



ISSUE 49

Newsletter Date 01/01/2016

BFD Times

The Last Article

To the men and women of the Belmont Fire Department:

Important Dates:

Officers Meeting is:
Wednesday,
January 20th

Happy Birthday To:

Josh Huestis 1/19
John Bowler 1/22

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On July 6, 2010, I was appointed Chief of the Belmont Fire Department, and now 5 1/2 years later it has come time for me to say goodbye. As most of you know I have accepted the Fire Chief's position for the Town of Northborough, MA with my first day there being January 25th. In my time with BFD we have faced many challenges including the deaths of some close friends and several retirements, however at the same time we have grown as individuals and as an organization. We did not always agree and on occasion even disagreed loudly, but we were able to move forward by working together and always remembering why we chose the fire service as a career or as a vocation. As you look to the future, remember the importance of supporting each other and working together as a community to make both

the department and the town better places to be. I hope that in some small way I have inspired you to grow as firefighters and individuals and encourage you to "pass it on." I consider each one of you my friend, and I consider myself richer as a result of that. If you find yourself south of the border or just feel you need someone to talk to please stop in, email, or call! You have all been there for me and I will always be here for you.



Respectfully in Safety and Service,

Dave Parenti



Coffee Break Training - Training and Professional Development

Professional Development in the Modern Fire Service, Part 3 of 3

No. TR-2015-4 October 29, 2015

Learning Objective: *The students will be able to understand the concept and tools of professional development as a lifelong commitment to their own education and safety.*

So far we've learned what professional development is and where we can go to find educational support.

Annually in the United States an estimated 100 firefighters die and tens of thousands are injured, in the line of duty. Could many of these be averted by simple habits, such as reading smoke, understanding wind-driven physics, or even the routine of putting on one's seat belt?

William James (1892) wrote, "All our life, so far as it has definite form, is but a mass of habits." Charles Duhigg (2012) defined habits as "the choices that all of us deliberately make at some point, and then stop thinking about but continue doing."

Training turns our thinking (conscious theory) process into practically applied skills (unconscious activity). Most of what we do can be learned and stored in our unconscious brain. Muscle memory takes over, and our actions come from an automatic level.

Remember when you started as a volunteer or paid/career firefighter? You probably went to an orientation, followed by endless hours of classroom lecture, and then repetitious training evolutions designed to hone your skills. Training is the privilege your department bestows on you to turn you from a "chaotically thinking" employee into an organized expert.

Training gives you the ability to take what has been learned in the classroom and not only apply it to the situation at hand but also adapt various skill sets to meet the needs of the changing situation.

Find out more by going to

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/prodev/>

Summary: Education and training are at the heart of professional development. Lifelong learning keeps us razor sharp to safely execute the operations that save lives and property.

Created by: Michael McCabe, U.S. Fire Administration Education Program Specialist.

References:

Duhigg, C. (2012). "The power of habit." New York: Random House.

James, W. (1899). "Talks to teachers on psychology and to students on some of life's ideals." New York: Henry Holt and Company.

