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Minutes of September 12, 2007

Next Meeting: October 17, 2007

Program: Seminar; Subrogation Case

Location: **Riverway Office Complex, 6133 River Rd. Rosemont, IL**

Time: 0800-0830 (Registration)

Meeting opened by President Kushner at 0915

- ?? A moment of silence was held for all of the victims of 9/11. Let us never forget the sacrifice of the 343 members of the FDNY, 23 members of the NYPD and 37 members of the New York Port Authority PD. They saved the lives of thousands. Let us also always remember the 33 passengers and 7 crewmembers on United Flight 93. These everyday ordinary people prevented another jetliner from being used as a murder weapon. They are all heroes in the truest sense of the word.
- ?? We also held a moment of silence for four of our own who tragically passed away over the summer: Dave Grandt of the Schaumburg Fire Department, Peter McWilliams of the Lake Forest Fire Department and Kenneth Free of the Libertyville Police Department all died as the result of motorcycle accidents and Lee Palamidis of the Bloomingdale Fire Department died from complications after surgery. Let us remember our brothers and their families in our thoughts and prayers.
- ?? Treasurers' Report was approved. A copy of the report is available on the website.
- ?? There were no minutes published for the June meeting.
- ?? Please check to make sure your departments' dues are paid.
- ?? The October seminar is approaching fast. You can download a registration form on the website. Also remember the seminar is the **third Wednesday** of the month, not the second!
- ?? 82 members were in attendance.
- ?? Mike Schmitt has retired from the Park Ridge FD and Bruce Toussant retired from Algonquin Lake-in-the-Hills. Our congratulations and best wishes to Mike and Bruce.
- ?? Mitch told everyone that the Re-certification requirement for Fire and Arson Investigators became effective July 1, 2007. Information on the criteria is available on the OFSM website. Mitch also mentioned that the governor signed a law requiring all convicted arsonists to register with their local PD for ten years. More information is available on the OSFM website.
- ?? **Fires;** We did not have an opportunity to discuss fires, but we did receive an e-mail from Lt. Scott Peterson of the Elk Grove Village Fire Department. Scott wanted everyone to know that their department has had two fires with recalled dishwashers; the dishwashers had been recalled by GE and Maytag. Information is available at the CPSC website.

Our speakers were Randy Simpson, Commander of the DuPage Co. Fire Investigation Task Force, of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, and Steve Knight, Assistant States Attorney for DuPage County. Steve has attended Modules I, II and III of the Fire Investigation classes and also went through the advanced course offered by the BATF. Through the cooperative efforts of the Task Force and the State's Attorney's Office, the arrest and conviction rate for arson in DuPage County has gone from 2% to 62%. This is a fantastic development and a credit to the members of those organizations. Randy emphasized the importance of decontamination for everyone working on the scene (as mentioned in NFPA 921) so that you can eliminate cross-contamination as tool for the Defense. Speaking of 921, Steve made note of the fact that we all need to know 921 when we go into court. The opposing counsel probably will not know 921 but they will have the book there to

ask you questions, so save yourself some embarrassment, and possibly losing your case, and be on top of your game.

Our thanks to Steve and Randy, and their departments, for speaking to our organization.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Gilleran  
Secretary FISF