



August--September 2011

September 11, 2001 – A time to remember

In some ways it is hard to believe that 10 years has passed since the horrific events of September 11, 2001, and in other ways it seems so long ago. We all promised that we would never forget the events that changed our lives forever.

It all started with the departure of American Airlines Flight 11 from Boston Logan International Airport at 7:59AM headed for Los Angeles. At 8:46AM that flight crashed into the north face of the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, setting off a chain of events that would take the lives of 343 New York City fire fighters and nearly 3,000 innocent civilians at the World Trade Center Towers, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and those aboard United Airlines Flight 93 that crashed near Shanksville, PA.

For many of us, the images of September 11 will remain as a vivid reminder of how our lives have changed -- as individuals and as emergency services providers . . . I know mine has. On and around September 11, there will be many special events that will take place to honor those who died that day. I encourage you to take time and pay tribute to not only those who were lost on 9/11 but to those who protect us today.

We will never forget . . .

# Michigan FIRE Service Connection

**Ronald Farr  
State Fire Marshal**



**The Twin Towers**  
Photo Courtesy of  
September11news.com



**Flight 93 Wall of Names –  
Shanksville, PA.** Photo courtesy  
of the National Park Service



**The Pentagon**  
Photo Courtesy  
September11news.com

Sincerely,

Ronald R. Farr  
State Fire Marshal

Bureau of Fire Services  
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## MISSION

The mission of the State Fire Marshal and the Bureau of Fire Services is to protect lives and property by fostering a fire safe environment through inspections, plan review, enforcement, regulation, fire fighter training, data collection and public fire education.

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## Focus on Fire Safety

### A. *Campus Fire Safety*

Each year college and university students, on- and off-campus, experience hundreds of fire-related emergencies nationwide. There are several specific causes for fires on college campuses, including cooking, intentionally set fires, and open flame. Overall, most college-related fires are due to a general lack of knowledge about fire safety and prevention. According to information compiled by [Campus FireWatch](#), the great majority of student fire deaths occur in off-campus housing that lacks insufficient exits, missing or inoperative smoke alarms, and automatic fire sprinklers. Also, use of candles, careless smoking habits, and the misuse of alcohol—which impairs judgment and hampers evacuation efforts—contribute to off-campus housing fire deaths.

As the Fall semester approaches, colleges and universities are busy preparing for the arrival of new residents to their campus communities. Some will be first year students moving into the residence halls. Other arriving students will be moving off-campus and living on their own, some for the first time. For most of these students, the last fire safety training they received was in grade school; but with new independence comes new responsibilities. It is important that both off-campus and on-campus students understand fire risks and know the preventative measures that could save their lives.

Learn the facts about campus fire safety and be fire-wise!

#### **Good Questions to Ask Before Moving in or Signing a Lease**

1. Are working smoke alarms installed? (Preferably in each bedroom, interconnected to sound all if any one detects smoke)
2. Are there at least two ways to exit your bedroom and your building?
3. Do the upper floors of the building have at least two interior stairs, or a fire escape?
4. Is a sprinkler system installed and maintained?
5. Are the existing electrical outlets adequate for all of the appliances and equipment that you are bringing – without the need for extension cords?
6. Are there EXIT signs in the building hallways to indicate accessible escape routes?
7. Does the building have a fire alarm system installed and maintained?
8. Has the buildings heating system been inspected recently (in the last year)?
9. Is the building address clearly posted to allow emergency services to find you quickly in the event of an emergency?
10. Does the sprinkler system or fire alarm system send a signal to the local fire department or campus security?

## B. Safety Tips for Students

### Candles

- Avoid using lighted candles.
- Do not leave candles unattended.
- Keep candles away from draperies and linens.
- [Learn About Candle Safety »](#)

### Cooking

- Cook only where it is permitted.
- Keep your cooking area clean and uncluttered.
- If you use electric appliances, don't overload circuits.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- If a fire starts in a microwave, keep the door closed and unplug the unit.
- [Learn About Cooking Fire Safety »](#)

### Smoking

- If you smoke, smoke outside.
- Make sure cigarettes and ashes are out. Never toss hot cigarette butts or ashes in the trash can.
- After a party, check for cigarette butts, especially under cushions. Chairs and sofas catch on fire fast and burn fast.
- Be alert -- don't smoke in bed! If you are sleepy or have been drinking, put your cigarette out first.
- [Learn About Smoking Safety »](#)

