27, 2016

8:00-10:00 a.m. **PREPARING CASE FOR PROSECUTION**
Alysia Cassotis
Assistant Strafford County Attorney
Judge James Barry (retired)
New Hampshire Superior Court

10:15 a.m. **WEEK EVENTS ALL TYING TOGETHER**
Deputy Fire Marshal Mitch Cady
Manchester Fire Department

11:00 a.m. **COMMENCEMENT**

CERTIFIED FIRE INVESTIGATOR (C.F.I.): Ten (10) tested points will be awarded toward C.F.I. application or recertification category for training.
FACILITIES: The seminar will be held on the campus of Saint Anselm College, an hour's drive north of Boston. Those attending the seminar may choose to reside on the campus or commute to campus. All meals will be provided on campus.
FEES: \$780 (includes lodging, all meals, coffee breaks, tuition and materials).
QUESTIONS: Questions about the seminar may be directed to Linda Bradley, Tel: (603) 497-3212 or Cell: (603) 860-6730
FIELD EXERCISE: Bring work clothes, and CAMERAS

NAME _____ AGENCY _____

RANK/POSITION _____ ADDRESS _____

PHONE () _____ CITY _____

E-MAIL _____ STATE AND ZIP _____

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:

NEW ENGLAND ARSON SEMINAR
SAINT ANSELM COLLEGE
100 SAINT ANSELM DRIVE, #1787
MANCHESTER, NH 03102-1310

Dorm Resident _____ Commuter _____

PARTICIPATION FEE \$ 780

Shirts Size _____ \$25

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NEW ENGLAND ARSON SEMINAR

FULL PAYMENT DUE BY MAY 13, 2016
 NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 13, 2016

ENROLLMENT LIMITED TO 120



Department of Fire Services
Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

Course Number:
200-000-458-2016-SP-A

Location:
Online class

Time:
Online Course Semester
Runs 1-15-2016 through
6-15-2016

Course Fee:
No

Credits
FCC = TBD
FPO = TBD
OEMS = TBD

REHAB FOR ALL EMERGENCY RESPONDERS IN MASSACHUSETTS

The purpose of this online presentation is to ensure there is a consistent and organized approach and treatment protocol for all Emergency Responder personnel in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

This course examines the relationship between heat stress and cardiovascular strain, and how it impacts emergency responders through physiological stress, injuries and fatalities. It offers solutions to minimize risk through rest, rehydration, nourishment and medical evaluation to members who are involved in extended or extreme incident scene operations.

Registration

Register **online** at [List of Current MFA Courses](#) To register by mail or fax, please complete a standard [DFS/MFA Student Application](#) and mail to: Registrar, Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, P.O. Box 1025, State Road, Stow, MA 01775 or fax it to: (978) 567-3229. To register by email, please scan and email applications to mfa.registration@state.ma.us.



MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER TRAINING

Highlights of the training include:

- Source of authority and rules for conducting municipal hearings
- Burden of proof, conduct of hearings, and admission of evidence
- Creating, documenting and preserving the record for appeal

Course Date:

March 21, 2016

Course Number:

200-000-L03-2016-SP-A

Location:

Department of Fire Services
One State Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775
Classroom 125

Time:

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Registration Deadline:

March 14, 2016

As part of the Massachusetts Fire Safety Act of 2004, the Legislature enacted M.G.L. c. 148A which allowed for the issuance of citations for certain violations of the State Building and Fire Code by state and local code enforcement officers. In order to participate in the citation process, cities/towns must appoint a certified hearings officer. This training provides an opportunity for those communities who did not initially participate or who have a need to appoint a new or additional hearings officer. If you wish to participate in the citation process, you should urge your appointing authority to designate a hearings officer and send them to this training.

Citations written by local code enforcement officers, which are appealed, are heard before a municipal hearings officer. This municipal hearings officer is appointed by his or her municipality to conduct such hearings.

In order to serve as a municipal hearings officer, an individual must receive training provided jointly by the Office of the Attorney General and the Massachusetts Municipal Lawyers Association.

Former Assistant Attorney General Robert Ritchie and Attorney James Lampke, Executive Director, Massachusetts Municipal Lawyers Association are the instructors for this course.

PLEASE NOTE: Training is limited solely to those individuals designated by their appointing authority to serve in the capacity as Municipal Hearings Officer for hearing either building or fire appeals. Current members of a building/fire department may not serve as hearings officers for violations issued by their own department.

