

# Cancer Awareness, Cancer Prevention in Firefighting



Steps to Protect Those Who Protect Us

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# Introduction

- Prevalence of cancer among firefighters.
- Prevention strategies to safeguard firefighters' health.
- Where CFES is currently.
- Where we aspire to get to.



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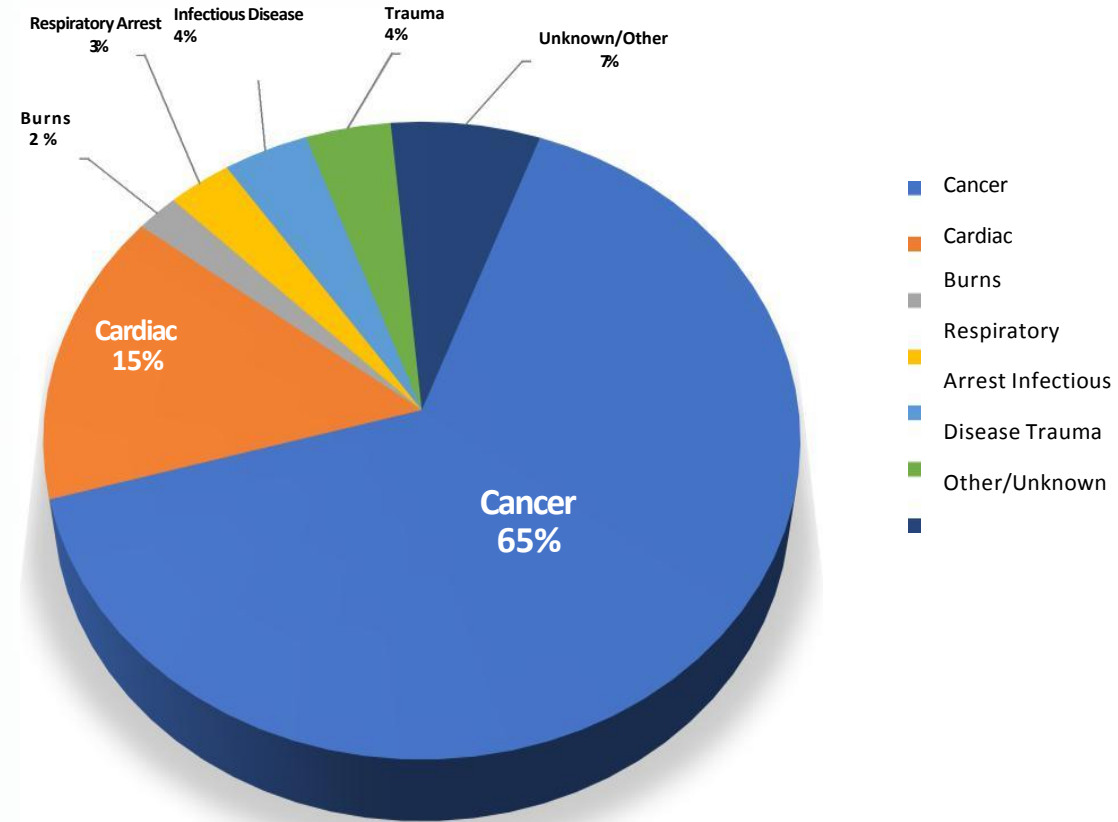
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- The Risks Associated with Firefighting



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# Cancer- the leading cause of death



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# Cancers Linked to Firefighting

- Brain
- Bladder
- Kidney
- Colorectal
- Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Ureter
- Breast
- Multiple Myeloma
- Testicular
- Prostate
- Lung
- Skin
- Ovarian
- Cervical
- Penile
- Pancreatic
- Thyroid
- Esophageal



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# Presumptive Legislation

- Bladder Cancer
- Brain Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
- Esophageal Cancer
- Kidney Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
- Oral Cavity Cancer
- Ovarian Cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Prostate Cancer
- Skin Cancer (specifically malignant melanoma)



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# IAFF Particle Exposure Study

