

## FIREFIGHTER NEAR MISS

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

www.firefighternearmiss.com



### FIRE I NEAR MISS



WHERE LESSONS LEARNED BECOME LESSONS APPLIED

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### FIRE | NEAR MISS

#### WHERE LESSONS LEARNED BECOME LESSONS APPLIED



#### **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

The National Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System (Near Miss Reporting) was launched in 2005 at the direction of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) through funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG) and the Firemen's Fund Insurance Company. The concept of the program was to build a tool that could be used by firefighters to share the lessons derived from experiences that had the potential to cause bodily harm or property damage. Through the example of the airline industry, which has championed and proven the efficacy of analyzing nearmiss incidents, the fire service launched into this endeavor. The Near Miss Reporting System analyzes true incidents where firefighters faced serious injury or death and through a fortunate break in the chain of events eluded such a fate. To date, the program has successfully collected and shared over 5,000 of these stories.

The Near Miss Reporting System is built on simple yet powerful ideas with regards to reporting. The system is anonymous, voluntary and completely nonpunitive for whoever submits. Anonymity allows for security to those reporting, ensuring no persecution comes from fire-service peers. The voluntary aspect gives reports stronger meaning. Firefighters who report a near miss feel strongly enough that their report has merit that they took the time to submit. The nonpunitive approach helps to institute a change in fire-service culture. Too often, written disciplinary statements gave the perception that such incidents should not be shared. Because of that belief, valuable lessons weren't shared. The Near Miss Reporting System supports what today's fire service knows as crew resource management, which promotes a change towards a culture of safety.

Each submitted report is meticulously reviewed for content. Simple errors, such as spelling and grammar, are addressed, and subject-matter experts (SMEs) use submitted contact information to further understand the story and the author's intent. Callbacks and emails are

### CONTACT US

#### **National Firefighter Near Miss Program**

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www.FirefighterNearMiss.com

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Photo provided by the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

regularly used to gather more information for improved content and for analytics. The SMEs are highly trained to identify any reports that may be erroneous and to confirm that the stories are published in a manner that doesn't place blame, but emphasizes lessons to be learned.

As the program has grown, the definition of a near miss has become more diverse. Submitted reports have included equipment damages and firefighter injuries. With these reports come exceptional stories containing dynamic lessons learned that allow readers to identify the exact chain of thought and better understand the decision-making that led to the incident. Understanding where the author is coming from and realizing that this incident "could happen to me" allows readers to grasp the concepts of the lessons portrayed.

As the report library steadily increases, so does the ability for the Near Miss Reporting System to give back. To date, over 9,000 subscribers receive the *Report of the Week*. Our decision-making training sponsored by AlphaTrac Crisis Decision Making continues to use near misses to boost Recognition-Primed Decision Making modeling and training. We have even developed a local system for fire departments to further analyze their own near misses and dive further into trending to improve risk-management principles in their departments.



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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A near miss is defined as an unintentional, unsafe occurrence that could have resulted in an injury, fatality or property damage if not for a fortunate break in the chain of events.

### WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE NEAR MISS REPORTING SYSTEM?

The mission of the Near Miss Reporting System is to reduce firefighter injury and death by helping the fire service apply local lessons globally.

# WHY SHOULD FIRE AND EMS PERSONNEL SHARE THEIR NEAR-MISS EXPERIENCES?

By reporting near misses, other firefighters, EMS providers and command staff can learn from situations experienced by their peers. Those who report near misses through this system play an active role in contributing to the safety of others in the emergency services community.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO SUBMIT A REPORT?

On average, it takes 10–20 minutes to complete a report. This depends on the complexity of the event and the level of detail the reporter is willing to provide.

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A REPORT IS SUBMITTED?

Each report is reviewed by two separate fire service SMEs who remove any identifying information to protect submitters' identities and analyze the report for safety hazards. The report is then published and may be used to develop training materials, such as *Report of the Week*. This process may take up to a week, unless an extensive review is required.

