

ON SCENE



August 2014



Join the **Sea of Blue**





DEAR FELLOW FIREFIGHTERS

The charred helmet is losing its status as a badge of fire service honor.

With all the credible research on exposure to carcinogens through firefighting and overhaul and the well-documented links to cancer, we firefighters should see the soot covering our gear and skin for what it is – a proven statistical threat to our lives. We know how to reasonably safeguard ourselves from the risk, but we don't always take these precautions or we don't hold those we supervise to the proper standard.

Said another way: we are killing ourselves.

Fortunately, the risks of dermal and respiratory exposure connected to firefighting/overhaul are becoming more publicized and legitimized. The facts are coming from respected sources like the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, major universities, and the International Association of Fire Fighters. This body of information is obligating our profession to face the truth.

Our department is facing the truth, and the administration desperately wants each of you to accept it.

Long before he was Operations Division Chief, Kurt Wilson forced this issue of exposure to carcinogens with help from Lt. Sheldon Todd Smith. Perhaps you attended their "Surviving Your Career" class and learned how fires can either kill us today through an accident or after retirement, when all the carcinogens we ingested or absorbed while not properly wearing our SCBA, masks and other PPE trigger some form of cancer.

The topic is rather ominous, but prevention is simple. It's even department policy. Wear your PPE during fire suppression, wear it during overhaul, and continue wearing it until you enter the rehab zone. JFRD is also enhancing firefighter health and safety through its W-4 Signal protocols in Instructional Bulletin 13-38.

Like so many firefighters, Wilson and Smith had long understood the rite-of-passage fascination with the burnt up helmet and singed gear. But at some point, the cancer-related deaths of JFRD retirees and other firefighters in their circles captured their attention. Both men taught those "Surviving Your Career" classes voluntarily and off duty for six weeks straight. They did so because they care about your health. They still do, and so does JFRD's administration.

Shouldn't you?

Sincerely,

Marty Senterfitt
Director/Fire Chief

On the Cover: Representing the two authorized uniforms for the Oct. 10 Fallen Firefighter Memorial March (L-R): Firefighter Carol Conrad, Firefighter Anthony Principe, Lt. Jesse Modican, Capt. Tony Doshier, Capt. Emory "Bunky" Ennis, Firefighter Francine Gallman, Firefighter Doug Lee, Eng. Yuriko Stowers. Story on page 3.

Oct. 10
10 a.m.



Firefighter Memorial March To Commemorate Local LODDs

Day in, day out, Hogan Street in downtown Jacksonville isn't all that remarkable. But on October 10 at 10 a.m., it will be.

And the more of you who are there in uniform, the more remarkable and memorable our department's Fallen Firefighter Memorial March will be. JFRD has marched through downtown before; most recently to recognize the FDNY members who perished on 9/11, but October's march – also known as the "Sea of Blue" – will commemorate Jacksonville's line of duty death firefighters like never before.

"Let's show our local families whose loved ones died in the line of duty that it's our loss, too, and that we care about and remember our fallen firefighters. And let's show those who work in downtown Jacksonville what 500 or 600 or more of us look like when we honor those who have sacrificed everything," said Kurt Wilson, Division Chief of Operations.

Participating firefighters will park at EverBank Field and buses will carry them to the staging area. Participants

will remain on each bus for staging instructions from incident command. Once in position and with help from a Jacksonville Sheriff's Office escort, participants will step off at 10 a.m. and proceed north on Hogan Street then turn east on Duval Street in front of City Hall. The route will then proceed north onto Laura Street until participants turn east on Ashley Street and continue marching until reaching Liberty Street and Fire Station 1 for the Fallen Firefighter Ceremony. The march will take approximately 40 minutes to complete, and this could change slightly given the number of participants, Wilson said.

There are two authorized uniforms for members: Class A with a dress coat or a long-sleeve Class C. If you haven't been issued a Class C long sleeve shirt, then a short sleeve is permitted. The intent is for participants to be in blue and as uniform in appearance as possible. No baseball caps will be allowed, but if you are marching in Class A uniform and have the authorized head cover, please wear it.

