



DFIRS NEWS

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System

Volume 5, Issue 1

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Message from the Program Manager

I will be out of the office from June 29th until August 27th due to military obligations. Please continue to e-mail crystal.beach@state.de.us for technical assistance as that mailbox will be checked on a daily basis. If you have an urgent matter please contact Jim Hargett at the Dover Headquarters, (302) 739-5665.

FEMA will also be assisting the SFMO with any questions or problems; therefore, if SFMO resources are not available please contact them directly at (888) 382-3827. If you experience problems with receiving support from the above sources please contact Grover Ingle, Assistant State Fire Marshal, at 302-739-5665.

Providing quality service to all 61 Delaware fire departments is of great importance to our agency. Following the above guidelines will ensure you receive such service.

Monthly Tip

1. At the end of each month make sure the number of runs on your run board equal what has been entered in your incident reporting system
2. Verify that there are no invalid reports for the month
3. Review incident type codes and recode any incidents with types 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 700, 800, 900
4. Submit reports by the 10th of the following month in which the incident occurred

Important Coding Information

Question:

“How should a fire incident when the fire is out prior to the arrival of the fire department be coded?”

Answer:

The incident type would be a fire just as it would be as if

the fire is still burning (for example, a building fire is an incident type 111). The actions taken would be investigate or other post fire extinguishment actions.

There is *still* a major problem with false alarm incident reports being coded incorrectly. Please follow the below guidance when coding your false alarm incident reports.

Question:

What is the difference between all of the False Alarm coding series?

Answer:

When documenting false alarm incidents please keep in mind the following helpful tips:

Codes 711 to 715 are for malicious, mischievous false alarms. For example, if someone maliciously pulls a fire alarm box.

Codes 731 to 736 are for system or detector malfunctions and improper performance of fire alarm systems not a result of a proper system response to environmental stimuli such as smoke or high heat conditions. Commonly used codes within this category are:

731 – Sprinkler activated due to the failure or malfunction of the sprinkler system. Includes any failure of sprinkler equipment that leads to sprinkler activation with no fire present.

733 - Smoke detector activated due to a malfunction.

Codes 741 to 746 are for unintentional system/detector operation with no fire present. This includes tripping an interior device accidentally. Some commonly used codes within this category are:

Assistance to Firefighters Grant 2005 Award Announcements

Department	Amount	Program	Award Date
Harrington Fire Company	\$122,942	Operations and Firefighter Safety	02/04/2005
Hartly Volunteer Fire Company	\$225,000	Firefighting Vehicle	02/11/2005
Wilmington Manor Volunteer Fire Company	\$152,550	Operations and Firefighter Safety	02/18/2005
Lewes Fire Department	\$54,000	Operations and Firefighter Safety	02/25/2005
Brandywine Hundred Fire Company	\$316,026	Operations and Firefighter Safety	02/25/2005
Little Creek Volunteer Fire Company	\$130,500	Operations and Firefighter Safety	03/04/2005
Wilmington Fire Department	\$245,979	Operations and Firefighter Safety	03/04/2005
Belvedere Fire Company	\$21,060	Fire Prevention	03/04/2005
Townsend Fire Company	\$68,073	Operations and Firefighter Safety	03/11/2005
Delaware City	\$149,625	Equipment Personal Protective Equipment	8/19/2005
Wilmington Manor	\$173,534	Equipment Modify Facilities Personal Protective Equipment	9/30/2005
Holloway Terrace	\$147,212	Equipment Personal Protective Equipment	10/7/2005
Minquadale Fire Company	\$237,971	Equipment Personal Protective Equipment	10/28/2005
Marydel Volunteer Fire Company, Inc	\$192,313	Equipment Personal Protective Equipment	10/28/2005
Brandywine Hundred Fire Company	\$25,065	Training	10/28/2005
Townsend Fire Company	\$131,731	Equipment	12/9/2005
Hockessin Fire Company	\$55,914	Modify Facility	12/16/2005
Citizens' Hose	\$47,500	Modify Facility	12/23/2005

For information on the AFG Program, please see www.firegrantsupport.com

741 – Sprinkler activation, no fire – unintentional
Includes testing the sprinkler system without fire department notification.

744 – Detector activation, no fire – unintentional, a result of a proper system response to environmental stimuli such as smoke or high heat conditions (ie: cooking).
Included is testing the sprinkler system without fire department notification.

Please pass this information on to all department members recording incident information.

Notice to Grant Recipients (Grantees')

Department of Homeland Security's Program Guidance for the 2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, Section Grantees' Responsibilities, Subsection (8) requires all Grantees' to "...provide information, through established reporting channels, to the U.S. Fire Administration's national fire incident reporting system (NFIRS)...." In addition, "AFG program grantees from previous years will not be allowed to closeout their grants until they demonstrate that they are complying with this requirement. Failure to closeout your previous years' grants may affect the consideration of future awards."

Since 2001 Delaware has received over 4.5 million dollars from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

Please make sure your department is: completing incident reports for all department runs, submitting reports to SFMO by 10th of each month, and verifying that the incident reports are of the highest quality possible.

Newsletter Distribution Policy

In order to use our agency resources in the wisest manner possible, the DFIRS Newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis using electronic means of dissemination. If for some reason you have not received the DFIRS Newsletter one month after the close of the quarter, please contact our agency.

For more information regarding the Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS), please contact Crystal Beach at 302-739-5665 or crystal.beach@state.de.us

PLEASE POST FOR ALL DEPARTMENT MEMBERS