



5th District Regional Health and Safety Seminar Monday, April 22, 2024 Westchester County Fire Training Center - at 4 Dana Road, Valhalla, New York

SPEAKERS/AGENDA

8:00 am – 8:30 pm – Light breakfast/coffee/juices

8:30 am -10:00 am - Barry Nechis has 42 years of fire and EMS experience and has a master's degree in public administration. He recently retired as a fire captain/paramedic, having spent almost 36 years with the New Rochelle Fire Department. He managed multiple aspects, including ICS implementation, Command Post Operations, development of electronic fireground accountability, SOP development, firefighter cancer prevention, budgeting, apparatus purchasing, EMS training, grant writing, Disaster Planning, Hazmat, and USAR Team Development.

Topic: "Mayday, Lessons Learned"

We will start by reviewing the NIOSH Top 5 LODD common causes and then look at seven incidents and how the NIOSH 5 played out. The NIOSH 5 issues are very common in the 5th District. Breaking the NIOSH 5 will reduce the potential for a LODD or Near Miss when an incident starts to go downhill. We will then look at some department-level planning and preparation for the Mayday. We will also review some of the controversies in handling the Mayday.

10:30 am – 12:00 pm – Barry Nechis

Topic: "Fireground Accountability, P.A.R.'s and Modern Technology"

Most departments use some form of tag for accountability, but this only tells you if the member is at the incident (if they remembered to tag in). We will present where accountability has failed and ways to improve accountability on the fireground. This includes introducing modern electronic tracking to help manage incidents while providing greater safety for members.

This course introduces the advantages of an electronic tracking system to a larger fire service spectrum. Students will learn the advantages, disadvantages, and pitfalls of traditional personnel accountability tags and modern electronic tracking.

Almost fourteen years ago, we modified and implemented a system originally developed for FDNY. When properly utilized, it dramatically improves member safety. It's now expanded to Boston, Hartford, Baltimore, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Albuquerque, Charleston, Memphis, New Haven, Seminole County, Fl., and many others. This technology works for any size department. Every department that has implemented it says it has changed its operations. In January, a battalion chief in Houston, Texas, reported that it prevented a line of death during a Mayday event.

A working lunch will be provided at around noon time at the direction/convenience of the presenter.

12:30 pm – 3:30 pm – Firefighter Paul DeBartolomeo has been a member of the fire service for more than 30 years. He started his career as a volunteer in 1990 in Stamford, CT. He is also a 26-year veteran of the Fire Department of New York (FDNY), where he is assigned to Ladder Company 28 in Harlem. DeBartolomeo is a nationally certified pro-board instructor who provides lectures and hands-on training nationwide. DeBartolomeo has been featured in

Fire Engineering's Training Minutes video series, was a lead instructor for an F.D.I.C. H.O.T. class, was an F.D.I.C. classroom presenter, and is a contributing author for Fire Rescue Magazine. Paul is the Owner & Lead Instructor for CT Custom Fire Training LLC.

Topic: "Rapid Intervention Training".

Students begin by reviewing case studies of historic fatal fires to identify the root causes leading to and further complicating the Mayday event. Factual accounts, using audio & video, describe the sequence of events leading up to the Mayday. The actions of the rescue teams and their successes and failures are examined and discussed.

Based on the accounts from these case studies coupled with statistical data, we begin to identify significant issues encountered and the skills needed to mitigate a Mayday. This data and analysis will paint a clear picture of where RIT/FAST training needs to be focused to facilitate firefighter removal in an effective & efficient manner. Students will then learn the roles of the R.I.T. team, the tools & equipment needed, and how best to apply them to their particular jurisdiction. Significant focus throughout the program will be placed on the importance of being proactive firefighters centered on mitigating potential & existing problems to ensure a safe outcome for all operating members.

Note: the morning focus will be on the command and department level, and the afternoon will focus on the individual and company level and the training that goes along with that.

PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR DISTRICT HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE CHIP NANKO at (914-774-5193) or email at cknan@aol.com IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON ATTENDING, WE NEED A HEAD COUNT. LUNCH IS BEING PROVIDED BY THE 5TH DISTRICT. THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR.

We ask you to print this flyer out and hang in your stations and email out to your local email lists to help spread the message. This seminar is open to all NYSPFFA members, not just local leadership. More the better.

Fraternally,

Dave Holleran
Executive VP/ Health & Safety Chairman
NYSPFFA

Chip Nanko
5th District Health and Safety Representative
Retired – Local 1586 - Greenburg