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From: FFUS-Comments
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To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Cc: Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR); Doyle, Glenn (CDC/NIOSH/EID)
Subject: 141 - FFUS Comments

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Comments

As a document promulgated by the CDC, this alert seems lacking in steps for the emergency medical care and transportation of firefighters injured at an incident. Specifically, on page iii, and page 7, there are lists of steps that fire departments should take to protect firefighters. This list should include the following bullets under the RIT bullet:

- Stage fire apparatus with a minimum of 12 firefighters, within 5 minutes driving time of the incident, to respond in the event of an emergency.
- Stage an Emergency Medical Services team, preferably at the Paramedic level, with the Rapid Intervention Team to treat any sick or injured firefighters. Ideally this team should be trained and equipped to treat the effects of cyanide poisoning, in addition to their normal capabilities.
- Stage at least 2 ambulances, preferably at the Paramedic level, within 5 minutes driving time of the incident, to respond in the event of an emergency.
- Notify the nearest Emergency Room whenever firefighters are operating at any structure fire, so that they may prepare for a sudden influx of casualties. The fire department should update the Emergency Room, as soon as possible, when the incident commander learns of the possibility of either firefighter or civilian casualties.