MEMORANDUM

TO: Heads of Fire Departments

FROM: Peter J. Ostroskey, State Fire Marshal

DATE: April 13, 2018

RE: LODD Death Benefits for Massachusetts Firefighters

As a follow up to the recent Fire Chiefs’ Association of Massachusetts (FCAM) meeting, attached you will find a convenient reference guide which outlines both federal and state line of duty death benefits for fallen Massachusetts firefighters. This compendium references the appropriate legal citations and provides useful information on benefits as well as convenient points of contact in order to access them, if necessary.

Two important benefits contained within this document – pension benefits for call/volunteer firefighters (M.G.L. c. 32, s. 89) and funeral benefits for all firefighters (M.G.L. c. 41, s. 100 and s. 100G1/4) – require the proactive involvement of the municipality to ensure these options are in place. Please make sure your community has taken action on these important benefits to ensure they are available if ever required.

In closing, I encourage you to take the time to review these benefits and to familiarize yourself with them in the event they are ever needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the author of this compendium, Department of Fire Services’ General Counsel, Steven Rourke, at (978) 567-3182.

(978) 567-3100 Fax: (978) 567-3121
www.mass.gov/dfs

Peter J. Ostroskey
State Fire Marshal
A Compendium on
Accessing Line of Duty Death
Benefits for Massachusetts
Fallen Firefighters

Prepared By:

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I. Introduction

This document will outline the various types of benefits available to families of both Career and Call/Volunteer firefighters killed in the line of duty. These benefits consist of both federal and state components and will differ in some respects depending on the status of the fallen firefighter; Call/Volunteer or Career.

This document will also provide guidance for the Department of Fire Services on the process for assisting non-union and non-career departments with the process of obtaining the benefits owed the families of the fallen.
II. **Federal Benefits**

These federal survivor benefits are provided to both Career and Call/Volunteer firefighters who have lost their lives in a line of duty death.

A. **Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program (PSOB Benefits)**

**Death**

PSOB provides a one-time benefit to eligible survivors of public safety officers who deaths were the direct and proximate result of an injury and/or certain medical events sustained in the line of duty on or after September 29, 1976. The current death benefit as of 2017 is $343,589.00 for eligible deaths occurring on or after October 1, 2016.

**Education**

PSOB provides support for higher education to eligible spouses and children of public safety officers who died in the line of duty. These benefits are subject to change and current details can be obtained by visiting [https://www.psob.gov/](https://www.psob.gov/).

B. **Required Documents for PSOB Benefits**

i. **Death Claim**

- PSOB report of firefighter death form is to be completed by the head of the fire department and/or their designee;

- Detailed statement of circumstance from initiation of incident to the pronouncement of firefighter death;

- Investigation, incident, and accident reports, if any;

- Death certificate;

- Autopsy, toxicology report, or statement signed by head of fire department or designee that none were conducted;
• PSOB claim for death benefits form completed and signed by the survivor/claimant;

• Firefighter’s current marriage certificate (if applicable);

• Divorce decrees from firefighter and current spouse’s previous marriages, including reference to physical custody of children, if applicable;

• Death certificates for the firefighter and current spouse’s previous spouses, if any of the marriages ended in death (if applicable);

• Birth certificates for all of the firefighter’s surviving children and step-children, regardless of age or dependency; must identify the children’s parents (if applicable). See https://www.psob.gov/.

ii. Education Claim

• Visit the following website for the PSOB Educational Assistance Program: https://www.psob.gov/pdfs/en/psob_ed_full_form.pdf

• For additional help with any PSOB claim, please call: (888) 744-6513.
II. **Massachusetts Benefits**

These state survivor benefits are in addition to the previously referenced federal benefits, for firefighters who have lost their lives in a line of duty death.

A. **Death**

- One time death benefit (M.G.L. c. 32, section 100A).

- A non-taxable benefit of $300,000 is payable to the family (survivor) of a firefighter who is killed or dies as the result of an incident, accident, or violence received in the line of duty.

- This survivor’s benefit is available to ALL firefighters including Career, Call, Volunteer, Auxiliary, Intermittent, or Reserve members of a fire department.

- Benefits are accessed by contacting the:

  Massachusetts State Board of Retirement  
  One Ashburton Place, 12th Floor  
  Boston, Massachusetts 02108  
  (800) 392-6014 or (617) 367-7700  
  Email: SRB@tre.state.ma.us  
  Website: www.mass.gov/treasury

B. **Pension / Survivor Benefits**

i. **Pension Benefits for Call/Volunteer firefighters for Line of Duty Death (M.G.L. c. 32, s. 89E)**

   This survivor’s benefit is available only to Call/Volunteer firefighters killed in the line of duty. Cities and towns are required to provide one of three forms of compensation:

   1) One time $500,000 life insurance policy; or
Accessing Line of Duty Death Benefits for Massachusetts Fallen Firefighters

2) Lifetime **annuity** payment of no less than 2/3 and no more than 100% of a full time, first year firefighter salary for that city/town.

If there are no full time firefighters in that city/town, no less than 2/3 and no more than 100% of the average first year salary for a full time firefighter as determined by a survey of 3 surrounding cities, towns or districts (as determined by PERAC); or

3) Lifetime **insurance policy** which pays an annuity of no less than 2/3 and no more than 100% of the annual rate of a first year firefighter salary, to be paid to surviving spouse.

If there are no full time firefighters in that city/town, no less than 2/3 and no more than 100% of the average first year salary for a full time firefighter as determined by a survey of 3 surrounding cities, towns or districts (as determined by PERAC).

Note: If there is no surviving spouse, or if said spouse dies later, then payment is made to minor children until age of majority.

ii. **Pension / Survivor Benefits for Career firefighters for Line of Duty Death**
(M.G.L. c. 32, s. 100)

An amount payable shall be equal to the maximum salary set for the position whether the deceased firefighter had reached the maximum (or not) at the time of his/her death. This benefit is payable to the surviving spouse, regardless of re-marriage, until death.

C. **Funeral Benefit (Career / Call/Volunteer Firefighter)** (M.G.L. c. 41, s. 100 and 100G¼)

Local option laws which, if adopted, will pay up to $4,000 [c. 41, s. 100] for burial expenses or in plan D or E cities, $15,000 [c. 41, s. 100G].

