

Joseph V. Doria, Jr. Commissioner

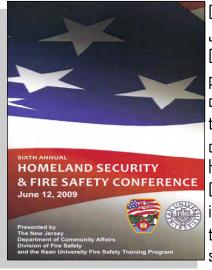
Lawrence Petrillo, Director

SUMMER 2009

#### HIN1 PANDEMIC FOCUS OF HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE

Nearly 300 fire service personnel gathered at Downs Hall on the Kean University campus for the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety's Sixth Annual Homeland Security Conference this month.

NJDFS Director and State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo opened the seminar by saying its purpose was to give fire service members a dissenting view that another 9/11 type disaster is unlikely. Petrillo was followed on the dais by several speakers who put forth evidence in favor of that idea.



Captain John Delaney,
Jr. of the Arlington
County, Virginia Fire Department was quick to
challenge that assumption by way of a study he
conducted in pursuit of
his MA in fire science.
Captain Delaney asserts
in his research that
there may be degrees of
so-called "response willingness" on behalf of

firefighters relative to a natural or man made disaster.

Delaney cautioned that results of his research show that given the anticipated return of the HIN1 flu virus, the first responder corps could be decimated in terms of their ability to respond, should there be, as is expected, a resurgence of the virus during the coming flu season later this year.

Captain Delaney made the point very specifically that one of the unforeseen hazards of HINI may very well be an inability to maintain even minimal emergency response to a disaster occurring

# Inside this issue: 6th Annual HSC Continued 2 Fire Bowl Graduates to Kean University 3 STATE FIRE MARSHAL MESSAGE Debuts 4 Women in the Fire Service Annual Retreat 6 State Fire Marshal on Barbecue Safety 7 NFIRS Reporting Departments Lauded 8 NJDFS Public Education Poster Contest 2009 13

#### HIN1 PANDEMIC "HOT" TOPIC AT NJDFS-HSC CONFERENCE

during the onset of that possible pandemic.

Delaney contrasted that impact with the one the 9/11 disaster at the Pentagon had on his department. His research model shows there could be a 50 percent or higher attrition rate affecting emergency response personnel felled by the flu. A startling statistic!

Captain Delaney's report was followed by a first hand account of the recent successful prosecution of the so-called "Fort Dix Six," presented by Michael A. Hammer, Jr., Chief of the US Attorney for New Jersey Anti-Terrorism section.

The investigation says Hammer, was the result of the sort of close cooperation between local, state and federal agencies that are critical in a post 9/11 world.

Hammer noted to enthusiastic applause the recent sentencing of four of the defendants to terms of life plus 30 years. He mentions also that close interagency cooperation was key, as is maintaining a readiness posture across the board for law enforcement, state fire and emergency services.

Director Petrillo acknowledged the assistance of Kean University president Dr. Dawood Farahi and its Fire Safety Training Program administered by Karen Grant on the Division's behalf for hosting the conference for the past six years.

Information on next year's conference will be posted on both the Division's website <a href="www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/">www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/</a> and Kean's <a href="www.keanfiresafety.com">www.keanfiresafety.com</a>.



NJDFS Director Lawrence Petrillo with Captain John Delaney, Jr. Arlington County, VA Fire Department





#### P.S. #14 OF BAYONNE 2009 STATE FIRE BOWL CHAMPS

On May 19, 2009, the team from Public School #14 of Bayonne defeated the Belleville Middle School Girls in the hotly contested New Jersey FIRE Bowl State Championship. Under the bright lights of Kean University's Wilkins Theater, both teams rose to the challenge and quickly answered difficult questions on Fire Safety, Fire Science, and the History of Firefighting in America.

The Championship event was hosted by Fox News and My-9 News Anchorman Harry Martin, whose broadcast-quality performance gave the FIRE Bowl a professional touch. This marked the third consecutive year Harry Martin has served as the FIRE Bowl emcee. Also making appearances were State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo and Kean University President Dr. Dawood Farahi.

