



Albany County Sheriff's Office Critical Incident Emergency Management Unit

January 2025

Critical Incident/Emergency Management Unit

This is the monthly newsletter for the Albany County Sheriff's Office Critical Incident Emergency Management Unit. **If you have events that you would like posted in this newsletter please email them to the Fire Coordinator's office.**



New Colonie Fire Training Tower

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New Colonie Fire Training Tower



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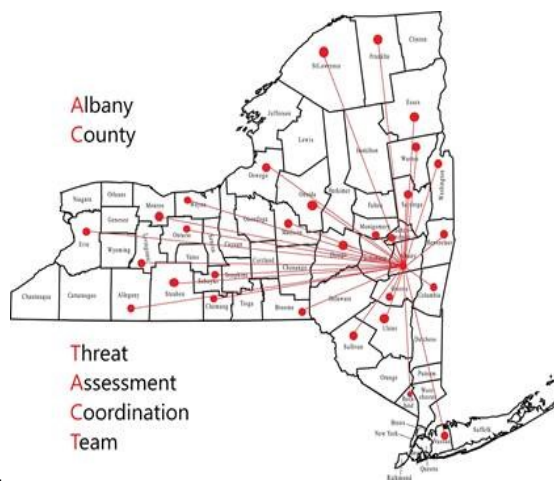
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Albany County Threat Assessment Coordination Team

The Albany County Threat Assessment Coordination Team (AC-TACT) is a collaboration of government and community stakeholders with a range of expertise and resources dedicated to identifying, assessing and managing the risks of planned potential violence in the community. The purpose of AC-TACT is to address cases where a subject is displaying behavior that indicates the possibility of escalation to violence. Through multiple sources, a plan is developed to try to "Off Ramp" the individual from the highway to violence.

We offer presentations about AC-TACT and threat assessment, as well as active shooter training. The threat assessment training is about an hour long, and can be paired with active shooter training, which runs about 2 hours long. If you are interested in scheduling a training, please contact ACTACT@albanycountyny.gov or 518-487-5426.



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Fire Rescue 1 By Lexipol

‘Stop saying *firemen*’: The smallest effort can make the biggest difference in recruitment

Using this word tells every woman who serves in this beloved profession that she doesn't belong – and signals to young girls that they shouldn't join

December 16,

2024 05:59 PM •

[Clare Frank](#)



kali9/Getty Images

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When people find out I spent a career in firefighting, two questions always follow.

The first is, “Why – why did you choose to run toward fire?” I wrote [a whole book](#) to answer that question, which, spoiler alert, basically says, “Because I was born to be a firefighter.” It’s an honest answer. I couldn’t imagine a life without firefighting.

The second question is, “How many of you are there, you know, female firefighters?” like I’m supposed to know the number off the top of my head. The sad thing is, I *do* know the number. It’s 17,200, [according to the NFPA](#). When I share that information, I get head nods and responses like, “That’s fantastic!” or “Girl power!”

They don’t understand it’s bad news. They asked the wrong question. The right question is “*What percentage* of professional firefighters are women?”

That number gets a different response. Now everyone wants to know what it was like working in such an overwhelmingly male-dominated profession. So I tell them. The gear didn’t fit. Most of the guys were amazing. Some were jerks. I had to prove myself, every time – if not to them, to myself. I worked longer hours. I worked harder. I went to night school. I did more push-ups. I volunteered for the dirty jobs. I slipped cuss words in between syllables so they wouldn’t be scared to talk around me. I figured out competent workarounds for equipment not designed for anyone under six-feet tall. I practiced and studied and practiced and studied. I took holiday shifts because I didn’t have kids. I prepped relentlessly for promotional exams. I refused to date anyone in the fire service, no matter how much I might have crushed on someone, because I needed the guys to see me as a firefighter first. I honed my smart-ass skills to pointedly but lightheartedly call out bigotry in a profession mired in both intentional and unintentional misogyny. I learned about teamwork, leadership, cohesion, public service, and lifetime bonds with the few sisters and many, many brothers I have in the fire service. I’d do it again, because I love firefighting.