Benefits are accessed by contacting the:
D. **Education Benefits**

i. **Children**

This benefit is for children of fallen firefighters (both Career and Call/Volunteer) killed in the line of duty. It provides free annual tuition for Massachusetts public college or university. If a private college, tuition is equal to that of UMass Amherst, not to exceed $2,500 per year (limited to four (4) years).

ii. **Spouse**

The benefits are the same as those for children.

Benefits are accessed by contacting the:

Office of Student Financial Assistance
Massachusetts Board of Higher Education
454 Broadway, Suite 200
Revere, Massachusetts 02151
(617) 391-6070
Website: [www.mass.edu/osfa/home/home.asp](http://www.mass.edu/osfa/home/home.asp)

E. **Real Estate Benefit (Career and Call/Volunteer)**

Spouse and surviving children are exempt from real estate taxes. Notice must be given to the Tax Assessor before the next tax bill is due and provide the Assessor with all relevant information, including a letter from the Fire Chief stating the date and cause of the line of duty death and in some cases, provide a copy of the death certificate.
To: All Heads of Fire Departments

From: Peter J. Ostroskey, State Fire Marshal

Date: May 1, 2018

Subject: Media and Fire Training

Media coverage of firefighter training is great for the Department of Services, the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, local fire departments and the fire service as a whole. It provides an image of a professional fire service, staying sharp and preparing to respond to a variety of different emergencies.

It is important that media coverage does not get in the way of instructors teaching or students learning, or put any undue pressure on individual students. It is also important that the media be in the best location for their own safety as the safety of others.

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy has recently updated its guidelines on photography, videography and media during training programs.

Media on DFS Campuses
Fire chiefs wishing to bring news media onto the Department of Fire Services Stow and Springfield campuses are asked to contact the director in advance. The chief should be prepared to have their own staff escort the media and serve as a liaison between the MFA program’s lead instructor and the media in order provide for everyone’s safety. For safety reasons, the MFA must restrict access to the drill yard and our Legal Office will need a liability waiver for each person allowed to enter the drill yard.

Media at Off-Campus Training
Fire chiefs are encouraged to have media cover training at their local fire department. However, for MFA sponsored training, fire departments are requested to have their own staff escort the media and serve as liaison. Chiefs are asked to alert the Department of Fire Services.
Services Public Information Officer, if possible, so that the photography guidelines can be reviewed with the media. (Jennifer.Mieth@mass.gov or 978-567-3189).

If the fire department is unable to provide a liaison, the lead MFA instructor will guide the media to the best location for their own safety and the safety of students and instructors involved in training. They will use their own best judgment based on available staff and time whether or not they can spend time explaining the training to the reporter.

**General Guidelines**
Under no circumstances will the media be allowed in or close to live fire (such as inside the burn building or live fire training props.)

No photographs clearly identifying individual students in the Career or Call/Volunteer Firefighter Recruit Classes can be published until after the students have successfully completed the course.

No photography or videography activities will interfere in any way with the conduct of training. Training will not be altered to adapt to the photographer’s needs.

No photographs or videos taken during training will be used for any commercial purpose.

Nothing in the guidelines should be taken to override individual student and staff rights to privacy. That issue is a matter between the photographer and the individual.
Media coverage of firefighter training is great for the Department of Fire Services, the Mass. Firefighting Academy, local fire departments, and the fire service as a whole. It provides an image of a professional fire service, staying sharp and preparing to respond to a variety of different emergencies.

It is important that media coverage does not get in the way of instructors teaching or students learning, or put any undue pressure on individual students, especially as their livelihoods may depend on passing timed evolutions.

Images of training should show our instructors and students wearing protective gear appropriately and following other protocols. While the public may not notice the difference, others in the firefighting profession will.

We must ensure the physical safety of any media covering our training. Instructors should tell them where to be for their own safety, and the safety of others.

The following guidelines apply to requests from the public to photograph or videotape MFA training programs. These guidelines are to ensure the safety of the photographer as well as the students and instructors.

**GENERAL**

No photography or videography activities will interfere in any way with the conduct of training. Training will not be altered to adapt to the photographers’ needs.

No photographs or videos taken during training will be used for any commercial purpose.

Nothing in the guidelines should be taken to override individual student and staff rights to privacy. That issue is a matter between the photographer and the individual.

**ON-CAMPUS TRAINING**

Whether at the DFS Stow or Springfield campuses, any requests to photograph or video on-site must be approved by the MFA director in advance. Requests should be made in writing to the public information officer (PIO) or the director of the Academy, stating the purpose of the photo session and the intended use of the resulting photographs or video tapes. News media may receive verbal approval from the director, through the public information officer.

Fire chiefs wishing to bring news media on-campus should contact the director or the public information officer in advance, so the necessary arrangements can be made.
Photography, Videography & Media during Training Programs

Once the MFA director has given permission for the media or other photographer to be on-campus, he will notify appropriate staffers within the MFA and work with the PIO to designate an escort. The escort will serve as a liaison with the MFA program’s lead instructor or the officer of the day.

Anyone going into the drill yard will be asked to sign a liability waiver. The Legal Office of the Department of Fire Services may prepare an agreement between the agency and the photographer. They should be provided with bump hats for protection and safety vests while on the drill yard.

For Career or Call/Volunteer Recruit classes, no photos that clearly identify individual students will be published until the student has successfully completed the training.

These guidelines should be discussed by the PIO with people requesting permission to photograph or video tape training programs prior to permission being granted. Agreement to abide by the guidelines should be acknowledged. Verbal agreement is acceptable.

**Off-Campus Training**

Media may be invited by local fire departments to cover training at off-campus sites, or may just be interested in what is happening locally. DFS staff should always accommodate the media to the greatest extent possible without interfering with conduct of the training, while also providing for everyone’s safety. Off-campus training is in the public domain. DFS staff does not have any responsibility to control photography except to ensure the safety of people around or near the training.

1. Fire chiefs who invite the media to cover MFA training at their locations are requested to have their own staff escort the media and serve as liaison whenever possible. Fire chiefs may wish to have local counsel develop a liability waiver.