### CAN I SEARCH ON OTHER INCIDENTS RELATED TO A SPECIFIC TOPIC?

Yes; use our search function to seek out others' reports related to various topics, incident types, etc.

## DO REPORTERS NEED TO INCLUDE EVERY LITTLE DETAIL?

Any information you can provide will be helpful to the extent that you share a lesson learned or have a tip for others. The system allows you to skip any question by just jumping ahead to those you're willing or able to answer.

### WHO HAS ACCESS TO THE NEAR MISS REPORTING SYSTEM?

The Near Miss Reporting System is publicly accessible to all. Keep in mind that before an incident or event gets posted, it's vetted (reviewed) by a panel of fire service SMEs to ensure the validity and anonymity of reports.

### How is the Near Miss Reporting System funded?

The Near Miss Reporting System is managed by the IAFC, a nonprofit organization that represents the leadership of the fire and emergency service, for the benefit of the entire fire service. The program is funded by grants, contracts and revenue generated from any sales of training modules.



Photo provided by the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

### REPORTER DATA

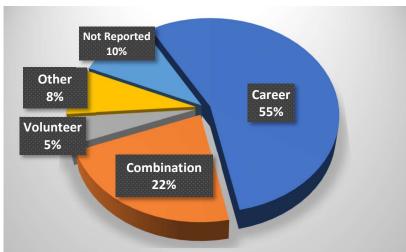
#### www.FirefighterNearMiss.com

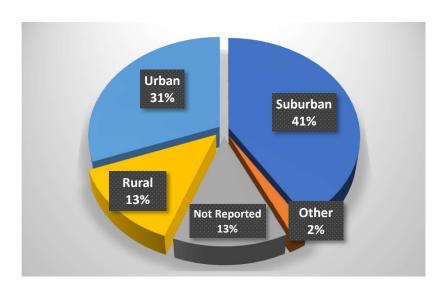


#### REPORTER DEPARTMENT TYPE

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

Reporters select the type that best describes their department. If the department doesn't fit any of the descriptions, they can select Other and enter a description.





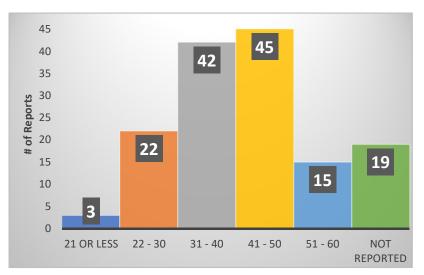
#### REPORTER SERVICE AREA

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016 Reporters self-declare the area their fire

department serves.

#### AGE AT TIME OF EVENT

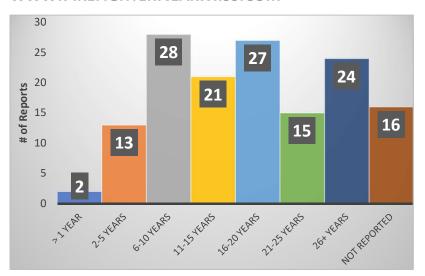
Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016
Reporters select their age range.



### REPORTER DATA

#### www.FirefighterNearMiss.com





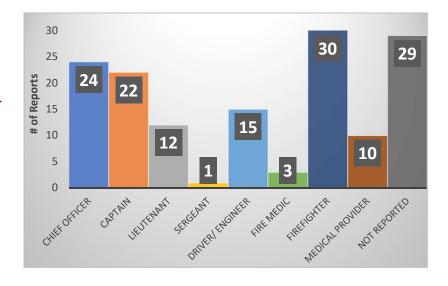
#### YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

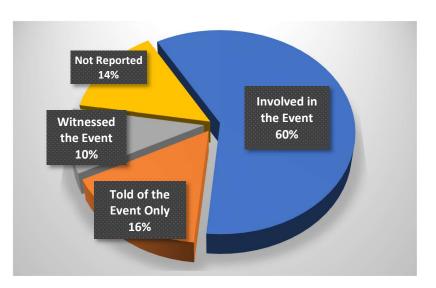
Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

Reporters select their fire service years of experience. The experience levels are based on the traditional service time of a firefighter.

