

Safety Stand Down 2020: Focus on Safe Operations on Roadways

Agencies advised to suspend all non-emergency activities during the week of June 14-20

Operating in roadways during an emergency incident is one of the most treacherous threats that first responders encounter on the job. To help mitigate the risk, the theme of the <u>2020 Safety Stand Down</u> campaign is "Building a Superhighway to Safety – Protecting our Responders on Roadways."

Sponsored by the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Safety, Health and Survival Section, the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), this year's Safety Stand Down takes place June 14-20 and calls attention to the hazards that responders face while performing their duties on roadways.

This important initiative encourages everyone to refresh their safety techniques and learn new skills based on current research, nationally recognized best practices, and a growing number of distracted drivers on streets and highways. The 2020 campaign offers information and insights that will help firefighters, fire officers, EMS providers, and policy makers to reduce loss in the fire and emergency services.

Fire and EMS agencies are encouraged to suspend all non-emergency activities during the week of June 14-20 in order to focus on training and education related to this year's theme. An entire week has been scheduled to ensure that all shifts and personnel can participate and access the topical information, training, and videos that are available at www.safetystanddown.org. A webinar is also available for ondemand viewing during the week.

The NFPA is once again hosting the <u>Fire Service Safety Stand Down Quiz Sweepstakes</u> to foster a greater understanding of first responder health and safety issues. Everyone who completes the online quiz by June 17 will be automatically entered into a sweepstakes; 200 randomly selected participants will win a commemorative Safety Stand Down challenge coin.

Safety Stand Down is supported by national and international fire and emergency service organizations.

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About the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)

The IAFC represents the leadership of firefighters and emergency responders worldwide. IAFC members are the world's leading experts in firefighting, emergency medical services, terrorism response, hazardous response, natural disasters, search and rescue, and public safety legislation. Since 1873, the IAFC has provided a forum for its members to exchange ideas, develop professionally and uncover the latest products and services available to first responders. Learn more at www.iafc.org.

About the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)

The NVFC is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and

provides critical resources, programs, education, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. Learn more at www.nvfc.org.

About the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

Founded in 1896, NFPA is a global self-funded nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. The association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach and advocacy; and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission. For more information, visit www.nfpa.org. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed online for free at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.