TAKE 5 FOR SAFETY

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES

5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Driving: Seat Belts Are Vital!

Date:_____

Shift:_____

Dept:_____

Station:_____

Training Code:_____

NOTES:

FOCUS: Driving is one of the most hazardous activities firefighters engage in. We must focus our safety efforts to ensure everyone arrives safely. Seat belts are a critical component of our safety efforts to protect each and every firefighter.

CHALLENGE

Each year there are thousands of vehicle accidents that result in serious injury and too often deaths for fire service personnel. Our culture continues to stress safety which also includes safe driving procedures.

We are purchasing safer equipment to ensure the safety of each firefighter. There is also increased training in the operation and safety features of each piece of apparatus we are assigned to drive. Each state has recognized the importance of vehicle safety and supports regulatory efforts to enhance operator training. We are investing a great deal of our resources toward improving driving safety.

The overwhelming activity that helps everyone to arrive safely is wearing your seat belts! Each day we are witnessing accidents where firefighters escape serious injury because they were belted in. Let's encourage one another to take the time to buckle up and take personal responsibility for arriving safely! Operator's should not drive away until each member of the crew is safely belted in!

DISCUSSION

- Does our department enforce wearing seat belts?
- Is it a common practice in our department to prematurely unbuckle?
- What suggestions do you have to promote the proper seat belt use?
- Do you make it a practice to "buckle up" prior to the vehicle moving?
- Has there been an accident when crew members were not buckled up?
- What was the result of the accident review?
- Do you believe this decision supported department policy, why?
- Does the vehicle inspection include seat belts?
- Do you practice of the job safety and wear seat belts when driving?
- Have you signed the Seat belt Pledge?
- How can we improve our safety culture?

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

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