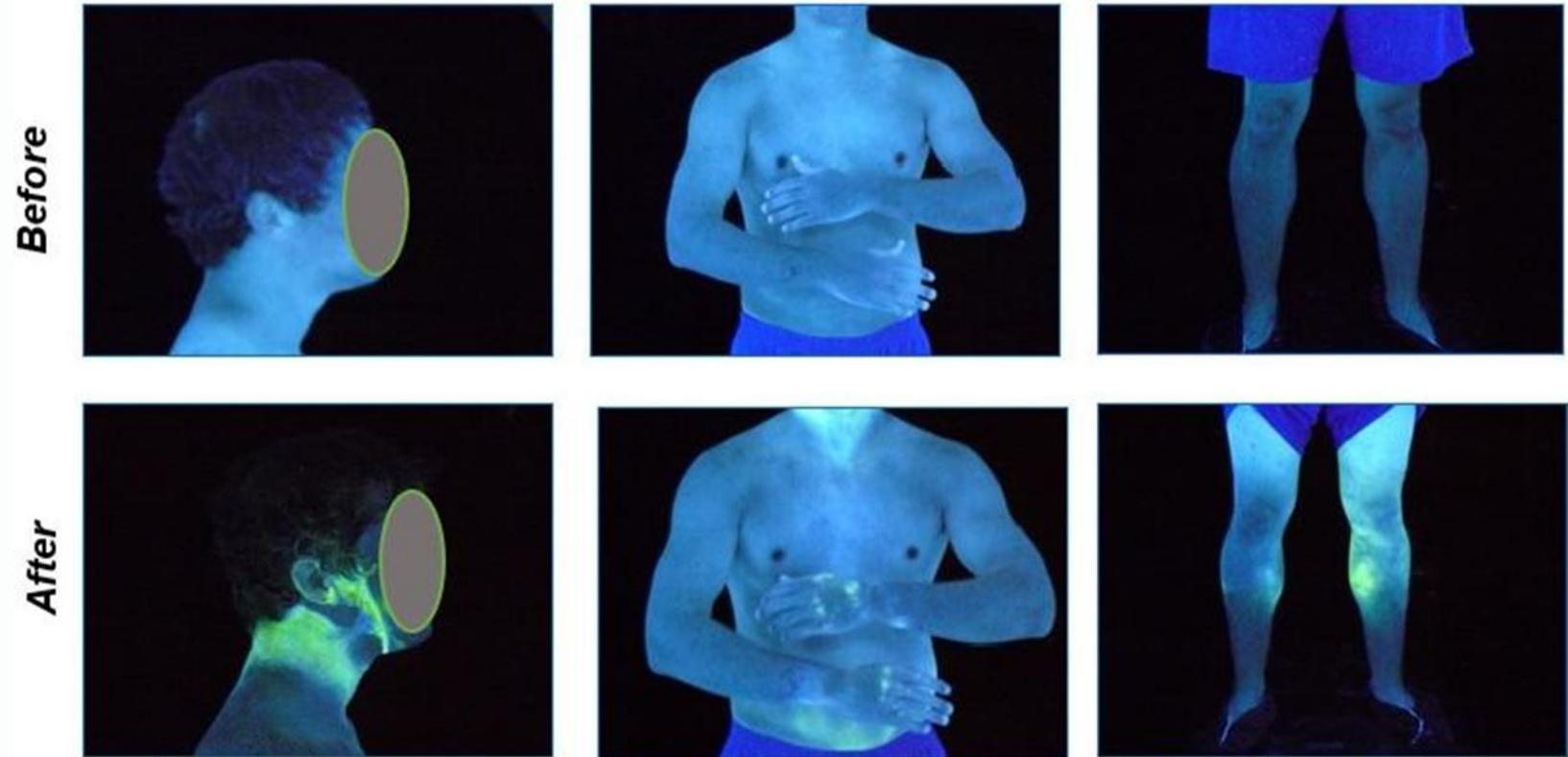
## IAFF Particle Exposure Study

- Approach:
  - Full turnout ensemble evaluated in standardized military particle test
  - Test subject exercised in chamber with particles tagged with fluorescent tracer
- Measurement:
  - Ensemble removed; black light showed where particles penetrated





# IAFF Particle Exposure Study



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# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



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# Respiratory Protection



'SCBA DURING OVERHAUL IS FOR PANSIES! BESIDES, WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?'

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# Decontamination Procedures



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# Decontamination Procedures



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# Hygiene Practices in place

- Encouraging regular showering and changing clothes after firefighting.
- Importance of minimizing skin contact with contaminants.