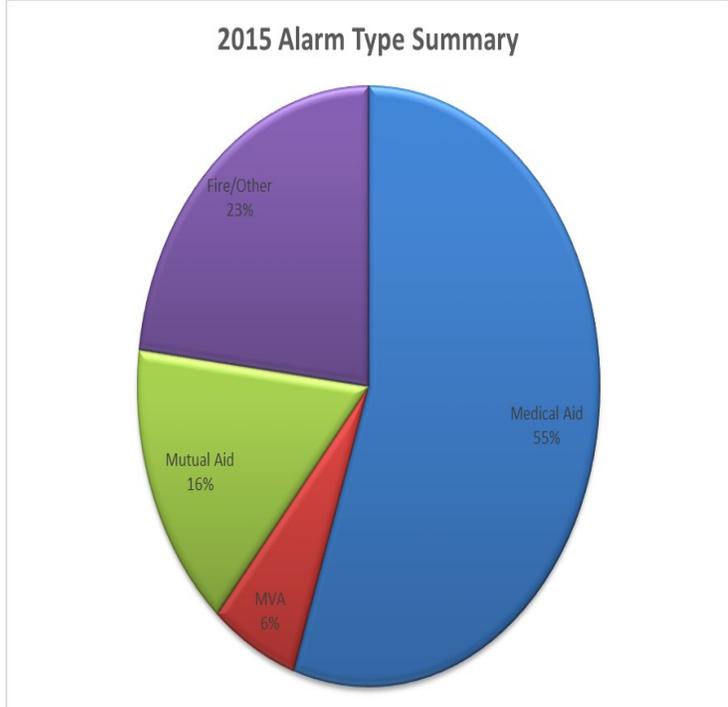
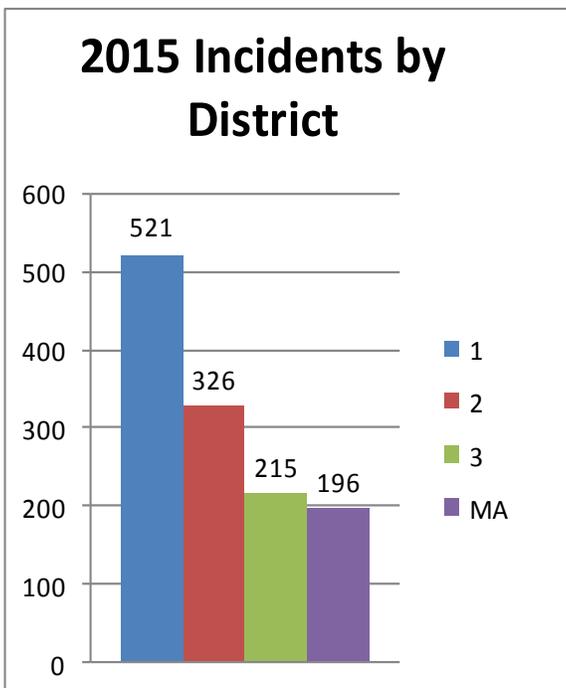
SOG REVIEW
OPS 11-002-1 Supply Line Algorithm

HR	HR
LF	HF
LR	LR
LF	HF

The purpose for this Guideline is to establish the criteria for when the first in Engine Co. will lay a supply line. The question of whether or not the first due Engine Company should lay a supply line has been a topic of discussion in the fire service for years. It is not the intent of this SOG to remove the element of officer's discretion from the decision but to provide the officer with a tool to help in making the decision. The chart below should be considered a "tool" to add to your tool box to assist you when making the decision of whether or not to lay a supply line. As discussed last month each incident is unique and must be considered on its own merits. Other important items to consider for the SOG are; Available manpower, length of initial lay, ease of access to the scene, and weather conditions. If access to the scene is via a steep hill and road conditions are poor you may choose to lay the line on the way in as it may be your only chance to do so.

<i>Lay a supply line</i>	<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Direct to scene</i>
YES	Smoke or Fire Showing	NO
YES	Dispatch Advises they are receiving calls	NO
NO	Report of Persons Trapped	YES
YES	Personnel on scene confirming a fire	NO
YES	Immediate need for large diameter appliances	NO
YES	Order from command (As Appropriate)	YES

Belmont Fire Department's 2015 Year End Statistics



Belmont Fire Department
PO Box 837
14 Gilmanton Rd
Belmont, NH 03220

Phone: 603-267-8333
Fax: 603-267-8337
E-mail: bfd@belmontnh.org



"In Omnia Paratus"
(In all things ready)

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BFD Mission Statement

The mission of the Belmont Fire Department is to provide fire, emergency medical, and fire prevention services in a caring and compassionate manner. To be prepared to respond to any request for assistance and to ensure that every member of the department returns home safely.

BFD Vision Statement

The Belmont Fire Department will continuously work to meet the changing needs of our community by striving to be the premiere fire department in the Lakes Region. We will do this by maintaining a high level of readiness and by focusing on the professional development and training of all our personnel.

OUR CORE VALUES

All members of the Belmont Fire Department adhere to the following values:

Service - We strive for excellence in the service we deliver through on-going evaluation and involvement.

Teamwork - We embrace the concept of teamwork through skillful communication and personal cooperation to achieve our common goal.

Accountability - We are responsible, as professionals and individuals, for our actions.

Integrity - We act ethically, we expect honesty, loyalty and dedication.

Respect - We practice mutual respect by setting a personal example of trust and fairness.