2. If the media is not provided with a local liaison, the lead MFA instructor will guide reporters to the best location for their own safety as well as the safety of all others. Under no circumstances should the media be involved with or close to live fire.

3. The lead MFA instructor will use their own best judgment based on available staff and time, how much time (if any) they can spend explaining the training to the reporter. Instructors should limit their comments to the actual training and refer questions that ask for opinions or policies to the DFS PIO.
4. The lead instructor shall alert their program coordinator about a media visit and program coordinators are requested to notify the DFS PIO.

If in the opinion of the assigned contact person there are unmet safety concerns or lack of conformance with these guidelines, the photography session will cease until the situation is addressed. On-campus: If there are any issues, the instructor will alert their program coordinator. Off-campus: The fire department liaison should address the situation. If there is no fire department liaison, MFA staff should ask the reporter/photographer to move to a safe location and if needed, contact the program coordinator. All such situations will be brought to the attention of the director immediately.

**DFS CONTACTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Office Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFA Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:David.C.Evans@mass.gov">David.C.Evans@mass.gov</a></td>
<td>(978) 567-3114 (office)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFA Assistant Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Joseph.Klucznik@mass.gov">Joseph.Klucznik@mass.gov</a></td>
<td>(978) 567-3220 (office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFS Public Information Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Jennifer.Mieth@mass.gov">Jennifer.Mieth@mass.gov</a></td>
<td>(978) 567-3189 (office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>(978) 273 7380 (cell)</td>
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MEMORANDUM

To: Heads of Fire Department

From: Peter J. Ostroskey
State Fire Marshal

Date: May 1, 2018

RE: Update to the Fire Code Violations Book (“Red Book”)

As you are aware, the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations recently adopted the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code, 527 CMR 1.00 (NFPA 1, 2015 edition with MA amendments), effective January 1, 2018.

As a result of the revisions, the Department of Fire Services has updated the familiar “red book” which contains a list of common fire code violations that are typically cited and subject to the civil M.G.L. Chapter 148A enforcement option. The updated “red book” includes modifications to code section citations, as applicable, and has been expanded to include additional common violations. It will facilitate in the completion of the Massachusetts Non-Criminal Fire Code Violation Notice which has been previously approved by the courts and remains unchanged at this time. The approved penalties, as stated in the red book, also remain unchanged: 1st offense - $100.00; 2nd offense - $500.00 and 3rd or subsequent offense - $1,000.00.

Any city or town, who is authorized to write violations pursuant to M.G.L. c. 148A (by proof of the appointment of a designated hearings officer and receipt of Non-Criminal Code Violation Ticket books, as confirmed by the Division of Professional Licensure, Office of Public Safety Inspections (formerly known as the Department of Public Safety)), may request copies of this revised red book for their use.

To request copies of the updated “red book”, please contact Ms. Lynch-Lent at (978) 567-3181 or by e-mail at MaryElizabeth.Lynch@state.ma.us. Please be sure to include the minimum number of “red books” needed by your fire department.
If your community currently does not participate in the c. 148A Ticketing Program, and you would like more information on how to participate, please contact MaryElizabeth Lynch-Lent at the contact information listed above.

“Fire Ticket Books”

In addition, Departments are reminded that the Massachusetts Non-Criminal Fire Code Violation Code Tickets (“ticket books”) were updated in 2015 upon the adoption of 527 CMR 1.00 to reflect the new citation method. The only change from the old ticket is the citation numbering scheme.

“Ticket books” may be ordered at a cost of $21.80 per book (plus postage costs, which will be assessed at the time of ordering), by contacting:

Lane Printing & Advertising
210. S. Franklin Street
Holbrook, MA 02343
www.laneprint.com
(781) 767-4450

I hope that this information is helpful as we continue to assist you in your code enforcement efforts. If you have any questions, please contact the Code Compliance and Enforcement Unit at (978) 567-3375.
May 8, 2018

Activity Number: SOY

Location: Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
One State Road
Stow, MA

Time: 0900-1300

This forum is eligible for credit toward Fire Chief Credential.

SENIOR FIRE OFFICER FORUM
A FIRE OFFICER’S GUIDE TO TODAY’S BUILDINGS
Presented By: Christopher Naum, Chief of Training, Command Institute (NY|DC)

Presenting insights on building construction for today’s fire service, the primary objective of this program is to increase awareness and understanding in the fundamentals of building construction, architecture, engineering and design that directly impact firefighting and command operations at structure fires based on emerging construction systems.


ABOUT THE SPEAKER
Christopher Naum is a 44-year fire service veteran and a highly regarded national and international instructor, author, lecturer and fire officer. He is a distinguished authority on building construction issues affecting the fire and emergency services and has traveled throughout the United States and internationally delivering training programs on building construction, command management and operational safety.

A former Adjunct Instructor with the National Fire Academy and current National Fallen Firefighter (NFFF) Firefighter Safety Advocate, he is a past member of the Board of Directors, IAFC Safety, Health & Survival Section and a past Vice-President with the International Society of Fire Service Instructors.

A former architect and fire protection engineer, he was the 1987 ISFSI George D. Post National Fire Instructor of the Year. He is the Chief of Training for the Command Institute (NY|DC), is a Consultant to NIOSH (USA) Firefighter Fatality Investigation & Prevention Program, and a well-respected Tactical Theorist, researching and developing emerging and cutting edge strategic and tactical operational methodologies, concepts and practices based on fire research to improved fireground operations and firefighter safety. He is active in numerous national & international fire service agenda programs and committees.

Registration
Register at DFS Learning Management System
SENIOR FIRE OFFICER FORUM
FROM THE FIREHOUSE TO THE FIRE FLOOR –
45 YEARS OF CHANGES AND CHALLENGES IN THE FIRE SERVICE

Presented By: Robert Pressler, Captain, Christina DE Fire Company

Fire service veteran Bob Pressler looks back at his 45-year career to reflect upon how our profession has evolved. In this presentation he uses the lessons learned over those years from to help better prepare today's Company Officers as they prepare for the changing roles and challenges of modern fire service leadership.

