

# The InfoGram



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## Firefighter cancer study finds link between screening, safety officers

Cancer is a very serious and growing problem in the fire service. Firefighters face higher rates of cancer and cancer-related deaths than the general population.

In July 2018, the president signed into law a bill requiring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop and maintain a voluntary registry to monitor the prevalence of cancer among firefighters. This registry will be used to collect and publish epidemiology information on this topic.

While data collection and monitoring are important, they do not actually address the problem. This is best done at the local level by leadership and safety officers serious about protecting their personnel.

A recent study of fire departments in Florida examined how organizational factors can influence the implementation of firefighter cancer screening and other occupational safety and health activities.

The researchers looked at six major organizational characteristics such as workforce size, number of health and safety officers within the department, department type and leadership support. The study also looked at whether departments offered screenings for full body skin, colorectal or cervical cancer.

They found that departments with two or more health and safety officers seemed to be significantly more likely to have cancer screening activities. None of the other departmental characteristics appeared to have a correlation. This suggests [a larger dedicated health and safety staff in fire departments supports cancer screening activities](#).

Getting regular screening is crucial to early detection and treatment. Some organizations have implemented campaigns to educate firefighters on occupational cancers and what they can do to protect themselves. A great example is the [South Carolina State Firefighters' Association](#), which has over a dozen short videos submitted by departments across the state, personal stories from firefighter cancer survivors, and several [posters with a tough message](#).

For more information on firefighter cancer or for assistance, see the [Firefighter Cancer Support Network](#); the [National Fire Protection Association](#); the [U.S. Fire Administration library's Research Topic on cancer, smoke toxins and firefighters](#); and the [Firefighter Cancer Initiative Education Campaign](#).

(Sources: Various)

## FEMA requests input on disaster housing, financial management, PIOs

Last week, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Integration Center released three National Incident Management System (NIMS) documents for national engagement. These are designed to provide guidance to state, local, tribal and territorial jurisdictions in preparedness, response and recovery activities:

- ❖ **Planning Considerations: Disaster Housing** - guidance on national housing priorities, types of housing, considerations and planning recommendations jurisdictions can apply when developing or improving housing plans.



### Highlights

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FEMA requests input on disaster housing, financial management, PIOs

Fire Prevention Week October 6-12, 2019: Not every hero wears a cape

Webinar: Emergency Childcare Services Post-Disaster

### Cyber Threats



U.S. Fire Administration

The U.S. Fire Administration operates the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC).

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac) or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or [emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov).

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- Disaster Financial Management Guide - supports jurisdictions in establishing and implementing sound disaster financial management practices. It also gives an overview of common disaster recovery funding programs and resources.
- NIMS Basic Guidance for Public Information Officers (PIOs) - an updated document including digital engagement and social media protocols and operational practices to help PIOs perform their duties within the NIMS Command and Coordination structures.

FEMA will host a series of 60-minute engagement webinars to describe the draft documents and answer participants' questions about providing feedback. The webinars will be open to the whole community.

Please review the [draft housing, financial management](#) and [PIOs documents](#). Information on the webinars is available on both webpages.

(Source: [FEMA](#))

## Fire Prevention Week October 6-12, 2019: Not every hero wears a cape

Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12 this year and the campaign theme, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape: Plan and Practice your Escape," focuses on how important it is for people to have an escape plan and practice it regularly.

According to research, people may have only two minutes to safely get out of their homes once a smoke alarm sounds, an incredibly short amount of time made worse by disorienting conditions caused by smoke, fumes, heat and darkness.

The [U.S. Fire Administration](#) (USFA) and [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA) both have resources to help fire departments with outreach in their communities. See their websites for social media cards for Facebook and Twitter, fire safety checklists for homeowners and renters, videos, games, apps and activity plans.

(Source: [USFA](#))

## Webinar: Emergency Childcare Services Post-Disaster

After a community has been devastated by a catastrophic disaster, adults are fully involved in recovery and rebuilding efforts. Who is watching the kids?

Long- or even short-term childcare can be an overlooked issue after a severe disaster. [Children's Disaster Services](#) (CDS) has worked since 1980 to provide volunteer disaster child care in communities, shelters and disaster assistance centers. CDS is one of the services provided by the [Church of the Brethren Disaster Ministries](#).

The CDS has been meeting the needs of children by setting up child care centers in shelters and disaster assistance centers across the nation for over 40 years. Specially trained to respond to traumatized children, these volunteers provide a calm, safe and reassuring presence in the midst of the aftermath of tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, wildfires and any natural or human caused disaster.

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) Children and Disaster Caucus partnered with the CDS to host "[Emergency Childcare Services Post-Disaster](#)," a webinar to educate local and state managers on the services they provide and how to better prepare for the needs of children post-disaster.

The webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2019, from 2-3 p.m. Eastern. Registration is required.

(Source: [IAEM](#))

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## Cyber Threats

### Deception needs to be an element of your cyber defense strategy

In the cyber defense community, we talk about a wide-range of risk mitigating technologies, strategies and activities. **One of the most compelling emerging use cases for increasing attacker costs is through the use of deception.** It has rarely been mentioned amongst executive teams and boards, but that is rapidly changing as it is demonstrating to be a viable, cost effective, and valuable component of cyber defense approaches.

(Source: [OODALoop](#))

### Employees mistakenly confident they can spot phishing emails

While 79 percent of people say they are able to distinguish a phishing message from a genuine one, **49 percent of people also admit to having clicked on a link from an unknown sender while at work**, according to a Webroot survey.

Further, 48 percent of respondents said their personal or financial data had been compromised by a phishing message. However, of that group 35 percent didn't take the basic step of changing their passwords following a breach.

(Source: [HelpNetSecurity](#))

### Your car is a giant computer - and it can be hacked

Imagine driving down the highway at 70 miles per hour, when suddenly the wheel turns hard right. You crash. And it was because someone hacked your car. It's not far-fetched science fiction. It's the near future today's hackers are warning about.

**Most people aren't aware their cars are already high-tech computers.** And now we're networking them by giving them wireless connectivity. Yet there's a danger to turning your car into a smartphone on wheels: it makes them a powerful target for hackers.

(Source: [CNN Money](#))

### Cybersecurity and your kids

As summer break ends, many students will return to school with mobile devices such as smart phones, tablets and laptops. Although these devices can help students complete schoolwork and stay in touch with family and friends, there are risks associated with using them.

Parents, teachers and others working with children need to ensure their safety, as **kids and teens really aren't aware of the risks they face online.** The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) recommends reviewing the following resources for more information on cyber safety for students:

- [Stop.Think.Connect. Toolkit.](#)
- [Stay Safe Online.](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe Online.](#)
- [Rethink Cyber Safety Rules and the "Tech Talk" with Your Teens.](#)

(Sources: Various)

#### Cyber Information and Incident Assistance Links

##### [MS-ISAC](#)

SOC@cisecurity.org  
1-866-787-4722

##### [IdentityTheft.gov](#)

##### [IC3](#)

##### [Cybercrime Support Network](#)

#### General Information Links

##### [FTC scam list](#)

##### [CISA alerts](#)

##### [Law Enforcement Cyber Center](#)

##### [TLP Information](#)