

UNITED BY FIRE

2024 
FIRESHOWS
WEST

Fueled by Purpose

CONFERENCE & EXPO

PROGRAM & EVENTS GUIDE

September 23-25

Grand Sierra Resort & Casino

Reno, NV

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ABOUT THE EVENT

FireShowsWest is one of the largest and longest running fire service Conference & Expos in the West Coast.

We have been meeting with a myriad of players in the fire service nationwide to discuss how to adapt to the ever changing trade show environment. Thanks to feedback from previous year's attendees, exhibitors, and instructors, we are blazing a path to grow the show, year after year, with more Events, HOT Classes, and nationally proclaimed speakers.

The FireShowsWest First Responders Training and Education Foundation (FFRTEF) is a 501(c)3 was established in 2018 as a nonprofit corporation in Nevada. Our purpose is to provide accessible training and education to all first responders on up-to-date advancements and technologies within the industry. With your help, we can move closer to our goal of providing more outreach to first responders of all disciplines.


Events & Happenings

- INAUGURAL RENO RIT COMPETITION HOSEED WITHIN THE EXHIBIT HALL TO DRAW COMPETITORS AND SPECTATORS ALIKE.
- ADDED H.O.T CLASSES, INTERACTIVE LECTURES, AND NEW WORKSHOPS FROM NATIONAL INSTRUCTORS
- HOSTED COFFEE AND EXTENDED LUNCH BREAKS TO BE HELD WITHIN THE EXHIBIT HALL FOR ALL ATTENDEES.
- COCKTAIL MIXER, MEET & GREET TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH
- OPPORTUNITIES TO WIN GEAR, GOODIES, AND MORE!

<https://fireshowswest.com>

Monday, Sept 23

Instructor	Class	Description
Thomas Dunne	Think Like an Incident Commander	What is an incident commander seeing, thinking, and feeling when he supervises a operation? Tactics may vary at various incidents but the one constant is the incident commander's thought process. This interactive course is geared to illustrate key points - preparation, size up, fire ground decision making, command, and communications.
Randall Gates	5 Practices That Can Change Your Life	Are you experiencing burnout, fatigue, stress, depression, or anxiety? If so, consider attending this introduction workshop. 5 practices/habits that can change your life. This workshop is an introduction to the practices of cold therapy, low inflammation diet, sleep hygiene, breathwork, and movement in nature. Please consider bringing a towel, a swimsuit, and an open mind.
Hortons & Hunt	Finest Hour	On the fire ground, two tasks stand paramount: fire attack and victim search. Upholding the oath we took upon receiving our badges, we are pledged to protect the citizens we serve - its the beating heart of the fire service. Our programs aim to foster a culture of competent and confident search operations within your organization, thus ensuring the highest level of protection for our citizens. From L.I.P to RECEO-VS, we offer expert training methodologies designed to save lives. Because in our field, every second counts - and every life matters.
Bryan Howell	Rapid Extraction Model (REMS) Capabilities, Considerations, and the Future	The steady increase in use of REMS teams during large campaign fires has presented another unique opportunity in the US Fire Service to create and further modify an existing rescue profile. How to better train our firefighters how to more properly employ hasty rescue in Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous, Time-constraining, and Threat-containing environments (VUCA-T2). We will focus on the "hike-in" cache of equipment as described by FIRESCOPE, and how to exploit that list to better fit team needs.
Jesse Fournier & GRIT Team	Tactical TICS	Equip yourself with essential skills for navigating the heat of the moment with confidence in our Tactical Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) class. Explore the transformative capabilities of TICs and unlock their potential as indispensable tools on the fire ground. From conducting comprehensive 360 assessments to executing efficient search operations, this class offers a comprehensive overview of TIC usage tailored for firefighters of all levels.
Bob Sullivan (NFPA) and Kyle Donahue (LVFR)	Food Truck Safety Requirements & Programs	This session will focus on the unique fire and explosion hazards associated with food trucks, provide an overview of related code requirements for mobile cooking operations, and discuss food truck safety programs.
Ralph Suppa	Unity & Resilience: Interactive Strategies for Mass Casualty Response	An immersive course designed for emergency response personnel to enhance their ability to manage Mass Casualty Incidents (MCIs) with precision, calmness, and strategic foresight. MCIs present a unique set of challenges, varying wildly in complexity and scale. This program emphasizes the importance of establishing a robust management system early on, providing participants with the necessary tools and insights to discern critical aspects of an incident beyond its immediate chaos.



