23. Fire Service "Specific" Leadership Essentials

Instructor: John Turner

What separates a company officer who holds rank from one who truly leads? This course is grounded in real fire service experience, research, and observation of high-performing crews. Participants will examine five core leadership traits specific to the fire service and more importantly, how to apply them in day-to-day crew interactions. This is not a generic leadership class. We intentionally move past recycled "rah-rah" lessons from sports and the military and focus on the realities company officers face: building trust, addressing poor performance, making sound decisions under pressure, and leading peers. Attendees will leave with practical tools and a clear framework to strengthen credibility, improve crew performance, and lead with consistency in their organization.

About the Instructor:

John Turner holds the rank of Fire Chief in Derby, KS, a position he has held for the past six years. His career spans four decades, having risen through the operational ranks in some of the busiest companies within the Wichita Fire Department in Wichita, KS. A chief officer since 2009, he has managed numerous major emergencies. He is a contract instructor at the National Fire Academy and holds a master's degree in education. Chief Turner has conducted training sessions in over 30 states.