“Well, it’s better now, right?” I get asked on my book tour. “I mean, you started in the early 80s,” they’ll often add.

I answer, “It is better. When I started, less than 2% of professional firefighters in America were female. Since then, that number has swelled to 4.7%.”

That’s right. In four decades, we’ve more than doubled the numbers. At this rate, the fire service could achieve gender parity in approximately 135 years. Yay us!

Part of the problem is we’ve been attacking the issue at the wrong level. We point fingers at fire chiefs and city managers and human resources personnel for inept recruiting efforts. Because when 95% of applicants are males, guess how many jobs

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will be filled by non-males? Government agencies have grappled with this and tried and failed with rubric variations that don't work – split lists, focused recruiting, affirmative action-style goals or quotas. And all of it has gotten us no further than 4.7%.

Why? Because that's starting way too late in the game. My brother knew at age 2 that he was going to be a firefighter. According to Mom, she locked herself out of the house, leaving him inside. Mom went next door to call the fire department, then witnessed my brother jumping up and down on the couch and clapping when the fire engine pulled to the curb. From that day on, he drew pictures of engines and trucks, with him riding tailboard. It fit. He would grow into one of them – a handsome, mustached, kind-hearted man.

I had no idea I could be a firefighter until my brother joined and encouraged me to follow. "You would love it, and it would love you!" he promised. He was right. But not many teenage girls get that kind of affirmation. And even fewer younger girls do. This is where we need to focus our efforts. It's not just up to fire chiefs. It's up to all of us as adults to let kids know they can join whatever profession they are drawn to, whether or not an Adam's apple is in the mix.

So maybe to expediate things just a little, we could work on something really simple that costs nothing. Seriously, it's free. I guarantee some eyerolls here, and it will even piss some people off. But if we are ever going to shake the adage that the fire service is "200 years of tradition unimpeded by progress," then this is how we start: Stop saying *fireman*. Stop making mustache logos for union pins. Stop adorning challenge coins with *brotherhood*. Stop saying girl's fire camps that expose young females to chainsaws and hoses and dirt firefighting is discrimination against young boys. You can make that argument when the ratio is 50:50, but not when it's 95.3:4.7 (or more fairly, you could apply the Ginsberg rule, which means those complaints will be welcome just after the ratio has been 4.7:95.3 for a couple hundred years). Just stop. You are telling every woman who's made it into the beloved profession that she doesn't belong. You're telling young girls they have no hope of entering the profession.

I don't mean to imply it's all on the fire service's shoulders. It's not. Society as a whole needs to shift; it needs to recognize that we harm ourselves by not inviting everyone to sit at whatever table suits them. But I am saying, the smallest of efforts can make the biggest of differences. And isn't that why you all joined the fire service – to make a difference?

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Fire Rescue 1 By Lexipol

‘I will stay connected to the members’: A challenging goal for most newly promoted leaders

True connection demands more than words

November 19, 2024 07:33 PM •

[Eric Linnenburger](#)

“I will never forget where I came from.” “I will be different!” “I am going to get out of the office and stay connected with the membership.” “No one will ever accuse me of being out of touch!”

We hear these statements from both well-intentioned new leaders and tenured leaders transitioning to new positions. Many of us have made these grand declarations only to then see the sentiments shift to statements like, “I wish I weren’t so busy so I could get out and connect more.”

While we can all be more intentional with our calendars, the interests competing for our time and energy can be overwhelming and often exceed our control. This does not mean, however, that connection within our teams is any less of a priority or that our excuses matter. Now more than ever, we need leaders who prioritize connection, as the act of being connected can instill a sense of confidence, trust and alignment with the mission among our members.

Disconnected chiefs abound

According to FireRescue1’s [What Firefighters Want in 2024 survey results](#), only 17% of respondents strongly agreed that their fire chief stays connected to the line personnel, with another 22% generally agreeing. The largest percentage of respondents (26.75%) strongly disagreed that their chief stays connected, with



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an additional 19% generally disagreeing on this point. Another 14% were neutral on this question.

