**Attachment 1a FFFIPP Survey- Firefighter**

Form Approved

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**NIOSH Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program Survey**

Every year, 80 to 100 firefighters die in the line of duty. When line of duty deaths occur, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP) conducts independent investigations of firefighter fatalities and makes recommendations for avoiding similar incidents. NIOSH is interested in learning more about the safety practices of the United States Fire Service, as well as firefighter familiarity with the NIOSH FFFIPP investigation reports (aka Line of Duty Death (LODD) Investigation Reports). Your responses will help us improve the quality of the reports and how NIOSH distributes the information found in these reports.

In the last few weeks, you should have received a message from one of the national fire service organizations explaining this study and how we will protect your privacy. The survey will take between 10 and 25 minutes. **Your responses to the questions will be combined and reported with those from other survey respondents and will be kept confidential.** Your participation is voluntary, and you may decline to answer any question or end the survey at any time.

Chief Officers and Company Officers completing the survey may need to refer to their department’s response data to respond to a few of the survey items (e.g., National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), records management system (RMS), CAD, or annual report).

The following questions ask about you and your fire department. They will help us understand your role and your responses as they relate to the size of your fire department.

1. **Where is your fire department located? [Dropdown list of States]**
2. **What is your position within the fire department? Please select only one.**

Chief Officer (e.g., Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, Division Chief, or Battalion Chief)

Company Officer (e.g., Captain, Lieutenant, Sergeant) **[SKIP to Company Officer Section]**

Firefighter (e.g., Firefighter, Private, Master Firefighter) **[SKIP to Firefighter Section]**

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## FIREFIGHTER SECTION

1. **Are you a paid, paid on call, or volunteer firefighter?**

Paid

Paid on call

Volunteer

Combination

1. **How many years have you been in the fire service?**

Less than one year

1-2 years 11 months

3-4 years 11 months

5-9 years 11 months

10-14 years 11 months

15-19 years 11 months

20-30 Years

More than 30 years

Decline to respond

1. **Has your department or a neighboring jurisdiction experienced a line of duty death?**

***Please select all that apply.***

Yes, in my department

Yes, in a neighboring jurisdiction

No **[SKIP to Q6]**

Don’t know **[SKIP to Q6]**

Decline to respond **[SKIP to Q6]**

1. **How long ago did the most recent fatality occur?**

Within the past year

1-2 years 11 months ago

3-5 years ago

More than 5 years ago

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Did the NIOSH firefighter fatality investigation program investigate the death(s)?**

Yes

No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

### Health and Safety Information

Fire departments receive health and safety information from many different organizations. The following questions explore where your department receives information and your knowledge of NIOSH’s firefighter fatality investigation program.

1. **Please indicate which organizations your department has received information from and what method (e.g., email, magazine, etc.) is used.**

***Please select all that apply.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Conferences/Meetings | Email | Magazines/Newsletters | Podcasts | Social Media | Training courses | Webinars/Online learning |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Fire Department Safety Officers Association (FDSOA) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Fire Service Media or Fire Industry Journals | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| National Fallen Fire Fighters Association (NFFF) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| National Fire Academy | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Underwriters Laboratory (UL) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Other (specify below) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **The NIOSH FFFIPP produces reports based on the firefighter fatality investigations it conducts. Do you know how to access the NIOSH LODD investigation reports?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **How often have you seen (heard about) a NIOSH LODD investigation report that describe recent firefighter fatalities and make recommendations for avoiding similar incidents?**

☐ Receive email notification each time an investigation report is released

Never **[SKIP to Q17] Note: Questions will be hidden if this option is selected (all but 17)**

Once or twice a year

☐ Several times a year

☐ Once a month or more

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Have you read any part of a NIOSH LODD investigation report in the last 12 months?**

☐ Yes

☐ No **[SKIP to Q13]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Which sections of the NIOSH LODD investigation reports do you usually read?**

***Please select all that apply.***

Executive Summary

☐ Introduction

Fire Department

Training and Experience

Equipment and Personnel

Building Construction

Timeline

Personal Protective Equipment

☐ Weather

☐ Investigation

☐ Recommendations

References

Appendix

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Thinking about each section of the NIOSH LODD investigation report, please provide us with your thoughts on the length of each section, and whether the length of the section should be modified.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Eliminate entirely | Provide less detail | Keep current length | Provide more detail |
| Executive Summary | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Introduction | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Fire Department | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Training and Experience | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Equipment and Personnel | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Building Construction | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Timeline | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Personal Protective Equipment | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Weather | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Investigation | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Recommendations | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| References | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Appendix | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Overall | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

1. **NIOSH LODD investigation reports contain a timeline which presents the sequence of events as the department responded. Thinking about only the timeline, where would you prefer to see this information?**

