

Search Reports

CATEGORIES

Structure Fire
Vehicle Fire
Wildland Fire
Medical Call
Vehicle/Roadway Event
Technical Rescue
Auto Extrication
Hazmat
Training Activity

TOP TAGS

Situational Awareness

Collapse

Firefighter Injury

PPE

Fall

Crew Integrity

Rapidly Spreading

Driving Incident / Accident

Electrical Lines

Flashover

Unseen Hazard

Equipment Failure

Ventilation

Communications

Mayday

Freelancing

Evacuation

Trapped

Equipment Malfunction

Overhaul

Rescue

Explosion

Hazardous Material

Accountability

Water Supply

Equipment Damaged

Disoriented

Weather

Ice

Firefighter Medical Emergency

Lost

Apparatus Placement

Environment

Weapon

Fatigue

Incident Command Issues

Building Construction

Backdraft

Training

Alarm System

Lack/Improper Routine Maintenance

Opposing Hose Streams

Snow

Delayed Notification

Horseplay

Seatbelt

Abandoned Structure

Carbon Monoxide

Extrication

Animal Encounter

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Car Hits Fire Engine, Nearly Striking Personnel On Scene

Published: 2/22/2016

EVENT NARRATIVE

What was your initial size-up

Brackets [] indicate reviewer de-identification. Engine [a] was dispatched for a motor vehicle accident with Ladder [a] at the intersection of [two roads]. As Engine [a] was arriving they noticed a vehicle in the northbound lane in the middle of the intersection at [two roads]. EMS and PD were on scene prior to FD arrival. EMS was parked just south of the damaged vehicle in the intersection. Engine [a] turned south on a divided highway and turned around at the cross over so they could block the scene with the engine. As they turned south on the [roadway], they also noticed a vehicle in the grass on the northeast corner of [two roads].

Event Summary

The driver/operator pulled the engine up and parked at an angle, facing the east, south of EMS. The lieutenant and firefighter exited the engine and went to assist the medic with patient care. The driver/operator exited the engine and got the cones out of the rear compartment to place behind Engine [a]. As he was placing traffic cones, he noticed a vehicle approaching from the south, heading straight for him and the engine. The vehicle did not appear to be slowing down or changing lanes. The driver/operator looked up for a few seconds trying to get the driver's attention and as soon as he realized the vehicle was not going to stop, he left the roadway as quickly as possible to the east. Within a few seconds of the driver/operator leaving the roadway, the oncoming vehicle struck the rear of Engine [a]. No one was on Engine [a] at the time of impact and there were no injuries to fire department personnel. The police officers and the rest of the Engine [a] crew assessed the occupant of the vehicle. Ladder [a] then arrived and blocked the scene for Engine [a].

LESSONS LEARNED

A keen awareness of the situation and surroundings, and the proper deployment of safety equipment and apparatus are critical to ensuring the health and safety of emergency response personnel working in roadway environments. After viewing the accident scene and interviewing our personnel on Engine [a], it is my opinion that their actions concerning rig placement undoubtedly prevented serious injury and or death, not only for the crew but also for the patients and law enforcement personnel. Our fire department has worked for several years to reduce the risk to our personnel working in traffic. All personnel have been through several of the

respondersafety.com online traffic incident management modules. We have also placed into service Utility [a], an old city dump truck that has been re-purposed with a large arrow board sign and trailer attenuator system.

REPORT DETAILS

Which of the following occurred, if any?

Other: Roadway

Date the event occurred:

May 2015

Approximate time the event occurred:

01:00

Location of emergency/event:

Roadway

Was a 360-degree scene size up performed?

Yes

Which strategic mode was initially implemented?

N/A

Was there a life hazard?

Skip

Lessons Learned

Describe the lessons learned at this event:

A keen awareness of the situation and surroundings, and the proper deployment of safety equipment and apparatus are critical to ensuring the health and safety of emergency response personnel working in roadway environments. After viewing the accident scene and interviewing our personnel on Engine [a], it is my opinion that their actions concerning rig placement undoubtedly prevented serious injury and or death, not only for the crew but also for the patients and law enforcement personnel.

What specific recommendations do you have regarding the lessons learned?

NEAR MISS

Our fire department has worked for several years to reduce the risk to our personnel working in traffic. All personnel have been through several of the respondersafety.com online traffic incident management modules. We have also placed into service Utility [a], an old city dump truck that has been re-purposed with a large arrow board sign and trailer attenuator system.

Were unsafe act(s) performed

No

Resources and Weather

Which of the following resources were on scene when the event took place?

Engine

How many?

1

Approximate number of personnel per unit:

3

Ambulance (Medic, Squad)

How many?

1

Approximate number of personnel per unit:

2

Did the weather/environmental conditions impact operations or the event?

No

Outcomes

Were there civilian injuries or fatalities?

Yes

What were the nature of the injuries?

Minor injuries

What caused the injuries?

Being in the vehicle that struck the fire engine.

Were there any firefighter injuries?

No **NEAR MISS** (/)

Was there substantial property/equipment damage or other cost?

Yes

Describe the property/equipment damage:

Major damage to the fire engine. Unknown costs at this time.

Describe other cost associated with this event.

Loss of the use of the engine for several months.

CONTACT US

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(https://www.facebook.com/firefighternearmiss?)

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ABOUT

Near Miss is an International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)-managed program that collects and shares firefighter near-miss experiences. The program was generously begun in 2005 with grants from the Department of Homeland Security and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company.

WORK

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REPORT OF THE WEEK

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