Hardknox Gear Workshop

Marcos Orozco & Chris Boyer

There are several great equalizers in our profession, some of which are out of our control, and some that are totally in our control. Getting physically and mentally acclimated to the effects our bunker gear has on us, is one hundred percent in our control. By leaning on research and science, we can train our minds and bodies to be prepared for the hellish environments, that is fighting fire, and to have the best possible chance of success by being efficient, effective, and comfortable doing work in our bunker gear. By the end of this presentation, attendees will have a better understanding of why it is important to workout/train in bunker gear on a regular basis and have access to the science and research that supports it.

Monday, Sept 23

Buildings on Fire; Taking it to the Streets Reading Buildings Chris J. Naum, SFPE

Presenting our signature Reading the Buildings program taking the classroom to the streets with insights on building construction for today's fire service, the primary objective of this program is to increase awareness and understandings and promote new skill sets in the fundamentals of building size-up and assessment, construction, architecture and engineering and that directly impact firefighting and command operations at structure fires. This unique program will consist of a walking tour on select streets in downtown Reno, Reading Buildings and developing Size-up skills looking at a variety of building types, occupancies & risks and vintage and era of structures, discussing operations, risks and building hazards with interactive curb-side conversations and dialog.



Instructor	Class	Description
Steve McClintock	Wildland Fire Assessment Program	The WFAP is a joint effort by the U.S. Forest Service and the NVFC to provide fire service volunteers with training and resources to conduct safety assessments for homes located in the wildland-urban interface. This is a train-the-trainer program.
Thomas Dunne	We're Only Human: Understanding Fire Ground Behavior	We've all learned how to fight the fire, but how many of us will be able to accurately predict the behavior of the people affected by the fire? This class teaches how civilians typically react to the stress and uncertainty of a fire or other threatening situation and provides firefighters with a guide to safely managing them. Videos, case studies, and personal fire ground experiences are used to highlight the genetic and social factors that determine human responses to danger.
Shannon McQuaide	Conscious Warrior Training - Yoga For Firefighters	Learn how the Functional Movement Screen correlates to common Firefighter movements and which yoga postures directly support these movement patterns. Learn the science of stress and understand how mental fitness practices can be a powerful internal tool for regulating stress responses.
Randy Perlis	Organic Chemistry for Hazardous Materials Responders	This class will present and discuss the various physical and chemical properties that are associated with common industrial organic chemicals. Using actual case scenarios, the hazards associated with organic chemicals will be presented and how to identify the characteristic hazards associated with these chemicals.
Jesse Quinalty	Company Officer Assessment Center Help (COACH) Workshop - In-Basket Exercise Module	In this module of the COACH Workshop, we will be covering the in-basket or in-box exercise. We will cover different types of in basket exams and how they work. We will discuss how to prioritize your answers into categories and be able to justify them. Students will also develop a system to maximize points by thinking outside the box during the in-box exam.
Anthony Kastros	Mastering Fireground Command	Command and tactical training is critical to modern officer development. Today's officers must be excellent leaders and exceptional tacticians. With changes in building construction, tactics, and the latest UL studies regarding fire behavior, modern fireground operations are more complex than ever.

