

Leadership Seminar

November 4th 0800-1700, Norfolk Fire Rescue Training Center



Battalion Chief Dena Ali

Raleigh Fire Department, North Carolina

Course Name: It's not the calls: First Responder Health and Organizational Leadership.

Course Description:

This presentation highlights the connection between leadership and the mental health of our members by examining how mental health challenges among first responders goes beyond mitigating exposure to traumatic events. Instead, effective support involves fostering a culture of psychological well-being within organizations through strong leadership, open communication, training, trust, and proactive measures. Ensuring our cultures support optimal performance of our members starts with the leader modeling the behaviors that we expect. The presentation will provide case studies from high-performance organizations that have leveraged the power of effective leadership, ensuring that belongingness and vulnerability became cultural norms.

Captain Benjamin Martin

Henrico County Fire Department

Course Name: Intoxicated Leadership:

Thinking Strategically vs. Reacting Emotionally

Course Description

The chance to lead and create opportunities for others can be incredibly rewarding. But let's be honest, it can also be tremendously frustrating, especially when leaders face supervising unengaged, negative, or even toxic people. While the fire service continues to do a great job of preparing people to lead on the fireground, it struggles to provide strategies and tactics for navigating the larger frequency and challenge of addressing personnel issues back at the firehouse. Students will understand the role emotions play in aiding or undermining their leadership efforts in the firehouse and on the fireground. This class illustrates why the body responds to conflict the way it does and what steps we can take to build credibility as leaders capable of answering these challenges.



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