TAKE 5 FOR SAFETY

5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Driving : Backing Mistakes Are Costly

Date:_____

Student:_____

Dept:_____

Station:_____

Training Code:_____

NOTES:

CHALLENGE

Backing is an every day activity for firefighters. Not surprisingly, a significant number of vehicle incidents involve backing. Backing accidents result in damages to our vehicle, buildings, equipment and occasionally to other firefighters.

Due to the size and value of our emergency equipment, we must put additional emphasis on our backing procedures. Not only should we make greater attempts to ensure someone is designated in the capacity of "spotter" but also provide appropriate training.

DISCUSSION

- Have you been involved in a backing accident or near miss?
- How extensive was the damage?
- Were you using a spotter, if not why not?
- Did you use radio to communicate?
- What was the result of the accident investigation?
- Do you believe this decision supported department policy, why?
- What are the safety precautions that must be taken to safely back emergency equipment?
- How can we strengthen our safe backing procedures?
- Has the department discussed the "cost" of repairs to equipment and apparatus due to backing incidents?

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

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