

City of Salisbury

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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20 February 2007

Mr. John B. Tippet, Jr.
Project Manager
International Association of Fire Chiefs
4025 Fair Ridge Drive
Fairfax, Virginia 22033

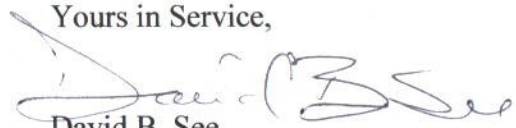
Dear Mr. Tippet,

I am writing to thank you and the IAFC for establishing and maintaining the National Firefighter Near-Miss Reporting system. This database of incidents that have occurred in hundreds of fire departments across the country is an important tool available to anyone in our business. It provides information that has been extremely helpful to fire service members in the prevention of similar occurrences in their own departments.

We have provided each and every firefighter with all of the state-of-the-art apparatus, tools and equipment to enable them to provide safe, effective and efficient service delivery. Yet, we keep injuring and killing hundreds of our own every year. The final and most concentrated focus on firefighter safety is changing the mindset of our firefighters from one of "that won't happen to me" or "we've done it that way for decades" to one of "let's think before we act" and "if you can't do it safely, then maybe it's not worth doing at all."

This system is contributing to that change in the safety culture of our business. It is helping to make our firefighters safer – "one report at a time." Thank you for your contributions to increasing the safety of our nation's firefighters.

Yours in Service,


David B. See,
Chief of the Department

cc: File