

Roof Ops on Lakestone Drive

01/28/13 50 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Here's your morning hot shot, from yesterday afternoon's house fire on Lakestone Drive. Two-story garage with heavy fire in the second story. Crews withdrawn and defensive operations started. No extension to the house. [See more photos by Mike Legeros.](#)



Raleigh sucks it really really sucks i wish i was a RPD officer so i could go in burning buildings.

Jason ([Email](#)) - 01/31/13 - 18:01

I believe it is (or should be) easy for us to all understand that one may post their name and still not be critical, disruptive, or stir the pot; yet be constructive and pose good questions. Many others can also contribute positively to a solid conversation so others may potentially learn. It is my opinion that the facts are often both self evident and sometimes obscured; and photos may not be the actual answer to we are looking for. Only the ones who were there may accurately answer the questions that many of you have; and I believe they will do so professionally. I am always interested others perspectives as I learn from them too.

A.C. Rich - 02/01/13 - 00:09

Mike and AC, You're both right. We, as humans actually receive a good feeling when we confront. Even folks that aren't confrontational still get their heart racing and sweaty palms from confrontation. Our bodies want us to do it because we are addicted to the serotonin release we get from fighting/base jumping/racing/firefighting etc. It feels good. Makes us feel like cave men controlling our environment. "Beating our woman over the head and dragging her into our cave", so to speak.

We as firefighters are, by our very nature, confrontational. We have to be or we would be unable to do our jobs. It doesn't mean we aren't smart. It doesn't mean that we aren't kind, but you add in personal feelings or work situations out of our control and and the availability of endless "commenting" via the interwebs and it changes everything! It's immediate and since we crave it, it snowballs.

With that being said and the above reference to online classrooms, to make it "value added" there has to be some context to the photos posted. That doesn't mean that you need to take the pictures and then come up with a dissertation of what happened and the operation, that's not what you do, or should do. What would be helpful is if folks working could add their context. They could do so anonymously, if they feel the need to, without going on the defensive. Basically tell their story. You don't (or shouldn't) do an "After Incident Review" without some fact finding, so you shouldn't do it based on a snapshot of a moment in time.

If someone is unhappy at work, I'm sorry. I've been plenty unhappy at times by my actions, my peers and subordinates actions and the actions of administration, but things change. Faster than you think, so find your sounding board or soap box and let it out, but realize that others see that and get the wrong impression and the person you are make that impression on may be a young or new firefighter and it taints them.

Pontification complete...

Sasser ([Email](#)) - 02/01/13 - 08:30

We as a "firefighting culture" need to mature in many, many ways. I have found "tradition" more often eroding than supportive.

A.C. Rich - 02/01/13 - 08:44

(My opinion of one tradition, recently posted to a Statter911 thread: Thank goodness for hazing. Saves leadership the trouble of assessing personal performance based on reaction and acclamation to non-manufactured stressors in the workplace. Sarcasm off.)

But that's a different discussion for a different day...

Legeros - 02/01/13 - 08:50

Maturity, style, and civility are disappearing states of being (skills, or arts, etc.). The anonymous "posting" environment encourages people to offer opinions, based on little to no information, and to do so in a matter that is easily taken as hostile or critical. This is often NOT done in the same collegial, professional manner, that it would be delivered if, say, the writer was sitting at a table in a bar with four large truck company dudes who were on that fire, and whose "offense" would be readily detectable. It's another exacerbation of the "no consequences for bad behavior" environment that our generation developed and taught to our youngsters. People say things that back in the day would have gotten them hauled outside and "adjusted" as to their behavior. Same problem in every declining society – have you ever watched the British House of Commons on TV? Sound like a bunch of mouthy thugs rather than the elected governing body of a first-world nation!

I applaud you, Mike, for enforcing civility as you do.

Skip K - 02/01/13 - 09:14

Y'all are talking way over my head but I will say that I would love to have gotten some of that fire. 1 1/2" handline climbing the steps and fighting some fire. I'm just jealous cause all I do is drive at my career department. All I can say is if I where to pull up today it would be safe to say I was "DI" and getting "salty" that's what it's all about. I ain't scared I just love it. Jumping out of planes is some folks adrenaline rush and high but being a BAMF is mine. Glad no one got hurt and y'all on the scene were able to get some. Goodnight peeps!!!

BamBam - 02/01/13 - 21:23

Fascinating.

A.C. Rich - 02/02/13 - 01:13

It's simple for me, and in plain terms: One should be professional and constructive in their comments and/or questions. Offer support and guidance as arrogance is and has been demonstrated as destructive. Dismiss the inclination to "confront and defend" and things will go much better for you (overall and not just on a blog!). We may be very surprised at how many people will contribute to the conversation(s) at that point; so if one has nothing supportive to say, well it's easy... simply say nothing at all. These ideals are not novel but may involve complicated behaviors for a firefighter to explore and understand.

A.C. Rich - 02/02/13 - 13:54

I have a question when will the fire service get back to the basic and look at what we are not doing on the fire scene. This post is not to put any blame or throw stones. I have been looking at your site for year and have never posted anything before now so here is my question what has happen to loss control?? For the Old Timers like me "Salvage" you could look in the garage and see the homeonwers belongings. The best I can tell by the pictures the fire services has forgotten about them!!! Not just RFD if you look at pictures on other sites with other departments you will see the same thing.

That just one of basic skills we have forgotten. Lets all get back to the essential skills we learned a long time ago. Most of the time the house is a loss but one picture or a box of chirstmas items or that kid bike will mean a lot to that home owner.

I understand that I used Old Timer for my name but my hope is that you will post this so some new boy or girl may read this and carry out a picture instead of letting it burn up.

First and always First be safe and remember that fire is some person loss and not just are adrenaline rush and high.

Be Safe and God Bless

Old Timer - 02/03/13 - 02:47

@Old Timer – You are exactly correct. If you read my previous post you will see that I agree with your concerns 100%. We have become so stuck in the mindset of “Everyone goes home.” that we fail to remember that we receive a salary to save LIVES and PROPERTY. No, I do not want to see anyone hurt. Nobody does. However, that doesn’t mean a department can’t be aggressive safely. I think we (Raleigh) spend so much time trying to be safe that by the time we prepare to make entry the building has become fully involved. When I was a rookie I was taught if the fire wasn’t put out with the water in the booster tank the house will burn down. That advice couldn’t be clearer now as I’m seeing more houses being deemed a total loss since we can’t even go in without a water supply other than the one that’s already on the truck.

Rescue Ranger - 02/03/13 - 21:20

Your comment of going in on booster water is ridiculous. You have no idea how far in the minority we were by going in on tank water as a metropolitan fire department. If you can’t catch a plug efficiently, get out in the street and train.

I’m all for being aggressive, but going in on tank water at every fire doesn’t constitute being aggressive. There are many city Departments that catch two hydrants and fight a ton of more fire than we do, but instead of bitching about it they train DAILY until it’s second nature.

Silver - 02/03/13 - 22:30

The tank water is kinda ridiculous. I’m sure he is talking about the knock down phase of the fire attack. [...] I believe in laying in dry and having your second due engine hook up to the plug for water supply. Third due grab another plug and that’s for secondary or ladder pipe operations. 500 gallons will put out a lot of fire but mop up and hot spots more than likely wont get done with that tank water. Jmo

BamBam - 02/04/13 - 00:40

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.