Dr. Farahi, whose University hosted the event, kicked off the program with a music video about Kean University's growing profile and distinguished graduates, including honorary alumni Richie Zambora, a founding member of Bon Jovi, whose song "My Home Town" accompanies the video. The New Jersey FIRE Bowl, a program that has just concluded its fourth year, had its largest turn-out for student participation ever. The ever-expanding FIRE Bowl program saw over 100 students from three schools districts competing throughout the spring. The participating districts were from the cities of Bayonne, Belleville, and Camden.



#### The Winners

lst Place Teams – P.S. # 14 (Bayonne)\*\*\*

Belleville Middle School Girls

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Teams – John M. Bailey School (Bayonne)

Belleville Middle School Boys

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Teams – Veterans Memorial Middle School (Camden)

#### Woodrow Wilson School (Bayonne)

1<sup>st</sup> Place Individuals – Stephanie Bloschak and Hannah McMullan

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Individuals – Ebony Coleman and Rogelio Quispe

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Individuals – Alexandra Domanski and Ali Hajihaidari

These awards were presented at the FIRE Bowl Championship by an extremely generous group of sponsors. The 2009 FIRE Bowl sponsors were: Michael Morganti from IMTT – Bayonne, Daniel DeTrolio from Hartz Mountain Industries, William Lavin of the NJ State FMBA, and Marc Kiempisty of Joshua Marcus Group. Without their dedication to the FIRE Bowl, the program would not have been able to complete a successful fourth year of competition.

The 2010 FIRE Bowl is already shaping up to be the biggest ever, with commitments from over 20 schools in 5 school districts throughout New Jersey. Anyone wishing to get involved or obtain more information can contact Charles Lavin at the NJ Division of Fire Safety at <a href="Clavin@dca.state.nj.us">CLavin@dca.state.nj.us</a>.

## STATE FIRE MARSHAL MESSAGE NOW APPEARING IN YOUR FIRE STATION EMAIL INBOX

State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo notes the debut of the Division of Fire Safety's latest fire service outreach effort: State Fire Marshal Message.

The email is designed to compliment the Division's ongoing digital outreach initiatives including its website and a move toward online registration for training classes for both Firefighter and Code Enforcement Certification.

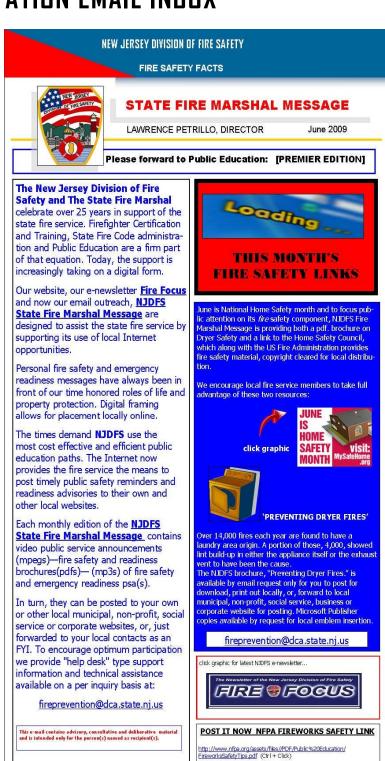
State Fire Marshal Message is designed to assist local public education efforts within the state by providing traditional fire safety advice, prevention procedures and disaster awareness in digital form.

"We need to reach people with our traditional fire safety, prevention and emergency awareness messages where they obtain most of their information. For most of us it now arrives via email or we find it on the Internet," said Petrillo

He also stresses the fact that the Internet is more a local information source than ever before, and, that a fire safety message in digital form can have immediate impact.

For example, a "side by side" live wet tree dry tree burn video clip posted to a municipal or community information website shows how vital keeping decorative trees well watered is.

Also a <u>picture</u> of an overloaded outlet is an effective way of conveying a fire hazard.