Registration

To reserve your spot for this important training, please call MaryElizabeth Lynch at (978) 567-3181 by Monday, March 14, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.



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.

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.



Department of Fire Services
Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

April 2, 2016

Course Number:

200-014-SOE-2016-SP-A

Location:

Massachusetts
Firefighting Academy
100 Grochmal Ave
Room 119
Springfield, MA

Time:

1000-1500

Course Fee:

\$20.00

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

Notes:

Application deadline is
March 25, 2016.

Applications must include
payment.

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

Lunch will be provided.

SENIOR FIRE OFFICER FORUM

UNDERSTANDING ISO'S FIRE SUPPRESSION RATING SCHEDULE

Presented By: Tony Zampella, ISO Manager Community Hazard Mitigation

Lowering your ISO rating can result in fire insurance reductions for the properties served by your fire department. In addition, the classification may be a resource that is used by communities for budgeting and economic development. This class will provide an overview on how the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule is used to classify your fire protection delivery system, as well as highlight the tools and data that are available to communities.

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.



**April 2, 30, &
May 7, 2016**

Course Number:
200-006-PO1-2016-SP-C

Location:
Dept. of Fire Services –
Springfield
100 Grochmal Avenue,
Springfield, MA
MFA – Springfield
Room 118

Time:
0800-1600

Credits
FCC = 2
FPO = 24

FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER I

This course is for prevention officers interested in building on their skills learned in the Fire Officer Basic modules. The subjects covered include: authority and jurisdiction, testimony, interpretation of codes, building construction, fire behavior, reading and using plans, conducting inspections, occupancy classifications, inspecting means of egress, occupant load, emergency planning and preparedness, fire protection systems including water-based and special agents, fire detection and alarm systems, fire extinguishers, storage, handling and use of hazardous materials, properties of hazardous materials, classification of hazardous materials, and fire prevention practices for hazardous substances and processes.

This course consists of twenty-four (24) hours of instructor-led classroom training with sixteen (16) hours self-guided online learning.

This course meets or exceeds the job performance requirements in the NFPA Standard 1031 Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner for Fire Inspector I (Chapter 4). Successful completion of this course satisfies the requirement for the Fire Prevention Officer I Credential.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Fire Prevention Officer - Basic course.

Registration

Register **online** at [List of Current MFA Courses](#) To register by mail or fax, please complete a standard [DFS/MFA Student Application](#) and mail to: Registrar, Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, P.O. Box 1025, State Road, Stow, MA 01775 or fax it to: (978) 567-3229. To register by email, please scan and email applications to mfa.registration@state.ma.us.



Department of Fire Services
Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

May 3, 2016

Course Number:
200-014-SOI-2016-SP-A

Location:
Massachusetts
Firefighting Academy
One State Road, Stow, MA
MFA - Link

Time:
1000-1500

Course Fee:
\$20.00
Check or money order
made out to "MFA Trust
Fund"

Notes:
Application deadline is
April 25, 2016.

Applications must include
payment.

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

Lunch will be provided.

SENIOR FIRE OFFICER FORUM

WHY FIREFIGHTERS DIE?

Presented By: Assistant Chief Matthew Tobia, Loudoun County VA Fire Rescue

In the age of instant access where the events of a firefighter's death are all too often memorialized in video and audio recordings posted on the internet faster than families can be notified of the circumstances of the their loved one's loss, it is more important than ever to learn from these case studies.

Through an interactive conversation, this program will explore several instances of firefighter fatalities and near misses to look beyond what is seen to what is not seen. This program will offer an opportunity to look deeper than the proximate causes of an event into the root causes and problems lying in wait that can contribute to an environment of suffering a Line-of-Duty Death (LODD).

We will examine a concept known as "standardization of deviance" and its role in contributing to a culture of tolerance for complacency. We will examine the role that command officers play in the pursuit of perfection. While it is absolutely possible to be doing everything right and still suffer an LODD, far too often our firefighter fatalities are predictable and therefore ... preventable.

If you believe in the brotherhood of the fire service, do not miss this program.

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 Biographies

Matthew Tobia is the Assistant Chief of Support Services and Volunteer Administration with the Loudoun County, VA Fire and Rescue Department, a metropolitan combination department of over 1300 members located in Northern Virginia just west of Washington, DC. With over 27 years of diverse experience, Matt has served as a firefighter, paramedic, company officer and chief officer. Chief Tobia began his career in Anne Arundel County, MD where he retired at the rank of Battalion Chief.

