



# RFD Training Newsletter

June 2016



## June Highlights

GPS Course for CICCS

RT-130 Make Up

Polling Sites Set-Up

Phoenix Fire – Jeff Case Instructor

(Garage & Attic Fires)

USAR Quarterly Drills

Social Media Class

Retiree & Day Staff Luncheon

USAR Table Top Drill

Fire Dept. History Luncheon

# The Pumpers Local



## Calculating Fire Flow

How much water do I need on this fire...Now!!

### Length x Width Divided by 3

Calculate the Square Footage of Building

Divide the Square Footage by 3

Estimate the Percentage Involved in Fire

Divide the percentage Involved

$60 \times 20 \div 3 \times 1$  (floor) = 400 gpm

100% involvement = 400 gpm

50% involvement = 200 gpm

25% involvement = 100 gpm



# The Pumpers Local

## Mayday Operations

### How will Fire Dispatch Assist?



## Mayday Activation (Firefighter down - Structure Fire)

<p><b>Dispatch receives Mayday Activation from the IC</b></p>	<p>Dispatcher acknowledges the Mayday Activation</p> <p>Dispatcher dedicates the Command Channel</p> <p>Dispatcher starts (2) Additional Alarms. Advise units to respond and remain on Command Channel for Assignment.</p> <p>Advise BC - That Dispatch will monitor the Command Channel, and Emergency Ch.16.</p> <p><b>Do Not</b> Activate Marker Tones (Beeps every 10 seconds) This covers radio traffic</p> <p>Dispatcher Starts Priority Dispatching</p> <p>Dispatcher Starts Move-Ups – Cover Core Stations 1, 2,3,7, 9</p> <p>Dispatch enters Mayday Activation – Firefighter Down in Carrots (Dispatch category for Priority Traffic on CAD)</p>
<p><b>Markers – Every 5 Minutes (Not normal 15 min Markers)</b></p>	<p>Dispatch will give 5 minute markers</p> <p>The IC will give an update regarding the down firefighter/firefighters every 5 minutes</p>
<p><b>Notifications</b></p>	<p>Advise BC – That Dispatch will notify Riverside Fire Department Overhead.</p> <p>First Call – On Duty Coverage Chief. (Advise the Chief to make all remaining notifications).</p> <p>No names will be given over the radio, and radio traffic must be limited.</p>

**Notes:** The CAD has been programmed to add (2) AMR Units to a Mayday Activation.  
 15 min markers will soon be given every 15 minutes from time call was received.  
 Marker Tones (10 sec beeps) cover radio traffic and will be discontinued.



# Working on the Truck



## What is “Brown Smoke”

**Brown Smoke indicates that structural members are starting to burn.**

**Top Picture** - Reading the smoke as a truck company captain will allow you to evaluate your priorities = risk vs. gain, location of fire, offensive vs. defensive cuts, and indicators for possible roof compromise.

### Colors of Smoke:

Black/Thick/Fast = Heat & Explosive

Black/Thin/Fast = Flame is near

White w/Speed = Hot but fire is distant

Brown = Unfinished wood being heated

**Bottom Picture** - Notice the color of smoke earlier in the fire.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d1Q63ATrfJQ>





# Working on the Truck



## Firefighters Fall Through Roof

“Incident Commanders Held Accountable”

### *County of Los Angeles FD, California*

05/21/ 2016 - abandoned casino  
*collapse occurs*

***Approx. 21 minutes***

4-Firefighters fall through a roof – Burn Injuries

Lack of coordination & communication between interior and personnel assigned roof ventilation

Delays in forcible entry; tactical decision making not keeping pace with the evolving fire

A command disconnect between task/tactics and the IC's strategies

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xds5O4p2iek>



# Mentoring & Promotional Section

## Training

### A

## Rookie

### Tips for the Company Officer



To know something, you must be able to Read, Comprehend, Apply, and Explain. Please see some helpful tips below from captains who have successfully trained our probationary firefighters.



Capt. Stanford

I provide my probationaries a schedule for the entire 6 months on their first day. This schedule identifies when all of their spiels are due, IFSTA chapter outlines are to be submitted, SOP's, Practical application knowledge, etc. I plan it out so that the IFSTA material, practical apps, and spiels all build on each other. This greatly reduces the anxiety of the probationary.

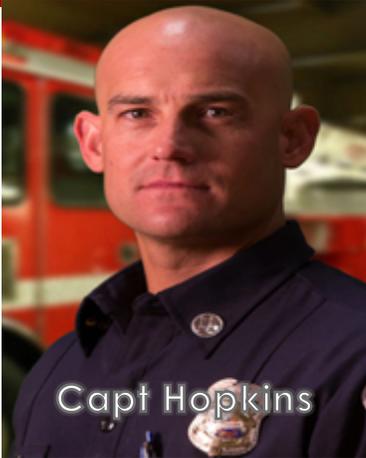
In addition to this schedule, I do not let my crew quiz them on material that is not due. For example: if they have not been required to present their hydrant spiel, you can't quiz them on the shear bolts. Instead, I expect my crew to go out to a hydrant and teach them. I do not tolerate "look that up and get back to me", unless it has been required.