You are receiving this email owing to a prior relationship with the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety. If you no longer wish to receive this email, or, feel it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free it more appropriate for another person in the fire service please reply to: <a href="mailto:freepreyention@dcastate.njus">free freepreyention@dcastate.njus</a> with a valid email address.

## STATE FIRE MARSHAL MESSAGE



#### NEW JERSEY WEEKEND AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY JUNE 27-28, 2009



Sight, sound and motion can combine says Petrillo, in a compelling and instructive way.

State Fire Marshal Message currently goes to nearly 1.000 individual email addresses statewide.

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especially useful, since they need only forward the information.

Petrillo acknowledges that the federal US Fire Administration points the way in this regard as the agency now routinely posts important fire safety and awareness hints to social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

In addition the initiative meets a "green" standard by taking the "paper" distribution path out of the equation, since there is no longer a need to supply local jurisdictions with paper copies of fire safety material. Though as digital documents they can be printed out locally if required. The State Fire Marshal Message also features a support available at:

fireprevention@dca.state.nj.us.

This electronic GPO provides technical support to fire service members who wish additional guidance on posting fire prevention, fire safety and disaster

As it has done for many years the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and the National Fire Academy, located in Emmitsburg, Maryland hosted New Jersey Fire Service members for a two day intensive training session, called: "New Jersey Weekend."

Participants, representing all levels and functions of both professional and volunteer departments



statewide commit to a weekend's worth of training, including such courses as; "Fire Behavior in a Single



Family Occupancy" and "Emergency Response to Terrorism: Strateoic and

Tactical Considerations for Supervisor."

All courses are held in the campus-like setting of the nation's sole national training center. A centerpiece of the campus, is a memorial to those who have given their lives in the line of duty.



National Fallen Firefighters Memorial

#### 14TH ANNUAL WOMEN IN FIRE SERVICE RETREAT

Fire Service Women of New Jersey, Inc., was formed in 1996 and its membership includes women fire service members from all across the state.

Many fire companies now commonly have women members who continue to contribute to and provide an equal share of effort to the firefighting task. Part of that task is staying current on firefighting procedures. This year's retreat was held at the Atlantic County Fire Academy.

Participants, after hearing from keynote speaker and Emergency Management expert Jo Jordan, moved on to training sessions covering all aspects of typical firefighter situations including: "Confined Space Awareness", "Methamphetamine Labs" fires and "Live Burn" which reviewed search and rescue procedures in a "live burn" environment.

For more information please contact Grace Forrester NJDFS Training and Certification Unit.:

gforrester@dca.state.nj.us or

The Fire Service Women of New Jersey website:

www.fswnj.org

(photos by Charlie Luxton)



# STATE FIRE MARSHAL URGES OUTDOOR GRILL SAFETY: CITES RECENT NFPA RESEARCH AS A CALL TO ACTION

State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo is calling on the state fire service to remind citizens of the importance of prudent grilling procedures during the summer months.

Petrillo also encourages fire service members to visit the link provided for the National Fire Protection Association study by Martin Ahrens for additional detailed information on barbecue fires.

"I think this information is important for the fire service to consult and incorporate into whatever local public education efforts they are contemplating during the summer months. I encourage both fire prevention units and regular firefighters to read the study, "

Petrillo offers these barbecue safety hints for general public education purposes suitable for posting on local public safety department, municipal, social welfare, recreational, cultural and educational websites:

- Before using a grill, check the connection between the propane tank and the fuel line. Make sure the venturi tubes - where the air and gas mix - are not blocked.
- Do not overfill the propane tank.
- Do not wear loose clothing while cooking at a barbecue
- Be careful when using lighter fluid. Do not add fluid to an already lit fire because the flame can flashback up into the container and explode.
- Keep all matches and lighters away from children.
   Teach your children to report any loose matches or lighters to an adult immediately. Supervise children around outdoor grills.