Instructor	Class	Description
Aaron Hummel & Mike Walker	Reliable Decision Making for Battalion Chiefs and Company Officers – Strategy and Tactics	It can be overwhelming trying to sift through and consider all the information to make sound decisions on the fireground. This class will help the student key in on proven techniques that can help officers focus on the important information that should be sought and considered in our compressed fireground timeframe.
Jesse Quinalty	(COACH) Workshop – Employee Conflict Module	In this module of the COACH Workshop, we will be covering employee coaching and counseling scenarios. We will discuss types of employee conflict scenarios along with ways to prepare for this type of exam. Students will develop a simple method for handling employee issues and how to maximize points on this type of subjective testing. We will also discuss understanding role players and proctor grading for these types of tests.
Nick Vent	MC306/DOT406 TANKER ROLLOVER RESPONSE	Class 3 Flammable liquids including Gasoline and Diesel fuel are transported daily throughout our communities. Accidents will occur and need to be handled safely to protect Life, the Environment and Property. The Hazmat teams need to understand the properties of these chemicals and how to properly respond to incidents. To do this a familiarity with Cargo tanker construction is required. This course will primarily focus on the needs of the Hazmat team but will also be applicable to the first in Engine Companies that will get the initial dispatch. A DOT 406 tanker will be available during the class to walk around the vehicle to explore what we will have talked about in class.
Dr. Robert C. Krause	Leadership and Critical Decision-making Under Stress	The focus of this presentation addresses leadership for firefighters that make decisions under stress and empowers them to perform better when critical decisions need to be made in time compressed environments. The relevance of this presentation is that poor decision-making under stressful conditions can lead to firefighter injuries, possibly firefighter deaths and certainly excessive property losses. History has demonstrated poorly trained critical decision-makers fail in the moment when they are needed the most.
Randy Perlis	Dangerous Properties of Hazardous Materials	This class will present and discuss the various physical and chemical properties that determine the hazard classification and dangers associated with hazardous materials. Using actual case scenarios, the hazards associated with these chemicals will be presented. Participants will learn what makes a substance a hazardous chemical and what dangers are associated with the chemical hazards.
Mark Emery	Firefighter Fatality Case Study	The 2024 Fatality Case Study will be the 2020 Library Fire in Porterville, CA. The tragic fire claimed the lives of a Captain and a Firefighter. Purpose: So that these brave Firefighters did not die in vain, we will learn from their deaths so that how they died will not happen again. After identifying operational challenges and problems, I will demonstrate specific strategic and tactical solutions that will ensure the problems identified do not take the life of another Firefighter.



Journeyman's Irons Horton's & Hunt

This is a H.O.T (hands-on training) where our instructors will discuss and demonstrate the art of journeyman forcible entry with irons. Forcible entry is an art, however, mastery of the irons is often overlooked. The H&H cadre will take your comprehension of one of our profession's cornerstone skills to the next level through an in-depth explanation of the HOW and WHY behind the irons.

Instructor	Class	Description
Mike Horst	The "FIVE or DIE" Culture	The focus will shift to what we refer to as the "Five or Die" - One of the fire chief's worst-case scenarios: one of their own, down, unconscious, and not breathing in an IDLH environment. We will explore how to be better prepared through a candid self-assessment and how to train to defeat those worst-case scenarios. We stress that the rescue of a down firefighter starts with the firefighter next to them. Rescue techniques used with, and without, an HRD like the FAST Board will be discussed. We hope to allow the attendants to learn how to solve the common firefighter rescue obstacles of weight, force, and friction.
Jesse Quinalty	(COACH) Workshop – Oral Interview Module	In this module of the COACH Workshop, we will be covering oral interviews for promotional exams. We will cover the basics of preparing for the oral interview, types of interview questions, and how to deliver better answers. We will discuss the bridge method and the go fish model to answer oral interview questions. We will also improve your score by getting you to think like the test taker, test rater and test maker. We will also throw out some hot seat questions to the students.
David Bullard	Collaborative Programs: Pipeline Safety and Response	The effectiveness of emergency response in pipeline incidents rests upon collaboration between the emergency services community and pipeline operators. This course discusses how your fire department can forge relationships with operators and other stakeholders to enhance its training, safety, and response to pipeline emergencies. Topics covered will help you understand your risks, identify collaborative drills and exercises, discover mutual aid opportunities, and build partnerships to better protect both your responders and community.
Arjuna George	Emerging Stronger: The 7 Gifts From Burnout - Insights from 'Burnt Around the Edges'	As a seasoned firefighter and now an acclaimed resilience coach, Arjuna intertwines his personal story with actionable strategies, focusing on holistic wellness, leadership, and resilience. The core of this presentation revolves around the seven pivotal insights or 'gifts' that Arjuna discovered during his journey through burnout. Each gift embodies a crucial element of understanding, coping, and ultimately thriving in the face of operational stress injuries and high-pressure situations.
Christopher J. Naum, SFPE	A Fire Officer's Guide for Today's Buildings on Fire	Today's fireground, buildings and occupancies present increasing challenges that have redefined strategic and tactical fireground operations and impact these operations on a wide variety of levels that often include adverse compartment fire conditions, structural compromise, collapse and predictable building performance. Presenting insights on building construction for today's fire service, the primary objective of this program is to increase awareness and understandings and promote new skill sets in the fundamentals of building construction, architecture, engineering and design that directly impact firefighting and command operations at structure fires.
Jeremy Mathis	Re-Thinking Rapid Intervention	This thought-provoking lecture challenges the status quo of traditional rapid-intervention tactics, inviting firefighters to critically examine and reevaluate established practices in emergency rescue operations. Through engaging discourse and compelling case studies, participants will explore alternative approaches, innovative strategies, and emerging technologies reshaping the landscape of rapid intervention.
Bob Sullivan	NFPA - Updates and Construction Site Fire Safety Requirements	The latest updates from NFPA, including the new NFPA website; a newly-proposed standard named NFPA 800 that will address the hazards of lithium-ion batteries; this year's Fire Prevention Week theme; the NFPA Fire and Emergency Services Member Section; and more.

