

## First Arriving Engine

As the first arriving engine, the officer and crew set the foundation for everything that follows. The decisions made will affect all the decisions that follow. These decisions can make things worse just as easily as making things better. This program will provide the participants with an overview of the essential issues that must be considered when that first engine arrives. Often, this engine is the only water on a fire until far away help arrives in remote areas. In addition to strategy and tactics, this program will discuss apparatus positioning, command functions, water supply issues, go/no go decisions based on survivability, initial line placement as well as other important function of the engine company.

### **Instructor – Mike Prete**

Mike retired after a 37-years career and 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 and 1100 volunteers.

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 and degrees in business administration and public safety. Since his retirement, Mike splits his time between teaching and as a project coordinator for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF).