

Miller, Diane M. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

From: McGinnis, Russell [russell.mcginis@cardinalhealth.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 3:45 PM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Subject: 141 - Draft NIOSH Alert: Preventing Deaths and Injuries of Fire Fighters When Fighting Fires in Unoccupied Structures

At this time of the year, how can you even use the words "Vacant or unoccupied" In this day and time. So many people have lost every thing many families force out. Now its winter and many people are just looking for shelter. Many, many families. If a fire starts in a vacant or unoccupied structures it probably means some one was in there. So you want us just to write off who ever might be in there? NOT !!!
These homeless people are just a family away from you or me. We know the dangers. Yes we need to train; we need to be aware of the structures in our fire districted. We need to understand everything about that fire as we enter that structure. Including signs of possible arson. Once again we know the dangers, we know the risk. And we know what lays just around the corner could be that alarm that sends us HOME. But that's what we do. That's why we work to save those people who need to be saved. Now if the fire is so far out of hand, yes defense attack, but that's called common sense. And I will close with that.

Thank You. Russell A. McGinnis. Fire Fighter, Local 67, Columbus Fire Department, Columbus, Ohio.
19 years on Columbus, 26 years in the service.

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