**"Let's show our
local families
whose loved ones
died in the line of
duty that it's our
loss, too, and that
we care about and
remember our
fallen firefighters."**

**Operations Division
Chief Kurt Wilson**

In addition to our members, the department has invited neighboring counties to join.

"If you're on the fence about participating, then you should see what Boston did in April," Wilson said. "I would encourage you to Google Boston's Lt. Edward Walsh. Thousands of firefighters attended his funeral. It was an amazing demonstration of respect and fraternity."



Director/Fire Chief Marty Senterfitt cuts through the ceremonial red tape at Station 62 with Mayor Alvin Brown and Council Member Matt Schellenberg whose district includes JFRD's newest addition.

JFRD, PPCs & ISO

JFRD's Plan to Improve Jacksonville's Fire Protection Rating

Station 62 in Bartram Springs is the first new station added to our system since 59 opened in the summer of 2008.

Back then, the strategy for planning and building new fire stations was improving response times and more evenly distributing our workload across the county. Those factors are still priorities, but the relevance of our community's Public Protection Classification (PPC), often referred to as the "ISO rating," is now another dimension of that strategy.

In early 2012, when the Insurance Services Office (ISO) revised the county's PPC to a split rating of 3/8b/10, it didn't take long for some Jacksonville homeowners and businesses to feel the effects – a doubling and tripling of property insurance premiums, even some policy cancellations.

That's because insurance companies took note of the increased risk ascribed to certain pockets in our county's outlying areas, such as Bartram Springs, which were downgraded from Duval County's longstanding PPC of 3 to the worst rating possible, a 10. Some areas shifted to an 8b because they were close enough to a fire station but not close enough to a hydrant.

Property owners were upset and confused. JFRD's administration saw an opportunity.

"ISO's audit and re-rating was a complex process, but it ultimately defined our fire suppression weaknesses in ISO's terms," said Director/Fire Chief Marty Senterfitt. "We now have a good understanding of what it takes to improve our

rating. We have a plan, and we are implementing some of the solutions.”

“JFRD will need funding to fully implement the plan, but the cost-to-benefit ratio is well worth the pursuit because our city will enjoy immense public safety benefits, and, collectively, the affected property owners could potentially realize millions of dollars in insurance savings each year,” Senterfitt added.

Known as the ISO Improvement Project, the plan is making its mark.

The Town of Baldwin was the first success story. In May 2013, JFRD created an ISO-recognized fire station by adding full-time staffing to Engine 46. The results: a PPC improvement from 10 to 3 within a few months and happier homeowners.

“I have seen my home owner's insurance policy either cancelled or increase in cost substantially... the reason given was an ISO rating of 10 [and] no fully-staffed fire station close enough to offer a reasonable response. This year, on renewing my home owner's insurance, I found a company that accepted Station 46 as a fully staffed professional fire station. The savings on my insurance are significant: before Station 46 the yearly premium [was] \$2,461.00, after Station 46, \$1,210.00,” wrote Eric Weatherly in a letter to Senterfitt.

Baldwin Mayor Stan Totman said there are numerous successes like Weatherly's. From the town's perspective, property insurance savings could approach \$1 million annually given the 700-plus households in Baldwin.

The re-rating also hit hard in Bartram Springs, according to resident Ron Gladden, who led a grass roots task force to learn what he could about ISO and to rally for Station 62's construction, knowing it would ultimately improve his community's PPC.

“In all cases, premiums doubled. Some premiums tripled and some policies were cancelled. We estimated the resulting impact to be \$200,000 per month to our community or \$46,500 per week,” Gladden wrote in his e-mail to the city's Public Works Department last spring.

Gladden based his calculations on the insurance policies covering the approximate 1,700 residences in the community's homeowners association.

Lt. Scott Kornegay, who has managed JFRD's ISO Improvement Project alongside Operations Division Chief Kurt Wilson for two years, has also crunched numbers related to ISO. In addition, he's conducted research and communicated with affected homeowners and myriad agencies that play a part in the project's success. These include the National Fire Services Office, a city-hired consulting firm that has expertise in ISO's latest scoring and audit process.

