

Saturday – All Day

7 Hours

Keeping Badges Off The Wall and Leading With Attitude

1st Half – Keeping Badges Off The Wall

This class will be enjoyed by the seasoned veteran as well as the new recruit. The goal of the class is to prevent firefighter deaths through safer and more effective fireground tactics. Civilian audiences also enjoy the presentation and the opportunity to see through the smoke and into the hearts and minds of firefighters. Chief Steve Chikerotis delivers a colorful presentation loaded with fire case studies and lessons learned from his personal experiences in 34 years with the Chicago Fire Department. Each incident is brought to life through exciting pictures and videos. Each story reinforces powerful lessons learned. Topics include Risk Management, Reading Smoke, Building Construction and Collapse, Fireground Tactics, Flashover, Communications and Accountability, Commanding the Mayday, and RIT Rescue.

2nd Half – Leading With Attitude

Leading with Attitude challenges all who take an oath to ensure they deliver on that sacred promise over the course of their career. How can we ensure that we bring our best to our jobs in these challenging times, and how can we lead others to do the same? Now, more than ever, it is important for responders ensure they are focused on on the mission.

Instructors – Steve Chikerotis and Eddie Buchanan

Eddie Buchanan began his fire service career in 1982 and is an assistant chief with Hanover Fire & EMS in Richmond, VA. He is a past president of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors and is the 2015 recipient of the George D. Post, Instructor of the Year Award from the ISFSI. He serves on the executive advisory board of Fire Engineering Magazine and FDIC and is author of the Volunteer Training Officer's Handbook from Pennwell Publishing. He serves on the NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Service Training and the NFPA 1700: "Guide for Structural Firefighting" Committee. He is a past board member of the Volunteer/Combination Officer's Section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and serves on a variety of advisory boards and committees for the fire service industry.

Steve Chikerotis retired in November of 2014 as a Deputy District Chief after a 36-year career with the Chicago Fire Department. He was a fire officer for 26-years, a chief officer for 16-years, and a fire service instructor for over 30-years. As a Deputy District Chief Steve oversaw operations of 30 fire stations and 7 Battalions. Throughout his career he has also held the positions of Chief of Fire Academy Operations, Director of Training, Safety Officer, as well as working on Chicago's busiest fire companies and battalions. Steve is a student of the game holding an A.A.S. in Fire Science, and B.S. in Business Administration. He's been an on-staff instructor at the Chicago Fire Academy, Illinois Fire Service Institute, Harold Washington College, and RICO Fire Rescue. Chikerotis is also a published author, and is currently working on his third book. In addition, Steve also has worked on over one hundred projects in the television and movie industry over the last 27-years as a screenwriter, storyline consultant, and technical advisor, including the movie "Backdraft". Currently he is working on the hit NBC television show "Chicago Fire", which is starting its sixth season.