Chief Tobia holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Maryland, is a nationally certified Fire Officer IV, Instructor III, and is a graduate of the Executive Fire Officer program through the United States Fire Administration. He teaches extensively throughout the United States, and is a contributing editor and back page columnist for Fire-Rescue Magazine. He has served on the faculty at both the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy and the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute.

Chief Tobia is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and is a past-Chairman of their Safety, Health, and Survival Section. Matt is active in supporting the families of fallen firefighters, serving as a member of the Command Team for the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend. And in his spare time, he is a counselor at the Mid Atlantic Burn Camp for children who are survivors of burn injuries.

Matt resides in Loudoun County, VA with his wife Jeanne and two children, Hanna and Doc.

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.



May 10 & 11, 2016

Course Number:

NFA Course # F0762

Location:

Massachusetts Firefighting
Academy
One State Road, Stow, MA
MFA – Room 127

Time:

0800-1700

Application Deadline:

March 24, 2016

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAM

NEW FIRE CHIEF III: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

This course will develop the managerial skills, leadership skills, and contemporary issues and awareness for new or newly appointed or elected fire chiefs to effectively meet their obligations. This course will help to develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for them to perform effectively now and in the future.

Primary Audience: The primary audience is new or newly appointed or elected fire chiefs in volunteer, combinations, or career departments.

The required application is the FEMA General Admissions Application Short Form (FEMA Form 119-25-2) which can be found at:

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/ff_119_25_2_75_5a.pdf .

The application **CANNOT** be submitted online.

Please mail or fax your completed application (front page only) to: Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, One State Road, Stow, MA 01775 or (978) 567-3229 (needs to include the head of the organization signature) no later than the deadlines indicated for the particular class if noted.

It is required that you register for a FEMA Student Identification Number (SID). This is the number required for section 6 of the application form (no longer using Social Security Numbers) and is obtained through the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP).

To obtain a SID:

Register at <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid>

Select "Need a FEMA SID?" on the right side of the screen.

Follow the instructions to create your account.

You will receive an email with your SID. Save this number in a secure location.

NOTE: any correspondence and certificates are sent via email; please include a valid email.

Registration –

To register by mail or fax, please complete the [National Fire Academy Application](#) (front page only) and mail to: Registrar, Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, P.O. Box 1025, State Road, Stow, MA 01775 or fax it to: (978) 567-3229. To register by email, please scan and email applications to mfa.registration@state.ma.us.

The courses listed below are available at the time this calendar is created. The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy is constantly updating our offerings and you should check the [Register for Current Courses](#) page to see the current list. If you cannot find the course on a specific date, it may have been removed due to an overwhelming amount of applications or registration has been closed.

MFA Course Calendar • March 2016

~ March 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 ICS for Structural Collapse	4	5 Ethanol for 1st Responders Company Officer Strategy & Tactics
6	7	8	9	10 Swift Water Rescue	11 Flashover Simulator Training	12 Rapid Intervention
13	14 Individual Crisis Intervention	15	16	17	18 HazMat OLR	19 Ethanol for 1st Responders Elevator Rescue
20	21	22 Public Fire & Life Safety Educator Swift Water Rescue HazMat Refresher - 8 hours High Voltage Awareness Commanding & Controlling the Mayday Rapid Intervention Refresher	23 Rapid Intervention Refresher Incident Safety Officer	24 HazMat Refresher - 8 hours SFOF Fire & Emerg Services: Ethics, Future & Prof. Dev.	25	26 Flamm. Gas Classroom and Pract.
27	28 HazMat OLR Comp. Officer: Decision Making on Fireground	29 Incident Safety Officer	30	31	Notes:	

The courses listed below are available at the time this calendar is created. The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy is constantly updating our offerings and you should check the [Register for Current Courses](#) page to see the current list. If you cannot find the course on a specific date, it may have been removed due to an overwhelming amount of applications or registration has been closed.

