



Reporting a Line of Duty Death (LODD): Fire Department Information Sheet

To report a LODD, the Fire Chief or other authorized representative of the Fire Department of which the fallen firefighter was a member should place a call to the IEMA call center at 1-800-252-2947. This number is a hot line dedicated to receiving reports of Arson and/or LODDs. The IEMA telecommunicator will take the information, enter it into a report, and then forward the report to the OSFM Arson Investigation Duty Officer, who will notify the Arson Division Director of the LODD. The Arson Division Director will then notify the State Fire Marshal. **All of these notifications will be made as soon as possible, regardless of the time of day.**

- If the notification includes or is for the sole purpose of a LODD notification, the report will be forwarded automatically to the Illinois Dept. of Labor, Illinois OSHA Division (IL OSHA).
- To contact IL OSHA directly at any time of day or night, a call should be placed to 1-(800) 782-7860. This is also an IEMA Call Center line, and the telecommunicator will take the information and contact the on-call IL OSHA officer.
- Any workplace fatality, including LODDs, must be reported to IL OSHA within eight (8) hours of the event, so this needs to be done as soon as possible.

In the event that a post-fatality forensic investigation is indicated or requested, certain steps should be taken by the Fire Department to preserve the turnout gear and equipment last used by the fallen firefighter. Equipment includes SCBA, portable radio, PASS device and any other essential items.

- The turnouts and equipment should be stored securely **without cleaning them.**
- Items may well be wet and/or soiled, but they should be allowed to air dry. Do not store items in plastic bags/containers. Keep soiled/contaminated items in a safe, sequestered location.
- Department personnel should leave valves, switches, channel settings and other such control features on equipment in the position in which the control features were found if feasible.
- Items should be considered contaminated, and department personnel need to use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when handling the items.



A request for a LODD investigation can also be made to the federal National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFIPP). NIOSH conducts voluntary LODD investigations, as their internal resources allow.

- Contact information for the NIOSH FFIPP team can be found at this webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/contact.html>.
- Follow the same procedures as above in Section III.(3)(A) and (B) regarding turnouts and equipment.

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) also lists LODDs, showing the name of the fallen firefighter, the affected fire department, the location of the incident, and the date of the firefighter's death. Notification of a firefighter fatality can be made by anyone through the USFA "Firefighter Fatalities in the United States" webpage at : <https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/firefighter-fatalities/>. The link -- [Notify us of a firefighter fatality](#) -- is on the opening page of that section of the USFA website.

- Typically the initial reporting will be done by the affected fire department. The OSFM NFIRS Program Administrator will check the USFA webpage to verify if this has been done. If it has not been listed within a week of the LODD incident, the NFIRS Program Administrator will notify the State Fire Marshal and the OSFM Public Information Officer, who will in turn reach out to the Fire Chief of the affected fire department to see if he/she needs assistance in reporting this information to USFA.
- The following information appears on the USFA LODD detail page: "Fatality status is provisional and may change as USFA contacts State Fire Marshals to verify fatality incident information."
- Questions from USFA directed to OSFM will be handled by the NFIRS Program Administrator.
- As confirmed updates and new information about the LODD incident are brought to OSFM's attention, the NFIRS Program Administrator will check the webpage, and if any changes are needed, he/she will submit them to USFA.
- The NFIRS Program Administrator will also share that information with the State Fire Marshal and the OSFM Public Information Officer.