



# Albany County Sheriff's Office Critical Incident Emergency Management Unit

July 2021

## Critical Incident/Emergency Management Unit

This is the monthly newsletter for the Albany County Sheriff's Office Critical Incident Emergency Management Unit. Please feel free to send us your comments and suggestions.



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## **Albany County Volunteer Firefighter news**

Albany County Volunteer Firefighter dinner is September 15th at Coeymans Hollow Fire Department. They are still looking for nominations for Firefighter of the year. To nominate write up a description of the event or reason for the nomination on company letterhead. Have the Chief Officer sign it and send it to the Association Secretary John Webb, 30 Van Buren Avenue, Ravena, NY 12143 The deadline is August 1st.

The Fire Muster will be October 9th at Fort Hunter they would like to get a good turnout to honor Chief Eck.

## **Altamont Fair**

The Sheriff's Office will be at the Hometown Hero's building at the Altamont Fair August 17<sup>th</sup> to August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Sheriff's booth will have their rock wall, Stop DWI, Project Safe Child program, Search and Rescue team truck and our tactical training trailer, we hope to see you there.

Also in the Hometown Hero's building will be the State Police, Guilderland Police, as well as, various Fire displays and we will be remembering the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

## **NYS Fire Training Classes.**

REMINDER: There is a new way that students should enroll in classes. It's the OFPC LMS system. Students can sign up directly on this site for our classes. The website is <https://lmsportal-dhSES.ny.gov/acadisviewer/login.aspx>. This does not automatically allow them in the class. Training Coordinator Chief Bill Bruno or the assigned State Fire Instructor will still have to approve their slot. This is to make sure that they have the required pre requisites and assure there is space available.

## **Training**

ALBANY COUNTY FIRE TRAINING SCHEDULE #5 2021 is now available on our website <https://www.albanycounty.com/home/showpublisheddocument/16514/637600365460700000>

A copy of schedule 5 is appended to the end of this newsletter.

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## Free Online Solar Firefighting Training

<https://bcove.video/3vyH66f>



## OFPC Event

We want to let you know that OFPC is in the planning stages to hold the Office of Fire Prevention and Control's Annual Arson Seminar as an IN-PERSON event this year.

**Dates:** November 3-5, 2021

**Venue:** Watkins Glen Community Center

**Agenda:** Details are being finalized – information will be distributed when all are confirmed

OFPC's plan is to host the Seminar in the same schedule format that participants have experienced in past years. (Wednesday afternoon, all day Thursday, and Friday morning). Attendance **MAY** be limited in accordance with NYS DOH COVID guidelines and DHSES policies in effect at the time of the event. Lodging at the Academy of Fire Science will most certainly be limited.

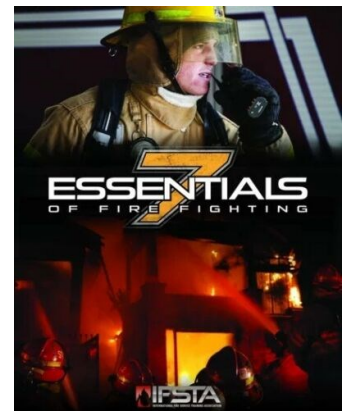
Registration will be posted to the [DHSES Learning Management System](#) in the near future

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**Reminder Chiefs-** All students attending BEFO or IFO after June 1, 2021 will need to have the "New" IFSTA 7th Edition of Essentials in Firefighting Book





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## Other Training opportunities



**The Knox Fire Company will be hosting this class at  
our firehouse (2198 Berne Altamont Rd.) on**

**Monday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

**All local departments (fire, EMS, etc.) are invited to attend**

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Contact Chief Bill Vinson at 518-424-7785 or**

**Captain Sue Olivares at 518-366-2465**

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## Upcoming event

# Upstate New York Firefighters Expo 2021

Network, Training and Fire Apparatus Exposition in the Lake George Region!  
Friday: 9 AM - 5 PM/Saturday: 9 AM - 3PM  
RSVP Today

## Time & Location

Sep 03, 9:00 AM – Sep 04, 3:00 PM

Cool Insuring Arena, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Glens Falls, NY 12801, USA

The goal of the Upstate NY Firefighters Expo is to offer a location that benefits the North Country and Great Capital Region Firefighters and their families.