- Dispose of hot coals properly douse them with plenty of water, and stir them to ensure that the fire is out. Never place them in plastic, paper or wooden containers.
- Never grill/barbecue in enclosed areas carbon monoxide could be produced.

Make sure everyone knows to Stop, Drop and Roll in case a piece of clothing does catch fire. Call 911 or your local emergency number if a burn warrants serious medical attention.

Petrillo warns that summer, especially in New Jersey with its ample recreational resources including 132 miles of coastline and pristine woodlands, beckons many to outdoor cooking.

"I hope that fire service personnel set aside some part of the day to read this important study online, and seek to incorporate the information into firefighting strategies year round," says Petrillo

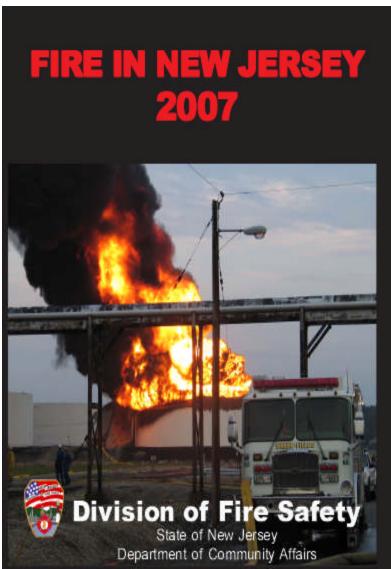
The link to the National Fire Protection Association research paper appears below:

http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files//PDF/ OS.Grills.pdf



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# CONSISTENT NFIRS DATA REPORTING KEY TO CONTINUING OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS



## IN CASE OF FIRE



The online publication "Fire In New Jersey" is compiled by Heather Puskar, Supervisor. New Jersey Division of Fire Safety. NFIRS Unit presents the most comprehensive look at reported instances of fire in the state. The data is critical for the New Jersey State Fire Commission, which sets fire fighting and fire code policy via the Division for the state.

The State of New Jersey participates in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The Division of Fire Safety's Fire Incident Reporting Unit receives incident data from fire departments throughout New Jersey.

This data enables the Division of Fire Safety to identify trends in causes of fires, fire losses, failures in equipment and structural components throughout the state, and to address problems with code modification and educational programs, along with tracking possible criminal and terrorist trends. Data submission to the Division is mandatory for any department receiving a Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG).

The Fire Incident Reporting Unit has received data consistently for twelve months each year from 2004 to 2008 from 467 fire departments. State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo publicly commends those departments and has published a list of them to encourage all reporting units to join them.

Please check the Division website for a link to a list of those departments.

We encourage all fire departments to submit their incident data on a monthly basis to the Division's Fire Incident Reporting Unit. Please contact Supervisor Heather Puskar at (609) 324-7715 or hpuskar@dca.state.nj.us

## THE NEW JERSEY STATE FIRE COMMISSION

The New Jersey Fire Commission was formed by an act of the New Jersey State Legislature in 1983. Since inception, the state has ranked among those with the lowest instance of fire injury and fatality nationwide. Commission membership is comprised of select representatives of the General Assembly, as well as key industry and state fire service officials. who are all appointed by the Governor.

The Commission steers state fire safety policy and procedures in their advisory role for the Governor, the Legislature and the State Judiciary, through the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and the office of the State Fire Marshal.