MFA Course Calendar • April 2016

~ April 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Motor Pump Operator	2 SFOF Understanding ISO's Fire Supp. Rating Fire Instructor I Fire Prevention Officer I Rapid Intervention
3	4 Fire Instructor I Foam Tech Seminar I Ethanol for 1st Responders	5 Foam Tech Seminar I Advanced Structural Practices NFA: Commissioning New Occupancies	6 Ethanol for 1st Responders	7 Ethanol for 1st Responders	8 Ethanol for 1st Responders Fire Instructor II	9 Comp. Officer: Decision Making on Fireground Large Diameter Hose
10	11 High Voltage Awareness	12 Advanced Fire Investigation Flashover Simulator Training	13 Ethanol for 1st Responders	14 Incident Safety Officer	15 Flashover Simulator Training	16
17	18	19	20 Rope Rescue Technician Company Officer Strategy & Tactics	21 Elevator Rescue	22	23 Aerial Ladders
24	25 High Voltage Awareness	26 Counter Terrorism Ops	27 Emergency Vehicle Op - Advanced	28 SFOF: Responding to a Major Railroad Emerg. CNG Portable Pipeline Awareness & Ops	29 CNG Portable Pipeline Awareness & Ops	30 Rapid Intervention Aerial Ladders CNG Portable Pipeline Awareness & Ops Company Officer II
31	Notes:					

Prevent Fires

Due to Children Playing with Lighters and Matches



Matches and Lighters are Tools...Not Toys!

Each year, children and youth start many fires. Between 2010 and 2014, there were 617 juvenile-set fires in Massachusetts that caused 1 civilian death, 41 civilian and 30 firefighter injuries and an estimated loss of \$7.6 million dollars. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of these fires were started by children using matches and lighters. The reasons children set fires varies; they may be curious about fire, crying for help, or engaging in delinquent behavior.

Never allow children to play with lighters or matches

Children as young as two years old have been able to operate lighters and start fires with them.

Matches and lighters in a child's hands can be as deadly as a loaded gun

Keep all matches and lighters out of the reach of children. Store in a high cabinet, preferably a locked one.

Do not leave young children unattended

It only takes a few seconds for a fire to start and quickly burn out of control. Other injuries can happen when children are left unsupervised. Children under 12 should not be left alone and should not be left in charge of younger children.

Teach young children to tell a grown-up when they see matches or lighters

Remind them not to pick them up. Praise children when they tell you they see matches and lighters. Tell them to ask adult to move them to a safe place, out of reach of youngsters.

Keep your home fire safe

Maintain your smoke detectors. Don't leave candles burning unattended. Plan a home fire escape route and hold a practice drill at least twice a year.

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If you or a family member smokes

Be sure that matches and smoking materials are fully extinguished. Wet them under a faucet before disposing of them. Use a child resistant lighter. Since 1994 all lighters made or brought into this country must be child resistant. Do not disable this feature! Doing so makes the lighter a major fire risk.

Teach your children about safe uses of fire such as cooking heating, and birthday candles

Explain that fire is dangerous and only for grown-ups to use carefully. Set a good example by using matches, lighters, flammable liquids and fire safely. Tell children that you will teach them to use matches safely when they are old enough. When your child is old enough, teach them the correct way to light a match. Do this when you are using fire for a reason. For example, let your child light the birthday candles on someone else's birthday cake.

If your child is overly interested in fire, has started a fire, or has played with matches and lighters

Your child's natural curiosity about fire needs to be addressed. Children don't understand how dangerous fire is or how quickly it can grow and get out of control. All fires start out small and the potential for a deadly fire is very real.

If your child is overly interested in fire, has started a fire, or has played with matches and lighters, call your local fire department and ask if they have a juvenile firesetters intervention program.

Preventing Mulch Fires

Mulch is a combustible material that can be easily ignited by improperly discarded smoking materials. Hundreds of small and large fires are started this way every year. The risk is that what starts as a small outdoor mulch fire can quickly spread to buildings. A mulch fire can be well underway before someone notices or is alerted by smoke alarms or sprinkler systems activating.



Photo courtesy of photos-public-domain.com

Regulation on Mulch Safety

Safe use of mulch is regulated through 527 CMR 1.00, section 10.14.10.4. The regulation prohibits new application of mulch within 18" around combustible exteriors of buildings, such as wood or vinyl, but not brick or concrete. Residential buildings with six units or less are exempted from the regulation, but all homeowners may want to adopt these safety practices. The regulation applies to all other buildings including commercial properties.

