TAKE 5 FOR SAFETY

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES

5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Driving: Multi-Tasking Can Cause Problems

FOCUS: While driving Code 3 drivers should concentrate on driving and all other tasks should be passed to other firefighters.

Date:_____

Shift:_____

Dept:_____

Station:_____

Training Code:_____

NOTES:

CHALLENGE

Every year the fire service experiences approximately 16,000 vehicle accidents. These accidents result in thousands of injuries, hundreds of civilian deaths, and roughly 20-30 firefighter deaths.

DISCUSSION

Clearly, driving is one of the most hazardous tasks firefighters face. Historically, accident investigations reveal human error as the major contributing cause of too many vehicle accidents. One of the sources linked to these errors is the fact that the driver is engaged in additional activities.

It is important for the crew to support the operator by handling every task necessary to operate the vehicle safely. This includes operating the radio, lights and siren. The driver's primary task must be driving the apparatus!

As a professional driver, the operator's most important task is to get the crew safely to and from the emergency scene.

- Do you think multi-tasking is a problem?
- What other things can the crew do to support the operator?
- Do you think chatter in the cab is an issue?
- How do we improve our driver training?

The greatest asset of the district is its people, protect them!

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