

December 2022

NEO Newsletter

Dear Prevention Bureau Staff,

Greetings! This month, NEOFPA and NEOSEN will have one meeting. Please click link under Upcoming Events to RSVP!

In this edition, you'll find several opportunities for virtual and in-person training. Find a class near you, today!

Finally, check out an awesome story about Cleveland Heights Fire Department in the *Making a Difference* section!

Sincerely,

Angela Potter

NEOFPA Meeting – December 5, 2022 Philip Oaks, National Association of State Fire Marshals

| Bridging the Gap: Construction Site Fire Safety | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Identify construction site fire hazards and safety factors to consider | Identify US codes and standards that apply to construction site safety | Identify responsibilities as it relates to construction site safety | Review the fire Safety Plan for construction sites |

Visit [NEOFPA](#) or [NEOFPA on Facebook](#) today!

Upcoming Events

December 5, 2022 9a-4p

NEOFPA / NEOSEN Meeting

Middleburg Heights Community
Recreation Center

16000 Bagley Road, Cleveland,
OH 44130

** RSVP [HERE](#) **

Virtual Training

December 12, 2022

[Courage to be Safe \(CTBS\)](#)

December 13, 2022

[Leadership, Accountability,
Culture & Knowledge \(LACK\)](#)

December 14, 2022

[Leadership So Everyone Goes
Home \(LEGH\)](#)

January 19, 2023

[Public Safety Education for
Frontline Firefighters](#)



Upcoming Training Opportunities



Credit: Tiffin FD Facebook

January 23-25, 2023 – Tiffin Fire Department: 928 W. Market St., Tiffin, OH 44883

Fire and Life Safety Educator I - During the class, participants will learn the skills and knowledge addressed in NFPA 1035, Public Fire and Life Safety Educator. Based on NFPA 1035, a Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I is a person who has demonstrated the knowledge and skills necessary to schedule, present and evaluate an education program for a variety of audiences.

Ohio Fire Incident Reporting System (OFIRS) – The OFIRS course gives students a practical look at how to easily navigate National Fire Incident Reporting system (NFIRS) codes. The student will learn when each field should be filled out and how to find the information to put in the box. Real world scenarios will be used to allow the student to use the knowledge gained to code incidents quickly and efficiently. Many myths about fire reporting will be addressed and confusing fields like Mutual Aid, Exposures and Incident Types will be addressed and clarified.



Credit: US Fire Administration - FEMA

Class Offerings (*attend only one day for multiple-day offerings*)

January 19, 2023 9a-1p – Canal Fulton FD 1165 St. S., Canal Fulton, OH 44614 (Stark)

February 2-4, 2023 8a-12 – Bainbridge FD 17822 Chillicothe Rd., Chagrin Falls, OH 44023 (Geauga)

February 7-9, 2023 9a-1p – Rocky River FD 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, OH 44116 (Cuyahoga)

February 13-15, 2023 9a-1p – Solon FD 35000 Portz Pkwy., Solon, OH 44139 (Cuyahoga)



Credit: SFD Twitter

March 21-22, 2023 – Strongsville Fire Department: 17000 Prospect Rd., Strongsville, OH 44149

Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist - This course introduces the learner to the concepts of NFPA 1035 Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I. The class is appropriate for persons assigned to fire and life safety education duties and other professionals that have the responsibility to interview and/or educate youth firesetters. Characteristics of fire setting behavior for age groups 4 - 7, 8 - 11, and 12 - 14 are covered. Interviewing techniques to classify fire setting behavior and methods of establishing a community firesetter's referral program are also discussed in this course. Through group activities, students will learn to determine if the child's fire setting behavior can be treated through fire safety education or if it is a symptom of problems requiring a referral program.

Making a Difference

Cleveland Heights Fire Department



Credit: CHFD

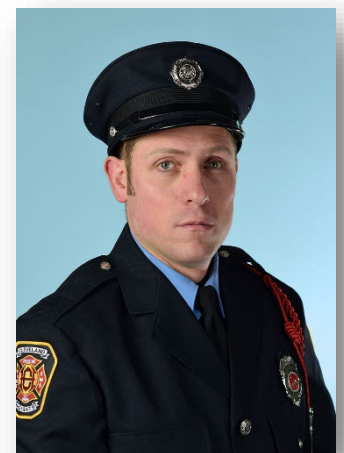
Inspector Jim Streb was contacted by Cleveland Clinic Foundation (CCF) to inquire about a Youth Firesetting Intervention Program. At the time, Cleveland Heights Fire Department did not have a program, so Inspector Streb reached out to Firefighter Nicholas Tomaselli to see if he knew of anyone with the certification. After some checking around, Firefighter Tomaselli's contact had recently retired, and it appeared as though the department wouldn't be able to assist CCF.

In the meantime, Firefighter Tomaselli looked into the requirements and training for a Youth Firesetting Intervention Specialist. Coincidentally, the course was scheduled in the next 2 weeks at the Ohio Fire Academy (Reynoldsburg) and he was already scheduled to take a vacation day that very week. Inspector Streb met with fire administration and was able to get approval for Firefighter Tomaselli to attend the Youth Firesetting Intervention Specialist class.

Upon Tomaselli's completion of the course, Inspector Streb reached back out to CCF to advise of a trained person for future cases. Shortly thereafter, CCF called back to advise that the same youth from before (lives in Cleveland Heights) was still starting fires. Firefighter Tomaselli spoke with pediatric social worker Meghan McLaughlin and learned the child also had developmental disabilities. After discussion with Inspector Streb, Firefighter Tomaselli reached out to Anne Fleming, the child's Clinical Speech Pathologist and she was eager to work together with the child and Tomaselli.

The assessment revealed the child was little risk but could use education. A few follow-up meetings with Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Fleming, Firefighter Tomaselli, the child and family took place. The family was informed of ways to prevent future fires, such as not having lighters available to the child and asking older siblings not to smoke in front of the child. Tomaselli and Fleming developed a course at the learning level best for the youth. The youth finished the education sessions.

Upon completion of this first case, Cleveland Heights Fire Department officially had a program. After having a few more cases, Tomaselli obtained approval to attend the Youth Firesetter Program Manager course to assist with further development of the program. In addition, as a member of the regional Heights Hillcrest Fire Investigation Unit, Tomaselli has assisted with youth firesetting cases when departments do not have someone trained or available. Tomaselli looks forward to continuing the development of the Cleveland Heights Fire Department Youth Firesetting Intervention Program, learning more with each new case as well as assisting other departments, as needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nicholas Tomaselli by cell phone: 440.749.5957.



Credit: CHFD

Thank you, Cleveland Heights Fire Department Making a Difference! Great job involving partners to help with your first case and assisting other departments!