From The Firehouse to the Fire Floor looks at the evolution of a new firehouse culture and the challenges of leading and managing a new generation of Firefighters. Chief Pressler shares his thoughts on how today's strategies and tactics have changed. He explores the risks today’s lightweight building construction, the UL/ NIST studies, transitional attack, low staffing tactics, and several other “current” Fire Service topics will be discussed.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER
Robert Pressler has been involved in the Fire Service for over 44 years and is retired from the Fire Department of New York, where he had attained the rank of Lieutenant. In addition to his service with FDNY, he had also served as a volunteer firefighter including previously service as the Chief of the Montgomery, NY Fire Department. He remains active in the fire service and is currently a Captain with the Christiana, DE Fire Company.

Captain Pressler holds a degree in Fire Protection Engineering from Oklahoma State University. He has previously presented at the FDIC, Firehouse Expo, Firehouse World, and Firehouse Las Vegas. Robert Pressler has previously served on the Advisory Boards of both Fire Engineering and Fire Chief magazines and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Fire Department Training Network.

Bob has written numerous articles for several trade magazines and lectures around the country on a wide variety of Fire Service issues.
DFS ORIENTATION FOR COMMAND STAFF

These presentations are to provide Fire Chiefs, both new and new to Massachusetts, along with their command staff an opportunity to learn of the assistance available from the various divisions of the Department of Fire Services. As a participant in this orientation, you will have an opportunity to ask questions of and receive critical contact information from divisions that support the Massachusetts fire service.

To reach the widest audience possible we are hosting two sessions. A full day session at our Stow campus and a two evening split session at our Springfield campus. Those attending Springfield session need to attend both evenings.

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<th>590</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>Massachusetts Firefighting Academy One State Road, Stow, MA MFA - Link</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>Massachusetts Firefighting Academy 100 Grochmal Ave, Springfield, MA Room 119</td>
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*SPRINGFIELD SESSIONS NEED TO ATTEND BOTH DATES

Course Fee: Free

Notes: This is a “Priority Selection” course which is not first come-first serve.

Registration
Register online at DFS Learning Management System. Use your smart device to scan the code to login:
Registration
Register online at DFS Learning Management System. Use your smart device to scan the code to login:
REGIONAL NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAMS (6-DAY COURSES) IN NEW ENGLAND

MAINE
Command and Control of Incident Operations N0831
In this six-day course, volunteer fire officers are introduced to the Incident Command System (ICS), and they study proper fire command techniques for control and extinguishment of fires ranging from small, residential structures to multi-occupancy, commercial complexes.

Topics covered include problem-solving and fire command, interagency and mutual aid, the ICS, incident management, size-up and strategy, tactics and action plans, truck company operations, engine company operations, building construction and fire behavior, pre-incident preparation, incident organization, and strategic command. Special emphasis is placed on firefighter safety.

Selection criteria
Individuals who have responsibility to command incidents within their jurisdiction, career chief officers of volunteer staffed fire departments, company officers (COs), and/or newly appointed officers, including those in an acting position of CO and/or newly appointed officers from small paid/comboion fire departments. Additionally, individuals who are upwardly mobile in their organizations may be considered.

Prerequisites
ICS 100-level and ICS 200-level training. Preferred courses are Q0462 and Q0463, available through NFA Online at www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html. Chief’s signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training.

Note: A pre-course assignment, which will be graded, will be emailed to students six to eight weeks prior to class start date.

Pre-course work and/or syllabus: https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_n0831.pdf

Date: May 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 2018
Registration: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Command and Control of Fire Department Operations at Target Hazards N0825
This six-day course is designed to introduce command officers to the complexities involved in commanding incidents in high-risk areas. Students are confronted with a number of fire and rescue incidents that include high life hazard, multiple exposure, and unusual occupancy risk considerations. The students are taught advanced applications in the Incident Command System (ICS), command and control, decision-making, strategic and tactical considerations, pre-incident preparation, documentation, and post-incident analysis. Several simulations and case studies are used to depict and review incidents in various types of target hazards. Some examples of these are penal institutions, bulk oil-storage facilities, nursing homes, colleges, chemical/agricultural manufacturing plants, and grain elevators. The course is comprehensive and uses lecture, case study, simulation and student participation as instructional methods. This class is not a tactics class but explains the development of Incident Management Teams.
Selection criteria
Individuals or company officers who would have the responsibility to command incidents involving target hazards. Also, officers who may have this responsibility eventually and are upwardly mobile in their organization may be considered. Since this is a unique six-day course, every effort will be made to accommodate the selection of both volunteer and career personnel.

Prerequisites
ICS 100-level and ICS 200-level training. Preferred courses are Q0462 and Q0463, available through NFA Online at www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html. Chief’s signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training.

Pre-course work and/or syllabus: https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_n0825.pdf

Date: October 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 2018
Registration: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/

MASSACHUSETTS
Emergency Medical Services: Quality Management N0158
This six-day course will provide the critical components, background and principles associated with the implementation, or enhancement, of a department’s quality management program. The course teaches students how to create, implement and maintain a quality management program, including historical examples, current models, and best practices of quality assurance and improvement, process improvement, data collection and analysis.

Throughout the course, students work on culminating activities relating to the development of a quality management program. Students present the activity with classmates and instructors at the end of the course, allowing all students to take examples of quality management programs to their departments.

Selection criteria
Individuals who have department-level quality management (quality assurance, quality improvement), oversight or supervisory responsibilities.

Prerequisites
Incident Command System (ICS) 100-level and ICS 200-level training. Preferred courses are Q0462 and Q0463, available through NFA Online at www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html. Chief’s signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training.

Pre-course work and/or syllabus: https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_n0158.pdf

Activity Number: NA8
Date: January 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 2019
Time: 0800-1700
Location: Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
           One State Road, Stow, MA
Registration: DFS Learning Management System
May 29, 2018

Activity Number: SOX

Location: Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
One State Rd, Stow, MA

Time: 0900-1300

This forum is eligible for credit toward Fire Chief Credential.