Through all this, Kornegay has created a cost-benefit context for JFRD's ambitious plan to upgrade our county's PPC to a rating of 2 or better within a couple of years.

“We worked with as many stakeholders as possible to access the relevant data,” Kornegay said. “Using that data allowed us to quantify the impact of the re-rating. That analysis then set



By strategically placing seven hose wagons, each loaded with 6,000 feet of supply hose, in affected areas, JFRD would have the ability to deploy a temporary water source with a volume that meets or exceeds ISO standards.



Lt. Scott Kornegay, who is managing JFRD's process to improve the county's Public Protection Classification or ISO rating, presents the project's progress to members of Duval Prepares, a local mitigation strategy group.

the stage for calculating cost and benefit projections, which are crucial for justifying the overall ISO Improvement Project.”

For example, data analysis revealed that the ISO re-rating increased insurance premiums on average between \$1,200 and \$1,600 for each homeowner in affected areas.

Baldwin's success has already proven that the insurance hike trend can be reversed. That effect is expected to be mirrored in Bartram Springs thanks to Station 62, but the ISO Improvement Project's solutions extend beyond adding fire stations and not all of them require additional funding.

Working with JEA and the city's ITD GIS mapping workgroup, Kornegay and several light-duty firefighters compared JEA's hydrant database with JFRD's hydrant database. They discovered 270 hydrants that were not included in the records which the ISO field staff reviewed during their audit in 2011. This discovery translates into a PPC upgrade from 8b to 3 in affected areas and could save the homeowners in those areas

approximately \$5.2 million annually in insurance premiums. Reconciling the two databases is ongoing, and it's not costing any additional dollars.

Another solution with widespread effect is establishing an additional water supply and delivery system through a network of hose wagons. This network will address the approximate 23,000 properties that are beyond 1,000 feet of a hydrant and/or beyond 5 road miles of an ISO-recognized fire station. By strategically placing seven hose wagons, each loaded with 6,000 feet of supply hose, in affected areas, JFRD would have the ability to deploy a temporary water source with a volume that meets or exceeds ISO standards. Several rural fire departments have successfully employed the concept, according to Skip Starling, director of the National Fire Services Office.

Implementing the seven hose wagons, combined with the proximity of the known 270 fire hydrants, could save homeowners in the affected areas approximately \$21 million annu-

ally in insurance premiums. The initial cost of converting spare rescue units into hose wagons is \$517,200 and annual staffing costs for one engineer per seven hose wagons over three shifts is approximately \$2.9 million.

In fall 2013, during the National Fire Services Office's initial consulting phase with JFRD, Starling inventoried our department's equipment and apparatus. He also identified 43 alternative water sources (ponds and creeks, for example) in the 8b/10 rated areas that could serve as drafting sources. These water sources must become certified through a drought study before ISO will recognize them for scoring purposes. This certification would commence if the city extends the consulting contract.

Three fire stations and a substation also factor into the ISO Improvement Project. Combined, these stations would shift the county's remaining PPC 10 areas to a 3 and could save homeowners in the affected areas approximately \$11 million annually in insurance premiums. The proposed fire stations include 61 in the Oakleaf/Argyle area, the reinstatement of 47 near Lannie Road, a replacement for and repositioning of 45 and the addition of a satellite substation equipped with an engine along Cedar Point Road. The engine would not be staffed, but it would be available for use by responding companies.

So here's the big picture as a snap shot: investing \$6.2 million in one-time capital costs and \$5.3 million in recurring costs

for staffing to implement all the solutions described, JFRD's ISO Improvement Project could save homeowners affected by the PPCs of 8b and 10 approximately \$32 million annually in insurance premiums.

