

BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN



Call to Order: 0830- 1014 Date: June 19,2024

PRERSENTATION:

Presentation by Pierce. Tom McDonald: tmcdonald@haltfire.net; Ted Lilley: tlilley@haltfire.net
Presentation by Allen Barker. Daughter Lily Barker has 20 honor challenge coins circulating around the county.
In Jully the coins will be collected and a tribute to first responders will be made and then displayed. Gerry offered the fire education center for the display during the fair.

Old minutes: Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes by: Chief Weich. Seconded by: Chief Knisely. Motion passed. None opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning Balance: \$7377.49. Noting in or out. Ending Balance: \$7377.49.

Motion to accept treasurers report by: Chief Huston. Seconded by: Deputy Chief Gowen. Motion passed.

None opposed. **Bills:** None

Communications:

General Communications:

New Chief/Visitor:

Great Lakes Drone: None

EMS:

Medic-1: Chief Weich on behalf of Medic: Working on a contract with Corwell for transfers. There will be a dedicated vehicle for the transfers. Many expressed appreciation for what Medic-1 has been doing.

S.M.C.A.S.: None
Med Flight: None
Med Control: None

Dispatch/911: Discussed a review of the Niles Twp./Niles mayday. Dispatch ahs come up with a brief form for dispatchers to follow when mayday is received. Have protocol forms to update for dispatch. Please fill one out after the meeting. Discussed on duty status. On duty for fire department that wish to participate will start on June 24, 2024. If FD wishes to use on duty status, they are to call dispatch on radio to acknowledge they have staff on station. Dispatch will hail FD on 11F911 for minor calls such as fire alarms/burning complaint/investigations/etc..... If FD calls out on duty the **MUST** call dispatch when going off duty as well. Dispatch complaint has been delt with and corrective action taken. Caitlin reminded everyone that if there is an issue to contact dispatch supervisor as soon as possible. You can call dispatch and talk to supervisor **269-983-3060**; or you can email the dispatch supervisor staff: **911supervisor@berriencounty.org**

Discussed the request denial for a Verizon/FirstNet tower in Chikaming to cover Warren Dunes Park. The

tower installer is requesting support from public safety agencies for the tower. Discussion on all water rescues will now be assigned an 11UIC at dispatch to get all agencies involved communicating together.

Communications Committee: See attached brief of the meeting. Discussion on radio ID's for Indiana. Only 50 radio ID were shared between Indiana and Michigan. 2 were given to the FD across the state line. 7 to S.M.C.A.S, 2 Three Oaks EMS, Medic-1 unsure; the rest were divided up between law enforcement (local/county/MSP). Follow up discussion in communications meeting. Critical connect is another avenue to fix the issue however there are some cyber security issues. Discussion on radio etiquette. We as the leaders of our department need to get our members to use better radio etiquette. Show and discuss the radio training video the committee put out. It is available on the BCFA website. Question again: can dispatch assign an 11FG on



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structure fires. If we do not there are FD handling structure fire on 11F911. Why are department not requesting 11FG for structure fire? Caitlin stated she has empowered dispatchers to guide/prompt department to an 11FG. Can the 11FG be structured to the call types? Can the 11FG be put into CAD as units and the be tied to structure fires? It can and it would rotate through the 11FG. But would complicate as Niles would not always have 11FG4. If 11FG set up as unit in CAD can it be put into Active911 as well? Caitlin will take back to her staff to look into. Will start with assigning 11FG for all structure fires. Units are to clear call/go enroute/go on scene on 11F911 and move to assigned 11FG UPON arrival to the scene. Caitlin advised Niles that you may not always have 11FG4. Question on why all other trucks are not timed stamped enroute/onscreen/etc....? Will also follow up this in communications committee.

Guideline Committee: ICS guideline has been sent out. Training will be coming. Planning to set up as a video. Will be moving the mayday training to a video as well. Will be about a ½ hour video. The guideline committee would like to address the mutual aid agreement next. The mutual aid will take a very long time. MCI information sent to Director Wiley. Chief Myers address a question he received on why we are making departments do these, These are life safety issues and we need to get everyone working on the same page and together.

