

Morning Reading - May 16, 2013

05/16/13 665 W - + 6 - 4

Good morning Raleigh. Warmer weather has finally and perhaps regrettably arrived. Loved this unusually cool spring, but then this Minnesota-born boy has never tolerated the heat particularly well. At least as his age and, ahem, body mass has climbed in recent years. Anyway, here's some of the news and fire news that's passed across my reading table. Now passing onto your reading table...

- [Seven Carteret County fire departments fail to meet standards](#) - FireNews.net story from the Carteret County *News-Times* about the results of a state inspection in March and April. They have one year to meet the requirements of the OSFM, which defines their abilities to adequately respond and maintain the minimum equipment and personnel to operate as a "basic, rural fire department." The OSFM will work with the departments, to help them meet their requirements, which were primarily due to problems with "staffing, paperwork and having outdated equipment." [Click through to the News-Times story](#), to read their reader comments as well. Guessing this is not uncommon state- and nation-wide, among rural department serving small or day-transient populations.
- [Five DC firefighters disciplined for Facebook posting](#) - Fire Law story that's also been covered by Statter911. The five were placed on desk duty, after the first one posted an inflammatory comment about a DC police officer. Four others added their thoughts. See the [Statter911 story](#) for numerous reader comments, which include the expected pile-up upon the Fire Chief. (That's been a reader trend for some time, and in the context of numerous news stories about DCFD.) But what about this story, and the social media angle therein? Well, it's still the same thing we've talked about before. Just because you're off-duty and maybe not even identified as a firefighter doesn't mean you can't be disciplined for things you say that your boss doesn't like. (That's one or two double negatives in that sentence?)
- [Thirteen Cleveland firefighters indicted for paying co-workers to cover shifts](#) - Statter911 story that's also been covered by [Firegeezzer](#). The practice is called "caddying" says [this Cleveland Plains Dealer story](#). They also speculate that this is the first time anywhere in the country that firefighters have faced such charges. Correct? The charges are the result of a six-month probe by a city-hired special investigator, hired after city auditors exposed payroll abuses in fire department records from 2006 to 2010. The *Plains Dealer* story has 102 comments so far, and probably growing.
- [Thirteen Boston deputy chiefs express no confidence in Fire Chief](#) - Another Statter911 story, this one time from Beantown. The thirteen direct reports to the Fire Chief sent a letter to the Mayor, expressing their displeasure that their boss didn't take command at the Boston Marathon bombing. Their letter has also criticized other actions of the Chief. Based on the many reader comments in [this Boston Herald story](#), a couple things appear to be factors: he's the first Fire Chief hired from outside the ranks of the department, and upon his appointment, changed a rule that required the Fire Chief to take command at incidents he arrived at. Call this the modern fire service leadership dilemma. Do you want your leaders raised through the ranks, and presumably operationally oriented? Or are the best administrators trained and practiced as administrators? Can you have both?
- [Man almost dies trying to rescue kids who pretend to be drowning](#) - This KIRO-TV headline caught my eye out of Renton, WA. The rescuer, a disabled man, wasn't breathing by the time he was rescued. He was revived and in intensive care. No word on what will happen to the kids. If the byline of the reporter looks familiar, that's my cousin Chris Legeros, a veteran television journalist in Seattle. (The story appeared in my inbox courtesy of Google, which, ahem, does a daily search for the keyword "Legeros." Also have a daily search for "Raleigh Fire Department." Technology is good.)

****OFF TOPIC Question****

Of Raleigh's eight reserve engines and three reserve ladders how many are reserve and how many are spares? Reserve vs spare, reserve apparatus are fully equipped with hose and tools while spares are just the empty truck.

Thks!!

stretch ([Email](#)) - 05/16/13 - 22:57

In the City we refer to them as "100 series" and "200 series". The 100's are those that you are HOPEFULLY able to pull up, grab your EMS equipment and your books/radios and switch over. The 200's require a more thorough switch out.

Currently, there are 7 Engines and 2 Ladders considered 100 series, and another 1 & 1 are 200 series.

Silver - 05/17/13 - 10:38

Firemen do bad things just as much as regular citizens because we are human. I don't know that ignoring the story is the correct route, but by displaying the story you may get some raw comments that need moderating.

The practice of paying someone to work for you happens in this area quite often as well because some guys would rather pay you to work than trade time. I think the abuse of doing it is what is shocking to me, I mean 4 years? Why didn't the CO put a stop to it and or I'm amazed he found someone to work for 4 years.

Mike - 05/29/13 - 20:37

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.