Some may argue that fire service leaders should remain focused on the hard skills, like budgets, political maneuvering or strategic decision-making. Hard skills are indeed a priority, but hard skill preparation and effectiveness, especially when operating in ambiguous environments without the aid of policy or prior experience, is directly influenced by the existing culture.

Broaden the view

We often misunderstand how connection is built and maintained. It is not just about the words being spoken or the frequency of handshakes. In ["The Culture Code: The Secrets of Highly Successful Groups,"](#) author Daniel Coyle argues that words are just words, even noise. Words alone are not communication. According to Coyle, group performance is contingent on behavior that communicates whether the group feels safe and connected. Connection does not require that everyone be friends or always in agreement. It doesn't even require we know one another. It is, however, built on mutual respect, trust and shared interest.

In a time where human connection and interpersonal relationships are becoming more inauthentic, our fire service leaders must invest in our people and play the long game. Blind loyalty is a thing of the past. Our members want to be part of something bigger, and we need to give them an active role in the department before we lose them. New generations coming into the fire service are not impressed by our years of service alone. However, those years and experiences are too valuable not to share with them, and if done properly, will earn their respect and followership. Help them see the person behind those years of experience and how we value the mission and value them.

How to enhance connection and trust

Humans are social animals that require connection. Maslow may have been the first to articulate it in 1943 with his "Hierarchy of Needs," but it has been in our biology from the beginning. Even the hardened chain of command-rooted fire service leader should still care about basic human nature and performance



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motivation. People at all levels in our organizations just want to feel valued and understood. With this in mind, use the following recommendations to enhance connection and build trust:

1. Be self-aware and check your ego

First things first, it is not all about us as leaders – we really aren't that important. Ego can be a healthy motivator, but we have all seen what it can do when not tempered or when fueling a narcissist. New leaders often feel an obligation to deliver dissertations in memos or monopolize conversations to talk about themselves in a savior-like way. It's like they forgot all the times they heard the "new sheriff in town" speech from others. We should take a moment to reflect on how our younger selves would have liked to hear the message we are about to deliver.

It is imperative to give clear direction and expectations, but show some humility in the process. Prioritize listening and understand that expectations work both ways. If new to the organization, shift, battalion, crew, etc., acknowledge the history and the people who have been there grinding and keeping it on the rails before you came along. Those we are leading may not always share our level of understanding or enthusiasm but are all equally important to the team's success – and we need them all.

2. Be human

It's not always what you say but how you say it. We should be prepared and anticipate challenges, push back, questions, etc. This displays confidence and puts others at ease. However, be human and be open to changing your mind. Humans want to follow other humans. Being comfortable and relatable builds connection. We can still be prepared without being rigid or scripted.

Be thoughtful with your words and anticipate how they will be received while also respecting your team enough to be direct when warranted. If a decision has already been made, we should not pretend as if the item is still up for debate and waste their time. Instead, listen to them and demonstrate understanding, but then get out in front and confidently deliver the decision with the reasons behind it. Leaders must make difficult decisions, and our teams understand this. People

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may not like the decision, but taking the time to look them in the eye and articulate the “why” shows respect.

3. Create shared purpose and demonstrate trust

Find opportunities to make people a part of the process. It is easy to blame leadership for all our issues when we are not given the information or allowed to participate. Give people some skin in the game and allow them to grow into an informal leadership role. Ask for their opinion and listen. Encourage involvement in internal and external committees, specialty teams, and stretch assignments. As a company officer, it can be as simple as encouraging and supporting a younger firefighter to teach a drill or attend a class. The impact of telling someone you see potential in them can be immense. We have talented people coming into our organizations who we will lose if we don't allow them to demonstrate their value.

Many complain about the lack of formal leadership development programs within fire service organizations. We should be just as concerned about our practice of hoarding opportunities and an inability to leverage informal leadership opportunities. Working naturally alongside people with a shared purpose builds trust and understanding – it's ultimately mentorship.

4. Close the loop

There may be no greater opportunity for success or failure in building trust and connection than follow-through with the promises we make. Whether it's the company officer conducting a planned training evolution for their crew or the chief of department completing a promised long-term strategic initiative to get staffing relief, failure to execute destroys trust. Follow-through proves to others they are heard and supported.

