## 28. Big Box Fires: Chaos to Command

Instructor: Frank Montes de Oca

Responding to and *safely* transitioning large-scale chaos to a manageable operation can be overwhelming; sometimes resulting in lives lost and lives changed. This **7-hour** presentation, based on case studies, research and the presenter's firsthand experience is targeted to company officers, safety officers, chief incident commanders and those aspiring to improve their skills to manage potentially catastrophic incidents.

Topics covered will be:

- Proactive Identification and Pre-Planning.
- Construction: Salvageable versus Throw-away.
- Are Big Lines Always The Answer?
- Managing the Mayday.
- Fire Loading Is Your Enemy.
- Is Your Safety Officer Safe?

**About the Instructor:**

**Frank Montes de Oca** is a former firefighter/paramedic who served in Florida, Ohio and North Carolina. During his 38-year career he was appointed or promoted to battalion chief, division chief and chief of departments. A graduate of the NFA's EFO program, Chief Montes de Oca continues to serve the fire and emergency services community as an adjunct instructor for the National Fire Academy; delivering programs for OSHA, the EPA and lecturing throughout the country.