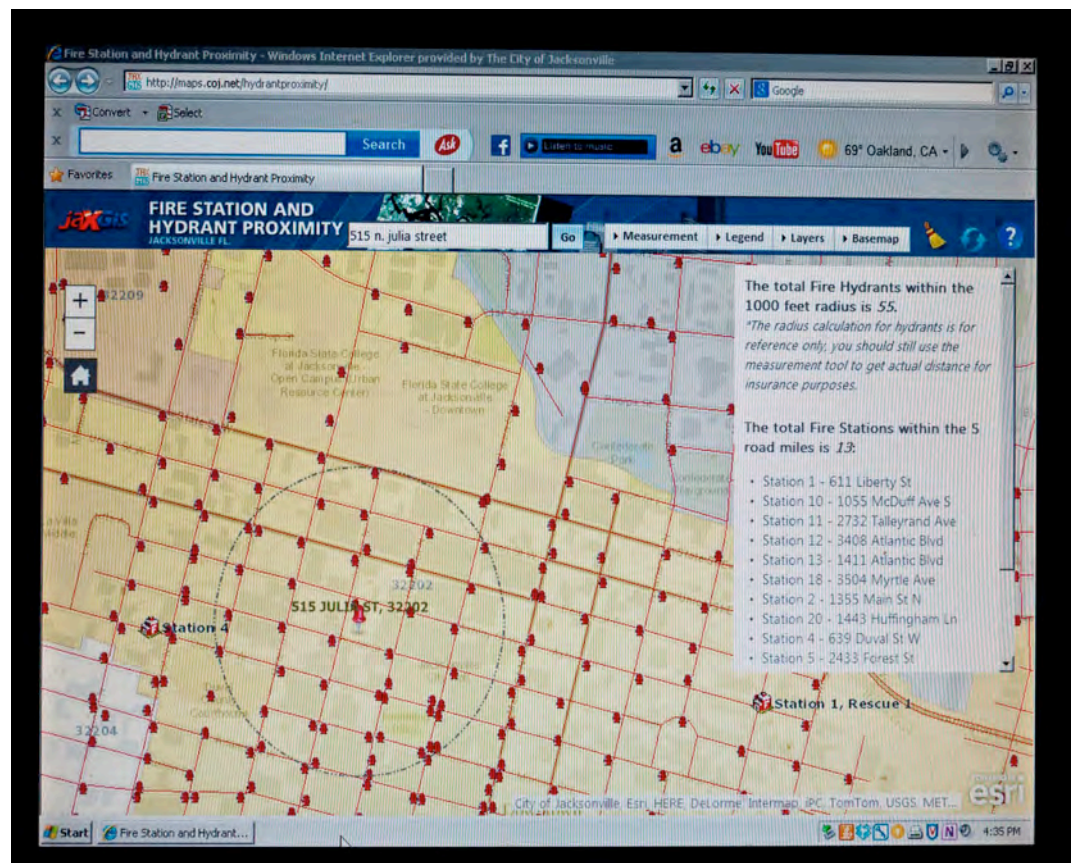
Other no-cost factors that will improve our ISO scoring on the next audit include the continuous documentation of relevant field training and pre-planning site visits in Target Solutions.

"This project is an investment in public safety that has quantifiable returns for the people we serve," said Senterfitt. "It's a rare opportunity to spend money on public safety enhancements and subsequently save taxpayers' expenditures from their personal budgets."

Gladden and his 1,700 neighbors in Bartram Springs look forward to those savings. Ironically, Gladden was out of town for 62's grand opening in late January, but he plans on getting to know the crews there and let them know how much they're appreciated. He's also glad to have met Senterfitt and other members of JFRD's administration.

"The fire department recognized the problem, worked together with the city departments and City Council and took action. I just can't say enough good things about Chief Wilson. He kept me updated," Gladden said. "We got the thing built. We've got fire protection. We're really happy. It gives people a feeling of wellbeing to know that they're right there."

JFRD and JEA worked with the city's ITD GIS mapping workgroup to develop an online reference tool to help Jacksonville residents and insurance companies determine the proximity of Duval County property parcels to fire stations and hydrants. The Insurance Services Office uses that proximity as a factor in rating a community's level of fire protection also known as the Public Protection Classification.



Promotions



Battalion Chief R.D. Gray



Battalion Chief Andy White



Battalion Chief George Williams



District Chief Stephen Huber



Captain Colin Aguilar



Captain Richard Brinson



Captain Ashley Burkhalter



Captain Jeremy Cooke

Promotions



Captain Brad Crenshaw



Captain Patrick Gouin



Captain J. Scott Jacobs



Captain Kenneth Keene



Captain Susan Leddy



Captain Frank Patterson



Captain Matt Pferrer



Captain David Westberry

Promotions



Lieutenant Gerald Bailey



Lieutenant Thomas Barber



Lieutenant Jonathan Barnhill



Lieutenant Damian Bell



Lieutenant Michael Bernard



Lieutenant Derrick Brinson



Lieutenant Charles Brown



Lieutenant Sharaad Christopher

Promotions



Lieutenant Tammy Davis



Lieutenant Christopher DeLapp



Lieutenant Ashton Geoghagan



Lieutenant Percy Golden II



Lieutenant Robert Gorsuch



Lieutenant Philip Hagan



Lieutenant Justin Hager



Lieutenant Donald Hardin

Promotions



Lieutenant Byron Jackson



Lieutenant Charles Johnson



Lieutenant Jeff Kendall



Lieutenant Kelley Kidd



Lieutenant Steven Lauer



Lieutenant Kevin Logue



Lieutenant D.J. Lyons



Lieutenant Allen Mason

Promotions



Lieutenant Jimmie Matthews



Lieutenant William McCoy



Lieutenant Brian McLamb



Lieutenant Erika McManus



Lieutenant Nate McNamee



Lieutenant Brian Miller



Lieutenant Scott Miller



Lieutenant Andrew Mizell

Promotions



Lieutenant James Polkey



Lieutenant James Schaudel



Lieutenant Jimmy Sparks



Lieutenant Rob Stover



Lieutenant Tara Waters



Lieutenant Chris Younger



Engineer Scott Abell



Engineer Jeremy Schillo

Station 4 Welcomes Wisconsin Firefighter During His 6,000 Mile Cross Country Ride

When “Harley” is part of your name, you might become associated with two-wheelers.

Firefighter Chris Harley Rupp isn't kin to the renowned motorcycle manufacturer, but twice he has ridden his two-wheeler coast to coast, raising awareness and tens of thousands of dollars for nationally known charities. Rupp, a Wisconsin firefighter, has garnered media attention for his endeavor and bunked at more fire houses across America than probably most career firefighters in their mid-20s. Among his stops, the FDNY station closest to Ground Zero.

Between stops, he's experienced 30-mile stretches of desert and isolation, the occasional mapped road that turns out to be a work in progress or the closed bridge that leads to a detour on a busy interstate where 18-wheelers are no match for his bicycle. That's right – the kind you pedal, the kind with those skinny tires and that sorry excuse for a seat.

“It's fun, just taking it all in,” Rupp said while enjoying dinner at Fire Station 4. “What keeps you going is what lies ahead.”

What also keeps Rupp going are fire station meals, McDonald's Chicken McNuggets and, while pedaling, licorice and Skittles. “I estimate I'm burning about 10,000 calories per day,” said Rupp, who's about as lean as his bicycle's tires.

When Rupp arrived in Jacksonville on Aug. 8, he rolled into Station 4 with a flat rear tire and 5,700 miles between him and his starting point of Seattle, WA. Good thing Eng. Scott



Wisconsin Firefighter Chris Harley Rupp takes a rest on Engine 4 after cycling for approximately 5 hours on U.S. 17 and part of I-95 from Brunswick, Ga. on Aug. 8. Rupp made brief rest stops at JFRD stations 35 and 2. Two members of JSO's bike team joined him near Station 35 and rode with him to Station 4. (Photo L - R) Firefighter Zach Washington, Capt. Colin Aguilar and Eng. Scott Karpus were among the members present at 4 when Rupp rolled into Jacksonville.

Karpus, an avid cyclist, was on duty. He had just ordered for himself a set of the very tires Rupp needed and donated them to Rupp's cause.

Rupp's ride began May 28 and concluded Aug. 17 in Miami. He flew back home the next day and will be “working all the major holidays” to pay off all the shifts his colleagues at the Fire Department of Mt. Horeb had worked for him. This summer wasn't Rupp's first cross country. Count his ride in 2011 from San Francisco to New York City, and he's cycled more than 10,000 miles. He likely has just as many memories.