With that said, none of us set out to under-deliver on our promises, but sometimes things don't go as planned. When this happens, over-communicate with the group rather than going silent or deflecting. This is not a time to make excuses or be self-deprecating. It may cost some leadership capital, but it matters more to the members that you're honest and serve as an advocate.

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Bigger than we think

The What Firefighters Want in 2024 survey results also revealed that the majority of respondents believe that their chief exhibits competence in the position. As also noted in the survey, an alarming number of people within the fire service are considering leaving their current organization or the fire service completely, with many stating poor leadership (or components of leadership) as a reason why. What does this tell us? Members aren't leaving because they feel their leadership is incompetent; they are leaving because they don't feel valued, which is rooted in connection. As the saying goes, "most people quit bad bosses, not jobs."

Without developing our human skills and appreciating the importance of connection with those at the tip of the spear, we will continue to feed the disconnect that has led to many of our modern-day fire service issues, like recruitment and retention, succession management and mission drift.

In, ["The Wisdom of the Bullfrog: Leadership Made Simple \(But Not Easy\),"](#) Admiral William McRaven addresses the misunderstanding of morale. Morale goes beyond making people feel good; it's all about making people feel valued.

He writes: "It is about the rank and file having the resources they need to do their job. It is about the troops believing that their leader is listening to their concerns." In the fire service, we prepare people to operate in chaotic and hostile environments. Build connection by giving them the resources and support they need, and then trust them to go out and deliver.

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Fire Rescue 1 By Lexipol

Lead differently: Borrowing from business simply doesn't work for the fire service

Go beyond corporate leadership theories by disrespecting the norm, reinventing your position and putting in the work

November 11, 2024 04:37 PM •

[Johnny Torgeson](#)

Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune

It's no secret that the fire service has a leadership problem. FireRescue1's [What Firefighters Want 2024 survey](#) found that 76% of respondents had concerns about their department leadership, 49% indicated that poor agency leadership has a high impact on retention, and 33% have thought about leaving their department due to the fire chief. Additionally, a [Gallup research study](#) found that for over a decade, 70% of employees have either not engaged or actively disengaged at work. As disturbing as these survey results are, they're also not surprising.

Amidst significant challenges – attrition issues, a mental health crisis, and growing apathy within our ranks – it's imperative to identify the root cause. It's not generational gaps, call volume or recruitment programs. These are contributing factors, but they divert attention from the real issue. The problem, as we can see from these surveys, is the way we lead. The fire service must lead differently because we are different.

While we have successfully borrowed various tools from other industries, it's clear that the leadership theories that pervade fire officer courses and academic classes weren't developed for us. They are concepts born of businesses and corporations. We've adopted methodologies meant for sterile office environments.



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If this were the only layer of the problem, it would be a straightforward fix, but it's not. Our leaders have been practicing these methods for years, and we're perpetuating the behaviors through succession planning and our primal instinct to emulate predecessors. These learned behaviors are not quickly shed. We've witnessed it time and again. After a promotion, the new leader often mirrors the one who just left the position, regardless of effectiveness. It's accepted because certain behaviors and actions become normalized. Round and round we go while the fire service, our departments and our firefighters suffer the consequences.

The good news: We can shatter this pattern. We can fix the fire service with an unconventional approach – by leading differently. We must stop leading our people based on what we've learned from books that aren't meant for us or theories that have yet to be realized as successful tools for the fire service. Most importantly, we shouldn't copy-paste the leadership patterns of our predecessors.

So, how do *you* become unconventional and lead differently? By subscribing to these three behaviors: **Disrespecting the Norm, Reinventing Your Position** and **Putting in the Work**. These actions seem simple enough; however, even the simplest of tasks become hard when applying them consistently.

Disrespect the norm

The norm has zero value, so hold it in contempt. What provides worth is your actions leading to transcendent behavior. When you and others go beyond the range of normalcy and into the uncharted territories of excellence, then you're doing your job as a leader. Leadership isn't required for expected behaviors, but it is a necessity to go beyond them.

