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TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION OF THE MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT- ESTABLISHED 1888

INSIDE FEATURES

Fire Injuries From Abuse

Station Dedication

Stop a Cold

EMS Scene Safety

"Quality Professional Services Delivered with Compassion"

TRUMPET

An official publication of the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department.
Stephen A. Dean, Fire Chief

Editor & Publisher
Steve Huffman

The Trumpet welcomes your questions and/or comments. To submit photos, articles or comments call (251) 208-2857 or e-mail: huffman@cityofmobile.org

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Our Mission

The Mission of the Mobile Fire - Rescue Department is to identify and respond to community needs in order to deliver an effective and efficient system of service which minimize risk to life, health, and property from fire, trauma, acute illness, and hazardous conditions.



On the Cover

Wishing You and Yours A Very Merry Christmas.

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<http://www.cityofmobile.org/fire/>

Fire Injuries from Abuse

By **CHIP CURRERI**
Captain, Fire Investigations

Role of temperature, the minimum temperature needed to cause burn injury is 110 degrees. Water agents hold temperature longer than air and are seen in more cases of abuse as the source of injury. Skin thickness is also a factor in burn depth as the young and old have thinner skin.

Pattern Recognition of Abuse; examine the history of the injury. Ask yourself these questions;

- 1) Is the story plausible?
- 2) Does the story change during questioning?
- 3) Does the story change fit the burn injury?
- 4) Is the caregiver or witness defensive?

Match the child's activity with the developmental age. Is the child capable of doing the activity? For example if told the child turned on the hot water, can the child really be able to physically do?

Investigate the source of the injury. Is the water heater set high or can the child make access to a stove top?

What is the response of the

victim? Is there lack of crying? Signs of fear not with the parent but with the caregiver (remember this could be you as the caregiver)? Are there other injuries present and different degrees of healing? Remember to document **ALL** injuries seen if not related to the call out.

Other signs of possible abuse can be but not limited are malnutrition, cleanliness and other physical findings.

Watch the guardian's response; was there a delay in care or call for help? Is the person more concerned about themselves? Is there a lack of concern, anger? Is there a history of past abuse from them or history of them being abused and continuing the history?

Other factors for the possibly of abuse is relationships such as boy or girl friend, family or protection of the perpetrator?

Some of the family dynamics of abuse are poverty, unemployed, limited resources, divorced, stressed and single parent.

So what do we do as responders?

- 1) Report suspicion.
- 2) Care for your patient.
- 3) Don't judge!

Remember if you don't report you can be held liable. Use your sixth sense if it doesn't feel right report your suspicion.



Edward A. Berger Fire Station 28 Dedication Ceremonies Saturday, September 29, 2012

Edward A. Berger Station

City Officials 2012	Fire Department 2012
Sam Jones - Mayor Reggie Copeland, Sr. - Council President, District 5 Frederick Richardson, Jr. - Council Vice President, District 1 William Carroll - District 2 Jermaine Burrell - District 3 John C. Williams - District 4 Bless Price - District 6 Gina Gregory - District 7	Stephen A. Dean - Fire Chief William A. Pappas - Assistant Fire Chief
Mission Statement: The Mission of the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department is to identify and respond to community needs in order to deliver an effective and efficient system of services which minimize risk to life, health, and property from fire, trauma, acute illness, and hazardous conditions.	
Design Consultant Watermark Design Group, L.L.C.	General Contractor Ben M. Radloff Contractor, Inc.





Photo By DALE SHAW

On August 25, Truck 27, Shift 2, participated in a special event involving approximately 100 children at the Camellia Bowling Lanes.

Multiple agencies participated including, AMR and Teddy the BayBear.

The children were instructed on the hazards of fire, situational awareness, home fire safety plans, using 911, as well as, having all the equipment of the truck on display.

Tina Warden (pictured above), the Coordinator of the event, was dressed in bunker gear.



Stop a Cold in its Tracks

There is no “cure” for the common cold but years of research has shown that the following can help decrease the duration and severity of most cold symptoms:

- **Vitamin C:** 1,000 to 3,000 mg spread out over 24 hours has been shown to decrease the symptoms of a cold by 30% to 80%. Vitamin C is a strong anti-oxidant that will build the immune system.
- **Echinacea:** 100 to 300 mg 3x/day of this common herb will decrease the severity and duration of a cold, especially if taken when the symptoms first appear.
- **Zinc:** 13 mg 4 to 8 times per day with food has been shown to increase the white blood cell count to help fight acute and chronic infections.

The old adage, “**Get rest and drink plenty of fluids**” holds true.

The rest gives your body the energy to fight the cold and the fluids help flush your system of the toxins produced and keep the lungs and mucous membranes healthy.



Prevention is always the best: Wash your hands regularly especially if you’re around someone who is in the early stages of a cold. Eat healthy and regularly. Exercise and stay hydrated.

Reference: Journal of Manipulative and Physiologic Therapeutics.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK ACTIVITIES



Photos By D.J. LARRY

Engine 14 & Rescue 14, Shift 3, participated in Fire Prevention activities in their area by visiting Just 4 & 5 School on October 10 and showing the children the equipment and trucks.



Firefighter Safety

EMS Scene Safety

By Rob Clemons—Clemons is a 30-year veteran of the fire and emergency service, currently serving as a battalion chief for the Prince William County (Va.) Department of Fire and Rescue. He also serves as a program trainer for the National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System.