### Escape Planning

- If you have to escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.
- Before opening a door, feel the door. If it's hot, use your second way out.
- Use the stairs; never use an elevator during a fire.
- If you're trapped, call the fire department and tell them where you are. Seal your door with rags and signal from your window. Open windows slightly at the top and bottom; shut them if smoke rushes in from any direction.
- If you have a disability, alert others of the type of assistance you need to leave the building.
- [Learn About Escape Planning »](#)

## C. Off-Campus Fire Safety

### Good Questions to Ask Before Moving in or Signing a Lease

1. Are working smoke alarms installed? (Preferably in each bedroom, interconnected to sound all if any one detects smoke)
2. Are there at least two ways to exit your bedroom and your building?
3. Do the upper floors of the building have at least two interior stairs, or a fire escape?
4. Is a sprinkler system installed and maintained?
5. Are the existing electrical outlets adequate for all of the appliances and equipment that you are bringing – without the need for extension cords?
6. Are there EXIT signs in the building hallways to indicate accessible escape routes?
7. Does the building have a fire alarm system installed and maintained?
8. Has the buildings heating system been inspected recently (in the last year)?
9. Is the building address clearly posted to allow emergency services to find you quickly in the event of an emergency?

10. Does the sprinkler system or fire alarm system send a signal to the local fire department or campus security?

According to the U.S. Department of Education, there are approximately 18,000,000 students enrolled in 4,100 colleges and universities across the country. Approximately two-thirds of the students live in off-campus housing.

There are four common factors in a number of these fires:

- Lack of automatic fire sprinklers
- Missing or disabled smoke alarms
- Careless disposal of smoking materials
- Impaired judgment from alcohol consumption

### **Off-Campus Fire Tragedy: Julie Turnbull**

Doug and Linda Turnbull lost their daughter, Julie, in an off-campus house fire one month before her 22nd birthday and college graduation. [Watch the Video on Campus Firewatch](#)

## **D. On-Campus Fire Safety**

In cases where fire fatalities have occurred on college campuses, alcohol was a factor. There is a strong link between alcohol and fire deaths. Alcohol abuse often impairs judgment and hampers evacuation efforts.

Many other factors contribute to the problem of dormitory housing fires including:

- Improper use of 911 notification systems delays emergency response.
- Student apathy is prevalent. Many are unaware that fire is a risk or threat in the environment.
- Evacuation efforts are hindered since fire alarms are often ignored.
- Building evacuations are delayed due to lack of preparation and preplanning.
- Vandalized and improperly maintained smoke alarms and fire alarm systems inhibit early detection of fires.
- Misuse of cooking appliances, overloaded electrical circuits, and extension cords increase the risk of fires.

### **Safety Precautions for Colleges and Universities**

- Provide students with a [program for fire safety and prevention](#).
- Teach students how to properly notify the fire department using the 911 system.
- Install smoke alarms in every dormitory room and every level of housing facilities.
- Maintain and regularly test smoke alarms and fire alarm systems. Replace smoke alarm batteries every semester.
- Regularly inspect rooms and buildings for fire hazards. Ask your local fire department for assistance.
- Inspect exit doors and windows and make sure they are working properly.
- Create and update detailed floor plans of buildings, and make them available to emergency personnel, resident advisors and students.
- Conduct fire drills and practice escape routes and evacuation plans. Urge students to take each alarm seriously.
- Make sure electrical outlets are not overloaded and extension cords are used properly.

Learn to properly use and maintain heating and cooking appliances.

### **On-Campus Residence Hall Fire: The Dana Christmas Story**

On January 19, 2000, a fire occurred at Seton Hall University that killed three freshmen. Dana Christmas was a resident assistant at the building where the fire broke out. [Watch the Video on Campus Firewatch](#)

# Campus Fire Safety

- An estimated **3,800 university housing fires** occur in the United States each year.\*
- Cooking fires account for **88 percent** of all university housing fires.\*

\*2007–2009

The following are a few good questions to ask before moving on campus or signing a lease:

- Are working smoke alarms installed (preferably in each bedroom, interconnected so all alarms will sound if any single alarm detects smoke)?
- Are there at least two ways to exit your bedroom and your building?
- Is a sprinkler system installed and maintained?

Visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus) for more good questions to ask before moving on campus or signing a lease.