#### RANK/ JOB

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016 Reporters select their job/rank.





#### **EVENT PARTICIPATION**

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016
Reporters identify their level of involvement in the event.



### **EVENT DATA**

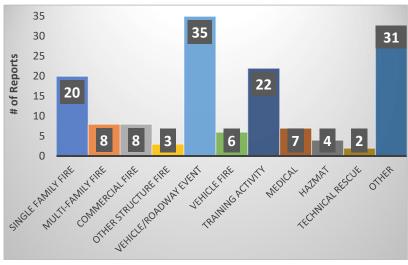
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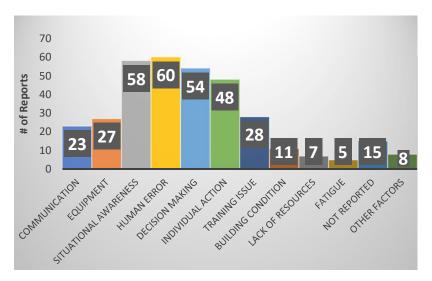


#### **EVENT TYPE**

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

Reporters select the type that best describes the event where their near miss occurred. If the event doesn't fit any of the descriptions, they can select Other and enter a description.





#### **CONTRIBUTING FACTORS**

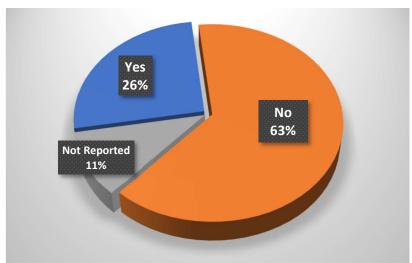
Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

Reporters can select contributing factors they feel pertinent to their event. Factors are based on frequently encountered terms in standard injury-reporting systems and human-factors research. Multiple factors may be selected per report.

### WAS DEPARTMENT PROPERTY DAMAGED?

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

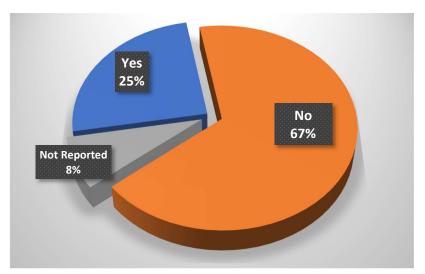
Reporters can select if fire department equipment or property was damaged due to the incident. If selecting Yes, they can further describe the damage.



### **EVENT DATA**

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### **WERE FIREFIGHTERS INJURED?**

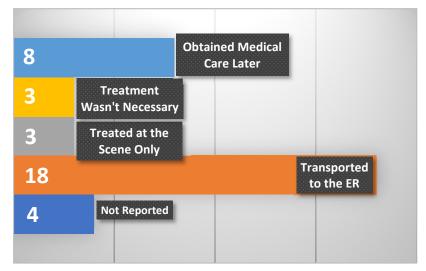
Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

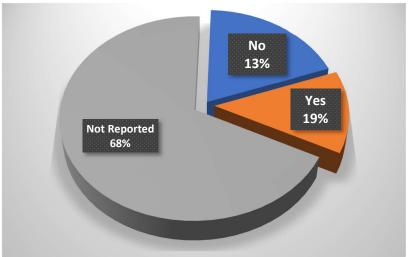
Reporters can select if firefighters sustained injuries during the event. If selecting Yes, they can further describe the injuries.

### WHAT WERE THE OUTCOMES IF INJURED?

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

If firefighters sustained injuries during the event, what were the outcomes of those firefighters' injuries?





### DID THE INJURY WARRANT LOST TIME?

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

If firefighters sustained injuries during the event, was the injured firefighter unable to return to work or require time off due to the injuries sustained?

