

## Video of Cleveland House Fire

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Here's your morning fire (scene) video, Cleveland, Garner, and Clayton fire departments on Old Evans Road on Tuesday, from Jason Thompson at [Jocofire.com](http://Jocofire.com). See ample still shots on in [this gallery](#) on his Flickr site. [Watch the video](#).

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[ Anonymous tactical comment not approved. Please sign your name. Or post your comment on the YouTube page, or on the Flickr site. ]

**Legeros** - 07/22/13 - 09:17

Yes, I generally use several cameras on scene. At a minimum I do video, pull out video stills and take iphone photos. On this particular incident, I didn't have my still camera with me, so they are just iphone and video camera shots. You can certainly tell the quality is better with iphone and my still camera when it comes to photographs. The great thing about video stills is they are awesome for night photography and don't require a very steady hand. I always have the video camera on a tripod and take it with me everywhere on scene. I may use it as a monopod for stabilization as I wander, then open it to tripod for good video.

**Jason Thompson** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/22/13 - 10:20

All points are based upon perception, perspective, and individual experience... right or wrong, some "Quarterbacks" are actually "half-backs," while others are technically "split-ends!" LOL!! Have a good weekend!

**A.C. Rich** - 08/23/13 - 12:34

The comments that are not approved are easy to read with Mike's messages. He is young in the fire service and is not a B.A. like the rest of the firemen who read the blog. He was doing what he was told and has not been on many roofs cutting holes in turn-out gear. Maybe someone who is making the smart comments can come and help him with his fear of heights. By the way, when he is working with a select few of us, he just drives the piece. There is a place for everyone on a volunteer fire department and his is not on a roof. He is also in my presence as I'm typing this. I love this guy and we are going to climb roofs today.

**CVFD Car?** - 08/23/13 - 13:58

On a serious note, and to protect ourselves... We should try to review and consider the photographed or video taped activity prior to posting publicly (if we can control it). Sometimes we do not have control, but if the photographer or videographer is present and known, hopefully they will ask and review with the Chief or at least the IC first prior to posting. It can save much heartache from multiple angles in the end; and protects our departments and members from liability and even embarrassment.

Also, for the leaders out there... Please do not place your members in any task they have not been trained to do. I am sorry if this statement may offend, but the risk of injury or death is too great and the protection of our folks is paramount. This stuff is serious guys and gals.

**A.C. Rich** - 08/23/13 - 17:59

Chief Rich and others,

I've received feedback from chiefs from many angles regarding approval of photos and videos. If anything appears remotely controversial; personally, I cut it out and make a separate, private link for the chief officers to use for training purposes. I didn't see anything controversial about this video and I never noticed or perceived the firefighter to have trouble on the roof. I thought he was simply sitting down for better stability(which is what I would have done). I was within 50 feet of the Chief/IC throughout my filming and he saw everything I was shooting as it happened and I know Chief Ellington enough to know he would have told me then and there if something didn't look right. Had he asked me to remove part of it or if I would have thought it was controversial I would have not even included it. If he had asked me not to film any part of the operation, I would gladly turned the camera off. I respect our chiefs and incident commanders and if they want me to pull something out, I absolutely will. I have had MANY chiefs tell me not to edit anything. They feel that it's a great training tool to see their mistakes and learn from them. What I have found is that viewers criticize something on EVERY video that is posted, regardless of how good of a job the department does. It seems the peanut gallery finds SOMETHING to pick on or talk junk about. Every time I take a beating for posting something that someone doesn't like, I get multiple emails or phone calls from Chiefs encouraging me to continue filming in the manner that I do and not pull any of it. I've had far more chiefs in favor of video than not. If any of them contact me and ask me not to film their department, I would absolutely respect that and only film things from a public point of view (behind the tape or on a sidewalk) – that's just plain respect. To make it short, I always make sure the commander/chief and I interact as soon as I get on scene. I'm not hiding behind bushes filming anything, I want them to know I'm there. If I see something that looks bad, I don't include it. If they see something that looks bad and ask me not to include it – that's fine with me. This particular fire is a good example of things appearing fine to all of us there, but a member of the peanut gallery obviously felt differently and found something. I respond to a lot of fires and these chiefs know me and have worked alongside me on many scenes when I've had my chief's hat on and we respect each other enough not to make any of us look bad. Sometimes things slip by and unfortunately this was one of them. I will accept responsibility for this one and apologize if this video has caused any heartache, especially to the involved firefighter because I never noticed it. Video is new and evolving to me and I appreciate any and all feedback. I have altered a lot of how I film scenes and what I publish based upon my interaction with chief officers. I will continue to do just that and I hope that I can do a better job for CVFD for the next incident. I honestly never saw this one coming and am sorry it has caused grief and controversy and will pay better attention next time.

**Jason Thompson** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/25/13 - 01:28

Thanks Jason! No apology is necessary. We are all in this together and my comments on this blog are posted for encouragement and for folks to reflect and consider. Often we in emergency services get caught up in the moment and frequently overlook aspects of our behavior that could be detrimental in one way or another – I am living proof of multiple bad behaviors, both operationally and administratively. Many of these decision-making aspects are traditional in nature; but as we all know, in today's world there is more out there that can and will "harm" us than the customary emergency scene dangers (litigation and dissent are a few). Regardless, observation and feedback are GOOD THINGS and when offense is taken, a chord is struck where we may be closer to the goal of correcting an unsafe behavior. There is so much to consider and learn from each other; and the best outcomes come when we share and truthfully have the "courage to encourage."

**A.C. Rich** - 08/25/13 - 09:35

Reading A.C.'s post about posting videos without editing, the video clip of yesterdays apartment fire is a good example. Posted worldwide on YouTube (Clip 1) shows an apartment going up in flames and a firefighter (presumably the Lieutenant on Engine 14) snapping photos of the fire. This could lead to many negative interpretations from the citizens who view this. Just an observation.

**Max Thomas** - 08/25/13 - 21:47

Jason, keep doing what you do, you capture things that otherwise we would not see, or forget about. It helps us to become better at a our profession! Haters are gonna hate, and the Monday morning QBs are just mad cause they can't, or didnt get the nod to play on Sundays,(our fires)!

**CVFD District Chief Howell** - 08/27/13 - 11:03

Name: (real name

Remember personal info?