**U.S. Fire Administration**  
For information and resources on this subject,  
visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus)

## September is National Preparedness Month

### National Preparedness Month Coalition



[Click Here to Join](#)

[Login](#)

**We want YOU to be part of the national emergency preparedness effort!**

**Sign up to be a Coalition Member!**

We encourage all businesses, organizations, and individuals to join this national effort. Even if you registered last year, you need to do it again. As a coalition member, you will have access to resources and be able to collaborate with thousands of fellow members across the country on ways to participate and get your community involved. Here are a few highlights of information you will have access to once you register:

1. Countless suggestions and ideas for activities and events.
2. Ready-to-use templates and messaging, including posters, web banners, press releases, articles, Facebook Status Updates and Tweets for Twitter, plus more! We even have materials that you can customize.
3. A calendar for you to post your event and see what else is happening around the country

### Participation is Easy!

Being a part of the preparedness effort is easy and there are many ways to get involved and make a difference. From participating in an event already planned and scheduled in your community, to including preparedness messaging in existing communications, to working with your local fire community, or even creating an emergency preparedness event or practice drill... No effort is too small or too large!

### Everything you do will help!

With your help as a coalition member, we can make certain all Americans are prepared to face and respond to disasters and emergencies in their homes, businesses, and communities. As a National Preparedness Month coalition member, your efforts to bring emergency preparedness to your community will not just important, they will make a difference.

# Michigan News...

## MABAS-MI Mobilizes and Deploys in Historic Statewide Exercise

By

Chief William S. Nelson, Troy Fire Department and MABAS-MI President  
and Terry Fobbs, Ph.D., Assistant to the State Fire Marshal



Photo Courtesy of MABAS-Michigan Division 3201

On July 28, 2011, in the largest demonstration of fire service mobilization ever held in Michigan history, seven fire operation task forces from across the state through the Michigan Fire Service Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS-MI), mobilized and deployed to four widely geographically dispersed points of departure. The mobilization was in response to a simulated EF4 tornado that swept through the fictional jurisdiction of Anytown, MI, with widespread devastation, deaths and injuries, to demonstrate emergency response readiness in time of disaster.

According to the Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness and the National Weather Service, Michigan has had 1,073 tornadoes occur between 1950 and 2010. Of that number, two have been the most destructive tornadoes with the rating of EF5 on the Enhanced Fujita scale. These tornadoes have sustained winds of 261 to 318 miles per hour with a base in excess of one mile wide. Two other EF5 tornadoes hit Michigan in 1896 and 1906, respectively. In the wake of the devastating EF5 tornadoes that hit the Southern states, including the EF4 tornado that hit Joplin Missouri this year, and Michigan's history of severe weather, it isn't a matter of if; it is a matter of when Michigan suffers the same type of devastation.



Photo Courtesy of MABAS-Michigan Division 3201

According to Michigan State Fire Marshal, Ronald, R. Farr, "MABAS provides local fire chiefs with simple and immediate access to additional fire, emergency, and specialized services and resources because no single fire department or community can cope with all disasters and emergencies. This higher level of coordination and preparedness will have a big impact by significantly reducing the loss of life and severity of injuries to people. Municipalities can also more effectively work together to leverage critical fire service assets and reduce duplication of effort and resources particularly in lean financial times."

MABAS is a user-driven mutual aid system designed to streamline the requesting and providing of emergency and fire services resources across Michigan and the Great Lakes Region for events such as major fires, train derailments, tornadoes, hazardous materials incidents, wild fires, domestic or foreign terrorism and other events that may overwhelm a local fire department. Each fire operations task force was composed of three engines,



each with a crew of four, a ladder truck with crew of four, a heavy rescue vehicle or additional engine with a crew of four, an ambulance with two emergency medical technicians and a chief officer with a command vehicle.

The exercise was directed from the MABAS-Michigan Coordination Center (MCC) that was established in Traverse City at the Summer Conference of the Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs. Attendees at the conference witnessed the real-time response and actual mobilization of MABAS task forces to the four “Point of Departure” staging areas located at The Palace of Auburn Hills in Auburn Hills; Saginaw Valley State University, Saginaw; North Berrien Fire Rescue Department in Coloma; and the Crockery Township Fire Department in Nunica.



Photo Courtesy of MABAS-Michigan 3201

Activation of the task forces began from a simulation cell in Traverse City where the MCC personnel, after notification from the Emergency Support Function 4 Desk of the simulation cell of the State Emergency Operations Center, called the statewide MABAS dispatch center in Lansing, which in turn called dispatch centers in Oakland, Saginaw, Bay, Muskegon, Ottawa, Berrien, and Cass counties. These local dispatch centers then contacted their MABAS-MI fire agencies that assembled their task forces and reported to the staging areas in response to the simulated tornado. The exercise was completed within 66 minutes when all agencies successfully checked in at their designated points of departure.

Troy Fire Chief and MABAS-Michigan President Bill Nelson stated “This is the first time the fire service in Michigan tested an activation of this size. We wanted to show that the fire service in Michigan is prepared to respond to a major disaster or an event within the state that requires considerable emergency resources.”

Michigan joins several Midwest states that have implemented the MABAS program. Currently, there are seven MABAS divisions in Michigan covering several of state’s Emergency Management Regions. Within these regions there are 121 member fire departments, an Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, a Hazardous Material Response Team and Incident Management Team. Several more divisions are pending approval and activation. All participating MABAS-Michigan divisions had a designated dispatch center participating in this full scale exercise.

“Michigan’s fire service is working diligently to ensure we are ready in Michigan through its MABAS program,” said Farr. “I strongly encourage all fire departments across the state to consider joining MABAS.”

The full-scale exercise was funded through the 2009 Homeland Security Grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through the Michigan Department of State Police. The grant is administered by the Michigan State Fire Marshal and the Bureau of Fire Services located in the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), a sponsor of the activation. Other sponsors were the Michigan State Police Emergency Management Homeland Security Division, and Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs.

For agencies interested in joining MABAS-MI, visit [www.michiefs.org](http://www.michiefs.org).

For coverage of the full-scale exercise visit:

<http://www.mabas3201.us/>

<http://energymanagement-systems.us/novi-fire-department-to-respond-to-simulated-tornado/>

[http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2011/07/fire\\_departments\\_in\\_bay\\_sagina.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2011/07/fire_departments_in_bay_sagina.html)

<http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1P3-2410746331.html>

<http://rochester.patch.com/articles/rochester-area-fire-departments-participate-simulated-tornado-drill-at-palace#video-7182527>

<http://novi.patch.com/articles/video-novi-fire-department-participates-in-states-largest-fire-services-response-exercise#video-7183545>

<http://www.clickondetroit.com/video/28698356/index.html>

## **Michigan Fire Inspectors Society 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Conference September 13-16, 2011**

Join the Michigan Fire Inspector Society (MFIS) for their 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Conference. This course is a must attend for fire inspectors. The four days of education are booked with critical information that EVERY inspector needs to be successful in today's challenging work environment. Register today and reserve your hotel room as space will fill up fast! For program information and registration form, go to the MFIS website at <http://mfis.org/>

## **University of Michigan Burn Trauma Center Accepting Nominations for the 2011 Leland Gayheart Prevention Award**

The University of Michigan Trauma Burn Center is accepting nominations for the 2011 Leland Gayheart Prevention Award. This award encourages injury and fire prevention efforts within local fire departments. It awards an honorarium to those whose innovative efforts have demonstrated an impact on the city, county, state, or national level. The deadline for nominations is September 30, 2011. For additional details, or to download a nomination form, visit: <http://www.traumaburn.org/prevention/leland.shtml>

This award is presented jointly by the University of Michigan Trauma Burn Center and the Gayheart family, in honor of Leland Gayheart, a 23-year-old firefighter who lost his life due to a devastating burn injury in 1991.

## **Bureau of Fire Services and NFPA Sponsor Free Fire Code Training**

In partnership with the NFPA, the Bureau of Fire Services will be offering a one-day training program for the fire service. This class is recommended for individuals who are or could be involved in the enforcement of fire safety rules for their municipality. The class will be reviewing applicable sections of NFPA 1 – 2006 edition that have been adopted by the State pursuant to the requirement in P.A. 207 – 1941, section 29.3e. With the adoption of the 2006 NFPA 1 – Fire Code one-day training will be offered at the following locations.

September 20, 2011 – Little Bear Ice Arena, St. Ignace

September 22, 2011 – Kirkland Community College, Roscommon

September 27, 2011 – Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kalamazoo

September 29, 2011 – Marriott – Eagle Crest, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti

Registration will start at 7:00am with class starting promptly at 8:00am and ending about 4:00pm. Jim Dolan of NFPA staff will be teaching the class.

If you are interested in attending please RSVP to the Bureau of Fire Services by contacting Student Assistant Aaron Galer at [GalerA2@michigan.gov](mailto:GalerA2@michigan.gov) with the names and department affiliation of those attending along with contact information. If you have questions please call the Bureau at 517-241-8847.

## **2011 Arson Awareness Poster Contest Winners**

By: Les Rodwell, Howell Area Fire Marshal, MSFA Past President 98-99

Annually, the Michigan Arson Prevention Committee (MAPC) and the Michigan Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators (MI-IAAI) sponsors the Arson Awareness Poster Contest. The contest is open to all Michigan middle and high school students. The theme for the 2011 contest was "ARSON."