☐ Main body of the investigation report

☐ Appendix

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **The NIOSH LODD investigation reports sometimes reference other documents, such as fire service consensus standards, journal articles, standard operating procedures/guidelines, or more detailed technical reports. Do you usually have access to the additional documents that are referenced in the NIOSH investigation reports?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **NIOSH LODD investigation reports always include recommendations that are designed to help improve the health and safety of firefighters. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Rating | | | | |
| Strongly disagree | Disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Recommendations are practical | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Recommendations are easy to understand | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Recommendations are specific and concrete | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Recommendations are useful to my department | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

1. **Do you receive NIOSH LODD-related information from your department?**

☐ Yes

☐ No **[SKIP to Q17]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **How is this information provided to firefighters?**

***Please select all that apply.***

☐ Company level training

Copies of report summaries provided to firefighters

☐ Copies of reports provided to firefighters

FD required individual training

☐ In-service training sessions

☐ Messages sent to firefighters by email

☐ Postings on bulletin boards

☐ Regular staff meetings

Reports posted on department website

Social media posts by the department or designated officer

☐ Summaries prepared by the department provided to firefighters

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Please select the top three (3) ways you would prefer to receive information about NIOSH LODD investigation report recommendations.**

***You may select up to three (3) options.***

CD/DVD

Conference presentations or meetings

☐ Email

☐ In-person training sessions/classes

☐ NIOSH LODD Investigation Reports

☐ NIOSH website

One-page fact sheets (i.e., infographics)

Online self-paced training

☐ Pocket guides

Podcasts

☐ Posters

☐ Social media posts

☐ Summary reports

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

### Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs)

The following questions are about your fire department’s policies and procedures. It is important to get accurate data on current policies and procedures so that NIOSH can continue to identify ways to assist the fire service community.

1. **Some departments use Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) or Guidelines (SOGs) to define specific fire department operations. Please indicate which of the following SOPs/SOGs your department has in place?**

***Please select all that apply.***

☐ Apparatus and vehicle operations

☐ Care and maintenance of personal protective equipment

☐ Care and maintenance of SCBAs

☐ Fireground radio communications

Fireground strategy and tactics

☐ Health and wellness program including things like annual physicals

Health maintenance program including things like nutrition and exercise

☐ Incident Management/Incident Command System

☐ Integrated response with law enforcement

Operations at highway/roadway incidents

☐ Personnel accountability system

Rapid Intervention Teams (RITs), also known as Rapid Intervention Crews (RICs) or Firefighter Assistance and Search Teams (FASTs)

☐ Scene size-up and risk assessment

☐ Traffic incident management

☐ Use of personal protective equipment and clothing

☐ Other (specify below)

Department does not have SOPs/SOGs

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Are Incident Management/Command Systems used in your department on *each* incident, formally or informally?**

Yes [**SKIP to Q22**]

No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **How often are Incident Management/Command Systems used for structure fires?**

Never

Some of the time

About half of the time

Most of the time

Always **[SKIP to Q22]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Why are Incident Management/Command Systems not always used?**

***Please select all that apply****.*

☐ Incident Management/Command is only established when the incident is considered ‘working’

☐ Fire is not big enough to require an incident manager/commander

☐ Fireground communications is limited

☐ Not enough firefighters available at the scene

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **How often are Rapid Intervention Crews (RICs)/Rapid Intervention Teams (RITs)/Firefighter Assistance and Search Teams (FASTs) established at structure fires?**

Never **[SKIP to Q24]**

Some of the time

About half of the time

Most of the time

Always **[SKIP to Q25]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **When are RICs/RITs/FASTs established?**

***Please select all that apply.***

At all working fires

On all initial full alarm assignments

When the building has more than one story/floor

☐ When there are enough firefighters on hand at the scene

☐ Whenever firefighters enter an immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) atmosphere

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Why are RICs/RITs/FASTs not established in every structure fire?**

***Please select all that apply.***

The structure fire may not be large enough to need a RIT/RIC/FAST

We don’t have enough equipment, SCBAs, or turnout gear

We don’t have enough firefighters available at the scene of the fire

We don’t have enough training or trained personnel at the scene

We have never been trained to establish a RIT/RIC/FAST

We have never established a RIT/RIC/FAST

We use other fire departments in the area for RITs/RICs/FASTs

We use other safety practices, so we don’t need them

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Does your department have Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) for you to use when combating structure fires?**

☐ Yes

☐ No **[SKIP to Q34 – Non-Fireground Operations]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Does your department have Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) devices integrated into the SCBAs?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **How often do you use SCBA while fighting structure fires?**

Never

Some of the time

About half of the time

Most of the time

Always **[SKIP to Q29]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Why do you not use SCBA more often when fighting structure fires?**

***Please select all that apply****.*

Concerns that the SCBA may be or become contaminated

Culture/tradition (We’ve always done it this way)

