



Sunday (One day)

33. First Arriving Engine & Managing Risks

Instructor: Michael Prete

First Arriving Engine Company: This program will help the student understand the role of the engine company on the fireground. To accomplish this, this program will review building construction, discuss how to develop a relationship with truck crews to work together in suppression efforts, and develop an understanding of individual engine company responsibilities as they arrive first due to an incident.

Managing Risks: Fire department files bankruptcy, firefighters found guilty of negligence and forced to pay retribution, firefighters chief held accountable for line of duty death, ordered to pay millions of dollars to surviving family members. These are everyday headlines. So how do officers and chiefs avoid these pitfalls? This program will define the issues and factors that the leadership of an organization uses to manage risk both in the station, in public and on the scene of an incident. The program will look to develop an understanding of personal influence and how traits, values and tradition affect risk. This program will help develop strategies for risk assessment and develop tools to manage risk in all aspects of the fire service.

About the instructor:

Mike Prete retired after 37 years of active service as an Assistant Fire Chief at Montgomery County (MD) Fire and Rescue Services, a large combination department near our nation's capital. With over 40 years of fire and rescue experience, Mike started as a volunteer in a department that bordered Washington DC and served in a career capacity for Montgomery County holding positions from Firefighter Paramedic through Executive Operations Chief. In addition to his role directly relating to fire and rescue operations, he managed daily operational and administrative issues including budget, daily oversight and scheduling for 1300 full time personnel. Mike began teaching in his early days as a sergeant, serving as a recruit instructor, and has continued this passion today. With national and state instructor certifications, Mike has served as an adjunct instructor for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, NIMS Instructor for MEMA, Anne Arundel Community College adjunct instructor, Practical Incident Control Training lead instructor and holds various certifications in public safety. Since his retirement, Mike splits his time between teaching and as a project coordinator for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF). Mike hosts the NFFF Podcast series Firefighter After Action Review which takes deep dives into Line of Duty Death incidents by discussing all aspects of these incidents with personnel who have knowledge of these tragic events.