



SENIOR FIRE OFFICER FORUM SERIES SPRING 2020 - SAVE THE DATE

FLAWED SITUATIONAL AWARENESS: THE STEALTH KILLER OF FIRST RESPONDERS

Presented By: Dr. Richard Gasaway, Retired Chief, Roseville, Minnesota

This program shares the powerful findings of Dr. Gasaway’s extensive research on issues related to first responder decision making and flawed situational awareness. In his review of hundreds of near-miss reports, case studies, line-of-duty death reports and videos he continually found himself being frustrated because there were so many clues, indicators and signs that the incident was going to end in disaster.

Yet, for some reason, personnel operating at the incident scene – from company officers to incident commanders – could not see it coming. Or if they did see it coming, they did nothing to alter their course.

In his research to understand why first responders were (seemingly) blind and deaf to what was happening right in front of them, Dr. Gasaway uncovered and investigated over one hundred barriers that can destroy situational awareness and flawed decision making.

This program focuses on some of the most pervasive situational awareness barriers first responders will face while operating in stress-filled, dynamically-changing environments.

Barriers to be explored and discussed will include:

- * Pre-arrival lens
- * Mission Myopia
- * Staffing issues
- * Normalization of deviance
- * Complacency
- * Overconfidence
- * Miscommunications
- * Peer and supervisor pressure
- * Overload
- * Task fixation
- * Task saturation
- * Confabulation
- * Mind drift
- * Cognitive biases
- * Human factors
- * The curse of knowledge
- * Technology
- * Command location
- * Command support
- * Fear-driven decisions
- * Culture

Seminar Title		Time:	0900-1300
Activity Number:	SFK-E1	Location:	Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
Date:	April 14, 2020		One State Rd, Stow, MA

DEMYSTIFYING EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND INTEROPERABILITY: WHAT YOU MUST KNOW

Presented By: Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

Every day, first responders across the country encounter situations that reinforce how critical emergency communications and interoperability are to public safety. The idea that emergency personnel only want to “push a

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button and have it work” is an antiquated and dangerous notion. This soup-to-nuts course is designed to eliminate the mysteries of emergency communications and interoperability.

The session will begin with a basic overview of land-mobile radio (LMR) communications designed for all experience and knowledge levels. We will cover industry buzz terms, like simplex and duplex operations, conventional and trunked radio networks, analog and digital signals.

The session will then move on to review of basic interoperability, and how different resources can fill gaps during emergency and planned events. We will discuss available interoperable resources in the Commonwealth and how to access and plan for use of these resources. The session will cover how communications fits into ICS, and why recognizing the need to request communications support early and often is critical to an incident’s success.

Finally, we will break down the role of senior leadership in an agency as it pertains to emergency communications, covering topics such as agency communications planning, technology and responsible purchasing, channel planning and radio programming, and system funding and sustainment.

Seminar Title		Time:	0900-1300
Activity Number:	SFJ-E1	Location:	Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
Date:	May 12, 2020		One State Rd, Stow, MA

THE INFLUENCE OF BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, OCCUPANCY RISK AND RESEARCH ON COMMAND DECISION-MAKING FOR FIRE OFFICERS AND COMMANDERS

Presented By: Christopher Naum SFPE, Chief of Operations & Training, the Command Institute (USA) Technical Consultant, NIOSH Firefighter Fatality Investigation Program, Fire Protection, Management & Safety Advisor

The impact of building construction on today’s fireground cannot be understated. Today more than ever, understanding and comprehending building construction, its anatomy and the effects of fire dynamics on fire suppression operations is a must. Building construction, occupancy risks and the predictability of building performance under fire conditions have a profound influence on the management of operations, identification of tactical protocols and deployment of resources. Understanding key inherent building performance characteristics, insights from emerging fire research and their relationships and variables in command decision-making methodologies and practices is fundamental to firefighting and incident management on today’s evolving and demanding fireground.

Seminar Title		Time:	0900-1300
Activity Number:	SFM-E1	Location:	Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
Date:	June 2, 2020		One State Rd, Stow, MA

Registration

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