BCFA: Next meeting July 10, 2024 at North Berrien. Had a request to restart HART. BCFA is looking into it. Smoke detectors. Gerry is pushing the state program. BHDPS is the local warehouse for the state smoke detector program. Gerry would like to see the BCFCA and the BCFA logos on the wall at the new fire station at the fair. Nothing new on BCFCA logo currently. Discussion on the purchase of a cooler for the fire station at the fair. Gerry stated cooler is about \$2000.00 and asked if BCFCA would be interested in sharing cost. Discussion on cooler staying in the fire station. Yes if BCFA and BCFCA purchase cooler it will stay in the fire station. Motion by Chief Jesswein to spend \$1000.00 from BCFCA funds to purchase cooler for fair fire station. Seconded by Chief Knisely. Motion passed. One opposed. Gerry has fire education sign up form. Car show June 29. Still looking for fire trucks. Funds are split between BCFA and Sheriff department. Training: Multiple training fliers on front table. Virtual training officer funds are planned for a live fire training facility. Working on grants for RTF. Classes will be in 2025. Classes will be 5 day accredited courses with spots available for: 35-LE; 15-Fire/EMS. A review of the proposed new OSHA standard for first responders as summarized by the National Volunteer Fire Council is on the table as well. Everyone needs to be concerned and informed on the proposed changes. Departments are encouraged to make comments on how these proposed changes will negatively impact their organization.

Emergency Management: Public reception center training and drill in New Buffalo. If can help please help it takes everyone. REP training online coming in the future. With Palisades request to open back up several exercises must be completed prior to reopening. If these exercises will put adverse burden on your department contact Capt. Adams for Palisades contacts to discuss issues. CERT is current not active in the county. Discussion on possible bring it back. Lest We Forget is this weekend. Hazmat is in need of members. Open to the fire departments. Sheriff is willing to discuss the insurance issues if you have members interested. **MABAS:** No report.

Other Comments: Bertrand Fire celebrating 75th anniversary on September 14, 2024 from 1000-1200. **Old Business:** 501C3 status is moving forward. Berrien Springs is the address for the association. We now have an EIN. There is a \$275.00 fee to file for 501C3 status. Motion by Chief Jesswein to spend \$275. And associated fees for the 501C3 status. Seconded by: Chief Steinke. Motion passed. None opposed. Discussion on the letter to municipality leaders and fire chiefs.



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Letter going to all municipalities and fire chiefs even those that have completed the boxcards. Discussion on adding wording on the MA agreement/ NIFRS/attending BCFCA meetings. All agreed to send letter after the changes.

Berrien Springs will be hosting a boxcard workshop, covering all aspects of the boxcards. Please email Chief Myers by July 12, 2024 if you are interested in boxcard workshop. Dispatch is willing to be at the workshop as well. Some departments have aged boxcards and they need to be looked at and updated. Boxcards should be reviewed/updated at least annually. Boxcard that do not match auto aid: Baroda/Bertrand/.

There are seven departments that do not have boxcards. Benton Twp./Bridgman/Eau Claire/Lake Twp./Royalton Twp./ST Joe Twp. 2/Sodus.

Bylaws change discussion. Chief Weich made the update to the bylaws that were missed. Sec/Treas. advised post the updated bylaws.

New Business: Boxcards part of the new mutual aid agreement.

Next Meeting:

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Deputy Director Kazmierzak. Seconded by Chief Weich. Motion passed.

None opposed. Meeting adjourn: 1014hrs.





BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION ATTENDANCE SHEET

DATE: June 19, 2024

NAME	SIGNATURE	DEPARTMENT
Frank Dela Torre	de to have	NBFR
	Buain Flag	Lake Two
Brian Florey Allen Weich	all the	Chikaming
Chis HIESTON	Ola (Ver	O.D. CF. J.
Jod Nitz	me	welsow
LOB HURPER	L. Darsea	BCTFD
EVERETT STEINKE	Everett Stuffe	STFD
Gerry Kapelman	Suy 1	SJCTFD#1
Bir Knisely	De Common of the	Bertrans
Caitlin Sampsel	Cathing Sappell	BC, 911
Vige Grower	Mit de	Niles City
Jim Jesswein	ahm	Nites Two Buchan Try

Communications Committee Discussion Topics:

