

Training For Wytheville

	Thurs		Fri		Sat
1-5	Short Staffed Eng. Co.	8-5	Victims First Search	8-5	Victims First Search (Cont'd)
2-4	Round Table	9-12	The Senior Man-Informal Leader	9-12	The Senior Man-Informal Leader
				10-12	Va. LAST
		1-4	Starting a Volunteer Fire Service Drone Program (Virtual)	1-4	Starting a Volunteer Fire Service Drone Program (Virtual)

Victim First Search will be at the Pulaski Burn Building.

All others at the Wytheville Meeting Center

Short Staffed Engine Company Operations

Instructors: Real Fire Training, LLC

Course Description:

This course is designed to prepare fire personnel to effectively operate in short-staffed engine company environments, where efficiency, adaptability, and strong fundamentals are critical. Participants will learn how to safely and aggressively manage fireground responsibilities with limited manpower while maintaining operational effectiveness.

The training focuses on essential engine company functions including pump operations, hose deployment and advancement, water supply management, and coordinated fire attack. Emphasis is placed on performing these tasks with reduced staffing while maintaining safety, communications, and situational awareness.

Students will also gain hands-on experience in ground ladder deployment, ventilation techniques, and tasks prioritization during rapidly evolving incidents. This course highlights decision-making under pressure and the importance of mastering basic skills to overcome staffing limitations.

This program is ideal for departments facing staffing challenges and looking to improve their operational capability, teamwork, and overall fireground performance through realistic, scenario-based training.

Victims First Search – Hand On
Instructors: Real Fire Training, LLC

Course Description: This is a Hands on - two-day program

This operating course is designed to sharpen the mindset, skill set, and execution of the search firefighter operating on the modern day firegrounds.

During this course, students will be pushed through realistic, high-tempo training that reflects the conditions we actually face on the firegrounds. This class focuses on making decisions under pressure, operating with limited manpower, and executing proven search tactics that prioritize life. The course also emphasizes low staffing drills, ensuring crews can perform effectively even when resources are thin.

This is a physically and mentally demanding course that will challenge how you think about search, fire attack integration, and survivability. If your priority is aggressive, intelligent firefighting focused on saving lives, this class is for you.

Va LAST Team/ PSOB Honoring our Heroes Act
Presenters: Steve Poff Coordinator Virginia LAST Team
Ian Bennett

Course Description:

This class will cover the role of the Virginia Local Assistance State Team (LAST) in assisting Departments who may have experienced a Line of Duty Death. It covers Funeral Planning, State and Federal Benefits and Honor Guard Assistance. The class will also explain the new PSOB Honoring our Fallen Heroes Act which was enacted in December of 2025. The Honoring our Heroes Act amends the Public Safety Officers Benefit (PSOB) program to recognize job related cancers as line-of-duty deaths or disabilities. Previously, only 911 related cancers were recognized as Line of Duty deaths by PSOB. Virginia Line of Duty only recognizes 14 cancers as occupational; this new Federal legislation expands the number of recognized Line of Duty Cancers.

The Senior Man: Informal leader of the fire house

Presenter: Captain Jess Rodzinka

Course Description

In a fire station there is formal leadership: Fire Chief; Battalion Chief; Captain; Lieutenant. However, there is the informal leadership in the firehouse, the Senior Man. This class we will discuss how to be the Senior man. Whether you have 2 years or 20, this class will talk about being the informal leader in the firehouse, at the kitchen table or even out for an evening with the Brothers and Sisters.

Starting a Volunteer Fire Service Drone Program

Presenter: Charles Werner & Ken Elliot

Course Description:

Tips for starting a Drone Program and understanding the associated regulations.