## **COMMISSION MEMBERS 2009**

#### Members of the New Jersey State Senate

The Honorable John A. Girgenti State Senator, 35th District

The Honorable Anthony R. Bucco State Senator. 75th District

#### Members of the **General Assembly**

The Honorable John Wisniewski Assemblyman, 19th District

The Honorable David Rible Assemblyman, 11th District

#### Volunteer Fire Organization Representative

C. Kenneth Anderson

Fire Insurance Industry Representative Gerard Naylis

#### Municipal Construction Code Official

## Representative

Pasquale Intindola

#### **New Jersey Fire Prevention** & Protection Association Representative

Arthur Lodensky

Construction Industry Representative

Daniel De Trolio

#### The New Jersey League of Municipalities Representative

Chief John Lightbody

#### Volunteer Fire Service Representative

Kathleen O'Leary

## **COMMISSION MEMBERS 2009**

#### <u>New Jersey State Volunteer Fireman's Assn.</u> Representative

Arthur Mercurio

#### <u>Chief Fire Administrator Major City</u> <u>Representative</u>

Amando Roman

#### New Jersey State Fire Chief's Association Representative

Charles W. Schilling

#### Professional Firefighter's Association of New Jersey Representative

Richard C. Blohm

Fire Suppression Industry
Representative

Lewis Candura

Kenneth Swider

New Jersey Apartment

Association

Representative

#### **Municipal Fire Protection**

Subcode Official Representative

Paul Hartstein

#### Construction Labor Industry Representative

Fredrick Collender

#### New Jersey State Fire Chief's Association Representative

Lawrence D. Wood

#### <u>New Jersey Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Assn.</u> Representative

Steve O' Gorman

<u>New Jersey Association of Fire Districts</u> Representative

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#### **Commission Secretary**

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NJDFS FIRE FOCUS

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The NJDFS 2009 Fire Safety Education Poster Contest awards ceremony was held recently at the Springfield Fire Department. This year's competition drew entries from all over the state, demonstrating creative and artistic ability, coupled with an excellent grasp of fire safety education messages.



The contest which is co-sponsored annually by the New Jersey Fire Prevention and Protection Association . <a href="https://www.njfppa.org">www.njfppa.org</a> and the Division of Fire Safety, attracts hundreds of entries in several categories. The winners of each category receive laptop computers, the cost of which is underwritten by Local 696 of the Sprinkler Fitters Union <a href="https://www.sprinklerfitters696.org">www.sprinklerfitters696.org</a>.

Additional corporate sponsorship of the contest is provided by Atlantic City Electric <a href="www.atlanticcity electric.com">www.atlanticcity electric.com</a> and the Joshua Marcus Group of Clark <a href="www.joshuamarcusgroup.com">www.joshuamarcusgroup.com</a>. This year's overall winning poster as in past years will be distributed statewide to assist the Division's public education efforts statewide.

The theme for the 2009-10 Fire Safety Education Poster Contest is: "Stay Fire Smart, Don't Get Burned" For entry details for your jurisdiction contact Charles Lavin, Coordinator: clavin@dca.state.nj.us

#### NJDFS ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION POSTER CONTEST OVERALL WINNER COLLEEN COONEY-MORRIS KNOLLS HIGH SCHOOL-DIVISION 4



## 2009 DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

#### <u>DIVISION ONE</u>

Grace Young Martin Luther King School Jersey City









#### <u>DIVISION SIX</u>

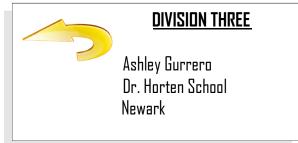
Diana Tenecela Branch Brook School Newark





#### 2009 DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY POSTER CONTEST





#### <u>DIVISION TWO</u>

Russel Sales Transfiguration Academy Bergenfield







## <u>DIVISION SEVEN</u>

Jennifer Moss Union County Vo-Tech High School Scotch Plains Page 16 NJDFS FIRE FOCUS

## NJDFS F.I.R.E.BOWL 2009 STATE CHAMPIONS!



PS #14 Bayonne Champions are joined by (I to r): New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Director Lawrence Petrillo, Harry Martin, emcee and MY 9 /Fox News Anchor, Daniel Del Trulio, Hartz Mountain Industries, William Lavin, Director NJ Fireman's Mutual Benevolent Association, Charles Lavin, NJDFS F.I.R.E. Bowl, Marcus Kiempisty, Joshua Marcus Group, Michael Lopez, Bayonne Fire Department.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMPETITION WILL BE POSTED TO OUR WEBSITE OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS...

www.state.us.dca/dfs/

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