### **EVENT DATA**

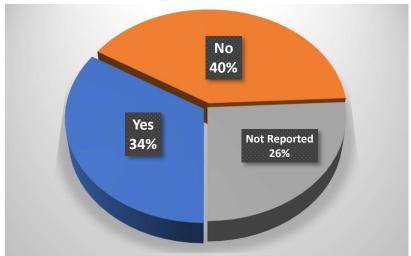
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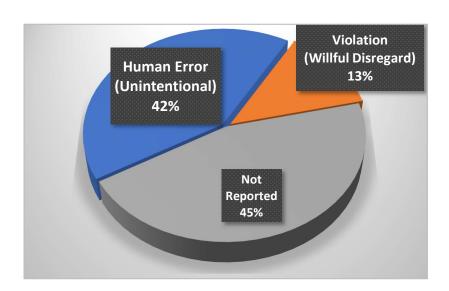


### WERE UNSAFE ACTS PERFORMED?

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

Did firefighters fail to follow best practices, standard operating procedures or guidelines?





#### THE UNSAFE ACT

Based on Near Miss Reports Submitted Only in 2016

If an unsafe act occurred, the reporter may select a categorization of either human error or a direct and willful disregard to best practices, operating guidelines or procedures.

### **NEAR MISS REPORTS**

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### **POWERLINE DANGERS FROM THE SCENE**

The tones drop and the fire station clears for the call. We respond quickly and safely gathering any piece of information available along the way. At the scene, with the initial size-up done, a report is sent with assignments for each responding crew. Everything is taken into account to identify every possible situation. During the 360 survey, we notice hazards and identify features that can become threats. Newly revealed information is broadcast to responders to improve situational awareness at the scene.

Out of all the hazards on the emergency scene, powerlines stand out as always present and dangerous. Quickly searching the database at Firefighternearmiss.com, the National Report Database revealed no fewer than 140 nearmiss reports that involve electrical lines. That equates to an average of more than 12 reports each year since we began collecting reports in 2005. The common contributing factors indicate that powerlines are frequently an unseen hazard, crews are complacent about their surroundings or they aren't situationally aware. Occasionally, as represented in the featured report excerpt, the crew involved in the incident let their guard down after the event was over.

### **EVENT DESCRIPTION:**GROUND LADDERS CONTACT POWERLINES

My fire department was operating on a working fire in the middle building of a row of apartments. Vertical ventilation was required, but overhead wires blocked access to the roof for the aerial apparatus. Firefighters deployed a 35' aluminum extension ladder to access the roof and perform ventilation operations. The ladder was properly placed; it was noted that wires were overhead but they were a sufficient distance from the ladder for deployment. After the ventilation operation was concluded and the fire was declared under control, a crew was instructed to remove the extension ladder.

The removal crew didn't heed the previous warning about overhead wires and they didn't properly check for overhead clearance before pulling the ladder away from the building. The upper fly section of the ladder made contact with a high-voltage line, charging the ladder with electricity. The two firefighters holding the base section were electrocuted. Both firefighters were knocked to the ground, and the ladder safely fell back against the structure. The firefighters were treated on scene and transported to the local hospital for further evaluation.



Photo provided by the Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System

#### FROM LESSONS LEARNED

Complacency can be deadly. Once the fire was under control, everyone calmed down and didn't treat the scene with the proper respect it commands. In doing that, they put themselves in a very dangerous situation where a life could have easily been lost.

#### **BEST PRACTICES**

Reports in the database involving powerlines include events at fire alarms, wildland/brush fires and traffic accidents. Powerline events are also the nature of the call where adverse weather is concerned. Although a line may look harmless lying on the sidewalk, the dormant power to cause damage may only be waiting for an opportunity. The general rule is to consider every line charged with lethal electricity until cleared by power-company technicians.

The firefighters in the featured report were treated and released from the hospital a few hours after this event. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health database at the Center for Disease Control holds reports with a much worse outcome. A brief search of the database for line-of-duty deaths revealed 10 reports where firefighters lost their lives to electrocution hazards at the scene of an incident.

For more information, search https://www.CDC.gov/niosh/fire/default.html.



### **NEAR MISS REPORTS**



### **VIOLENT PATIENT ENCOUNTERS ON THE RISE**

2016 brought several reports dealing with violent or combative citizens. By using the "Browse Reports" feature and doing a search for *combative, violent, weapon* or any other relevant term, you can access many near-miss reports on this or other topics. The following excerpts are taken directly from reports submitted to <a href="https://www.firefighternearmiss.com/">www.firefighternearmiss.com/</a>.