For more information visit <https://www.upstatenyfirefightersexpo.com/>

## Training Opportunities

-The Sheriff's Tactical training trailer is at the Chief Peter Becker training Facility for the month of July if you would like to use it for training please contact the Berne Fire District.

-National Grid has online First Responder safety training available at the following link <https://fireresponder.ngridsafety.com>

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## Recruitment

### Albany Fire Department

On July 9th the Albany Fire Department graduated 12 new union firefighters from their own training academy. Welcome to the greatest job in the world! Congratulations to the 2021 recruit class! International Association of Fire Fighters, New York State Professional Firefighters Association - NYSPFFA. Chief of Department Joe Gregory conducted the graduation along with Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan. A special thank you to Fred Peters for teaching the class!! Well done Captain!



Class members were Eliah Belmar, Timothy Schuhle, Brent Sheehan, Edward Hartsfield, John Dineen, John Longton, Jonathan Lambert, Evan Cronmiller, Jevonte Osterhout, Luke Conway, Matthew Molbury and Maurice Bickley. Congratulations all.



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## Recruitment and Retention Car

Recruitment of new members for our Fire, EMS or Police Departments is always a priority. One way to recruit new members is to raise awareness of the need for them. The County Recruitment and Retention car is a highly visible way to raise awareness. We've made it a point to place the County Recruitment and Retention car at various locations such as firehouses, the Altamont Fair, community events, etc. and will continue to do that. Just recently my wife suggested that we place the car at some farmer's markets throughout the county. Farmer's markets generate a lot of foot traffic and are patronized by community minded folks and represent a good venue for helping to raise awareness and potential volunteers.

The car has been at the Delmar Farmer's Market, the Guilderland Farmer's Market and we hope to get it to the Voorheesville and Colonie Farmers' Markets soon. The car is also available to station at various community events throughout the county, for example, it will be at the Westmere Fire Department on July 25<sup>th</sup> for their Brooks Barbeque event.

If you have an event coming up and would like to have the Recruitment and Retention car there, just let us know.

To reserve the Recruitment and Retention car for your station please contact Deputy Fire Coordinator Bob Stevens at [Robert.Stevens@albanycountyny.gov](mailto:Robert.Stevens@albanycountyny.gov)

Robert N. Stevens  
Asst. Deputy Fire Coordinator  
Albany County Sheriff's Office  
**Cellphone 518-857-2259**



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### **RECRUITMENT SUGGESTIONS**

**By Kyle Kuehmicel**

## **Calling all volunteers: 3 ways to increase the volunteer member pool**

Recruitment efforts can focus on non-traditional members, people who live outside the area and even members of neighboring departments

Mar 2, 2021

#### **1. OPEN RECRUITMENT TO NON-TRADITIONAL MEMBERS**

First, start considering non-traditional members. For example, are there individuals who want to donate their time to help in areas of logistics for your department, such as ordering and stocking supplies or even responding non-emergency to assist with rehab on larger incidents? These might be individuals who would never consider running into a burning building or touching a bloody patient, but who would be willing to set up a cooling station.

Also consider partnering with organizations, such as schools and churches, that require or desire community service hours. These individuals could help clean the station and rigs on a weekly, monthly or quarterly basis – an activity that has the potential to expose younger community members to the fire service and may encourage their future enlistment.

When it comes to recruiting and staffing EMS care providers, there are options as well. Many volunteer fire/EMS departments want their members to be cross-trained in firefighting and as EMS care providers. But if you haven't done so already, consider opening up to individuals who just want to be a care provider.

Also, consider recruits who would have a limited or short-term timeframe within the department, such as students who are currently attending college or graduate school in your area. Many medical schools are looking for students who have both community service as well as some type of medical experience. By assisting them with their EMT license and making them a member of your department, you could provide both.

College students in general are another great recruitment option. They may not be from your community, but if recruited as freshman, they could potentially serve at least two years, if not longer, depending on their degree choice. This can also give students the volunteering "bug," so that when they return home, they continue passionately serving their community.