This year, the student poster entries emphasized the negative aspects of arson: death, injury, community decay, moral decay, property destruction, and so forth. The posters were judged in three categories: middle school, grades 7-8, hand drawing; high school, grades 9-12, hand drawing; and computer-generated artwork, grades 7-12. Awards in each category were given out for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, with winners receiving \$250, \$150 and \$100, respectively. The art department at the winner's school also received a matching award in the each category.

May 1 – 7, 2011 was "**Arson Awareness Week**" in Michigan. On May 5 at the Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor, the MAPC and the MI-IAAI named the winners (listed below) of the Arson Awareness Poster Contest.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**1<sup>ST</sup> Place**

**Morgan Dougherty**, 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Rose City Middle School, Rose City  
Teacher: Kathleen Scheel



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

**Hailey Goran**, 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
Abbott Middle School, West Bloomfield  
Teacher: Eric Maike



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Taylor Klassen**, 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
Abbott Middle School, West Bloomfield  
Teacher: Eric Maike



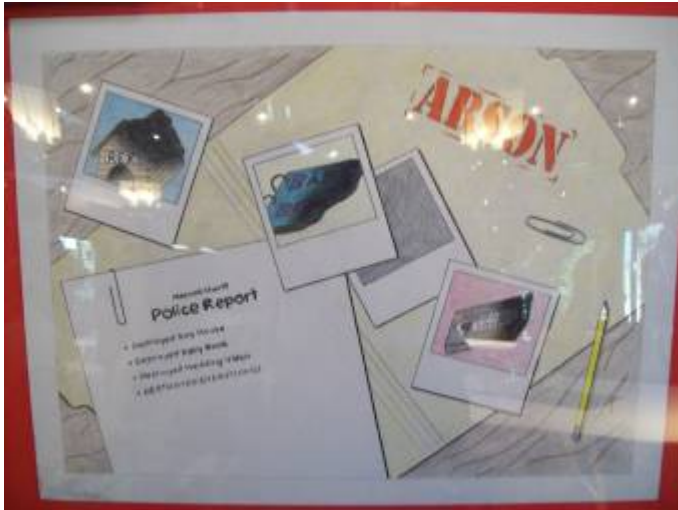
## HIGH SCHOOL

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**James Fick**, 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Visual Image Technology, Clinton Township

Teacher: Michael Hintze



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

**Beth Reeck**, 11<sup>th</sup> grade

Imlay City High School, Imlay City

Teacher: Greg Irwin



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Kayleigh McKeehan**, 10<sup>th</sup> grade

Imlay City HS, Imlay City

Teacher: Greg Irwin



# COMPUTER GENERATED

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Kaela Wojtowicz, 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

William Ford Career Tech Center, Westland

Teachers: Steven Paulson and Mark Benglian



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

**Dakota Page, 11<sup>th</sup> grade**

Hillsdale HS, Hillsdale

Teacher: Mindy Boyd



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Hailey Gladden, 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

William Ford Tech Center, Westland

Teachers: Steven Paulson and Mark Benglian



# NFIRS News

## NFIRS Reporting Summary

The Bureau of Fire Services, as mandated by Public Act 207 of 1941, as amended, collects all fire incidents from the fire departments in the state of Michigan. The fire reports are then released to the United States Fire Administration (USFA) through the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) uses this system to track department reporting which is a requirement for fire departments to apply for federal fire grants for their departments. The information is also used to produce fire codes, public education and plays a major role in reducing injuries and fatalities due to fire emergencies. The Michigan statistics reported in NFIRS for the past five years for civilian and fire fighter fatalities and injuries are as follows:

Year	Civilian Fatalities	Civilian Injuries	Fire Fighter Fatalities	Fire Fighter Injuries
2005	132	812	3	620
2006	139	727	1	618
2007	145	749	3	573
2008	158	670	2	536
2009	164	756	1	546

## 2010 Fire Department Reporting Activity

Below is a link to a document reflecting reporting activity for all departments in the state of Michigan. Please take a look and check out your department's reporting activity. Is it what you expected? If you have questions, please contact Rhonda Howard at (517) 241-0691 or [howardr2@michigan.gov](mailto:howardr2@michigan.gov).

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dleg/Non-Reporting\\_FDs2010\\_346754\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dleg/Non-Reporting_FDs2010_346754_7.pdf)

## NFIRS Account Passwords

NFIRS account passwords now automatically deactivate if you have not logged into the system within **45 days** of the last login rather than 60 days, as it was previously.

A user will begin receiving a notification via email message seven days before the date of expiration. The message is sent each day until the account is accessed, or the account is locked on the date of expiration. The purpose of email is to remind the user to take action before the account expires.