### **Event Descriptions:**Drug Overdose Patient Turns Violent

Firefighters were called to a home to a teenage male, possible drug overdose. On arrival, they found a 275-pound combative patient. Firefighters retreated, trying to obtain an ETA for police. None was given and no communication was available to the police unit dispatched. The patient obtained two kitchen knives. The father then rushed inside and began fighting with the patient. Responders also rushed back to rescue the patient's father. The patient then attacked fire personnel with knives. After a violent struggle, the patient was restrained on the front porch. No injuries to any parties as sheriff units arrived.

#### **Occupant Presents a Weapon During Investigation**

Firefighters responded to a report of flooding in a home by a downstairs neighbor. On arrival, the water faucets in both the kitchen and the bathroom were left in the on position, resulting in the flooding. Approaching a closet, a woman rushed out, screaming for responders to get out. She was highly combative. She reached under a pillow and produced a large knife, throwing it at firefighters, luckily missing.

#### **Combative Patient Armed with a Knife**

Firefighters were called for a man with difficulty breathing. On scene with police and EMS, responders entered the room to find the patient combative with altered mental status. Firefighters approached the patient to provide care and the patient pulled a knife. He took a swing and almost stabbed a member of the fire department. The police used mace to control the patient. No one in the room could see or breathe well due to the mace and the patient still had the knife. He was controlled and taken to the hospital.

#### **False Call Leads to Violent Patient Reaction**

Crews responded to a report of a person having difficulty breathing, called in by a relative not on scene. Several contact attempts were made, knocking on the door and calling to the patient. Two firefighters and one medic circled to the back of the house, gaining entry through a

rear door. Firefighters continued to call out, identifying themselves. The firefighters turned the corner to find the barrel of a shotgun pointing at them. All personnel retreated and stood by at a safe distance until police arrived to clear the scene. The patient refused fire department aid and wasn't having difficulty breathing. There was no knowledge of the relative calling for help.

#### **From Lessons Learned**

An increased number of reports have been submitted to Firefighter Near Miss that deal with patients having weapons or exhibiting aggressive behavior. These situations can occur on any call, not just when we've been alerted to the potential danger. It's critically important to maintain a high degree of situational awareness every time we encounter a patient or respond to any request for help.

Communication is also vital. Communication between police and fire personnel allows for a common goal and understanding of various roles and expectations, while communication with family and bystanders encourages a smooth transition from a hectic emergency to the care the patient needs.

#### **Best Practices**

It's imperative that we maintain vigilance on every call and don't let our guard down. This vigilance begins with dispatch, who must pass on pertinent information regarding hazards associated with the caller's story or previous problems at the address. Police should be notified early when appropriate. When the dispatcher alerts us to a potential danger, we can secure and stage the scene properly. Patients with altered levels of mentation can exhibit unpredictable, violent behavior. When the altered level of consciousness is a result of illegal drug use, we should suspect other illegal activities where weapons may be present. Even a call as routine as a welfare check can turn into a dangerous situation. Caution should be made and a police presence should be requested anytime forcing entry into a house is necessary. It's important to request that potential problem addresses be flagged in dispatch notes for future reference. By doing so we can ensure that our next response will alert responders in advance. If staffing allows, a member of the crew should stand back to maintain overall situational awareness, functioning as an overall scene safety officer. If you're assigned to treatment, avoid tunnel vision and alert the rest of the crew to any dangers they may be unaware of.



### **NEAR MISS REPORTS**



#### **Best Practices (cont)**

Relationships with law enforcement are very important. The time to get to know the local police is not in the heat of battle, but rather at the station over a cup of coffee or during a mutual training exercise. We must function together as a team and even be able to reach law enforcement via radio in an emergency.

We can't avoid every potentially dangerous situation or avoid everyone who would intentionally do us harm, but by maintaining situational awareness on every call we have a better chance of ensuring we return home safely.