Cylinders (air bottles) are empty

I do not think I need to use a SCBA

I do not trust that the SCBAs will work reliably

Peer influence

Situation doesn’t require them

Wearing SCBAs makes it more difficult to work

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Do you ever have to share *SCBA facepieces*?**

☐ Yes

☐ No **[SKIP to Q31]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Why does your department not have individual SCBA facepieces for individual firefighters?**

***Please select all that apply****.*

Didn’t know it was recommended

Have never needed them (e.g., we don't do interior attacks)

Shared systems work fine for our needs

They cost too much

There is not enough money in the budget

We don’t have enough equipment for all our firefighters

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Does your department have individual *SCBA regulators* for each individual firefighter?**

Yes **[SKIP to Q33]**

No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Why does your department not have individual *SCBA regulators* for each individual firefighter?**

***Please select all that apply****.*

We follow the SCBA manufacturer’s guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting regulators

Didn’t know it was recommended

Shared systems work fine for our needs

There is not enough money in the budget

We don’t have enough equipment for all our firefighters

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **How often is maintenance performed on the department’s SCBAs in accordance with the manufacturer’s guidelines?**

☐ After each use

☐ At least once a month

☐ Several times a year

☐ Once a year

☐ Less than once a year

☐ Never, maintenance is not done on our SCBAs

Don’t know

Decline to respond

### Non-Fireground Operations

The following questions ask about your department’s procedures/guidelines for operating at highway/roadway incidents and emergency vehicle operation training.

1. **Which types of initial training do members of the department receive for conducting emergency operations at highway/roadway incidents?**

***Please select all that apply***

☐ Classroom training

☐ Hands-on/practical training

☐ Training literature provided

☐ Web-based training

☐ None **[SKIP to Q36]**

☐ Don’t know

☐ Decline to respond

1. **How often do you receive ‘refresher’ training for conducting emergency operations at highway/roadway incidents?**

☐ At least twice a year

☐ Once a year

☐ Less than once a year

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Did you receive driver training before being allowed to operate a fire department vehicle or apparatus?**

☐ Yes

☐ No **[SKIP to Q38]**

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Does your department utilize a recognized emergency vehicle operation training course?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don’t know

☐ Decline to respond

1. **About how often do you use a seatbelt when riding in fire department apparatus and vehicles?**

Never

Some of the time

About half of the time

Most of the time

Always

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **To what extent do you agree or disagree that you are able to wear your seatbelt while wearing turnout gear in your emergency vehicles?**

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Don’t know

Decline to respond

### Firefighter Training, Health, and Safety

The following questions ask about your department’s procedures for firefighter training, health, and safety.

1. **Does your department have a dedicated Training Officer?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Does your department have a dedicated Health and Safety Officer?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Is a safety officer assigned on all "working" incidents?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **How often do you receive a screening for cardiovascular disease (CVD) and its risk factors?**

Less frequently than once a year

Once a year

More than once a year

CVD screenings are not required

Don’t know

Decline to respond

1. **Who provides training to you?**

***Please select all that apply.***

Conferences or regional meetings

Department’s training division/officer

Local college or university

Other officers within the department

Outside contractor

Regional fire training academy

State fire training agency

USFA/National Fire Academy (Emmitsburg, MD)

Firefighters do not receive training **[SKIP to Q46]**

☐ Other (specify below)

Don’t know

Decline to respond

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Please indicate whether *you* have received any of the following trainings and whether the training is optional or required.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | No Training | Optional Training | Required Training | Not Applicable |
| Active shooter/hostile event | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Annual live fire training | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Behavioral health/resilience | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Certified First Responder, EMT or Paramedic continuing education | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Driving and safe vehicle operations | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| EMS recertification | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Facility safety and health | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Fireground strategy and tactics | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| HAZMAT operations | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Helicopter/Medevac | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Incident Management System | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Integrated response with law enforcement | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Mayday procedures | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| OSHA mandated training (e.g., respiratory protection, infection control, hazardous materials) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Personnel Accountability System | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| PPE and protective clothing care, use and maintenance | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Physical fitness training | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Rapid intervention teams or crews (RITs or RICs) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Response to highway/roadway incidents | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| SCBA care, use and maintenance | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Scuba diving | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Self-Survival | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Structural firefighting procedures | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Swift water rescue | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Training, education and professional development | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Use of radio communication devices | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Wildland or wildland interface fire fighting | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Other (specify below) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

**If you selected *Other*, please specify: [text box]**

1. **Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Rating | | | | |
| Strongly disagree | Disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Agree | Strongly agree |
| People who make policy decisions (SOPs, SOGs) in this department see eye-to-eye with rank and file on safety. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| My direct supervisor takes my safety concerns seriously. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

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**CLOSING**

**Please provide any additional comments you may have for the NIOSH FFFIPP.**

Thank you for your participation.

To access information about the NIOSH FFFIPP or to view the NIOSH LODD investigation reports go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/>