TAKE 5 FOR SAFETY

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES

5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Driving: We Are Our Brother's Keepers

FOCUS: Despite the continued emphasis on safe driving, injuries and damages that result from apparatus accidents remain virtually the same year after year. Accidents must be thoroughly investigated to determine the "root" cause if we are to prevent reoccurrence.

Date:_____

Shift:_____

Dept:_____

Station:_____

Training Code:_____

NOTES:

CHALLENGE

Every year the fire service experiences roughly 16,000 vehicle accidents. As District employees, you must make good decisions when performing your duties from every aspect, and that includes driving.

As accident investigations are completed, driver error is too often the cause. In too many cases, it was determined the driver was driving too fast for the conditions at the time. The annual accident and injury reports clearly point out the grave danger associated with driving too fast for the conditions.

We must perform the same risk assessments when driving as when we are on site at the emergency scene. As professional drivers, we must anticipate the problems we might be presented with before they occur. We must make corrections to address the conditions we are faced with. One of the most significant adjustments is in the speed we drive. The speed must be correct for the conditions that face us.

The bottom line is that we need to address unsafe speed on a regular basis as part of our training and driver evaluations. Our goal should be to GET THERE SAFELY!

DISCUSSION

- How effective is our driver training program in presenting the myriad of conditions drivers face?
- How would you address a driver who was putting you in danger?
- What is the district's procedure for reporting unsafe driving practices?
- If you are operating a vehicle and a coworker asked you to slow down, what would you do?
- How can safe vehicle speed be enforced in a non-confrontational manner?
- Do you feel our driver training activities emphasize weather conditions sufficiently?
- What suggestions do you have to help make vehicle operation safer?

The greatest asset of the fire service is our people; protect them!

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