# DID YOU HAVE A SIMILAR EXPERIENCE? SUBMIT YOUR STORY

www.FirefighterNearMiss.com



Photo provided by the International Association of Fire Chiefs



### **NEAR MISS REPORTS**



### **NATURAL GAS EMERGENCIES – HIDDEN DANGERS**

Natural gas incidents are a common response for many fire departments. Most of the time, they lead to changing of alarm batteries or control of leaking gas powered appliances. Very rarely do they create a catastrophic event. Rarity leads to complacency. Firefighter Near Miss received several reports regarding natural gas in 2016; we highlighted a report regarding one of these. This focus is to help combat complacency in 2017, averting a catastrophic event for firefighters on a typically mundane response.

### **Event Description:**Mercaptan Leak Injures Three Firefighters

Firefighters responded to a call for an outside odor of natural gas. The first engine arrived to a strong odor of natural gas; the crew decided to grab their gas-monitoring and -metering equipment to begin their investigation. Crews were led to a pumping station where the odor was the strongest. They made entry onto the property with no SCBA, just bunker gear, and began to obtain minimal readings of H2S and a slightly increased rate reading on the leak detector. One firefighter walked to the back side of the pump station and was met with a wall of mercaptan, immediately bringing the firefighter to their knees.

The firefighter crawled to safety, and other responders exited safely. Two other firefighters donned full PPE, including SCBA, but didn't go on air until they walked into the same mercaptan release. It wasn't until then that they applied their mask regulator. The crew found liquid leaking from a valve. They shut the valve, but it didn't stop the leak. They also retreated to a safe area. Dispatch was notified to contact the gas company and start the hazmat team for a leaking tank.

On arrival, the hazmat team performed a recon and located the leaking valve. They also were unable to isolate the leak and retreated to be deconned. A gas company official arrived to coordinate their special response team (transmission group) to manage the incident. The transmission group arrived and had to shut down the pumping station and flare-off the excess product. It was discovered that firefighters shut off a relief valve and not the mercaptan line as they originally thought.

The exposed firefighters were medically evaluated at the scene, given oxygen, decontaminated and taken to the hospital, where they were treated and released. The gas company personnel informed responders of a potentially

lethal problem that could have occurred. If the firefighters had opened a door to a quonset-hut building where the mercaptan is mixed, they would have been killed instantly due to the concentration of H2S that was present.

#### From Lessons Learned

This report is a perfect example of the *normalization of deviance* in the fire service, where the continuous use of unacceptable behavior becomes the norm and may be then considered acceptable. In this day, with the technology, PPE and SCBAs available to firefighters, no one should investigate any hazmat call without putting full PPE and SCBA in place and going on-air.

Investigations of natural gas, hydrogen sulfide (AKA sewer gas) and carbon monoxide are bread-and-butter calls. The reporter clearly states that due to a lack of adherence to a best practice, firefighters were injured.

Structural firefighting gear and SCBAs will afford firefighters protection for some chemicals in the cities we serve as long as there aren't fluorine or corrosive gasses in the air.

This call's outcome would have been very different, with minimal risk to firefighters, if they had donned their PPE and SCBA upon initial entry for recon. There are several lessons learned and take away points from this report:

- Incidents involving hazardous materials demand acute awareness and for first responders to don the appropriate level of PPE and SCBA.
- Preplanning and better understanding the unexpected hazards in your response area pay dividends in firefighter health and safety.
- Hazmat incidents should establish a safety officer early to avert a similar situation to this.
- Personnel must be accountable for knowing when to utilize their full PPE and SCBA. There's a high level of trust with both incident commanders and the citizens we serve that we'll operate as trained professionals to protect our communities.
- Establish a line-of-sight RIT when sending a crew into an IDLH atmosphere.
- Ensure that the mission to be carried out is understood by all stakeholders and have preentry briefings to clarify and validate the plan.



