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***INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS***

***IABPFF Health & Safety Update***

HOTEP IABPFF Family & Friends,

I hope and pray everyone is continuing to stay strong and doing well. While the weather is changing, our health is being challenged. Please continue to exercise all precautionary measures to stay safe on a daily basis. Please continue to check in on IABPFF family and Friends. Reaching out to one another really means a lot.

Influenza (Flu)

If you haven’t already done so, now is a good time to get the flu vaccine. Protect yourself and your family. Please contact your primary care physician for further details.

National Crash Responder Safety Week

November 14-18, 2022

Crash responder safety week is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and is an initiative designed to raise public awareness and keep roadway responders and the public safe around traffic incidents. Roadway incidents are dangerous for first responders. Nearly every week, a first responder is killed while helping clear a roadway crash. The likelihood of a secondary crash increases by 2.8% for each minute first responders remain on scene of the primary hazard.

Roadway Incident Safety Notes:

⇒ Members who are not protected by an apparatus buffer should never turn their back to upstream traffic.

⇒ Do not cancel additional apparatus enroute to the scene –even if dispatched for the opposite direction. Use them as an additional buffer.

⇒ Emergency cut-through access on highways should only be used in emergency conditions (NEVER when non-emergency) and with extreme caution. Exercise good judgement when electing to use this option and weigh the risks and benefits.

⇒ Make sure proper PPE is being worn. ALL members operating on the incident scene shall wear an ANSI approved reflective safety vest. The ONLY exception is for incidents requiring SCBA.

***Please Stay Safe,***

**Terri L. Reid**

**IABPFF Health & Safety Chairperson**

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