



Near-Miss Matters

Volume 35, March 5, 2013

Report [09-917](#) describes occupants of a structure who awake to strange smells and heavy smoke. Several of the occupants were treated for high CO levels in their blood. The structure did have a fire alarm system, but it did not activate. The structure was not equipped with carbon monoxide detectors or sprinklers. And surprisingly enough, this structure was a firehouse. The report submitter stated, "The irony is apparent that the fire department that gives away and installs thousands of smoke detectors each year does not have a working fire alarm system in their own stations...The Captain promised...he would purchase and install working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure their safety." Also check out [10-972](#) for another instance of three firefighters whose lives may have been saved because they had a working smoke alarm in the firehouse.

What's New

→ There are more than 20 table top training exercises using near-miss reports available on the [Resources](#) page. The templates can be customized to fit your needs in your station.

In preparation for Daylight Savings Time this Sunday, fire departments are sharing the message of the importance of residential smoke alarms and fire sprinklers with their communities. The U.S Fire Administration (USFA) reports an 82% reduction in the risk of dying in a house fire when both smoke alarms and fire sprinklers are in the home. USFA's "Install. Inspect. Protect." campaign helps fire departments educate their communities with the many resources that can be found on their [website](#). But while you are helping your community to be safe, be sure to also check your fire station and your own house.

Until next month, stay safe.

ROTM

[March 2013 Report of the Month](#)

Resources

[Table Top Exercise: Mass Casualty Incidents](#)

[Table Top Exercise: Stuck Occupied Elevator](#)

Upcoming Events

[Wildland Urban Interface \(WUI\)](#)

March 19-21, 2013; Reno, NV

[Fire-Rescue Med](#)

May 3-7, 2013; Las Vegas, NV

Near-Miss Fundamentals:

Last year, we conducted a survey to determine what motivates people to submit a near-miss report. The overwhelming response was that people submit near-miss reports to help other firefighters. You may never meet the firefighter you help, but submitting a near-miss report will help another firefighter. Take 15 minutes today to submit a report to help another firefighter.

Testimonial

"The National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System is a wonderful forum for the collection of data and just plain straight forward reporting of incidents that have an impact on our lives."

-Chief Jim Grady III, Frankfort (IL) Fire District



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