### **NEAR MISS REPORTS**





Photo provided by the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

### **Best Practices (cont)**

First arriving units that aren't hazmat technicians need to respect the discipline of hazmat response and treat these calls to their level of training. You can't see toxicity with your eyes and you need to use meters to determine if an IDLH atmosphere exists. IDLH should never come into play with first responders. Always wear your SCBA with mask in place to avert a situation like the one that occurred in this report. Understand your opponent—in this case, the mercaptan. Utilize proven resources like the *DOT Emergency Response Guidebook, NIOSH Pocket Guide,* WISER or HazMatIQ to predict present hazards and counter with a sound and deliberate plan to survey the scene.

The IAFC provides hazmat training through their Hazmat Fusion Center at <a href="www.HazmatFC.org">www.HazmatFC.org</a>. Utilize these online training resources to ensure that you are protecting the health and safety of yourself and your department. The International Association of Fire Fighters also provides a myriad of hazmat training for first responders, including First Responder Operations, Hazmat Technician and Emergency Response to Terrorism. Check out these programs at <a href="www.IAFF.org/et/HW/">www.IAFF.org/et/HW/</a>.





PICTURES OR VIDEOS

They Are Easy To Attach To Your Report
Send us your Near Miss
pics and videos at
FirefighterNearMiss.com



### **New Resources**

### AND UPDATES



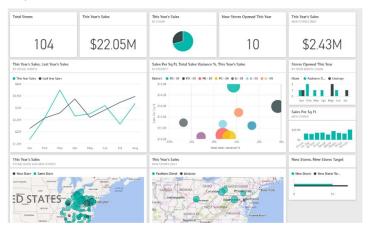
### **NATIONAL** Firefighter Near Miss at A LOCAL Level

#### The Request

Since the inception of the Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System, local agencies have been requesting a tool that will allow them to collect, process and analyze near misses within their own agencies. Through extensive product development, the IAFC is working to bring this request to life in 2017 through the Insight360 Event Reporting Tool. This program allows for individual departments to collect, process and analyze a range of risk-management events, including near misses, firefighter injuries and department property-damage accidents. These instances can then seamlessly be shared anonymously at both the local and national levels.

#### **How It Works**

This program starts by utilizing your department's risk-management processes and implementing them into a progressive risk-management interview process. Unlike other risk-management programs, Insight360 strives to fit into your current procedure, not require a change in your operations to meet the system. By having our SMEs work with your department, all necessary questions are built into the system to ensure your current documentation requirements are met.



After a firefighter enters a near miss, injury or accident through the cloud-based, smart question set, the system allows for a customized review process, like that of the National Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System, based on the individual requests of your department. These reports can be processed in a one-step group review, such as in a safety committee, or in a multi-step review process that's



individualized to follow a specific firefighter's chain of command. All this is done to meet or exceed federal, state and local guidelines and regulations.

Upon completion of the report, individuals can conduct extensive data mining to identify the trends within their own department. This can help identify various areas that need safety improvement. The reports can also be easily shared through a powerful after action application to communicate the necessary lessons learned and best practices, preventing similar events on other shifts or at other stations within the organization. A library of these reports is kept for further research projects in the department.

Finally, these reports are seamlessly shared to the National Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System. The reports are still sent through a strenuous review process to ensure anonymity of the department and individuals involved before being published. These reports are then shared so *lessons learned become lessons applied!* 

#### **For More Information**

If you'd like more information about the Insight360 Event Report Tool, please email <a href="mailto:Insight360@IAFC.org">Insight360@IAFC.org</a> and a subject-matter expert will contact you to answer any questions you have.





### **NEW RESOURCES**

### AND UPDATES



### <u>AlphaACT Applications – Decision-Making Training</u>

#### **Based on Real Lessons Learned**

Through an innovative partnership with AlphaTRAC, an organization focused on crisis decision training, Near Miss is applying the lessons learned from the experiences of the public-safety community to a new training technology, AlphaACT applications. Each month, AlphaTRAC will offer a free training scenario that focuses in on the key lessons learned that were identified by the Near Miss Program.