June 18, 2024

- Follow Up Discussions:
 - o Agencies with multiple aid on initial alarm.
 - Utilization of extra paging talkgroups.
 - o Chief Myers will follow up
- On Duty Status.
- On duty status is set up and ready for testing. Set up for all agencies. Will have a six month testing period. If you call in for on duty you must call into dispatch when going off duty. If no answer when hailed department will be toned out.
- Radio Video.
- Some minor changes for future update.
- Niles Twp./Niles Mayday.
- Discovered 11FG5 was not recorded. Working to get 11FG5 recorded.
 Capt. Dawson stated 11FG5 is recorded now at Niles Dispatch. Cass
 County fire agencies do not have 11FG4 or 11FG5. Buchanan City fire and Baroda fire also do not have11FG5. Listened to mayday recordings.
 Discussion on difficulties communicating with the C5 SCBA masks.
 Initially additional agencies were requested all a carte. So when boxalarm was needed for mayday portions of first and second box had already been requested. This created confusion for dispatchers. Discussion on the importance of departments having boxcards. If no boxcards dispatch has to guess who to send. Discussion on not calling enough mutual aid.
 Discussion on importance of agencies using 11F911 for fire calls and 11E911 for the medical calls to reduce radio traffic. Extensive discussion on department radio etiquette and the need for agencies to reduce radio traffic,

utilize proprietary talkgroups, and move to 11FG when appropriate. Discussion on water rescue calls. It is the recommendation of the communications committee that for water rescue calls an 11UIC be assigned and announced in the dispatch.

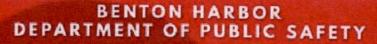
• Dispatch Delays.

June 10, 2024, Lincoln Twp. call and following email chain. (Ironically similar discussion at 06-2023 meeting)

Why is PD being dispatched first for structure fires? Caitlin stated that is not protocol. The incident was addressed and corrected. If want faster dispatches AHJ dispatched first. Since fire department are dispatched twice, Can AHJ paging talkgroups be added to the priority calls, then on second fire dispatch, dispatch auto aid? Caitlin stated they can however that would create a lot of additional radio traffic during the second fire dispatch.

- Radio Credits.
- Should county credits be used for personal radios. Individuals cannot get 800 radios programed on their own. Radio must be part of agency inventory. Decision and agreement that need to be made between individual and department. Radio would be programed to the department template.





VFIS

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AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN





SATURDAY SEPT. 21, 2024 \$50/PERSON

O800-1600

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FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT Brian Kazmierzak — 269-443-1027 bkazmierzak@bhcity.us Benton Harbor Department of Public Safety Presents

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WE OFFER

- ✓ SATURDAY SEPT. 14th, 2024
- ✓ LAKE MICHIGAN COLLÉGE
- ✓ TODD CENTER
- ✓ 9AM-1PM
- √ \$50/FIREFIGHTER

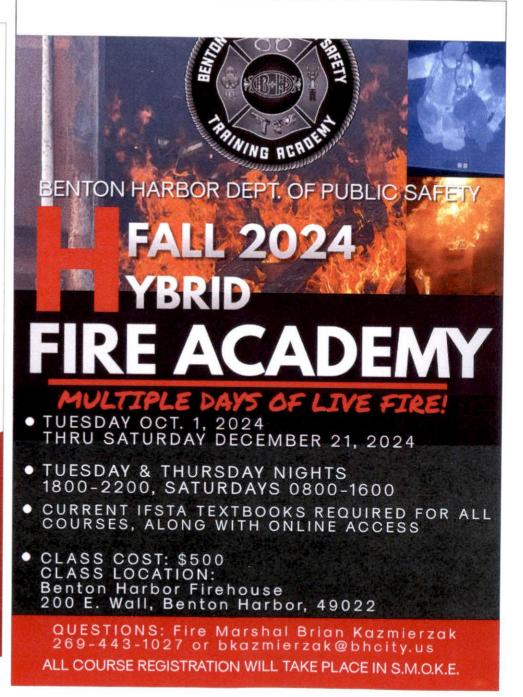


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Instructor: Nick Wilbur is a 17-year veteran of the fire service. He works for the Arlington County (VA) Fire Department. He is also a Volunteer at the College Park (MD) Volunteer Fire Department, where he has been a member for 16 years, 11 of which he has been a master driver. He has been published in Fire Engineering magazine for ladder placement and has been a HOT instructor and classroom instructor at FDIC for the same. He has served as an SME for course writing and review for Lexipol on apparatus driving and operation topics. He has taught across the country helping departments gain full use of their aerial apparatus.

