

www.iacapstrikeforce.com

Minutes of September 10, 2008

Next Meeting: October 15, 2008

Program: Seminar; Vehicle fires

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

Time: 0800-0830 (Registration)

Meeting opened by President Kushner at 0920

- ☞ 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 two of our own that tragically passed away over the summer: Dean Schroeder of the Deerfield Bannockburn Fire Protection District was killed in a motorcycle accident and Detective Robert Soto of the Chicago Police Department Bomb and Arson Unit was murdered while off-duty. Let us remember our brothers and their families in our thoughts and prayers.
- ☞ Get well wishes go out to Donald Cox of the Chicago Fire Department Office of Fire Investigations. Don is recovering after being shot while doing an investigation
- ☞ Retirement: Ed Dubowski retired as chief of the Park Ridge Fire Department effective September 2. Good luck Ed!
- ☞ Treasurers' Report was approved. A copy of the report is available on the website.
- ☞ The June minutes were approved. Those were the last minutes to be mailed.
- ☞ 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. You must register in advance. We need to give solid numbers to our caterer. **No walk-ins!** Also remember the seminar is the **third Wednesday** of the month, not the second! Another note; after lunch we will be going off-site for a couple of live burns. Please bring weather appropriate clothing to wear.
- ☞ 85 members were in attendance.
- ☞ We are in the process of working on next years training schedule.
- ☞ At the November meeting, please bring your old, useable, winter clothing. We are going to donate the clothes to the Salvation Army. They especially need kid's coats, hats, gloves, etc.
- ☞ **Fires; Hillside** had a fire in a bar. **Maywood** had a fire with 4 points of origin. **McHenry** had a second fire in a home under construction. **Crystal Lake** had a burglary where a fire was started. They have 1 in custody. **Long Grove** had a fire in the Christmas Store in their historic downtown area. **Summit** had a fatal fire that took the lives of 3 children. **FoxLake** also had a fatal fire. **Evanston** had an arrest and conviction on an arson fire. **Des Plaines** got a conviction on a suspect in a basement fire. The guy received 6 years and will have to do all six due to his previous criminal history. **Lyon's** had two outhouse fires that involved special circumstances, but due to our minutes now being on the web, we will not publish what occurred. You can contact Chief Gordon Nord of the Lyon's Fire Department for more information.

Our speaker was Joseph Lyons of COZEN O'CONNOR Attorneys. Joe spoke about how his firm handles subrogation cases. Joe spoke about what it means to put agencies and companies "on notice". Joe also spoke about trying to turn the scene around as quickly as possible to limit the

inconvenience caused to the property owner. We also learned about the ‘statute of limitations’, which is essentially a time limit on how long you have to file a law suit, but Joe also explained the “statute of repose” which is a time limit on how long after a product is manufactured that you can file a suit. Basically the courts have ruled that no product can be expected to last forever and eventually they may malfunction.

Joe reminded us of a couple basics: First, 921 recommends two investigators at a scene (or at least have someone else with you) and second, don’t forget to see if there are any surveillance cameras in the area; Not just cameras at your scene, but in the general vicinity.

Our thanks to Joe and his firm; they have come to our meetings and seminars on a number of occasions and given excellent presentations.

Respectfully submitted,
John Gilleran
Secretary FISF