Tuesday, Sept 24



**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**

Anthony Kastros

We will delve into the 'New Normal' that is redefined daily and faces today's and tomorrow's leaders. Many agencies struggle with officer development and succession planning, especially with mass attrition and in the wake of COVID. We will present why passion for leadership training and succession planning has never been more critical in the fire service than right now. We will share and show proven succession planning and officer development techniques such as bridging the 'Tactical Gap' between young and old, officer academies, high impact role plays and simulations.

Wednesday, Sept 25

Instructor	Class	Description
Brett Bigger	BatteryIQ: Electric Vehicle (EV) Incident Preparedness Training	Is your location prepared to handle the unique challenges posed by Electric Vehicle (EV) incidents? As the transition towards greener transportation solutions continues, it becomes increasingly crucial for responders to possess the necessary knowledge and skills to address potential risks effectively. This course is designed to equip participants with comprehensive training on handling EV incidents, covering key highlights to ensure effective response strategies.
Micah Rains	Detailed Leadership, Aggressive Tactics	Intentional leadership is the foundation for success within an organization, on the fire ground, or when building relationships. From the bay floor to the battalion car, leadership will rise or fall based on the investment in the details. This class takes an in-depth look at what it means to be detailed with your people, and your profession. It will look at how good leadership can translate into aggressive tactics on the fire ground. To win on the fire ground we must be able to lead in the firehouse.
Randy Perlis	Chemical Hazard Determination Using Wet Chemistry Hazard Classification Procedure	This is a hands-on training where the participants will handle and test actual hazardous materials. Participants will determine the chemical hazards of 24 commonly used hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals using colorimetric techniques. Hazmat Responders will learn a rapid and easy method to determine if unknown or suspicious materials present at a site present possible chemical or biological hazard to the responder, population or surrounding environment.
Vince Mulray	Philadelphia Line of Duty Death - Life Saving Lessons Learned	On January 6, 2018 an 11-year veteran of the fire department died after becoming trapped from an interior structural collapse while engaged in interior firefighting operations. The after-action review was a no-fault, comprehensive, though, objective, factual and transparent process conducted by the health and safety office to provide insight into the events and operations from the time of dispatch to the time the fire was placed under control, a time span of approximately one hour and 57 minutes. This presentation will include actual fireground audio and video, along with interviews from responders on scene. The nine critical factors that contributed to the LODD will be examined and lessons learned to improve fire ground operations will be discussed.
Mark Emery	Flow + Mindset = Success	Flow and Growth Mindset are separate psychological concepts that emerged from the study of positive psychology and optimal performance. Because Flow and Growth Mindset work better together, I refer to the combination as a Flow Mindset. To develop a Flow Mindset, you must acknowledge three essential keys for a happy and fulfilling life: Engagement, Enjoyment, and Meaning. We are fortunate that Fire and Life Safety services offer all three keys. Nothing in this world has more value than Peace of Mind.
Jessie Fournier	Next-Gen Fire Dynamics	Through engaging lectures, interactive demonstrations, and real-world case studies, along with knowledge from FSRI you'll gain a deep understanding of the factors that influence fire behavior and the tactics that firefighters employ to mitigate its risks. Whether you're a seasoned firefighter seeking to enhance your expertise or a student aspiring to join the ranks of firefighting professionals, this class offers invaluable insights and practical knowledge to elevate your skills and ensure the safety of both responders and the communities you serve.
Randy Gates	Breath of Fire	From a peer support and mental health perspective these experiences have huge benefits. The focus is to help first responders and their partners manage stress, anxiety, depression through behaviors/practices on the front end that prevent a critical overload or breaking point. In other words, you will have the opportunity to set down your armor, fully surrender, get into an altered state of consciousness that shifts perspective, and connect with your body. In our body is where we often store unprocessed emotions, trauma, etc. This physical practice can acknowledge and even move, shift, or release that energy. Music and vibrational sound also have the ability to affect our consciousness. Stacking these together creates a very powerful experience.