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0830-1700 each day
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Man in the Machine Rescue



AC Aaron Bolinger - Warsaw (IN) FD

Key topics include sizing up an incident; establishing safety zones; mitigating hazards; stabilizing and creating access and egress openings for rescue; disentangling and removing victims; and terminating an incident. The knowledge and skills acquired will prepare an emergency responder to extricate victim(s) from machinery in a safe and effective manner in accordance with AHJ policies and procedures

This course complies with the Operations Level response requirements found in NFPA 1006/1670.



- ✓ SEPT 7th & 8th, 2024
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TRAINING VIDEO - ATF Flynn LODD



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Frequently Asked Questions about the OSHA Proposed Rule

Disclaimer:

We have received several requests for a 30,000-foot view of what would be required for an Agency Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) to comply with the proposed 1910.156 standard. While this list is not comprehensive, it is our best understanding of what would be required under the standard if adopted, as written, today. Please pay special attention to the NFPA standards referenced, as they contain over 1,500 "shalls" and "musts" that would be required under this law. While the standard is very detailed, it is also very vague on exactly what would meet the standards. These details would be decided by individual inspectors and court cases moving forward. This review is not a legal opinion in any way, shape, or form, or reflect the opinion of any business or organization. This is strictly the review of a few folks that have spent hundreds of hours pouring through the proposed standard since it was announced in December 2023.

Summary

On February 5, 2024, the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published a proposed rule that would update the 29 CFR 1910.156 "Fire Brigade" standard that was first published in 1980. This proposed rule would replace the existing rule and expand the scope of it from the original small-scoped fire responder rule to set board standards that apply not just to industrial firefighters but would now also apply to employees engaged in fire service activities, emergency medical services, and specialized rescue services.

Who would it apply to?

- All private services would be subject to this rule as well as any public or governmental entity if you are in a jurisdiction where OSHA is applied to you (OSHA program states and municipalities).
- "Employees" of any agency engaged in the above activities. While many volunteers are not viewed as
 employees by states and the federal government, many states do consider volunteers to be employees.
 Also, volunteers that receive pension plans or other substantial renumeration may qualify as employees
 under the rule. Refer to your jurisdiction or counsel to learn whether your volunteers would be considered
 employees.
- Examples of agencies that would need to comply that did not under the old rule include: private EMS services, law enforcement rescue teams such as SAR, and water rescue teams.

What does it the proposed rule require?

Here is a very general overview; refer to the proposed rule for specifics:

- Establish a comprehensive Emergency Response Plan (ERP) that provides protections for responders who are designated to work at incidents. It shall include, but not be limited to:
 - o Team members responsibilities and participation based on role and capability
 - o Comprehensive risk management plans
 - o Medical and physical requirements

- Training
- o Facility preparedness
- o Vehicle preparedness and operation
- o Pre-incident planning
- o Incident management system use
- o Emergency incident operations
- Standard operating procedures
- o Post-incident analysis
- o Program evaluation
- o Updated copies of all written policies and procedures
- The ERP must also include a comprehensive community vulnerability assessment for the agency's response area identifying:
 - o Hazards within the jurisdiction
 - o Places, structures, facilities, and other locations requiring regular pre-incident planning
 - o An ongoing listing of locations that are vacant and a method of identifying those that are unsafe.
 - A list of services the community may need, which will and will not be provided by the agency, and where those services will come from if not provided by the agency.
- The ERP must identify the necessary resources and manpower to provide it's intended response services to its respective area of responsibility.
- In the ERP, the tiers and types of responders and their expected roles must be identified. (for example, interior structural firefighter, exterior only operations firefighters, fire police, vehicle operators, technical specialists, EMTs, EMRs, Paramedics)
- Team members must be permitted to participate in the development of the ERP.
- Medical Requirements:
 - Establish a medical program that is compliant with NFPA 1582 (this is for every agency to comply, not just firefighters).
 - o Comprehensive physical exams appropriate for all roles and tiers at least every 2 years for every member who may be exposed to combustion products 15 or more times a year.
 - o Appoint a properly trained and qualified medical officer or manager to oversee your program and maintain confidential records.
 - o Provide for the costs of exams, tests, and time lost.
 - o Establish guidelines that set timelines and conditions for requirements of return-to-duty evaluation after an illness or injury.
 - o Perform medical monitoring of exposures to all hazardous substances and chemicals, biological hazards, and combustion products.
 - o Establish a behavioral health program that includes ongoing monitoring, counseling, post-incident care, and referral and crisis care.
 - o Establish policy defining fitness for duty and how member readiness is monitored.
- Establish an ongoing health and fitness program:
 - o Appoint a Health and Fitness Officer or Manager who is trained and qualified to oversee member health and fitness.
 - o Provide an opportunity for members to exercise while on duty.
 - o Execute a health and fitness assessment of each member at least every 3 years.

