

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

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**Comments**

Preventing firefighters and their commanding officers from going into burning buildings will take a lot more than SOPs, SOGs, NIOSH recommendations or NFPA standards. It will take a radical and complete cultural change. If you give a firefighter a big hose with water coming out and call it an "attack line" that's what you are going to get! The big task here is how do you get fire officers and firefighters to drop their air of invincibility. Departments that have experienced a LODD and have attended a funeral, get it. Those that haven't, don't get it.

A wise man once said that: "...experience is a harsh teacher first you get the test then you get the lesson". It seems that many intelligent professionals in the fire service have to learn by experience.

There seems to be some confusion, that is some of my peers think this document is talking only about vacant or abandoned structures. I believe that it is talking about any structure that is unoccupied whether abandoned or not.

While the document does recommend enhanced training. A more direct emphasis on firefighter safety training and the consequences of not following SOPs would be a start of the necessary cultural change.

Thank You