SENIOR FIRE OFFICER FORUM
FROM THE X-BOX TO A BOX ALARM: UNDERSTANDING AND LEADING TODAY’S NEW GENERATION OF FIREFIGHTERS

Presented By: Tiger Schmittendorf, Deputy Fire Coordinator, Erie County Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services (Ret)

This presentation utilizes ‘edutainment’, deep questioning and engaging facilitated conversation supported by relevant text, videos and images that reinforce presentation objectives, specifically identifying the learning and communications habits of today’s firefighters and prospective recruits.

“From the Xbox to the Box Alarm” addresses the challenges of today’s fire service leaders in attracting, retaining and connecting with today’s firefighters who form the future of emergency services in their communities.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Tiger Schmittendorf is an author, emergency manager and frequent presenter on subjects of leadership, safety, incident command, training and firefighter recruitment and retention

He has been a firefighter since 1980 and served as the Erie County Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services for 20 years until retiring in January 2018 as Deputy Fire Coordinator. He was responsible for the recruitment, training and operations of the county’s 97 fire departments and more than 6,000 firefighters. He created iVounteer.org – a county-wide recruitment clearinghouse that netted thousands of new recruits for Erie County; andSoldierFirefighter.com which focuses on connecting veterans with the fire service

Registration
Register at DFS Learning Management System
INDIVIDUAL CRISIS INTERVENTION AND PEER SUPPORT & GROUP CRISIS INTERVENTION (GRIN)

Course Highlights

- Psychological Crisis and Psychological Crisis Intervention
- Resistance, Resiliency, Recover Continuum
- Critical Incident Stress Management
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Basic Crisis Communication Techniques
- Common Psychological and Behavioral Crisis Reactions
- Putative and Empirically-Derived Mechanisms
- SAFER-Revised Model
- Suicide Intervention
- Risk of Latrogenic Harm
- Relevant Research Findings
- Relevant Recommendations for Practice
- Incident Assessment
- Strategic Intervention Planning
- Large Group Crisis Intervention
- Small Group Crisis Intervention
- Adverse Outcome Associated with Crisis Intervention
- Reducing Risks
- Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD)

Crisis Intervention is NOT psychotherapy, rather, it is a specialized acute emergency mental health intervention that requires specialized training. As physical first aid is to surgery, crisis intervention is to psychotherapy. Thus, crisis intervention is sometimes called "emotional first aid." This first part of the program is designed to teach participants the fundamentals of, and a specific protocol for, individual crisis intervention.

Completion of "Individual Crisis Intervention and Peer Support" & "Group Crisis Intervention" and receipt of a certificate indicating full attendance (27 contact hours) qualifies as two CORE classes in the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation’s Certificate of Specialized Training Program

Registration
Register at DFS Learning Management System
NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAMS
AT MASSACHUSETTS FIREFIGHTING ACADEMY

Fire Investigation: First Responders F0379
This two-day course is designed specifically to provide a clear definition of the role of first responders in fire investigation and provide essential knowledge to enable them to recognize the potential of intentionally set fires, preservation and protection of evidence, and proper reporting of information to appropriate officials. By strengthening the partnership between first responders and investigators, the chances for successfully solving arson-related crimes will increase. The course includes topics such as fire behavior, critical observations of the first responder, fire causes, scene security and evidence preservation, legal considerations, and documentation of findings.

This course is designed for all fire and emergency services personnel who might conduct preliminary investigations into the origin and cause of fires. Interested students are encouraged to complete "Initial Fire Investigation for First Responders" (Q0379), available through NFA Online at https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html, prior to participating in this classroom-based course.

**Audience:** Fire and emergency services personnel who respond to fires or might conduct preliminary investigations into the origin and cause of fires.

**Pre-requisites:**
1. Incident Command System (ICS)-100-level and ICS-200-level training. Preferred courses are Q0462 and Q0463, available through NFA Online at www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/nfaonline. Chief's signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training.
2. Interested students are encouraged to complete Q0379, available through NFA Online at https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html, prior to participating in this classroom-based course.

**Pre-course work and/or syllabus:** https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0379.pdf

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Registration
Register at DFS Learning Management System
Executive Skill Series: Exercising Leadership Within Communities F0520

The purpose of this two-day course is to provide fire service authority figures with knowledge and skills, enabling them to exercise leadership when confronting adaptive challenges presented by increasingly diverse internal and external communities. The goal of the course is for participants to use the diversity of ideas, peoples and cultures as resources in exercising leadership to address adaptive challenges in their communities.

**Audience:** Fire and emergency service personnel in positions of authority (executive level officers) who have an opportunity to exercise leadership. Line firefighters or firefighter-paramedics are not within the target audience and will not be considered.

**Note:** Participants must be minimally assigned to a supervisory level position (for example, a company officer).

**Pre-course work and/or syllabus:** [https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0520.pdf](https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0520.pdf)

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Executive Skill Series: Exercising Leadership to Facilitate Adaptive Change F0521

The purpose of this two-day course is to provide skills that individuals in positions of authority can use to exercise leadership when confronted with adaptive challenges. The goal of this course is for participants to develop an understanding of skills associated with exercising leadership to resolve adaptive problems, those problems where the solution is either unknown or requires significant change, or both.

**Audience:** Fire and emergency service personnel in positions of authority (executive level officers) who have an opportunity to exercise leadership. Line firefighters or firefighter-paramedics are not within the target audience and will not be considered.

**Note:** Participants must be minimally assigned to a supervisory level position (for example, a company officer).

**Pre-course work and/or syllabus:** [https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0521.pdf](https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0521.pdf)

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EMS Functions in ICS F0166
This two-day course, students will practice use of the Incident Command System (ICS) in coordination with other public safety responders. As a follow-up to ICS-100 and ICS-200 training, this course will present scenarios requiring responders to structure their EMS resources within the guidance of National Incident Management System ICS, as appropriate to the needs of the different incident types. Through simulation and role-playing, students will demonstrate the implementation of EMS components in an ICS at medium- or large-sized incidents.

Audience: Emergency response personnel with responsibilities to implement the initial EMS functions of an ICS at medium- or large-sized incidents.

Pre-requisites:
ICS-100-level and ICS-200-level training. Preferred courses are Q0462 and Q0463, available through NFA Online at www.nfaonline.dhs.gov. Chief’s signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training. IS-201 forms used for the development of the Incident Action Plan (https://training.fema.gov/IS/).