o Provide education and counseling regarding health promotion for all responders.

Training:

- o Provide initial training, on-going training, refresher training, and professional development to all members based on their expected job tasks for their levels and tiers.
- o Ensure all instructor/trainers are qualified and meet knowledge, skill, and ability expectations.
- o Provide training in a language and at a literacy level that will allow responders to understand and that it allows time for questions and interactive learning.
- o Provide training on all policies and procedure to include the risk management plans, health and wellness program, incident Management System, all aspects of PPE, fire extinguisher use.
- Every emergency responder must be trained how to act in dangerous situations and events such as orderly and rapid evacuations or equipment failure.
- o Each team member is at least HAZWOPER First Responder Awareness level trained.
- o Each team member and responder is CPR and AED trained.
- o Facility and industrial responders trained to comply with NFPA 1081-2018.
- Interior structural firefighters meet or exceed NFPA 1001-2019 and NFPA 1407-2020 (Rapid intervention team standard).
- Each vehicle operator must be at least trained in accordance with requirements of NFPA 1002-2017.
- At a minimum, every manager/supervisor/crew leader/officer must be trained to the appropriate level set forth in NFPA 1021-2020.
- o Specialized training minimums:
 - Wildland firefighting NFPA 1140-2022.
 - Technical rescue NFPA 1006-2021.
 - Marine environment NFPA 1005-2019.
- o EMS providers shall be trained and certified to state or jurisdictional minimum requirements based of level of responder.
- o Team members and responders are required to demonstrate proficiency of knowledge and skills annually of the JPRs for their respective tier and level.

• Facilities Preparedness:

- o Provide facilities for decontamination, disinfection, cleaning, and storage of PPE.
- o Fire poles and their vertical openings must comply with safety protections.
- All fire protection systems must be installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's requirements.
- Hard wired smoke and CO detection systems are mandatory.
- Sprinklers are mandatory in new construction.
- Vehicle exhaust exposure prevention measures are required.
- No contaminated PPE in sleeping and living areas.
- o Must ensure standpipe and hose fitting compatibility with responding fire departments.

Equipment and PPE

- o Provide equipment and PPE to team members to train and perform work at no cost.
- Maintain all equipment and perform periodic testing. Also establish a procedure for reporting defective gear and equipment and removing it from service.
- o New PPE must comply with the NFPA standard associated with its purpose (example: structural firefighting gear meets NFPA 1971).
- o Personal items permitted for use must also comply with all above.
- o PPE and equipment must have gross decontamination before leaving scenes.

o No contaminated gear or PPE in passenger compartments of vehicles.

Vehicle Preparedness

- o Process in place to assure vehicle is inspected, maintained, and repaired.
- o Process in place so every member knows when and how a vehicle is to be taken out of service.
- o Every riding position is a seat and has appropriate restraints.
- o Fire apparatus is inspected and maintained in accordance with applicable NFPA standards.