Wednesday, Sept 25

Instructor	Class	Description
Marcos Orozco	Improving Fire Ground Performance Through Fitness and Mental Fortitude	Through an interactive lecture and presentation, I intend to outline the importance of training/working out in bunker gear to reduce the limiting physiological factors that are caused by it and how to maximize fire ground performance in doing so. There are several great equalizers in our profession, some of which are out of our control, and some that are totally in our control. Getting physically and mentally acclimated to the effects our bunker gear has on us, is one hundred percent in our control.
Phil Davis	Firefighter Safety & Rehab	These classes focus on firefighter safety and rehab, with an emphasis on carbon monoxide (CO). Additionally, departments are using the technology more and more to determine CO poisoning/exposure on EMS calls. Classes are a combination of discussion and hands-on with the monitoring devices.
Dr. Robert C Krause	What's Killing Firefighters	Firefighters around the country continue to perish at an alarming rate. Despite improvements in protective clothing, improved building designs and general firefighting training, firefighter deaths remain relatively consistent from year to year. Research based upon a study of 149 fatal fireground incidents involving volunteer firefighters, totaling 176 deaths, identifies seven broad categories in-which firefighters perished. This session identifies those seven categories, breaks down the data, identifies common themes in each of the fatalities and provides realistic methods to aid in the prevention of similar tragedies in the future. Understanding how firefighters have died in the past can inform, educate and prepare fire crews from repeating similar mistakes and suffering the same tragic result.
David Lewis	Creating a Psychologically Healthy Fire Department	This course from the National Volunteer Fire Council and the American Psychological Association's Center for Organizational Excellence is designed to empower firedepartment leadership to promote and support healthy, high performing fire/EMS departments. Based on the framework from the Psychologically Healthy Fire Departments initiative, this course focuses on six key practices - member involvement, health and safety, member growth and development, work-life balance, member recognition, and effective communication - to facilitate member well-being and department functioning. The session will be largely instructor-led but will also include interactive activities (case study reviews, small group discussions, and active participation).
John Clark	Critical Stress - Effects and Consequenses	The presentation and interactive session will provide information on how a department/agency can effectively address mental health issues and support affected personnel. The topic and delivery will take a very personal and unique approach based on two separate suicide incidents in 2021 (Chief Clark's son and one of his fire officers). The incidents were only six weeks apart. The subject of first responder mental health, including substance abuse and suicide in the fire service is a rapidly growing issue. While much has been done in the fire service to bring awareness to the issue, many departments and agencies don't have an effective plan or means to implement programs, share information, and engage their personnel. This is particularly true in smaller departments and agencies that lack resources and/or funding. This presentation and interactive session will discuss the problem, causes and overall mental health issues in the fire service.
Jesse Quinalty	(COACH) Workshop - Fire Simulation Module	In this module of the COACH Workshop, we will be covering the basics of the fire simulation to include static and dynamic types of exams. We will discuss grading criteria, fallacies of the test, automatic fail components and raters / role players. Students will also be taught systems for conducting a size up, managing resources and connecting tactics with strategy. Several examples of fire simulations will be given to the group.
Brett Bigger	HazMatIQ First Responder Offensive Training	First Responder Offensive training utilizes the HazMatIQ Above the Line/Below the Line System to instruct initial responders on assessing scene safety and determining entry into the Hot Zone. This course covers fundamental chemical and physical properties, alongside the utilization of the Stay Alive Five (SAFe) Kit, comprising essential tools like LEL meters, F and pH papers, Thermal Imaging Cameras, and radiation pagers. Participants gain knowledge to make informed decisions on whether to proceed with rescue efforts or evacuations based on unidentified risks.



Wednesday, Sept 25



LIVE FIRE TRAINING

Attendees will have the opportunity to experience Live Fire Training in a controlled and safe environment in accordance with NFPA 1403 Standard on Live Fire training Evolutions. The goal of this training is to provide all participants with a safe environment to develop and refine their firefighting skills and provide practical experience.