Please ensure that the email listed on your NFIRS account is accurate. For questions regarding your NFIRS account, please contact Rhonda Howard at [howardr2@michigan.gov](mailto:howardr2@michigan.gov) or (517) 241-0691.

## Reminder to Submit NFIRS Reports Online

As of January 1, 2008, the Bureau of Fire Services no longer accepts paper reports. The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) is available online and the Bureau of Fire Services requests that all fire departments enter these reports using this online system. If you need assistance in setting up this program please contact Rhonda Howard (contact information is listed below).

## Fatal Fire Reporting

In addition to the basic NFIRS report, the Bureau of Fire Services also tracks all fire-related deaths. These statistics are used for program development, legislation, and prevention programs. Fire departments responding to a fatal fire are required to submit the "Michigan Fatal Fire Report" within 24 to 48 hours of the death. The report form is available at: [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dleg\\_bccfs\\_fatalrep\\_94417\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dleg_bccfs_fatalrep_94417_7.pdf)

## Civilian Fatal Fire Statistics 2010 2010 – Reported as of August 11, 2011

January	19	July	9
February	16	August	5
March	15	September	7
April	14	October	16
May	6	November	3
June	5	December	8

## Civilian Fatal Fire Statistics 2011 2011 – Reported as of August 11, 2011

January	6
February	2
March	4
April	8
May	6

### Questions?

If you have questions regarding your department, NFIRS reporting functions or fatal fire reporting, please contact Rhonda Howard at (517) 241-0691 or [howardr2@michigan.gov](mailto:howardr2@michigan.gov).

## NFIRS Reporting in Michigan for 2011

### MICHIGAN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Michigan's Fire Prevention Code **mandates** local fire chiefs to report any fire resulting in loss of life or property to the Bureau of Fire Services. Michigan has adopted NFIRS 5.0 as the reporting standard, a computerized reporting system. **A [2011 Activity Report](http://www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-28077_42271_42321---,00.html) for all fire departments, including reporting and non-reporting is now available on our website at [http://www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-28077\\_42271\\_42321---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-28077_42271_42321---,00.html) under the statistics section.** If a fire department has no activity during a given month, they are required to submit a "No Activity" report.

Fire departments that are not participating in NFIRS 5.0 will not receive federal grant funding or training funding provided through the Federal Emergency Management Administration. In addition to jeopardizing federal dollars, fire department employees are not eligible for specialized training provided through the Michigan State Police.

Fire reporting plays a major role in reducing injuries, fatalities, and economic losses from fire and related emergencies. Fire codes, public fire education, and legislative actions are all driven by fire loss statistics. Complete and accurate data is essential to effective solutions to many of our fire problems.

# Michigan Fire Service Directory

**PLEASE check your department's E-MAIL address in the directory.** The Bureau has noticed that a lot of the email addresses are not up to date. The online directory can be found at: [http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/fire\\_directory/](http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/fire_directory/). **Please note that the directory is updated quarterly. Changes to department contact information may not be reflected in the directory immediately.**

Below is information on how to obtain the form to update your department's information in the directory. You may submit the form by fax to (517) 335-4061, e-mail to [howardr2@michigan.gov](mailto:howardr2@michigan.gov), or mail to Bureau of Fire Services, Attn: Rhonda Howard, PO Box 30700, Lansing, MI 48909. Thank you in advance for your help to keep the most accurate information in the directory.

## Fire Service Directory Update Form

You may locate the form on our website at [www.michigan.gov/bfs](http://www.michigan.gov/bfs), click on Forms and Publications, the form will be listed under the section called "Forms Listing."

# Office of Fire Fighter Training



## News and Notes from the OFFT

By Joseph A. Grutza, Director, Office of Fire Fighter Training



## State Fire Marshal Announces FY 2012 County Training Allocations

The Office of Fire Fighter Training county funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 (*October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012*) has been approved by State Fire Marshal Ronald Farr. The designated amounts were determined using the modified formula described in Public Act 291 of 1966 as amended. At the August 9, 2011, Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council meeting, the State Fire Marshal and Council approved a minimum allocation of \$2,250 for each county.

**County Training Committee Chairpersons are required to survey the training needs of each organized fire departments in their county.** Each CTC should allocate the funds received as prioritized by the departments in their county. (Please note: Although the county has the authority to distribute the funds, priority must be given to the basic fire fighter courses that are specified in the Act.) All county funds must be approved through the Information Management System by the county training committee chairperson and by the region supervisor.

Courses may be conducted any time between October 1, 2011, and September 30, 2012. County training allocations must be encumbered (committed for a specific course) by **January 1, 2012**.

