TAKE 5 FOR SAFETY

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES

5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Driving: Intersections Are Dangerous!

Date:_____

Shift:_____

Dept:_____

Station:_____

Training Code:_____

NOTES:

FOCUS: Every year the fire service experiences roughly 16,000 vehicle accidents. These accidents result in thousands of injuries, hundreds of civilian deaths, and roughly 20 to 30 firefighter deaths. Driving is one of the most dangerous tasks firefighters perform.

CHALLENGE

Of the various driving task firefighters perform, traveling through intersections while driving code 3 continues to be one of the most dangerous. Drivers are faced with congestion and civilian confusion regarding "right of way" in emergency situations. Due to the speed we are traveling and the size of emergency equipment tremendous damages can be inflicted when private passenger vehicles are struck. We must use good judgment every time we enter an intersection!

Having the "right of way" is of little consequence when we cause injury or damage. **Our goal has to be to get there safely!**

DISCUSSION

- What protocols has the department implemented to assure every intersection is taken accident free?
- What factors should be considered in establishing a safe speed to cross an intersection?
- Crossing multiple lanes creates additional driving hazards. What special considerations need to be taken for this increased risk?
- Second out or "following" apparatus have historically been responsible for some of the most severe accidents. How do you account for that?
- Identify 5 risk factors outside of your control that could result in an at fault accident.
- How can our training be improved to increase driver safety?
- How can we take more personal responsibility to drive safer?

The greatest asset of the fire service is our people; protect them!

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