Once the material has been covered on the schedule, then it is fair game for quizzing at any time.

Captain Stanford



# Mentoring & Promotional Section



Don't have any expectations on day 1, think of them as a "clean slate". They will probably have had previous experience but don't take any of that for granted. Remember to start at square one and only advance forward as fast as the rookie can keep up.

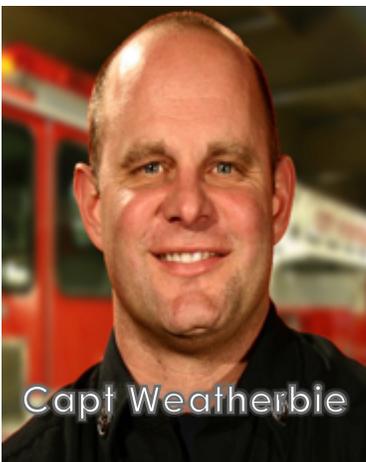
Constant feedback, both good and bad, is very important. How can you expect a rookie to make improvements if you are not communicating with them? I sit my rookie down each night to review the day and go over progress notes. Its time consuming but the rookie will always know where they stand and where they need to make improvements.

I like to remind myself and my crew that we are the rookie's example of work ethic. The rookie is like a sponge and absorbing so much information. They reflect the good and bad in all of us. I will never ask my rookie to perform a task that I am not also prepared to do. This is our opportunity to instill pride and ownership in our rookies. Hopefully they will pass that example on to another new hire some day.

I believe it's important to teach or rookies how to be self-sufficient, fully function firefighters...don't teach to the test. If you've done your job they will smoke the test because you prepared them for anything.

I prepare a training calendar each month with all drills and spiels they will be required to know or perform. This is helpful to the rookie because it gives them a focus and path. We pile so much information on them at the beginning that it can be overwhelming. They will easily drown without guidance.

Captain Hopkins



My beginning lessons always begin with the four L's! Listen, learn, lead and love your people. This includes our beloved rookies.

I train with "baby steps." I teach our rookies to walk through each and every scenario possible without turnouts, but with helmet and gloves. This shows when our rookies are fatigued; they can remember the inclusive steps, which are entailed with their performance standards. The process picks up after the first month when our crewmembers become encumbered with wearing our turnouts and the hard work begins. The lesson is simple; walk before you run, because all the value is found within the walk!

Captain Weatherbie

# Mentoring & Promotional Section

44 Million  
Invested

# R.O.I

132 Million  
Property Value  
Saved to Date

## Whats the publics Return on Investment?



Tax Payers fund the fire department's budget, which equals an average \$44 Million per year in the City of Riverside. What is the cost for an All Risk Department? How can we justify needing \$44 million a year? What are the taxpayers Return on Investment?

**What is the value of a Human Life?** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and many economic theories value a human life at approximately \$7.5 million dollars. The City of Riverside Fire Department protects Life, Property, and the Environment, and will put a firefighters life at risk to save the life of any citizen of the City of Riverside.

How many lives does the City of Riverside Fire Department save annually? Professional Firefighters, Constant Staffing, and Modern Equipment will allow Lives, Property, and the Environment of the City of Riverside to be protected at all times.

**Emergency Medical Services** – Average 10 lives saved per month. This includes cardiac arrests, and STEMI's (Myocardial Infarction /Heart Attacks). Value = \$75 million per month.

**Prevention & Property Conservation** – In 2016 RFD will inspect hundreds of buildings to prevent fires and enforce fire code regulations for life safety. This year the RFD has responded to numerous working fires. Combined Property Value saved including Property & Contents = \$132,568,940 as of May 30, 2016.

The Return on Investment is Priceless for the \$44 Million invested. Equipped with nothing less than professional firefighters, a highly trained workforce, and a proactive approach to life safety will preserve and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Riverside 24/7.

# Specialty Stations

## Calls Dropping in Ear

Why do calls automatically drop in the ear of a dispatcher



Fire

Dispatch



The dispatch center is designed to answer an incoming 911 call ASAP. Our dispatch center has a Viper Phone system feature called ACD, which stands for Automatic Call Drop. When the dispatcher logs into the system, they are logging into this queue, telling the system that they are ready to take calls. When working a radio position, the dispatcher will log on as that position, i.e. Fire, Ch2, Ch1, Supv or phones. The system looks for someone on phones first, then Ch2, then Fire and last Supv.

Therefore, when a call rings into the system, the system looks for the “ready” person that has been inactive longest, as listed in the previous order. Once it finds that person it drops the call into their ear without the Dispatcher having to touch a button. You may “unready” yourself when you are not available to take phone calls, i.e. restroom breaks, busy radio traffic, dedicated channel, etc.

An ACD (Automatic Call Drop) is another multi-tasking responsibility our fire dispatchers encounter along with monitoring routine traffic, dispatching calls, and command traffic during fires, traffic collisions and other emergency incidents.