For the fire service, there are three actions you can take today to treat normalcy as an affront to progress:

1. Be authentic: Let your true self shine, not the person hiding behind the mask. Be the real you that some people love and others may not appreciate. Everyone



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wears a mask to a certain degree, but leadership members are particularly susceptible. They may try presenting a person whom others expect instead of being themselves. They morph into a less genuine version of who they are. This brings about inconsistency and an inability to form authentic relationships. You can't gain leadership influence without a real connection. Being authentic establishes a foundation of trust.

Let's qualify this. This is not an excuse to be an egomaniac, rude or annoying. For instance, if you tend to talk over people, being authentic doesn't give you a pass. You must become self-aware of those things and continually work at them. What you want others to know are the things that make you unique.

Let your quirky personality be what you are endeared for. Understand that you can't please all people all the time, even when trying to fit a mold. So, you might as well be authentic.

2. Focus on team building: Much attention is given to developing teams at the company level, but little consideration is given to leadership and command teams. It doesn't matter your position; you have a team. If you're a captain, you have firefighters. If you're a battalion chief, you have captains. If you're a division chief, you have battalion chiefs. There is a team to build regardless of where you land on the organizational chart.

When team development is the focus, magic happens. The fire service is a team sport, not an individual one. Thus, all leadership efforts should be fixated on this fact. Learn how to forge a fire service team, as this is different than other types of team building. Improve your skills, not just as a leader but also as a team builder.

You will lead differently when you focus on building a world-class team. Every effort, every action – all of your energy as a leader – should be focused on this fact. Most people try to accomplish this passively, particularly at the chief officer ranks.

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3. Practice leadership: Leadership in the fire service is a practice much like doctors practice medicine. To practice leadership, you must first be willing to fail – fail fast, fail often, reflect and pivot. Secondly, all communication and actions must be intentional. Most lead reactively. Leading differently is a proactive approach. There is purpose behind every action because consistently having desired outcomes will not happen without intention.

With it, you're able to observe the results. You can toss the stuff that didn't work, improve on the things that did, and keep experimenting. This experimentation will help you break the mold and disrespect the norm. Furthermore, when you practice leadership, you grow as an influencer. Who you were yesterday will no longer define you. The failures are marks of development, not scars of defeat. Most importantly, you become empowered as a self-leader, which ultimately bleeds into your ability to help others transcend their own behaviors.

Reinvent your position

Whatever the previous person did in your position, don't do it. It's a box we all put ourselves in. Reinvent your job. Do it differently. Your position description is the bare minimum. It's also ambiguous in terms of how to carry out tasks; thus, it's genuinely left open to interpretation. How others performed their duties before you are probably a copy and paste of the person before them.

The question is, "Where do you start?" You must do three things to reinvent your position:

1. Be innovative with your job: Your job is so much more than what the description outlines. I don't mean more work; I mean different work. There isn't a position I've taken in the fire service that I didn't make my own. You can accomplish this by creating an innovative environment. Set scary standards for yourself. Safe leaders set safe expectations. When you challenge yourself as a leader, you have no option but to rise to the occasion. Develop new procedures, systems and practices to meet your new standard. This is synergy.

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It all leads to a new paradigm – a shift in the norm. Once your eyes are open and your behaviors change, others follow suit. Eventually, when you promote or move on, the person taking your place can raise your bar even higher.

2. Identify gaps: One of the most pragmatic actions you can take is identifying areas of weakness in your department. You have reinvented your position once you match them to your sphere of influence, natural ability and ways in which your position can assist in solving problems.

Identifying gaps and leveraging your position to be a thought leader and improve your department provides a different construct of exploiting your rank. Gap identification is the bridge needed to escape your position description island. However, the crux of this behavior isn't just gap identification. It's developing ways in which your position offers solutions.

To do this, you must remove the perceived limits on your position. The familiar invisible boundaries you construct in your mind prevent you from making a real difference. Look at the problems, and question how they can be fixed with unlimited resources and all the power and ability in the world. Then, do those things. If this sounds far-fetched, it's because you haven't done it yet.