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### **2. RECONSIDER RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

Another hindrance we often place on our volunteers is residency requirements. We require our volunteers to live within a certain area; otherwise, we don't even consider them as potential volunteers. If we started considering time commitments instead of residency, we may increase our volunteer pool. This could include individuals who live outside of our jurisdiction but work within our community. These would need to be individuals who are available to respond and are willing to meet training requirements.

Once again, this may also work well for college students and young adults. If we create a space within our stations with a quality internet connection, they can study or just hang out. This has the added benefit of increasing our response times as members are already at the station.

### **3. USE MEMBERS FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

Lastly, we should consider trained members of other departments. If someone is going to be a member of two departments, the common expectation is that they meet the training demands for both departments. That can be time-consuming and nearly impossible to balance with family, work and other hobbies.

Consider this: Mutual-aid partners could be allowed to respond to a call with the dispatched department if they are in the area when the initial call goes out. This would hasten the response for second-due departments and bring additional members to assist without the usual delays.

This will take a little extra work on our departments by conducting joint trainings where personnel can get to know each other and their capabilities, but can reduce the excess and duplicate training individuals would be required to go through to be on two separate departments. These neighboring department members would still be working within the command system established by the responding department but would serve as additional personnel able to assist, as directed by command.

### **LET'S ADAPT**

There is no one-size-fits-all method for solving our volunteer issues, but with a little creative thinking, we can make changes that ultimately benefit our departments and our communities.

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## Haz-Mat

The Albany County Hazmat Team can be activated by contacting the Albany County 9-1-1 Center either directly or through your own dispatch center. The team has members available for consultation via telephone and/or on scene response. We are lucky to have some of the most experienced hazmat professionals at our disposal.

The Albany County Hazmat Team consists of Albany Fire Department, West Albany Fire Department, Watervliet Arsenal Fire Department, Maplewood Fire Department and the Albany County Fire Coordinator's Office.

Our deputy fire coordinators assigned to hazmat are ; Car 3 - Gerry Morigerato (also chief of the Forensic Hazmat Team) Car 5 Ken Dott and Car 10 – Tom Remmert, Capital Region Hazmat Coordinator. Chief Fire Coordinator Gerald E. Paris, Jr. is also notified of all requests for the County Hazmat Team.



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# **ALBANY COUNTY FIRE TRAINING SCHEDULE #5 2021**


**Pre-Registration Required: Students may register by clicking on the Learning Management System link on the NYS OPFC Home Page ([NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services - OPFC](#) )**

Registration opens 45 days before the first class

COURSE	LOCATION	DATE	INSTRUCTOR	PREREQUISITES
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**Please Note that a training authorization letter is now required for all courses offered by the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control**

Firefighter 2 <b>NEW TO SCHEDULE</b>	Guilderland Tower	August 26, September 2, 7, 9, 14, 21, 26, November 2	Molesky	Firefighter I or Equivalent
Apparatus Operator Aerial Device	Guilderland Center	July 15, 22, 27, 29, August 3, 10, 14 Weeknights: 1830-2130 August 14: 0800-1400	Molesky	BEFO Or Equivalent
School Bus Rescue <b>NEW TO SCHEDULE</b>	Berne	July 19 1830-2230	Marini	None
School Bus Rescue Practical Skills <b>NEW TO SCHEDULE</b>	Berne	July 21 1830-2120	Marini	School Bus Rescue
Fire Police <b>NEW TO SCHEDULE</b>	Rensselaerville	September 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28	Collins	None
Apparatus Operator Emergency Vehicles <b>NEW TO SCHEDULE</b>	Altamont	August 2, 4, 9, 11, 25, 28 Weeknights 1830-2130 October 28: 0900-1500	Molesky	Valid Drivers License

Principals of Instruction	Knox	October 5, 7,14, 19, 26	DeGroff	None
Water Rescue Awareness <b>NEW TO SCHEDULE</b>	Onesquethaw	December 6 1800-2200	Molesky	None
<b>Unless changed by instructor or noted above:  All evening classes will be held from 19:00-22:00 hours.  All Saturday and Sunday classes will be held from 09:00-12:00 hours and  13:00-16:00 hours</b>				<b>Fire Coordinator Gerald Paris</b> 