“I was 115 feet from the World Trade Center site,” Rupp said referring to his visit to FDNY's Ten House on Sept. 10 and 11 in 2011. “It was eerily quiet the night of the 10th at Ground Zero.” Rupp attended the 9/11 ceremony not in those black cyclist shorts but in his Class A uniform, which he had flown in.

Rupp says he raised \$94,000 for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation during his ride in 2011. This time, he rode for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and is approaching \$40,000 in pledges. Rupp's inspiration for his 2014 ride was watching a 9-year-old terminally ill girl in his hometown of Madison realize her wish to visit Walt Disney World in Florida, thanks to Make-A-Wish.

“She died five days after she visited Disney,” Rupp said, adding that the money he has raised in each city for Make-A-Wish will be used to grant wishes to children in those cities.

“We are honored that Chris chose to raise both funds and awareness of Make-A-Wish across the country,” said Patti Gorsky, President & CEO, Make-A-Wish Wisconsin. “He is an inspiration and an incredible example of how one can use their personal passions to help make wishes come true for children with life-threatening medical conditions.”

On the Road with Rupp

59 mph – top speed achieved on a downhill stretch in Colorado's Rocky Mountains

\$14 – average cost of his order at McDonald's (30 McNuggets, large fries, hamburger or chicken sandwich, large soft drink)

10,000 – estimated number of calories burned per day.

5 to 8 hours – time spent cycling per day

90 to 100 – average miles cycled per day

21 boxes – number of packages mailed home (souvenirs, patches, t-shirts, hats)

“Chris Harley Rupp” – Google him to learn more

R-4, E-28, S-5, L-28 BUSIEST IN JULY 2014

RESCUES

R4	397
R5	392
R22	368
R1	366
R28	365
R30	350
R7	342
R2	341
R19	340
R31	330
R20	306
R24	304
R25	299
R21	293
R36	293
R15	291
R13	288
R32	273
R34	272
R52	268
R51	258
R26	252
R27	244
R35	243
R50	228
R55	218
R54	215
R58	213
R42	209
R71	190
R57	180
R23	179
R59	175
R33	166
R70	123
R49	113
R81	108
R62	98
R53	96
R86	62
R43	50
R85	49
R46	48

R45	47
R40	29
R87	22
R84	11

ENGINES

E28	424
E19	353
E22	348
E1	347
E31	343
E10	316
E30	309
E18	305
E21	300
E51	295
E24	293
E36	292
E32	286
E9	283
E152	281
E44	278
E27	274
E25	270
E4	259
E20	258
E34	248
E13	233
E2	223
E42	219
E135	217
E150	209
E7	206
E26	199
E59	189
E17	179
E58	177
E14	167
E55	155
E33	150
E11	143
E57	142
E154	141
E29	135

E41	130
E23	128
E49	97
E62	91
E16	89
E53	77
E46	47
E48	38
E56	32
E143	28
HAZ7	27
E40	17
E45	13
HAZ21	8
AIR5	7
HR4	6

SQUADS

S5	224
S37	196
S12	189

LADDERS

L28	202
L31	162
L44	144
L30	142
L10	141
TL21	135
L1	129
L134	101
TL9	100
L18	92
L4	81
L26	67

TANKERS

T28	72
T52	71
T42	36
T31	33
T29	31
T54	27
T33	25
T34	16
T49	16
T57	16

BRUSH TRUCKS

BR31	16
BR50	12
BR32	7
BR35	6
BR43	6
BR42	5
BR46	2
BR53	2

MARINE UNITS

M39	12
M140	6
M138	5
M40	4

FIELD CHIEFS

R105	164
R104	159
F3	131
R103	118
F1	109
F4	108
F9	98
F5	81
F7	69
F6	66
F8	54
F2	39

FIRE PREVENTION

Inspections ...1,826

PLANS REVIEW

Plans452
Inspections ...304

JULY'S TOTALS

FIRE1,300
EMS8,971
NON EMR ..198
Total ...10,469