The Hazardous Materials Training fund for fiscal year 2012 has not been announced. The OFFT will notify the county training committees once a decision is made.

Counties will be allowed to combine their FY 2012 allocations with neighboring counties in an effort to maximize efficiency in responding to training needs. It is the responsibility of the CTC chairperson to make the necessary inquiries and obtain approval from neighboring counties. The counties should contact their region supervisor to coordinate their efforts and to assure that Office of Fire Fighter Training procedures are followed.



# Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council (MFFTC) Meeting Information

## MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING & REGULATORY AFFAIRS Schedule of Meetings/Hearings 2011 MFFTC Meeting Schedule

<b>Bureau/Commission/Office:</b> Bureau of Fire Services	
<b>Board/Council/Commission:</b> Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council	
<b>Address:</b> 525 W. Allegan Street, 4th Floor	<b>Telephone:</b> (517) 241-8847
<b>City:</b> Lansing	<b>Michigan Zip Code:</b> 48933
<b>Contact Person:</b> Joseph Grutza	<b>Date:</b> July 8,, 2011
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Regular Meeting</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Special Meeting</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rescheduled Meeting</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>
<b>LOCATION</b>	
<b>October 21</b>	1:30 p.m.
<b>December 13</b>	
	10:00 a.m.
	1:30 p.m.

The meeting site is accessible, including handicapped parking. Individuals attending the meeting are requested to refrain from using scented personal care products, in order to enhance accessibility for everyone. People with disabilities requiring additional accommodations in order to participate in the meeting should contact Joe Grutza at (517) 241-8847 at least 10 work days before the event. The Division on Deaf & Hard of Hearing will provide assistance in locating assistive listening devices or interpreters, with advance notice, at (517) 373-1837. The above is provided pursuant to Sections 4 and 5 of Act 267 of Public Acts of 1976, being Sections 15.264 and 15.265 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

### MFFTC Region Retest Schedule

The 2011 Fire Fighter I and II retest examinations are now scheduled and have been entered into the Information Management System (IMS). A student desiring to retest must log into IMS, and complete the "Training Application" so that they can be placed on the roster. In addition, those desiring to retest/challenge an examination must submit either the Notification of Exam Results letter or a completed Challenge Exam application to the appropriate region supervisor or they will not be allowed to test. Any student, who because of a disability requires a reader, must submit the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Approval letter prior to the examination date.

**Region 1:** Supervisor Dan Hammerberg; ph. 906-786-0760

- West Iron County Fire Department, September 24, 2011, 8:00 AM (Central Daylight Time)  
641 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Iron River
- Gerrish Township Fire Department, September 24, 2011, 8:00 AM  
2997 E. Higgins Lake Drive, Roscommon, MI

**Region 2:** Supervisor Gary Crum; ph. 616-447-2689

- Wyoming Fire Training Center -- September 24, 2011, 8:00 AM  
2300 Gezon Parkway SW, Wyoming, MI
- Swartz Creek Fire Department -- September 24, 2011, 8:00 AM  
8100 B Civic Drive, Swartz Creek, MI

## Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association Annual Conference October 20-22, 2011 in Traverse City

The Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association (MFSIA) mission is to obtain better education, provide information, establish continuity, promote fire safety, form lasting bonds, create a good atmosphere and promote professionalism in the fire service.

Each year in October the association holds its annual conference in Traverse City. This year's conference will be held October 20, 21, and 22, 2011 at the Park Place Hotel.

Please help the association recognize the best instructors in your area by nominating them for Instructor of the Year!

The MFSIA is now accepting nominations from its membership for the MFSIA Instructor of the Year. The nominees are from all five regions of Michigan and from this select group, the MFSIA names its Instructor of the Year and Regional Instructor(s) of the Year (individuals receiving this award need not be a member of the MFSIA.) The 2011 regional winners will also be awarded a one year MFSIA membership. Nomination forms and further information is available at [www.mfsia.com](http://www.mfsia.com)

# Other News...

## NEWS from CPSC

### U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Communications

Washington, DC 20207

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 9, 2011  
Release #11-300

**Firm's Recall Hotline: (800) 334-8694**  
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772  
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

### Emergency Exit Signs Recalled by Best Lighting Products Due to Failure to Illuminate

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product.

**Name of Product:** LHQM LED Exit Signs with Emergency Lights

**Units:** About 450

**Manufacturer:** Best Lighting Products, of Pataskala, Ohio

**Distributor:** Lithonia Lighting, a division of Acuity Brands Lighting Inc. of Conyers, Ga.

**Hazard:** The fixtures can malfunction and fail to illuminate in the event of a power failure. This could result in a failure to provide adequate lighting to guide building occupants to an exit in the event of an emergency.