3. Experiment with ideation: Attempt creativity through the inspiration of others. Whatever ideas are floated past you, whether yours or others, bring them to life. Those collective thoughts pave the road to reinventing your position. All you have to do is listen and experiment. Inherently, this leads to failure. But that's OK. Failure requires action and risk. Here's the good news: Most won't even know how much you're failing. Your intentionality behind decisions and actions isn't typically known to the masses. Just allow yourself to pivot continually.

Moreover, empower your team to experiment with you. Be bold and take risks with your team. This will create bold team members and build confidence. The momentum created when you experiment with ideation as a group is unparalleled. But most intriguingly, it redefines what you can accomplish as a

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leader. It sets new boundaries within your team. You lead differently when you truly experiment with ideation.

Put in the work

It's a shame that this must be spelled out as a path to leading differently. However, I've found this to be a true game-changer as a leader. The bar is so low that even a 25% effort on a daily basis looks extremely different from your counterparts.

This is where one can really shine. While others check out, you can be singular. Exhausting as it may be, don't take a day off from what it takes to serve your people. Outwork self-doubt, invisible limitations and obstacles. Don't be hungry; be starving for results. Look to build momentum each day.

Yes, there will be plenty of days when you're going to get punched in the gut. Sometimes, over and over again. When this happens, the super majority will count the day as a loss and look to start fresh the next day only to find the same results. All of a sudden, they can't wait for the weekend or their next four days off because the whole week is now a loss. Instead of letting those moments defeat you, take a different approach.

After a few proverbial uppercuts to the solar plexus, find a way to get a small win. It doesn't matter how small the win is. Once you do that, do it again. Start stacking wins and reset your day. It works like a charm. When you have a rough day on the job, refuse to be defeated. Find a way to build momentum and take back control. I promise you will feel like a champion when your shift or day finishes. But most importantly, you will lead contrarily to all those who came before you. You will be making a difference.

When passion meets purpose, the only thing standing in your way is effort. Put in the work.

Final thoughts

The time is now to break free of the mold. If we want things to change, then you must change, and part of that change comes through your leadership. Peter Drucker once said, "Three things happen naturally in any organization: friction,



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Hazmat Corner



January, 2025

Electric Vehicle Fires

Your County Hazmat Team is prepared to respond to electric vehicle fires. We have the equipment and training available to assist you. This is an ever evolving area for which we make every effort to keep up to date. **It is highly recommended by the experts in the fire service that EV fires be treated as a Hazmat Incident.**

If the need arises, you should have your dispatch center contact the Albany County Dispatch Center and request an Electric Vehicle Hazmat Team Response. This is preferred to requesting a specific fire department to respond as they may not be available. Also, all appropriate Hazmat Team notifications will be made by the County Dispatch Center.

The following is an excerpt from an article from Fire Rescue 1 on developing an SOP for EV Fires:

EV fire SOP suggestions

When you are ready to develop a department SOP for EVs and other devices powered by li-ion batteries, consider including these directives:

- Wear full PPE and SCBA on all vehicle fires.

- Block traffic immediately – call for additional units to assist in blocking or add them automatically to any vehicle response on a highway.

- Require those not engaged in active firefighting to wear a high-visibility vest.

- Conduct an initial 360-degree size-up with a thermal imaging camera (TIC) to note any heat pattern or fire extension near the battery case – located either on the frame of the EV or on some models behind the back seat. Confirm the vehicle's power source (i.e., EV, CNG, Propane, gasoline).

- Set up an incident command system with at least an officer in charge and safety officer as additional eyes on the fire and traffic are needed safety factors.

- Determine your tactical priorities: fire, extrication, victim care.

- Approach the EV at a 45-degree angle until the vehicle is chocked/cribbed.



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Stabilize the vehicle with chocks or cribbing to avoid it moving. (EVs don't make much sound even when running.)

Power down the EV from the information on that vehicle's ERG. Remember there are both the 600- and 12-volt systems that need to be de-energized.

Understand your fire attack options, as letting the vehicle burn is often the best option or you risk the batteries constantly re-igniting. Extinguishment with water involves anywhere from 5,000 to 30,000 gallons of water, so securing a hydrant or several water tenders and dump tanks is essential. However, consider the potential of water contamination to nearby lakes or streams.