Tips for Property Managers, Building Owners & Landscapers

- Provide a minimum of an 18-inch clearance between landscape mulch beds and combustible building materials, such as wood, vinyl siding and decks.
- Use non-combustible mulch such as rock or pea stone around gas meters and combustible portions of the structure.
- Provide proper receptacles for smoking materials at all entrances to public buildings and in designated smoking areas. Place them at least 18" away from the building, do not mulch in these areas and remember to regularly empty smoking receptacles.
- Grounds and maintenance crews should be aware when conditions are favorable for mulch fires and increase surveillance of mulch beds.
- Keep mulch beds moist when possible.

Million Dollar Mulch Fires

- The most notable mulch fire in Massachusetts occurred in May 2015 in a large Arlington apartment complex. One man died in the fire started by smoking materials discarded in a mulch bed, which spread to a car, then to the building. Thirty-six apartments and six cars were destroyed. The building had no sprinklers and the estimated dollar loss was \$6.7 million.
- In April 2012, improperly discarded smoking materials ignited mulch outside an assisted living center in Braintree. The fire forced many older adults to evacuate in the early morning hours. Several suffered smoke inhalation injuries.
- In May 2008, a cigarette ignited a mulch fire at a Peabody apartment complex. It caused \$6.7 million in damage to the building, displaced 750 people temporarily and 36 permanently.

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Report Mulch Fires

- If you see anything smoking in a landscape bed, put it out if you can and report it. If the burning material is not thoroughly wet or removed it can re-ignite.
- Report any smoke or fire by calling 9-1-1.



Be a Responsible Smoker: Put It Out. All the Way. Every Time.

- If you smoke, remember to properly dispose of all smoking materials.
- Always use appropriate receptacles for disposing of smoking materials and matches.
- Do not discard cigarettes in mulch or potted plants.
- Use ashtrays that won't burn or catch fire and that are deep enough to contain butts. Wet butts down before throwing out.
- As more people smoke outdoors rather than inside, many building fires started by smoking begin on decks, porches, and exterior stairways.
- Be smart in your choice of containers for butts. Consider using metal cans with sand for outdoor disposal.
- Never throw lit smoking materials out of a car window. It is a fire risk and it is illegal to do so. The penalty for throwing lit materials from a car is a fine of \$100 and/or thirty days imprisonment (M.G.L. c. 148 § 54).

How Mulch Fires Start.

Care must be taken to prevent mulch fires.

- In many mulch fires, the smoldering mulch tunnels under the surface and then breaks out into open flame.
- Mulch that is piled too deeply, more than a few inches, can build up heat and spontaneously catch fire.
- Mulch fires start more readily when the weather is hot and it has been dry for an extended time.
- Factors such as below-average rainfall, dry conditions, warm temperatures, and high winds increase the risk of mulch fires.

Storage and Manufacturing of Mulch

- 527 CMR 1.00, section 10.14.10.4 has safety requirements for those who store or manufacture mulch. It limits the size of mulch piles and requires a distance of 30-feet between piles and 25-feet from the lot line.
- Large piles of mulch can spontaneously combust from all the heat they generate, so it is important to be vigilant and employ good housekeeping. The distance between mulch piles keeps a fire from spreading from one pile to another, or to a building.



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Prevención de Incendios Con Mulch



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Mulch (o "acolchado") es un material combustible que puede encenderse fácilmente por el incorrecto descarte de materiales humeantes. Todos los años, cientos de incendios grandes y pequeños comienzan de esta forma. El riesgo es que algo que empieza como un pequeño incendio de este material se propague rápidamente a los edificios. Un incendio con mulch puede comenzar antes de que alguien lo advierta o antes de que se activen las alarmas detectoras de humo o sistemas de rociamiento.

Regulación Sobre Seguridad en el Uso de Mulch

El uso seguro de mulch está regulado por 527 CMR 1.00, sección 10.14.10.4. La regulación prohíbe la nueva aplicación de mulch a menos de 18 pulgadas (45 cm) de exteriores combustibles de edificios, como madera o vinilo, aunque no ladrillos o concreto. Los edificios residenciales con 6 o menos unidades están exentos de esta regulación, pero es aconsejable que todos los propietarios adopten estas prácticas de seguridad. La regulación se aplica a todos los demás edificios que incluyen propiedades comerciales.