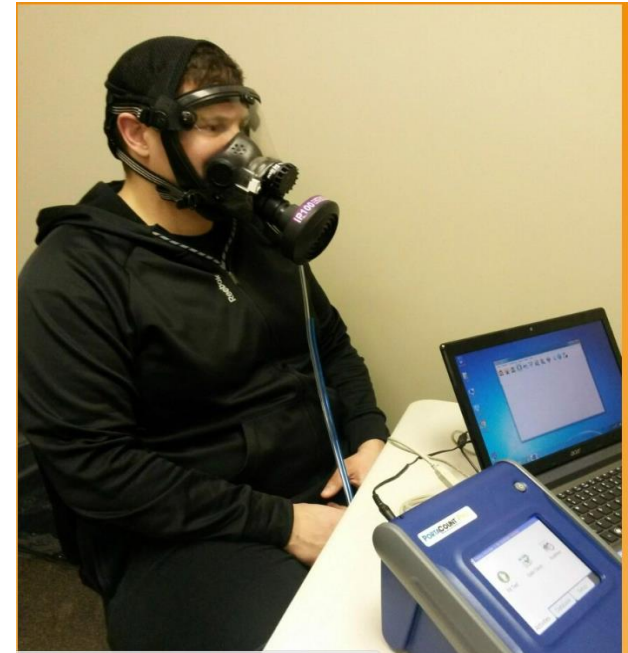
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Current practices



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# Current practices, future changes

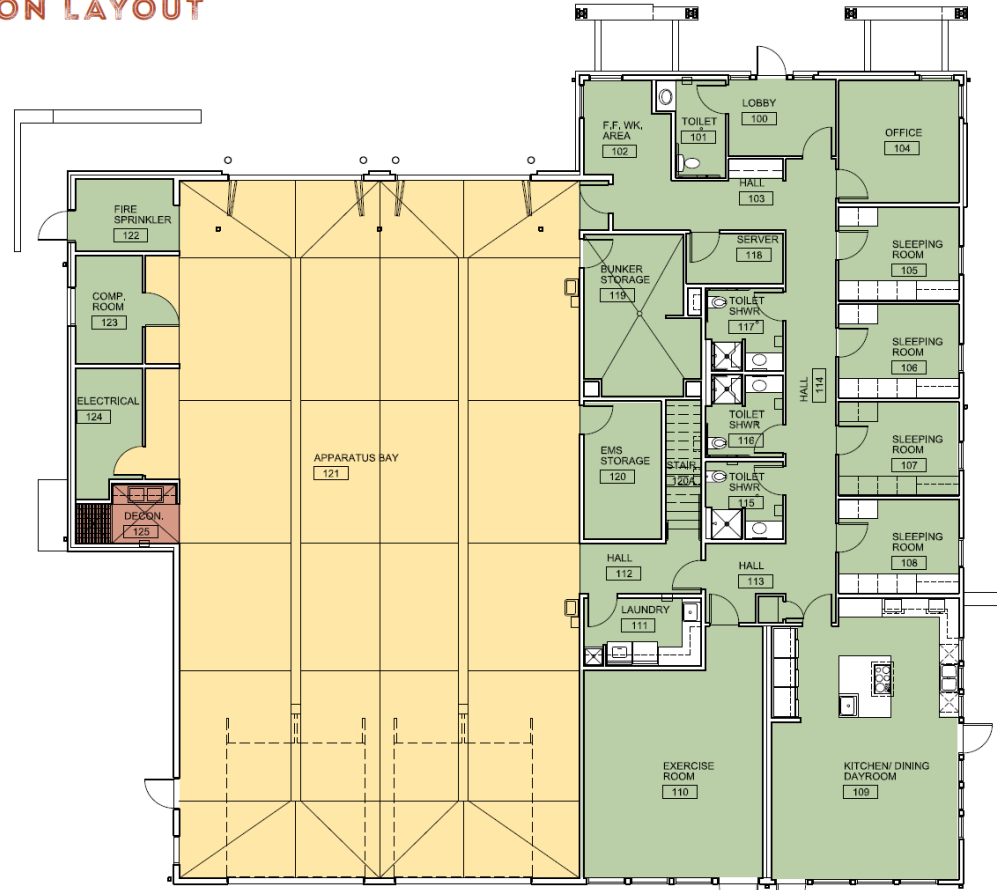


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# Current practices, future changes

## FIRE STATION LAYOUT



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Industry best practices



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# Conclusions

- Cancer is one of the greatest risks firefighters face today
- We are still learning why firefighters have such a higher incidence of cancer and what the optimal protective measures are.
- There are logistic and budgetary constraints to enhancing the protection of firefighters
- As Fire management, we have a duty to maximize the safety of our firefighters and to reduce their exposure to cancer-causing chemicals as much as possible.

