



Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service Fire Chief's General Order

NUMBER: 07-09

April 5, 2007

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Fire Chief Thomas W. Carr, Jr.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Carr", written over the "FROM:" line.

SUBJECT: MCFRS Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) Training Program

The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service is preparing for the delivery of new CAFS-equipped apparatus. The Public Safety Training Academy, in cooperation with the MCFRS Apparatus Section, will deliver a Department-wide training program designed to introduce the use of CAFS philosophy and technology. The success of this new technology will require an aggressive approach in training for the Department. The CAFS training program will focus on the three major components of our new apparatus: Class A and B foam application; compressed air foam systems; and the Hale Q Max Pump.

The introduction, implementation, and use of CAFS during fireground operations requires an understanding of the strategical and tactical benefits associated with MCFRS institutionalizing CAFS as part of our daily operations. To acquire this knowledge base:

- All IECS-certified Captains, Lieutenants, Master Firefighters, Firefighter III, and engine driver personnel must complete a **six-hour CAFS Operations** class;
- All IECS-certified personnel at Firefighter II or below must complete a **three-hour CAFS Orientation** class; and
- All IECS-certified Chief Officers and above must complete a **three-hour CAFS Strategy and Tactics** class; COPDI credit is approved for its completion.

NOTE: Personnel must complete all applicable training for their current driver and rank certification! As an example, an MCFRS Certified Chief Officer who is a driver **must** complete a **six-hour CAFS Operations** class, and a **four-hour New Unit Orientation** class, and competency check-out to maintain their driver certification as a CAFS engine driver/operator, and a **three-hour CAFS Strategy and Tactics** class as a Certified Chief Officer. The three-hour **CAFS Orientation** class information is incorporated into the **CAFS Operations** class.

In addition to the **CAFS Operations** class, all MCFRS engine drivers must complete a **4-hour New Unit Orientation** and Operational Competency checkout. The **Operational Competency** checkouts will be coordinated through the MCFRS Driver Training Coordinator.

The **CAFS Orientation** class will be delivered both at the PSTA, and in a central location in each Battalion, as shown below.

Battalion 1 at FS16
Battalion 2 at B-CCRS
Battalion 3 at FS3
Battalion 4 at FS4
Battalion 5 at FS13

Information will be forthcoming regarding training times and specific dates for the **CAFS Orientation** above.

The training timeline for the **CAFS Strategy and Tactics COPDI for Command Officers** and **CAFS Operations** class shown below is tentative, and will be coordinated with the delivery of the new apparatus:

- **CAFS Strategy and Tactics COPDI for Command Officers**
May 2007 through June 2007
- **CAFS Operations** class
July 2007 through December 2007

As the new MCFRS CAFS engines are delivered, there will be a Station CAFS review program for each receiving station, in addition to the driver orientation sessions scheduled through the PSTA.

Personnel may also go online to MCFRS Quicklinks, click on the Training Academy link, and view the CAFS presentation by Mr. Dominic Colletti, which provides excellent background information.