Consejos para Administradores de Propiedades, Propietarios de Edificios y Paisajistas

- Deje un espacio libre de por lo menos 18 pulgadas (45 cm) entre canteros con mulch y materiales de construcción combustibles, como madera, revestimientos de vinilo y decks.
- Use mulch no combustible, como roca o gravilla, alrededor de medidores de gas y porciones combustibles de la estructura.
- Proporcione receptáculos adecuados para apagar cigarrillos en todas las entradas a edificios públicos y en áreas designadas para fumadores. Ubíquelos por lo menos a 18 pulgadas (45 cm) de distancia del edificio, no coloque mulch en estas áreas y recuerde vaciar periódicamente los receptáculos.
- Las cuadrillas de mantenimiento y jardinería deberían conocer cuándo las condiciones son favorables a incendios e incrementar la supervisión de los canteros con mulch.
- Mantenga los canteros con mulch húmedos siempre que sea posible.

Incendio Millonario Relacionado con Mulch

- El incendio de mulch más notable en Massachusetts ocurrió en mayo de 2015 en un complejo de apartamentos de Arlington. Un hombre murió en el incendio provocado por materiales para fumar desechados en un cantero de mulch, que se extendió a un coche, entonces al edificio. Treinta y seis apartamentos y seis coches fueron destruidos. El edificio no tenía rociadores y la pérdida estimada fue de \$6.7 millones de dólares.
- En abril de 2012, materiales del consumo de cigarrillos, descartados incorrectamente, encendieron un cantero de mulch afuera de una residencia para mayores en Braintree.

(dar vuelta) →



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El incendio forzó la evacuación en la madrugada de muchos ancianos y algunos sufrieron lesiones por inhalación de humo.

- En mayo de 2008, un cigarrillo causó un incendio de mulch en un complejo de apartamentos de Peabody. Esto causó \$6.7 millones de dólares en daños al edificio, desplazado 750 personas temporalmente y 36 de forma permanente.



Si Advierte un Incendio Con Mulch, Notifíquelo

- Si ve que sale humo de un cantero, si puede apáguelo y luego infórmelo. Si el material en combustión no se humedece por completo o no se retira del cantero, puede volver a encenderse.
- Llame al 911 para informar la presencia de humo o incendios.

Sea un Fumador Responsable:

Apáguelo. Por Completo. Todas las Veces.

- Si fuma, recuerde eliminar correctamente todos los desechos relacionados.
- Siempre use receptáculos apropiados para eliminar cigarrillos y fósforos.
- No descarte cigarrillos en canteros con mulch ni en macetas.
- Use ceniceros que no se quemen ni se prendan fuego y con la profundidad suficiente para contener colillas de cigarrillo. Apague las colillas antes de desecharlas.
- Dado que más gente fuma afuera que adentro, muchos incendios en edificios comienzan en decks, porches y escaleras exteriores.
- Sea inteligente en su elección del contenedor para desechar sus colillas. Considere usar recipientes metálicos con arena ubicados en exteriores.
- Nunca arroje cigarrillos encendidos por la ventanilla de un auto. Genera un riesgo de incendio y es ilegal. La multa por arrojar materiales encendidos desde un auto es de \$100 y/o 30 días de cárcel (M.G.L. c. 148 § 54).

Cómo se Genera un Incendio Con Mulch.

Deben tomarse recaudos para prevenir incendios con mulch.

- En muchos incendios con mulch, el material que arde forma túneles por debajo de la superficie y luego produce una llama abierta.
- Cuando las pilas de mulch son muy profundas, más que algunas pulgadas, pueden acumular calor y encenderse espontáneamente.
- Los incendios con mulch se producen con más facilidad en climas calurosos y secos, cuando no ha llovido durante períodos prolongados.
- Factores tales como precipitaciones inferiores al promedio, condiciones de sequía, altas temperaturas y fuertes vientos aumentan los riesgos de incendio con mulch.

Almacenamiento y Fabricación de Mulch

- La regulación 527 CMR 1.00, Capítulo 31, contiene los requisitos de seguridad para los que almacenan o fabrican mulch. Limita el tamaño de las pilas de mulch y exige una distancia de 30 pies (9 metros) entre pilas (Sección 31.3.6.3.2.2) y de 25 pies (7,6 metros) desde la línea de lote (Sección 31.3.6.4.3).
- Las pilas grandes de mulch pueden entrar en combustión en forma espontánea por todo el calor que generan. Por lo tanto, es importante vigilarlas y mantenerlas en orden. Mantener la distancia entre las pilas puede evitar que un incendio se propague de una pila a otra, o a una edificación.