#### How does it work with Near Miss?

Experiences are gathered using the Near Miss Reporting System. Common lessons learned are built into focused training themes in Near Miss. Scenarios are developed by AlphaTRAC in the AlphaACT system that match these training themes. Experiences gathered by Near Miss are automatically part of the AlphaACT experience database and will help users build an effective course of action. Registered users can access the training-of-the-month scenario directly on the AlphaACT Applications website.



### What are AlphaACT applications?

Based on the decision-making approach most often used by experienced crisis managers, AlphaACT applications employ pattern recognition engines, graphical user interfaces and a database of scenarios to teach users how to recognize and apply past experiences (their own and those of others) to rapidly changing crisis conditions.

#### **AlphaACT® Fire**

AlphaACT FIRE is a web-based training solution that helps fireground incident commanders improve their decision-making skills in the high stress, chaotic environment of a fire response. Based on the recognition-primed decision model, AlphaACT FIRE helps firefighters learn how to operate under conditions of time pressure and uncertainty, using the decision-making method favored by experienced fireground commanders. The system teaches users how to recognize and apply past experiences to find a solution for the problem at hand. At the heart of AlphaACT FIRE is an extensive knowledge base of firefighter experiences primarily acquired through the Near Miss program and its experience-gathering system, now powered by AlphaTRAC's XCapture™ technology. AlphaACT FIRE scenarios will be part of the free training-of-the-month process.



To find out more about AlphaACT FIRE and other decision-making training from AlphaACT, visit <a href="https://www.Alphatrac.com/alphaact.aspx">www.Alphatrac.com/alphaact.aspx</a>



### **New Resources**

### AND UPDATES



### **Other Various Resources**

#### **Report of the Week**

Each week, a relevant report submitted by you, the Near Miss user, is highlighted by the Firefighter Near Miss Team and emailed out to our subscribers. These reports are emphasized by our various SMEs who add their own takeaways and leading practices from the report. The SMEs also share other related reports to the topic and outside resources where individuals can learn more on the issue. The Report of the Week is primed to use at tabletop trainings or simply in leading a kitchen table or tailboard discussion on various aspects of firefighter safety and/or response. If you want to subscribe to the Report of the Week, visit www.firefighternearmiss.com/ROTWSignup.

#### **Implementation Kit**

Firefighter Near Miss has updated our ever-so-popular implementation kit for fire departments. In this kit, we'll give you sample operating guidelines from departments currently well-established in the concepts of Near Miss Reporting. It gives step-by-step directions with how to start a safety culture change through promoting near-miss reporting and working with both your volunteer firefighters or union representation and fire-service administration to clarify the intent of near-miss reporting. This will further nurture a culture that promotes the discussion of human error through crew resource management and the humanfactors analysis classification system. Training bundles are included to also allow all ranks to understand all that FirefighterNearMiss.com can offer them. Send us an email at NearMiss@IAFC.org to request your department's Near Miss Implementation Kit.

### **Grouped Reports**

Are you having a hard time searching through the thousands of near-miss reports to find just what you need to build your training or improve your research project? We're here to help. Send an email to <a href="MearMiss@IAFC.org">NearMiss@IAFC.org</a> and we'll send you a grouping of reports that meets your needs. At Near Miss, we can do the research for you! We're just an email away!

#### **Equipment Reports**

Firefighter Near Miss continues to be good stewards to both emergency responders and the manufacturing companies that provide the equipment needed to respond. Any submitted report that lists a specific manufacturer or model of equipment starts a rigorous process of working with both the submitter (if available) and the manufacturer to ensure that all proper information is shared with you. After collecting all necessary information, the equipment reports lead to safety bulletins sent out by manufacturers and published by the Firefighter Near Miss Team and may also result in changes or upgrades in design. These reports are also used by manufacturers to improve their training provided to customers to ensure the equipment is used and maintained properly. Browse "Equipment Reports" under our "Browse Reports" tab to find various equipment reports in our system.



Photo Provided by the Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System





### FIRE I NEAR MISS



WHERE LESSONS LEARNED BECOME LESSONS APPLIED

For any questions or for further information, please Email us at <a href="MearMiss@IAFC.org">NearMiss@IAFC.org</a>