Pre-course work and/or syllabus: https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0166.pdf

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Executive Skill Series: Exercising Leadership Through Difficult Conversations F0522
The purpose of this two-day course is to provide knowledge and skills for having difficult conversations to exercise leadership in addressing adaptive challenges. The goal of this course is for the participant to identify and apply skills for having difficult conversations as they relate to exercising leadership when addressing adaptive challenges.

Audience: Fire and emergency service personnel in positions of authority (executive level officers) who have an opportunity to exercise leadership. Line firefighters or firefighter-paramedics are not within the target audience and will not be considered.

Note: Participants must be minimally assigned to a supervisory level position (for example, a company officer).

Pre-course work and/or syllabus: https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0522.pdf

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Executive Skill Series: Exercising Leadership Ethically F0523

This new two-day course provides students with the ability to recognize ethical dilemmas in the context of their environments, apply a decision model to resolve these dilemmas, render ethical decisions, and defend under scrutiny the resulting decisions that were made in an effort to resolve these dilemmas. This course will become the fourth offering within the Executive Skill Series.

**Audience:** Fire and emergency service personnel in positions of authority (executive level officers) who have an opportunity to exercise leadership. Line firefighters or firefighter-paramedics are not within the target audience and will not be considered.

**Note:** Participants must be minimally assigned to a supervisory level position (for example, a Company Officer).

**Pre-course work and/or syllabus:** [https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0523.pdf](https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0523.pdf)

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Incident Command for Highrise Operations F0321

This two-day course is designed to assist emergency response officers who have responsibility for managing highrise incidents. This includes organizing resources, developing strategies, and managing tactical operations to protect life and to minimize damage during an incident. Students attending should have: working knowledge of basic Incident Command System organization; working knowledge of strategy and tactics for structural firefighting; knowledge of building construction; and understanding of the type of building systems existing in highrise buildings.

**Audience:** Anyone who would serve as a company officer/Chief Officer in communities that have highrise buildings.

**Pre-course work and/or syllabus:** [https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0321.pdf](https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0321.pdf)

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Preparation for Initial Company Operations F0458
This two-day course is designed to develop a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of company officers (COs) in preparing their company for incident operations. In addition, this course is designed to clarify the transition from firefighter to CO and the new roles relating to leadership and safety.

Audience: This course is designed for COs, acting COs, or senior firefighters responsible for the management of a single fire company at an emergency incident. This includes those officers who are responsible for company readiness, personnel safety, and leadership as it relates to company operation.

Pre-course work and/or syllabus:  https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0458.pdf

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Training Operations in Small Departments F0290
This two-day course is designed to provide students with some basic tools and skills to coordinate training in a small fire/EMS organization. A training function in a smaller department typically may include conducting training drills and coordinating training with a nearby larger city or state training function. Course content includes:

- Leadership issues in fire service training, such as why and how the local training officer must be a catalyst for change and personal motivators within the department.
- Identifying the legal issues affecting the training function, including an understanding of a standard of care and the impact of Occupational Safety and Health Administration and National Fire Protection Association standards.
- Safety considerations in training.
- Marketing training internally.
- Identifying ways to justify training needs.
- Resolving training conflicts using appropriate conflict resolution techniques.
- Selecting and evaluating training curricula and materials from outside sources.
- Effective delivery and evaluation of training.

Audience:
- Fire and rescue personnel who coordinate training in small departments.
- Volunteer firefighters and officers who instruct in small fire and rescue departments.
- Fire personnel serving on training committees.
- Training officers in volunteer fire departments.

Pre-course work and/or syllabus:  https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/syll/syllabus_f0290.pdf

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Registration
Register at  DFS Learning Management System
ADVANCED FIRE INVESTIGATION

This course will cover state-of-the-art investigation practices for individuals new to fire investigation as well as provide new concepts for those experienced fire investigators. In a practical exercise, students will be assigned to one of four fire investigation teams. In turn, each team will investigate and evaluate a fire scene to determine the area of origin, the ignition source, the materials first ignited and the ignition sequence of the fire. Students will also be acquainted with the use of accelerant detection K-9s, learn to properly prepare diagrams, conduct interviews, record the fire scene with photographic documentation and establish field notes of the incident scene. Students will be able to identify, collect and preserve evidence using the proper physical and legal procedures. This course will provide information that will allow the student to make presentations in legal settings as well as aid in the preparation of reports that will be useful in their participation of a mock civil and criminal trial proceeding.

This course consists of twenty-four (24) hours of instructor-led classroom training, twenty-four (24) hours of practical time and four (4) hours of self-guided online learning.

This intensive course requires students to have 100% mandatory attendance. In addition, students shall participate in case studies, and present an oral brief to the class. The final course exam is an open book, fifty (50) question online test.

This course meets or exceeds the job performance requirements in the NFPA Standard 921 Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations and the NFPA Standard 1033 for Fire Investigator.

September 5, 6, 7, 17, 19, 21, 2018

Activity Number:
501-E3

Location:
Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
One State Rd, Stow, MA

Time:
0800-1700

Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Basic Fire Investigation course.

As part of the application process, applicants are required to complete ten (10) preselected CFItrainer units to be considered for selection.

Specific units are listed on the course registration addendum.

Registration
Register at DFS Learning Management System
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER TRAINING

This course, presented in partnership with the University of Massachusetts Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management, is designed to provide the new chief officer with a variety of leadership and management skills essential in municipal management. The information covered and case histories will be pertinent to Massachusetts municipal government.

The topics covered include: leadership and the chief officer; administrative structure; communication skills; budget and financial skills; supervision and management; human resource management; community and intergovernmental relations; emergency management; logic, ethics and decision making; comprehensive safety and health programs; fire and life safety programs; and organizational and strategic planning.

This course consists of ninety eight (98) hours of instructor-led classroom training with considerable out-of-class reading and research as preparation.

This intensive course requires students to have 100% mandatory attendance and to successfully develop an applied research paper on a topic relevant to the duties and responsibilities as a senior fire official and practice public speaking in a presentation to a panel.

This course meets or exceeds the job performance requirements in the NFPA Standard 1021 Fire Officer Professional Qualifications for Fire Officer III and IV.