**Incidents/Injuries:** There were 10 reports of signs malfunctioning during testing after installation. No injuries were reported.

**Description:** The recalled exit signs have emergency lights fixed at either end with "EXIT" in red or green in the center. The fixtures are installed in commercial buildings, such as hotels and office buildings. Affected model numbers can be found on a label affixed inside the fixture housing and on the outside of the packaging, and include:

LHQM LED G M6, LHQM LED R M6 and LHQM LED R HO M6. Affected models have the following date codes on the inside fixture housing: 1003S10, 1004S10 or 1005S10. Dates on the packaging carton include any calendar dates in March, April or May 2010.

**Sold to:** Authorized distributors nationwide from January 2011 through May 2011 for \$100 to \$200.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should contact Lithonia Lighting for a free replacement product.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Lithonia Lighting toll-free at (800) 334-8694 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit their website at [www.lithonialighting.com](http://www.lithonialighting.com)



LHQM LED Fixture



Carton



Manufacture Date ↑



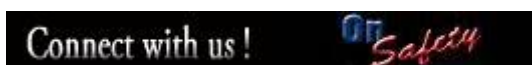
Product label with Date Code on the upper right

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is still interested in receiving incident or injury reports that are either directly related to this product recall or involve a different hazard with the same product. Please tell us about your experience with the product on [www.saferproducts.gov](http://www.saferproducts.gov)

CPSC is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death associated with the use of the thousands of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries, and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$900 billion annually. CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed to a decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

Under federal law, it is illegal to attempt to sell or resell this or any other recalled product.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, go online to: [www.saferproducts.gov](http://www.saferproducts.gov), call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270 for the hearing impaired. Consumers can obtain this news release and product safety information at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov). To join a free e-mail subscription list, please go to <https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx>.





# FALL BUSINESS EVENT

HOMELAND TO HOMETOWN "The Next 10 Years"

Troy Marriott, September 19 – 21, 2011



A rare opportunity to gain knowledge on how DHS blends with other agencies (such as FBI, Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), Michigan State Police, and State and Local governments) and law enforcement to understand their needs as well as innovation requirements.

## Where are the opportunities?

### Key Speakers and Guests:

- Governor of Michigan, The Honorable Rick Snyder *(invited)*
- The Adjutant General, State of Michigan, Major General Gregory J. Vadnais *(invited)*
- Assistant Adjutant General, Michigan National Guard, Brigadier General Michael Stone
- Assistant Commissioner, Technology Innovation and Acquisition – DHS, Mark Borkowski
- Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) for NYPD at Ground Zero, Joseph Blozis
- Michigan State Police, Fiduciary Agent for DHS Funds for the State of Michigan, Captain W. Thomas Sands

### Conference Take Away:

- Find the synergy between your product/service and the needs of government and defense.
- Exposure to requirements that relate to your business or agency.
- Understand and leverage opportunities from Defense to Homeland.

### Who Should Attend:

- Commercial or Specialty Commodity Service Providers
- Homeland Security Providers
- Homeland and Defense Contractors, Suppliers and Small Business
- First Responders
- Law Enforcement
- Emergency Health Care Responders
- IT Providers
- U.S. Members of Congress
- Michigan Members of Congress
- Michigan State Legislators
- Community Leaders

### Areas of Focus

- Cyber Security
- Homeland Defense
- Homeland Security – Federal and Local

### Conference Certification:

Professional Emergency Management (PEM) Certified  
Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) 302 – Approved

*A piece of the World Trade Towers will be on display at the event  
in honor of the 10 Year Anniversary of 911.  
"Never Forget"*

### Exhibit and Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

For more information and registration please visit [www.ndia-mich.org](http://www.ndia-mich.org)

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Thanks to all of you for the continued articles, information, photos and comments – your input is important. Any questions regarding the Bureau of Fire Services newsletter may be directed to Terry Fobbs, Ph.D. at (517) 373-8331 or [fobbst@michigan.gov](mailto:fobbst@michigan.gov)

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**For additional information about the Bureau of Fire Services and to subscribe or unsubscribe to the “Michigan Fire Service Connection” go to:**

[www.michigan.gov/bfs](http://www.michigan.gov/bfs)

Click “Sign up for our newsletter” and follow the steps to subscribe and unsubscribe.



<http://www.michigan.gov/lara>

**LARA is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids, services and other reasonable accommodations are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.**