Pre-hospital care providers must make numerous decisions on every emergency they respond to. This includes crucial decisions that help them monitor their own safety. Report #05-267 demonstrates the vigilance that must be exercised by all first responders: “While obtaining further patient history, the patient became irritated and drew a 3” knife blade from her pajama bottoms. The patient grabbed the OIC’s neck ... and immediately placed the blade to her neck and stated, ‘I am going to kill you.’”

Comments

This report reminds us that near-miss reporting is not only for firefighters, but for EMS providers as well. But just like fire emergencies, what may seem like a “routine” EMS emergency can change in an instant. EMS providers must evaluate the overall situation, emergency scene and the patient they are treating. Patients who are violent or unsettled should be restrained with police assistance and transported under police escort.

EMS providers also need to train on reacting to a violent patient and use common-sense strategies and tactics to prevent placing themselves in dangerous situations. Lastly, we must continually train on and use technologies at our disposal to assist us when these situations cannot be avoided. The use of an emergency activation (EA) button on their portable radio played a significant role in the protection of the EMS providers in the above near-miss report.

Discussion Points

- Does your department or organization have “tactical disengagement” SOPs/SOGs for situations that turn violent?
- What are your rights under local statutes regarding police escort or to refusal to transport a mentally unstable patient?
- What are the SOPs/SOGs for emergency traffic or mayday radio calls coming from EMS units?
- What is the level of force (according to local statute) you can use to defend/protect yourself if attacked by an unstable patient?
- Have you received self-defense training as part of your initial certification or EMS continuing education program?

Strategies/Tactics

Threats to EMS professionals from their patients, the patients’ family members or bystanders have increased at an

alarming rate. We need to optimize our performance as well as the protection of our crew, ourselves and the public by employing clear communications, proper task allocation, effective teamwork, critical decision-making and situational awareness. Here are some other strategies and tactics for you to consider:

- Position apparatus so you have the safest work area possible when working on roadways;
- Be aware of environmental hazards and structural hazards (like stairways and furniture) to ensure you have a clear exit if needed;
- Position yourself safely during and after gaining access to patient;
- Use proper word choices, body language and facial expressions when talking to patients;
- Look and listen for danger, paying close attention to a patient’s hands and expressions of anger; and
- Trust your instincts. Call the police department and stage your crew if you feel the situation is dangerous.



SCBA

Always wear your SCBA when conducting operations on the fireground or environments that present hazards known to cause cancer. PPE should be maintained during overhaul and post-fire functions in and around burnt structures. Wearing your SCBA can help eliminate or reduce your contact with harmful contaminants.

Tobacco Cessation

Lung cancer accounts for more deaths than breast cancer, prostate cancer and colorectal cancer combined. According to the Centers for Disease Control, males who smoke regularly lose 13 years of their lives; females lose 14 years. Visit www.iaff.org/smokefree or www.healthy-firefighter.org/putitout for information on tobacco cessation programs.





Firefighter of the Year

Firefighter Seth Blich

Firefighter of the Month

OCTOBER - James Peavey - Captain, Investigations

RETIREMENTS



Captain
Joe Owen
25 Years Service
Retired 10/01/2012
Bates Field

We wish you the best of luck upon your retirement and future endeavors!



August 25, 2012

On Friday the 17th of August - about 4:15 p.m. I was in serious trouble at the intersection of Azalea Road and Hwy 90. The staff of fire station # 19 (Shift 3) came to my aid. First they determined I was physically okay and then they moved me and my vehicle to a safe place. All done in a calm considerate manner. One of them contacted my sons wife and had her come pick me up remaining with me until she arrived. The staff of #19 certainly deserve my "Thanks and Praise". As a 93 year old veteran of WWII - I truly appreciate their help.

Sincerely
Leroy H. Benton, Jr.

Promotions

District Chief

Kenny Tillman

Captain

Charles B. Andrews
James T. Cox
Bryant F. Johnson

Cara P. McLarty
Jackson R. Norton
Raymond B. Thomas

Driver

Joshua S. Atkins
Porsha R. Black
David M. Calhoun
Timmy D. Crawford
Vincent D. Dumas
John B. Jernigan
Thomas J. Jones

Earl L. Jordan
Phillip N. Nelson
Jason C. Randolph
Michael J. Voloshik
Matthew T. Waltman
Brandon S. Williams

Firemedic

Tory J. Alberson
Mac A. Hillman
Howard E. Johnson

Shaun R. Matone
Luke Vanderwal

Congratulations to all those who have been promoted in recent months. The hard work, patience and studying paid off. Make the best of your new roles in the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department.



Dates to Remember

- November 1 All Saints Day
- November 2 All Souls Day
- November 4 Daylight Savings time ends-gain 1 hour of sleep
- November 6 Election Day
- November 10 USMC Day
- November 11 Veterans Day
- November 13 Sadie Hawkins Day
- November 22 Thanksgiving
- December 5 Bathtub Party Day
- December 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- December 21 Winter Solstice
- December 25 Christmas
- December 27 National Fruitcake Day
- December 31 New Years Eve



MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE

701 Saint Francis Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602



Mobile Fire-Rescue "Find A Cure" T-Shirts are now available. Contact Chaplain Percy Harris at 251-463-6176 to get yours. Adult sizes: S-XL - \$10 donation & 2X- 3X - \$12 donation. Hats are also available.