

July 2022

Message from the Director

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Academy Training Staff

Academy Director
[Wade Walling](#)

Director of Operations
[Elizabeth Westfall](#)

Logistics and Training Props
[Bill Huffer](#)

Curriculum Development Director
[Zach Mathews](#)

Academy Program Manager (Districts 1 and 2)
[Mike Parks](#)

How perceptive are you? Do you know what is going on in your immediate environment? Can you determine when a situation is deteriorating? For firefighters and EMS personnel to operate safely while on the job they need to have situational awareness; a mental state of alertness that involves perceiving, processing and predicting how events may unfold to prevent unexpected problems from happening. In the fire service, we routinely focus on scene safety at first, but we become more relaxed and increasingly unaware of things going on around us as our focus narrows on the tasks at hand. Here is a quick video to test your powers of perception. [How Aware Are You.](#)



According to the U.S. Fire Administration's Coffee Break Bulletin on Situational Awareness, you should consider these questions:

- Is there anything around you that poses a threat to your (or your crew's) health and safety, and if so, to what extent?
- Is the threat big enough that you should stop working?
- What is the worst-case scenario?
- Is there anything you can do to safely reduce that threat?
- Is it time to regroup and attack the problem from a safer angle?

Here are some steps you can take to improve your situational awareness:

- Get in the habit of stopping for a moment to assess your environment.
- Stop what you are doing.
- Use all your available senses to test the environment.
- Anticipate as many possibilities as you may envision.

Academy Program Manager
(District 3)
[TR Hagerty](#)

Academy Program Manager
(District 4)
[Ryan Thoma](#)

Academy Program
Manager (Districts 5 and 7)
[Robin Nicoson](#)

Academy Program Manager
(Districts 6 and 9)
[Chuck Gunter](#)

Academy Program Manager
(Districts 8 and 10)
[Zach Westfall](#)

- If you detect a possible hazard (physical or operational), consider stopping your work and notify your team leader or Incident Commander.

U.S. Fire Administration's Coffee Break Bulletin on Situational Awareness posted on Nov. 5, 2020,
<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/blog/cb-110520.html>



Wade Walling
Director of Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy

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Academy Certification Staff

IFSAAC Accreditation and
Academy Information Officer
[Megan Thiele](#)

Certification Supervisor
[Nichelle Elliot](#)

Program Coordinator
[Regine Johnson](#)

Clerical Assistant
[Teri Dearmin](#)

[After-hours Certifications Help](#)

Recall Notice

3M Scott has received a small number of reports about the primary and/or secondary reducing valves missing PN 10005250 high pressure air filters for SCBA models Air Pak X3, X3 Pro and X3-21 Pro pressure reducers manufactured between 11/01/2019 and 04/12/2022.

A leak resulting from the absence of filters would be noticeable and detected around the very bottom of the SCBA. If at any time during the Regular Operational Inspection the user detects a leak, the SCBA should be tagged out of service and actions taken according to the requirements of the notice. If the user detects a leak at the pressure reducer during use, the user should immediately exit the IDLH environment and the SCBA should be tagged out of service.

[Full Recall Notice](#)

TITLE 655 BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION:

655 IAC 1-1-9 Reciprocity for equivalent training

Authority: IC 22-14-2-7

Affected: IC 22-14-2-7

Sec. 9. (a) Except as provided in subsection (d), a fire service person or non-fire service person who can provide evidence of having completed training and testing equivalent to the requirements of the board for a particular classification shall be entitled to receive that certification from the board when all other prerequisites are met.

Academy Announcement:

Academy Logistics Manager Bill Huffer has transitioned to a new position within the IDHS Division of Fire and Building Safety. Bill has joined the Hazmat team as the North Hazmat Specialist and fill the position previously held by Larry Hamby, who retired from IDHS. The Academy would like to thank Bill for his work and wish him well in his new role. In the coming weeks, the Academy's Logistics Manager position will be posted to fill the vacancy left by Bill's transition to Hazmat.