Selection Criteria:
This is a very competitive, highly demanding capstone course in the overall Fire Officer training track.

Preference is given to Officers that have demonstrated their commitment to professional development, through achieving an academic degree from an accredited college or university and/or fire certifications with greater weight given for Fire Officer Certifications.

The candidate’s current position and administrative responsibilities within their respective fire department will also receive consideration in the selection process.
BASIC FIRE INVESTIGATION

This course is for firefighters and law enforcement officers needing the basic skills required for an initial fire and/or explosion scene investigation. Students will be oriented to effectively work within the established system, using a “Team Concept” built around a specific investigative protocol tailored to fire and explosion investigations. Students will examine the most up-to-date theories of fire investigation and the role of the fire investigator. The topics covered include: the methodology of fire investigation; motives of arsonists; incendiary fires; explosions; and the formulation and testing of a hypothesis with regard to the origin and cause of a fire. Students will learn about fire behavior and basic origin and cause investigation techniques, along with scene preservation, documentation and evidence collection. Legal aspects and arson motives are also covered in the program.

Subject matter experts will provide comprehensive lectures covering accidental fire investigation, determining the origin and cause of fire and/or explosions, the behavior of fire, the roles and responsibilities of the investigator within the Fire Investigation Unit, incendiary fire investigation, interview techniques, indicators of incendiariotism, vehicle fires, marine fires, wildland fires, evidence collection, and investigative documentation.

This course consists of forty-eight (48) hours of instructor-led classroom training with four (4) hours of self-guided online learning.

Although this is an entry level course, it is an intensive course that requires students to have 100% mandatory attendance. In addition, students shall participate in case studies, and present an oral brief to the class. The final course exam is an open book, fifty (50) question online test.

This course meets or exceeds the job performance requirements in the NFPA Standard 921 Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations and the NFPA Standard 1033 for Fire Investigator.
The courses listed below are available at the time this calendar is created and are available through our new DFS Learning Management System. Once in the system, follow the job aid “How to View the Training Calendar” to register for a course.

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<td>SFOF From the Firehouse to the Fire Floor, MFA Stow Blasting Detail Orien, Andover</td>
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**Maintenance**

Electrical wiring, like all other systems, needs maintenance and inspection. Have your electrical system examined by a licensed electrician every 10 years. All electrical work should be done by a licensed electrician who obtains a permit when required. The permit process protects homeowners by requiring that an inspector check that the work is done correctly.

**Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter (AFCI)**

An arc fault circuit interrupter is a new device designed to actually reduce the likelihood of fires. It responds to arcing and sparking within a circuit before the circuit breaker or fuse trips. The AFCI breaker trips to help prevent the fire from occurring in the first place.

The AFCI is installed at the electrical panel and doesn’t look much different than a regular circuit breaker.

Don’t confuse the AFCI with GFCI. Both devices serve different functions.

AFCIs are mostly found in newly built homes, but can easily be installed in older homes equipped with circuit breakers.

**Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)**

Installing Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) receptacles can reduce deaths from electrical shock in and around the home by two-thirds. GFCIs should be installed by a qualified electrician in places near water such as kitchen counters, bathrooms and other areas subject to moisture, including the outdoors.

**Preventing Electrocutions and Shocks**

**Safety Tips:**

- Read and follow instructions and safety tips provided with electrical appliances and equipment.
- Install plastic safety covers in unused electrical outlets to protect children from shock hazard.
- When unplugging a cord or appliance from an outlet, pull the plug not the cord. Pulling by the cord can cause damage to the wiring at the connection.
- Do not defeat polarized plugs (one prong larger than the other) or the third or ground prong.
- Keep electrical appliances and cords away from water. Keep yourself alive by keeping water and electricity separate.
Electricity is a powerful energy source that must be treated with care and respect.

When we think about electricity, we think about electric current. Electric current is the power running along wires in our home and generates heat as it travels. The electrical current is like water running through a hose. The size of the cord can carry only so much electricity before it starts to overheat. The insulation on home wiring, fuses and other parts of the electrical system are all designed to carry a certain amount of electricity safely. The more electricity you draw along a cord, the more quickly it heats up. For instance, an appliance like a space heater can draw a lot of current and needs to be plugged in with a properly designed cord.

Extension Cords

The plugs on cords are the places where heat builds up and the more cords you connect together, the more trouble spots you have. The connection between an extension cord and an appliance cord does not have the same safety features (like fuses or circuit breakers) as those that are built into a wall socket. That is why extension cords are for temporary use only.

Electrical Fires: A Leading Cause of Fire Deaths

From 2013-2017, Massachusetts fire departments reported 2,704 home fires caused by electrical problems. These fires caused 36 civilian deaths, 101 civilian injuries, 303 fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of $196 million. The average loss per fire was $72,386. Electrical fires were the #1 or #2 cause of fire deaths from 2013 to 2017.

Potential Warning Signs and Hazards

Call the fire department immediately if you have any of these warning signs:
• Arks, sparks or short circuits;
• Sizzling or buzzing sound;
• Odors, vague smell of something burning

Firefighters can use thermal imaging technology to see excessive heat inside the walls.

Call a professional electrician soon if you have any of these warning signs:
• Frequently blown fuses or tripped circuit breakers;
• Dim or flickering lights, bulbs that wear out too fast;
• Overheated plugs, cords or switches;
• Shock or mild tingle – more than normal static electricity;
• Loose plugs; or
• Unusually warm or faulty outlets or switches.

Look around for these hazards in your home and correct them:
• Overloaded outlets – more than one appliance cord plugged into one wall outlet.
• Cords pinched behind furniture like couches or bureaus.
• Overloaded power strips. They should only be used with a few low current devices such as electronics.
• Lamps or fixtures with light bulbs higher than the recommended wattage. Most lamps recommend 60 watts. Be careful where you use higher wattage bulbs.
• Electrical cords underneath rugs, carpet or furniture. Move them to reduce the risk of fire from overheating due to worn insulation.
• Cords with frayed wires or cracked insulation. Replace them with new ones having a certification label from an independent testing laboratory.
• An extension cord that is not properly rated for the appliance it powers. Typical “lamp cord” extension cords cannot carry the electrical current needed for appliances such as space heaters or air conditioners.
• Cords or wires that are nailed into place. This can cause electrical shorts and arcing.
• Indoor appliances and cords being used outdoors.
Mantenimiento

El cableado eléctrico, como cualquier otro sistema, necesita mantenimiento e inspección. Haga revisar su sistema eléctrico por un electricista cada 10 años. Todo trabajo eléctrico debe ser realizado por un electricista matriculado, quien deberá obtener un permiso cuando sea requerido. El proceso de permiso protege a los propietarios, ya que un inspector debe verificar que el trabajo haya sido correctamente realizado.

