



Louisville Fire Protection District

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"Our Family Serving Your Family"

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LFD deputy chief completes fire leadership program

LOUISVILLE, CO, Aug. 29, 2011 ... A Louisville Fire Department chief has completed a four-year leadership program through the National Fire Academy.

Deputy Chief Michael Schick recently finished the NFA's Executive Fire Officer Program, an initiative designed to help the top leaders in fire and emergency services transform their departments in the areas of prevention, risk reduction, diversity, research and commitment to lifelong learning.

Students in the program must take four two-week courses in Emmittsburg, MD, over four years, followed by research projects that relate to their organizations. Entry to the program is highly competitive, requiring a rank of chief officer and prior completion of at least a Bachelor's degree. Schick, who holds a PhD in microbiology, entered the program in August 2007 and recently completed his final research project on "The Role of the Louisville First Responder in a Bioterrorist Attack."

Deputy Chief Schick also did research projects on developing an immunization program for Louisville firefighters, increasing the effectiveness of bystander CPR within the district, and responding to a train derailment involving hazardous materials.

Schick said the program introduced him to fire officers around the world.

"It was a little amazing to see that the problems we face in Louisville are similar to the problems faced by some of my fellow students from various cities such as Atlanta, Philadelphia, Hong Kong, or the Panama Canal," he said. "I met some incredible people in my classes, both students and instructors, and was truly honored to be involved with this program."

Louisville Fire, a department with nine career firefighters and more than 70 volunteers, protects 17 square miles in Louisville and surrounding unincorporated areas. For information, call (303) 666-6595 or (303) 710-7384.