Consider an EV incident as not only a potential fire, extrication and victim care emergency, but also a hazmat response.

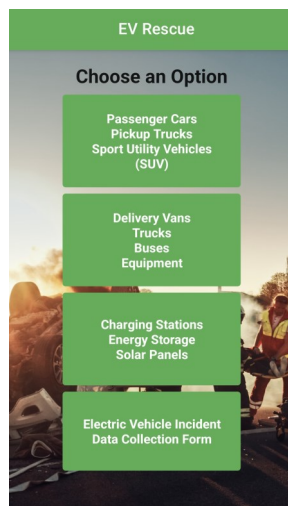
Have sufficient personnel and air management refill equipment on hand for crew rotation, traffic blocking and rehabilitation.

Share information with the towing company that this is an EV with the possibility of re-ignition and the need to be separated by at least 50 feet from any other vehicles or combustibles, such as buildings.

Perform gross decon needs at the scene, with all PPE needs later thoroughly decontaminated either in a washer/extractor or per the manufacturer's specifications before re-use.

Consider having the PPE commercially cleaned and contact the vehicle's insurance carrier to agree to pay this expense. Borrow or rent clean PPE from the PPE manufacturer or another department in the interim.

The full article is available at <https://www.firerescue1.com/electric-vehicles/articles/developing-sops-for-electric-vehicles-incidents-CbHhgn5759QnLDv3/>



The EV Rescue App is available for Android phones in the Play Store and for iPhones and iPads in the App Store. There is no charge for the app.

Office of Emergency
Management
P.O. Box A
58 Verda Ave.
Clarksville, NY
12041

Ph: (518) 720-8025
Fax: (518) 720-8031



Albany County Sheriff's Office Critical Incident Emergency Management Unit

January 2025

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Be sure to visit the NYS DHSES OFPC website for additional public education resources!

<https://www.dhses.ny.gov/general-public-resources>

ALBANY COUNTY FIRE TRAINING SCHEDULE #21 is attached

<https://www.albanycountyny.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/51981/638699351846499918>

There is now a link on our website with instructions on how to get an LMS sign-on ID. We recommend that all new members should register as soon as they join so they have access to training opportunities.

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THE HEAT IS ON!

Soup, chowder
& chili 🔥

COOK OFF

GET YOUR
TICKETS HERE!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26
12PM - 3PM

📍 **WESTMERE FIRE DEPARTMENT**
1741 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203

Tickets: \$15 • Children Under 10 Free

Local nonprofits are coming together for a soup, chowder, and chili cook-off! Each organization will showcase its signature recipe, offering a variety of creative and delicious flavors.

Guilderland
Chamber of Commerce

For more information and
to purchase tickets head to:
www.guilderlandchamber.com

ALBANY COUNTY FIRE TRAINING SCHEDULE #21 2024

Pre-Registration Required: Students may register by clicking on the Learning Management System link on the NYS OPFC Home Page ([NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services - OFPC](#))

Registration opens 45 days before the first class

COURSE	LOCATION	DATE	INSTRUCTOR	PREREQUISITES
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Please Note that a training authorization letter is now required for all courses offered by the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control

Fire Officer 1 Module Series: Planning & Emergency Response IN PROGRESS	Altamont	December 9, 16, 18 1830-2130	S. DeGroff	BEFO or Equivalent
Fire Police	East Berne	December 16, 23, 30, January 6, 20, 27, February 3 1830-2130	Collins	None

