On-Duty Biannual Training Proposal

Houston Fire Department
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Abstract

- This presentation gives stakeholders a preview of HFD’s need for quality training, ROI, and proposal for delivering the training.
  - What facts express HFD’s immediate need for training?
  - What consequences are tolerable?
  - What is HFD willing to afford?
  - What is the recommended scheduling model for training?
  - Is training worth placing units out of service for training?
Expressions of Need

- 73 Line of Duty Deaths (1838 through 2017)
  - 34 deaths from vehicle accidents
  - 2 during training
  - 14 cardiac deaths
  - 23 incident-driven deaths, with a dozen occurring between 2000 and 2013
    - 13 of the last 17 line of duty deaths are traumatic and happened while fighting fire.
    - Almost every NIOSH recommendation can be achieved through training.

- Tax Day Flood, Hurricane Harvey, and other natural disasters
- Interagency cooperation
- Response to Active Shooter and Threats of Violence
- Improved prehospital emergency medical care
- Department of Justice and EEOC action
- Cancer Awareness/Preventative Measures/PPE Selection and Care
Return on Investment

- Common knowledge in academia and technical education that face-to-face training is the most effective educational platform.
- Every training initiative in HFD has reflected improved performance.
  - Multi-company HAZMAT and water supply drill.
    - Reduced incidence of water supply issues on the fire ground.
  - Modern Fire Dynamics
    - Zero line of duty deaths and increased efficiency on the fire ground.
  - Fire Ground Survival (FGS)
    - Increased recognition of mayday conditions
    - Immediate resolution of the mayday situation
  - Traffic Incident Management (TIM)
    - Improved roadway and interagency operations
- Reduced incidence of cancer and liability.
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Biannual Training Schedule

- 15 frontline units out of service (less than 6%).
  - No more than one heavy apparatus out of service per fire district.
  - Even distribution of out-of-service EMS units.
  - The goal of not depleting a fire district of fire or EMS resources is achieved.
  - Consideration given to Fleet’s preventative maintenance program.
  - This number represents less than 9% of HFD’s response units.
  - The Fire and EMS response matrix is respected.
  - Allows capacity to meet immediate training needs.
  - Multi-company drills may continue (10% out of service for training).

- 130 days of training at 26 weeks.
- 40 students per class.
- Four hours fire instruction; four hours EMS instruction.
- Additional training required by administration or Human Resources.
Acknowledgements

- HFD Command Staff
- District Chief Clay Fritsch, HFD
- Senior Captain Jeff King, HFD
- Carl Flores, Chief of New Orleans EMS
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- National Fire Protection Association
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
- San Antonio Fire Department
- State Fire Marshal’s Office