

Division of EMS Hosts 16 Life Safety Initiatives Seminar

On Dec. 11, the Division of Emergency Medical Services, Office of Fire Services will host an *Implementing the 16 Life Safety Initiatives* seminar for program directors of Ohio Fire charters and other agencies who train first responders. The goal of this program is to bring awareness to the line of duty deaths that are occurring in Ohio and nationally with first responders.

The Division of EMS, Office of Fire Services, is excited about partnering with the advocates in Ohio to ensure that we do our part to bring every firefighter home," said Richard Rucker, executive director of the Division of EMS. "If we change the culture of firefighting by educating our firefighters with these 16 Life Safety Initiatives and save a life, we have succeeded."

The 16 Life Initiatives were initially created in 2004 in conjunction with the Everyone Goes Home program during a firefighter life safety summit hosted in Florida by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to address prevention efforts in reducing line-of-duty firefighter deaths. In cooperation with the United States Fire Administration, the Foundation has established the objectives of reducing the fatality rate by 25 percent within 5 years and by 50 percent within 10 years.

According to United States Fire Administration, every year approximately 100 firefighters lose their lives in the line of duty in the United States.

If you would like more information on this seminar please contact Doug Orahood, State Fire Coordinator, at 1-800-233-0785 or by email at dorahood@dps.state.oh.us.