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Comments

Overall, I feel this is a good theory. As a veteran firefighter and fire instructor, more emphasis needs to be placed on proper training. The case studies provided in the draft seem to be the sad result of poor preparation on the firefighters part.

Initial training needs to be uniform across the US. The amount of hours for initial training needs to be dramatically increased, that includes Incident Command opportunities for new recruits. More time spent in education for decision making skills at incidents. I personally have witnessed the indecisiveness of new recruits, this shows they are not given the proper amount of time to develop the skills the need to act safely.

Also, the amount and type of continuing education for the fire service is lacking. Firefighters should be mandated to perform and pass job specific tasks as part of continued certification.

Physical fitness should be made mandatory across the US. It should be a required part of initial training and recertification requirements. The fitness should include rigorous tasks that **MUST** be passed successfully on a quarterly bases and enforced by law with severe penalty. This is the only way change to firefighter safety will be brought about in the fire service. The US military sets physical requirements that must be followed.

The US fire service should be held to such a standard.