Vehicle Operation

- o No vehicles will move until all occupants are seated and properly restrained and shall remain so any time the vehicle is in motion.
- o Team members providing care to a patient must be restrained any time doing so will not directly impact the ability to deliver care.
- o Harnesses provided and used when engaged in pump-and-roll operations, loading hose or other activities that require work while the vehicle is in motion.
- o Policies required for team member use of vehicle not under direct control of the agency such as POVs for response to facilities or scenes.
- Pre-Incident plans must be completed on facilities determine to require them in the ERP. These plans should address site contacts, resources available and needs for additional resources, hazards, and unique challenges. These plans must be made available to all team members and reviewed annually.
- Agencies shall utilize an Incident Management System (IMS) and encouraged to be standardized with the current NIMS framework.

Emergency Incident Operations

- o Every incident utilizes an IMS and has an assigned Incident Commander or Unified Command.
- o Every incident has safety addressed either through the role of the IC or UC (smaller incidents) or through designation of an Incident Safety Officer.
- Crews must be rotated periodically in extended or complex incidents.
- o Every emergency incident has established control zones by IC that are clearly identified and marked in a conspicuous manner whenever possible. The locations of the control zones must be shared with every team member or responder before they are assigned to any control zone.
- o Minimum of 4 adequately trained members respond before entry into an IDLH. Two-in, two-out followed unless imminent danger to life exists. (Immediate rescue)
- o Positive pressure SCBA or supplied air respirators with a 5-minute rescue bottle only in IDLHs.
- o A personnel accountability system must be utilized.
- o Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) must be established as soon as feasible at structural fires when crews are operating in IDLH.
- o An adequate communication plan and system must be established and used during incident operations.
- o Establish Rehab with medical monitoring as well as traffic control procedures when needed.
- When using skilled support workers (SSW) (tow operators, equipment operators, industry reps)
 agency must ensure they are properly protected, using appropriate PPE, and are properly escorted
 when operating at an incident.
- Every response agency must establish SOPs addressing all areas of operation and readiness. Specific areas include: PPE wear, use, cleaning, inspection and repair; Post-incident decontamination and contamination prevention of team members including gross decontamination, showering and hygiene;

radio communications procedures; Mayday procedures; operations at vacant dwellings; medical monitoring and rehab; crime scenes; traffic incident operations.

- Post-incident analysis must be performed on any significant event such as a large-scale event, a near-miss
 event, any team member, responder or SSW injury or illness requiring treatment or fatality.
- The agency performance to meet the ERP must be reviewed annually and any discrepancies must be addressed.

What standards are included by reference?

The following standards have been included by reference and any section therein with a 'shall' or 'must' statement are to be complied with:

- NFPA 1001, Standard for Structural Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 2019 ed.
- NFPA 1002, Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications, 2017 ed.
- NFPA 1005, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Marine Fire Fighting for Land-Based Fire Fighters,
 2019 ed.
- NFPA 1006, Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 ed.
- NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications, 2020 ed.
- NFPA 1081, Standard for Facility Fire Brigade Member Professional Qualifications, 2018 ed.
- NFPA 1140, Standard for Wildland Fire Protection, 2022 ed.
- NFPA 1407, Standard for Training Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews, 2020 ed.
- NFPA 1582, Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, 2022 ed.
- NFPA 1910, Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Refurbishment, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Emergency Vehicles and Marine Firefighting Vessels, 2024 ed.
- NFPA 1951, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents, 2020 ed.
- NFPA 1952, Standard on Surface Water Operations Protective Clothing and Equipment, 2021 ed.
- NFPA 1953, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Contaminated Water Diving, 2021 ed.
- NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting, 2018 ed.
- NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting and Urban Interface Fire Fighting, 2022 ed.
- NFPA 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services,
 2019 ed
- NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS), 2018 ed.
- NFPA 1984, Standards on Respirators for Wildland Fire-Fighting Operations and Wildland Urban Interface Operations, 2022 ed.
- NFPA 1986, Standard on Respiratory Protection Equipment for Tactical and Technical Operations, 2023 ed.
- NFPA 1987, Standard on Combination Unit Respirator Systems for Tactical and Technical Operations, 2023 ed.
- NFPA 1990, Standard for Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials and CBRN Operations, 2022 ed.
- NFPA 1999, Standard on Protective Clothing and Ensembles for Emergency Medical Operations, 2018 ed.
- ANSI/ISEA 207, American National Standard for High-Visibility Public Safety Vests, 2011 ed.