Firefighter I Certification (BEFO/SCBA Interior Firefighter Operations) IN PROGRESS	Colonie MTB	December 10th: Orientation: 6:30 pm Chief Officer Must Attend with Student <i>BEFO (W/Hazardous Materials Operations)</i> January 2, 6, 7, 9, 14, 21, 25 February 1, 8, 13, 18, 20, 25, March 4, 8, 15, 20, 27, April 1, 3 <i>SCBA/IFO:</i> April 8, 19, 26, May 1, 8, 13, 15, 20, 27, 31, June 7, 12, 14	At Orientation: Training Authorization Letter Start of SCBA/IFO: Medical Clearance to wear SCBA,
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IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting 7th Edition Curriculum Weeknights 1830-2130 (3/15, 3/20, 4/1, 4/3 1800-2200) Saturdays 0800-1400 Instructor - Molesky				
Firefighter I Certification (BEFO/SCBA Interior Firefighter Operations) IN PROGRESS IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting 7th Edition Curriculum East Berne FD December 11th: Orientation: 6:30 pm Chief Officer Must Attend with Student – <u>(Revised Start Date)</u> <i>BEFO (W/Hazardous Materials Operations)</i> January 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 February 5, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 24, March 1, 5, 10, 12, 19, 24, 27, April 2 Weeknights 1830-2130 except for (3/19, 3/24, 3/27, 4/2 class time 1800-2200) Saturdays 0800-1400 Instructor – Michael DeGroff SCBA/IFO: Schedule TBD At Orientation: Training Authorization Letter Start of SCBA/IFO: Medical Clearance to wear SCBA,				
Fire Officer 1 Module Series: Firefighter Health & Safety NEW TO SCHEDULE	Altamont	January 9, 14, 25 Weeknights 1830-2130 Saturday 0800-1400	S. DeGroff	BEFO or Equivalent

Fire Officer II	Saratoga Public Safety Building-6010 County Farm Rd. Ballston Spa	January 11, 12,17, 18, 19 0800-1700	OPFC	Fire Officer I or National Certification If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Fire Service Cancer Reduction DECON	Selkirk FD Station #1	January 15 1830-2230	T. Graves	None
Water Rescue - Awareness Level NEW TO SCHEDULE	Knox	January 27 1800-2200	Molesky	None
Firefighters Guide to Lightweight Wood Construction	Slingerlands	February 3, 4, 17, 18 1830-2130	DeGroff	BEFO or Equivalent
Fire and Emergency Service Instructor I	Harriman Campus – 1220 Washington Ave, Albany	February 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 0800-1700	OFPC	None If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Principals of Instruction	Colonie MTB – Upper Class Room	February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4 1830-2130	Clawson	None

Fire Officer 1 Module Series: Company Training & Community Risk Reduction NEW TO SCHEDULE	Altamont	February 8, 10, 24 Weeknights 1830-2130 Saturday 0800-1400	S. DeGroff	BEFO or Equivalent
Fire and Emergency Service Instructor I	Saratoga Public Safety Building- 6010 County Farm Rd. Ballston Spa	February 28, March 1, 2, 8, 9 0800-1700	OFPC	None If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Fire and Emergency Service Instructor II	Saratoga Public Safety Building- 6010 County Farm Rd. Ballston Spa	April 4, 5, 6, 12, 13 0800-1700	OFPC	Fire Service Instructor I or National Certification If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Fire Officer II	Harriman Campus – 1220 Washington Ave, Albany	April 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 0800-1700	OPFC	Fire Officer I or National Certification If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Fire Officer III	Harriman Campus – 1220 Washington Ave, Albany	June 2 – June 6	OFPC	Fire Officer II Pro-Board Certification If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Fire and Emergency Service Instructor II	Harriman Campus - 1220 Washington Ave, Albany	August 18, 19, 20 ,21, 22 0800-1700	OFPC	Fire Instructor I or National Certification If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov

Fire and Emergency Service Instructor I	Saratoga Public Safety Building-6010 County Farm Rd. Ballston Spa	September 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 0800-1700	OFPC	None If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Fire and Emergency Service Instructor I	Harriman Campus - 1220 Washington Ave, Albany	November 14, 15, 16, 21, 22 0800-1700	OFPC	None If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Fire Officer II	Harriman Campus - 1220 Washington Ave, Albany	<u>December 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 2025</u> 0800-1700	OFPC	Fire Officer I or National Certification If you have any questions, Contact OFPC at: OFPC.FireServices@dhses.ny.gov
Unless changed by instructor or noted above: All evening classes will be held from 19:00-22:00 hours. All Saturday and Sunday classes will be held from 09:00-12:00 hours and 13:00-16:00 hours			 Fire Coordinator Gerald Paris 	