

FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY INITIATIVES

- 1. Define and advocate the need for a cultural change within the fire service relating to safety; incorporating leadership, management, supervision, accountability and personal responsibility.**
- 2. Enhance the personal and organizational accountability for health and safety throughout the fire service.**
- 3. Focus greater attention on the integration of risk management with incident management at all levels, including strategic, tactical, and planning responsibilities.**
- 4. All firefighters must be empowered to stop unsafe practices.**
- 5. Develop and implement national standards for training, qualifications, and certification (including regular recertification) that are equally applicable to all firefighters based on the duties they are expected to perform.**
- 6. Develop and implement national medical and physical fitness standards that are equally applicable to all firefighters, based on the duties they are expected to perform.**
- 7. Create a national research agenda and data collection system that relates to the initiatives.**
- 8. Utilize available technology wherever it can produce higher levels of health and safety.**
- 9. Thoroughly investigate all firefighter fatalities, injuries, and near misses.**
- 10. Grant programs should support the implementation of safe practices and/or mandate safe practices as an eligibility requirement.**
- 11. National standards for emergency response policies and procedures should be developed and championed.**
- 12. National protocols for response to violent incidents should be developed and championed.**
- 13. Firefighters and their families must have access to counseling and psychological support.**
- 14. Public education must receive more resources and be championed as a critical fire and life safety program.**
- 15. Advocacy must be strengthened for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home fire sprinklers.**
- 16. Safety must be a primary consideration in the design of apparatus and equipment.**