

Yesterday's Fire / Holly Springs

01/06/09 85 W, 1 I - + 10 - 9

[FireNews](#) has posted some strong photos from Thomas Babb of yesterday's structure fire at 508 Morton Farm Road in Holly Springs. HSFD, FVFD, and Fairview responded to 2:02 p.m. incident. Heavy flames were coming from the structure when units arrived, reports the article. [Read and see more photos.](#) Units on scene at two-story, 2400 square-foot single-family dwelling included Holly Springs E1, E2, E3, L1, R1, C1, C2, C3; Fuquay-Varina E1, R1, B1; Fairview E1, C1, C2; EMS 17, 32, D5.

*Thomas Babb / FireNews photo*

The WRAL story also has some video from Babb. http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/sto..

Legeros - 01/06/09 - 19:58

DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?????? HOLY "S".....NO EXCUSE FOR THAT!!!!

Silver - 01/06/09 - 23:56

What, if any, is the feeling of a civilian taking pictures of a fire scene from a firefighter, police officer perspective? Or any other type of incident?

Adam - 01/06/09 - 23:56

Adam, to me it is a "non-issue." As long as the photographer (or citizen) isn't entering the hot zone or hindering any operations on the scene, I see no problem with them recording a "public event" which is taking place in plain view of all citizens.

Police operations might be a little different, I'm not familiar with any legal aspects surrounding police operations (meaning: SWAT situations, undercover operations, etc) but I'm sure a police officer wouldn't flip their lid if you decided to snap a picture of them writing someone a ticket (just don't know who'd want to view those "non-eventful" pictures). Then again, police record themselves with their dash cams. Which brings up a good point, police use that dashcam footage as training, evidence, protection against wrongful accusations, and as a way to provide an "unbiased" view of an incident; I wonder how long before "dashcams" become standard in fire apparatus.

Pictures can be used very positively in many ways and can also be used negatively in an attempt to produce positive results. For example, initial scene pictures could be very beneficial to a Fire Investigator since odds are they aren't on the scene until well into the fire attack and that visual image could enhance what the first arriving companies reported. Also, if anything tragic were to happen on scene the pictures (possibly leading up to that event) could provide a wealth of information and knowledge into how (if at all) that event could have been prevented OR if there were any warnings leading up to the event. Some other, more obvious, reasons these pictures could be useful is during a "Post Incident Review" for training purposes or to point out better possible tactics, truck placement, line placement, etc. etc. Positive pictures could be used by departments to "showcase" their operations and/or attract new members. Last but not least, firefighters could look back over the pictures from years past and recall the incidents.

The other side of the coin is the negative display of images... In these cases firefighters and/or other personnel on scene are "caught by the lens" doing something or operating in a less than desirable way. These pictures could display a negative image of the fire department, but hopefully would be used as a learning/training experience and as a gentle reminder of "What not to do because you never know who is watching!" People tend to watch public servants everywhere we go, so these negative images don't always come from fire scene operations.

If you're operating safely and using your head, pictures are a positive form of media, in my opinion. Then again, if you're not operating safely and are caught, that image might make you think twice about making that same mistake!

Luke - 01/07/09 - 07:38

Adam, are you asking about the presence of civilians-with-cameras at a scene, or civilian pictures publicly posted after being shot on scene?

Also, by civilians, do you mean any person not employed or a member of (or affiliated with) a responding department or a news agency? e.g., Joe/Jane on the street? I ask, as an incident photographer of many years myself, to expand your question to better answer your question.

Legeros - 01/07/09 - 07:57

Silver you talking about the guy in no turnout gear fighting fire?

Mike - 01/07/09 - 13:31

Yes, that's exactly what I'm talking about...

Silver - 01/08/09 - 03:01

This has been updated with an enlargement of the area in question:

http://firenews.net/index.php/news/news_..

(scroll down to just above the Comments)

harkey ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/08/09 - 07:57

A few questions here, Did the Ladder arrive with the initial units or come later??? if the latter then with that amount of fire involvemnet instead of using small handlines (which obviously aren't going to do much) and with that amount of gpm flow, just flow the deck gun if they had one on the first in engine. Alot more water concentrated in one place would have helped darken that down much faster, optimal ladder placement aswell could have been setup and utilized for an aerial attack and knock down for interior mop-up.....

Jim Kay - 01/08/09 - 10:01

Jim, listening to it. The ladder was on the inital alarm. I would have to look at the CAD, but I believe they were like the 3rd or so arriving piece and were told to set up immediately. The 1st due engine was told to reverse lay or come in from the opposite end of the street to allow room for the ladder if my memory serves me correct.

Mike - 01/08/09 - 13:00

Silver that looks like a COP. I thought Holly Springs wasn't public safety anymore.

WOW - 01/08/09 - 14:03

Yeah, I believe it is a police officer. It could've been one of the old public safety guys who had a flash back and was trying to do the right thing. But, we have to remember that our, and our friends that are "the finest", safety is #1. Look at our Brothers to the south in Charleston; on that terrible day in June did they not only lose 9 members, they also learned a tough lesson in what's right and wrong when it comes to wearing turnout gear.

Stay safe....and remember; BIG FIRE = BIG WATER

Silver - 01/08/09 - 18:38

and RALEIGH BIG FIRE = LADDER 4

Ladda Fo - 01/09/09 - 09:18

Huh?

Silver - 01/09/09 - 16:18

Sorry it took a couple of days to get back on, I was on a trip. About the qustion previously asked, I was asking more to the presence of civilians with cameras at a scene. By civilian I mean someone with no affiliation with a department or news agency, just joe/jane who happened to be at the right (or wrong) place at that time. Thank you for the attention Legeros.

Adam - 01/14/09 - 19:52

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No