Interruptor de Circuito por Falla de Arco (AFCI)

Un interruptor de circuito por falla de arco es un nuevo dispositivo diseñado para reducir realmente la probabilidad de incendios. Responde al arco y encendido dentro de un circuito antes que salte el disyuntor o el fusible. El interruptor AFCI se activa para evitar que se produzca un incendio.

El interruptor AFCI se instala en el panel eléctrico y se parece bastante a un disyuntor común.

No confunda AFCI con GFCI. Son dispositivos que tienen distintas funciones.

Los interruptores AFCI se encuentran principalmente en casas nuevas, pero pueden instalarse fácilmente en hogares más antiguos equipados con disyuntores.

Interruptor Para Circuito Con Pérdida a Tierra (GFCI)

Instalar un receptáculo GFCI puede reducir en dos terceras partes el riesgo de muerte por choque eléctrico en el hogar.

Estos dispositivos deben ser instalados por un electricista calificado en lugares cerca del agua, como mesadas de cocina, baños y otras áreas con humedad, incluso en el exterior.

Prevención de Electrocutaciones y Choques Eléctricos

Consejos de seguridad:
- Lea y siga las instrucciones y las recomendaciones de seguridad de fábrica para artefactos y equipos eléctricos.
- Instale cubiertas plásticas de seguridad en tomacorrientes que no están en uso, para proteger a los niños del peligro de choque eléctrico.
- Al desenchufar un cable o un electrodoméstico, jale del enchufe, no del cable, para evitar dañar el cableado en la conexión.
- No anule los enchufes polarizados (una clavija más larga que la otra) ni la tercera clavija de conexión a tierra.
- Mantenga los artefactos eléctricos y sus cables alejados del agua. Evite riesgos a la vida manteniendo el agua y la electricidad por separado.
La electricidad es una potente fuente de energía que merece cuidado y respeto.

Cuando hablamos de electricidad, pensamos en la corriente eléctrica. La corriente eléctrica es la energía que viaja por los cables instalados en nuestro hogar y genera calor a su paso. La corriente eléctrica es como el agua que fluye por una manguera. Por su tamaño, un cable puede transportar determinada cantidad de electricidad antes de empezar a sobrecalentarse. La aislación en la instalación eléctrica del hogar, los fusibles y otras partes del sistema eléctrico están diseñados para llevar una cierta cantidad de electricidad en forma segura. Cuanta más electricidad se carga en un cable, más rápido se calienta. Por ejemplo, un artefacto como un calefactor puede necesitar mucha corriente y debe enchufarse con un cable correctamente diseñado.

Alargues

Los enchufes de los alargues son los lugares donde se acumula calor, y cuantos más cables se conectan juntos, más puntos problemáticos se tiene. La conexión entre un alargue y el cable de un artefacto no tiene las mismas características de seguridad (como fusibles y disyuntores) que los que están empotrados en un tomacorriente de pared. Por ese motivo, los alargues son solo para uso temporal.

Incendios Eléctricos: Una Causa Líder de Muertes por Incendio

Entre 2013 y 2017, el departamento de bomberos de Massachusetts registró 2.704 incendios en el hogar causados por problemas eléctricos. Estos incendios ocasionaron la muerte a 36 civiles, lesiones a 101 civiles y 303 bomberos, y una pérdida estimada de $196 millones. La pérdida promedio por incendio fue de $72.386. Los incendios eléctricos fueron la causa número uno o número dos de incendios fatales apartir de 2013 - 2017.

Signos de Alerta y Peligro Potencial

Llame al departamento de bomberos de inmediato si tiene alguno de los siguientes signos:
- Arcos, chispas o cortocircuitos;
- Sonidos chisporroteantes o zumbidos;
- Olor (aunque sea un olor vago) a quemado.

Los bomberos pueden usar tecnología de imágenes térmicas para ver el calor excesivo dentro de las paredes.

Llame a un electricista profesional de inmediato ante estas situaciones:
- Fusibles que se queman o disyuntores que se disparen con frecuencia;
- Lámparas tenues o que titilan, bombillas que se queman demasiado rápido;
- Enchufes, cables o interruptores recalentados;
- Choque u hormigueo: superior a electricidad estática normal;
- Clavijas sueltas;
- Tomacorrientes o interruptores sobrecalentados o defectuosos.

Busque estos signos de peligro en su hogar y corrijalos:
- Tomacorrientes sobrecargados: más de un artefacto enchufado al toma de pared.
- Pinzamiento de cables detrás de muebles como sillones o escritorios.
- Alargues con múltiples tomas sobrecargadas. Solo deben usarse con pocos dispositivos de baja corriente, como electrónicos.
- Lámparas o artefactos con bombillas de más voltaje que el recomendado. La mayoría de las lámparas recomiendan bombillas de 60 watts. Tenga cuidado dónde utiliza bombillas más potentes.
- Cables eléctricos debajo de alfombras, felpudos o muebles. Muévalos para reducir el riesgo de incendio por sobrecalentamiento debido a mala aislación.
- Cables gastados, pelados o con aislación rota. Reemplácelos por cables nuevos que tengan una etiqueta de certificación de un laboratorio de ensayos independiente.
- Un alargue que no tiene la misma potencia nominal que el artefacto que alimenta. Los típicos alargues de “cable de lámpara” no pueden transportar la corriente eléctrica necesaria para artefactos como calefactores o acondicionadores de aire.
- Cables fijados con clavos: pueden causar cortos y arcos eléctricos.
- Electrodomésticos y cables de interior usados en el exterior.