IDHS has a team of emergency response personnel (hazmat specialists) who serve as on-site technical advisors at large fires and hazardous materials incidents. They respond to a wide range of emergencies, carry a variety of specialized instruments and equipment and work alongside local and state agencies during incidents. Local, state or federal emergency response agencies that need emergency assistance from IDHS may call the state of Indiana Emergency Operations Center at 1-800-669-7362 (press 1).

(b) Certification of the same level of certification by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress or the United States Department of Homeland Security are deemed to be evidence of training and testing equivalent to the requirements of the board for that certification under the board's rules. Certifications by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (Pro-Board), P.O. Box 690632, Quincy, MA 02269 that are issued within the two (2) calendar years immediately preceding the date of application for board certification shall be acceptable for purposes of reciprocal certification at the level evidenced by the Pro-Board certification.

(c) Completion of training provided by the department, as evidenced by a certificate of completion issued by the department, shall be acceptable for purposes of reciprocal certification at the level evidenced by the certificate of completion.

(d) In order to receive reciprocity for equivalent training for Instructor I and Instructor II/III certification, the applicant shall, in addition to the evidence required in subsection (a), provide evidence of having passed the Indiana reciprocity test.

(e) Reciprocal certification shall be granted to an applicant as follows:

(1) The applicant has an original certificate for the certification level from an entity whose programs are substantially similar to the programs contained in the board's current rules. Programs accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress are deemed to be substantially similar. Any seal or authenticating number on the certificate shall be intact and unaltered in any way.

(2) The applicant presents an original of the certificate or copy of the certificate that contains a statement by the applicant,

Upcoming Trainings

You can register for these trainings and more in your [Acadis Portal](#).

All Hazards Operations Section Chief (L958)

- Date: Sept. 27-30
- Location: MADE@Plainfield, 1610 Reeves Rd. Plainfield, IN 46168

All Hazards Public Information Officer (L952)

- Date: Oct. 3-7
- Location: Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office, 3500 North Harlan Ave., Evansville, IN 47711

All Hazards Incident Commander (L950)

- Date: Oct. 24-28
- Location: Porter County Fire Station, 4203 Montale Dr., Valparaiso, IN 46383

IDHS is sponsoring **Operation Unify: Civil Unrest Functional Exercise** with IDHS North Districts 1-4 on Aug. 3, 2022, in Angola, Indiana. Participants include emergency managers, public safety and healthcare professionals. For more information about this exercise, contact exercise@dhs.in.gov.

Additional Trainings

Fire Department Spotlight

Angola Fire Department



Angola is located in the northeast corner of Indiana along US-20 and I-69 in central Steuben County. Established in 1879, and led by newly appointed Fire Chief Doug Call, the City of Angola Fire Department provides fire protection to the City of Angola, Pleasant Township, portions of Jamestown and Jackson Townships, Scott Township and York Township.

Angola Fire Department provides fire and rescue protection to nearly 8,000 residents, with public safety services covering over 100 square miles in Steuben County. The fire department responds to approximately 1,750 incidents annually, operates out of one central fire station and is staffed by a fire chief, assistant fire chief, fifteen full-time firefighters and fifteen part-time firefighters. Angola firefighters are trained in fire suppression and various other emergencies, including but not limited to, medical assist calls, vehicle extractions, water rescues, gas and electrical emergencies, carbon monoxide monitoring, natural disasters and mutual aid responses for surrounding departments. Other duties include fire prevention and inspections, fire investigations,

under penalty of perjury, that the copy is a true and correct copy of the original to the board at the time of application.

(Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education; 655 IAC 1-1-9; filed May 26, 1989, 2:15 p.m.: 12 IR 1871; readopted filed Aug 27, 2001, 10:55 a.m.: 25 IR 203; errata, 26 IR 383; readopted filed Sep 21, 2007, 9:23 a.m.: 20071010-IR- 655070387RFA; readopted filed Oct 10, 2007, 9:19 a.m.: 20071031-IR-655070387RFA; filed Dec 15, 2008, 11:36 a.m.: 20090114- IR-655080429FRA; readopted filed Sep 9, 2013, 8:27 a.m.: 20131009-IR-655130180RFA; readopted filed Sep 19, 2019, 4:10 p.m.: 20191016-IR-655190177RFA)

apparatus and building maintenance, public education and smoke detector programs.



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.



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