

February 2022

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The Indiana Fire & Public Safety Academy has a **new Facebook page** where you can get the latest information from the Academy including up-to-date information on current classes.

Academy Training Staff

Message from the Director

The Indiana fire service is constantly evolving. For decades, the fire service focused on fighting fires, and then we evolved into rescuing others from automobile accidents and responding to emergency medical calls. Today, the Indiana fire service is a multi-discipline public safety service that adapts to the changing environment. Currently, we are adapting to new challenges like lithium-ion batteries that power our mobile phones, solar power for green homes, electric/battery-powered vehicles or autonomous vehicles.

Did you know there are over one million electric and plug-in cars are on U.S. roads? The batteries used in these cars have unique safety concerns if there is a car fire. First responders need to prepare for any of these possibilities.

Online site *FireRescue1* published an article by Laura Neitzel titled **3 Trends that are changing the fire environment**. Neitzel talked to Steve Kerber, vice president of research at Underwriters Laboratories and the Fire Safety Research Institute director. "We're now putting new ignition sources in homes. So, you see things like smartphones lighting pillows on fire when the kids sleep with it underneath their pillow, or it gets caught in a sofa cushion," said Kerber. "Or hoverboards get dropped, and then they go into a thermal runaway in the middle of the night and start spewing flaming debris onto a sofa."

An electric vehicle fire is nearly impossible to extinguish the way we do when fighting a non-electric vehicle fire. Some crews find they must let the vehicle burn, because no amount of water will extinguish the fire, which becomes a hazardous materials incident.

There are several common risks to firefighters and first responders when dealing with these fires, such as electrical shock, extremely high temperatures, toxic fumes and toxic water runoff. These issues are relatively new within the fire service, and, at the moment, they are outpacing our response capabilities, education and training. I have no doubt Indiana's fire service is up to the challenge. The Academy is investigating these issues and is working to build new standardized training covering these trending issues. We ask that you partner with us to ensure the fire service in Indiana continues to face challenges ahead.



Wade Walling
Director of Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy

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NFPA 1403 Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions, Chapter 4.10 Communication

4.10.1 A method of fireground communications shall be established to enable coordination among the incident commander, the interior and exterior sectors, the safety officer and external requests for assistance.

4.10.2* A building evacuation plan shall be established, including an evacuation signal to be demonstrated to all participants in an interior live fire training evolution.

**Note: A.4.10.2* Participants involved in the live fire training evolutions should be instructed to report to a predetermined

Upcoming Trainings

- Communicating with Elected Leaders
 - Date: 02/28/2022
 - Location: 400 E Main St., Pittsboro, IN 4616
- National Fire Academy - F0195 - Campus Fire and Life Safety III: Codes and Systems
 - Dates: 03/02/2022 to 03/03/2022
 - Location: MADE@PLAINFIELD, 1610 Reeves Rd., Plainfield, IN 46168
- National Fire Academy - F0636 - Building Organizational Support for Community Risk Reduction
 - Dates: 04/09/2022 to 04/10/2022
 - Location: MADE@PLAINFIELD, 1610 Reeves Rd., Plainfield, IN 46168

New in 2022 - Make plans to attend the 2022 Indiana State Fire Marshal Interchange. Come prepared to discuss ideas, learn about the future of the fire service and learn more about the sections of the Indiana State Fire Marshal.

Registration is available via your Acadis student portal.

Attention: Do you need an Indiana Public Safety Identification Number? Go to the IDHS online [Public Safety Identification \(PSID\) Application](#) and fill out the application online.

Do you need access to your EMS, EMA or Fire Departments' staff training roster? If you are a fire chief, EMS/fire training chief, EMS or EMA director, go to the Acadis [Agency Roster Request \(Fire, EMS, EMA\) Webform](#) and fill it out. Once the request is received, your access will be reviewed. If you are approved, you will be able to add or separate staff from your Acadis roster.

Fire Department Spotlight

Everton Volunteer Fire Department



The Everton Volunteer Fire Department is led by Fire Chief Chad Gronning and is located at 5495 Indiana State Rd. 1 in Connersville, Indiana. This 34-member fire department started in 1957, when the Everton

Lions Club, as one of the club's first community projects, established the Everton Volunteer Fire Department. Over the years, the Everton Volunteer Fire Department has become a highly trained and well-equipped fire department with a service area of 105 square miles. The department provides fire protection, fire education and essential life support medical

location for a roll call if evacuation of the acquired structure is signaled. Instructors should immediately report any personnel not accounted for to the instructor-in-charge. Examples of an evacuation signal that could be used include a whistle, apparatus air horn or high-low electronic siren.

Next month we will cover NFPA 1403 Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions, Chapter 4.11 Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

Public Safety Jobs Dashboard



Check out all the current openings on the [IDHS Public Safety Jobs dashboard](#). If your department is hiring and would like to promote the job, submit your information below the dashboard.

services within its service area, including mutual aid to all fire departments in Fayette County. Everton Fire has five apparatus. They also have a SCUBA and swift water trailer used when someone is stranded in Fayette County's flood-prone waters. The Everton Fire Department holds several fundraisers to support its operations throughout the year.



IDHS/IDEM Collecting PFAS Foam from Indiana Fire Agencies

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has launched a program to collect Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) foam from Indiana fire agencies.

The state will remove and properly dispose of PFAS material from any agency that requests it. **This is a free service with no additional requirements for fire agencies.**

[Click here for additional information about PFAS and the program.](#)

The Fire and Public Safety Academy is dedicated to providing outstanding customer service and delivering professional fire and public safety training, education and certification to Indiana's first responders in support of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's mission of protecting the people, property and prosperity of Indiana.

Contact the Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy at
[**firecertifications@dhs.in.gov**](mailto:firecertifications@dhs.in.gov)