

This is *NOT* a SAFE SPACE

Fire & Life Safety Division

Can you afford not to have one?

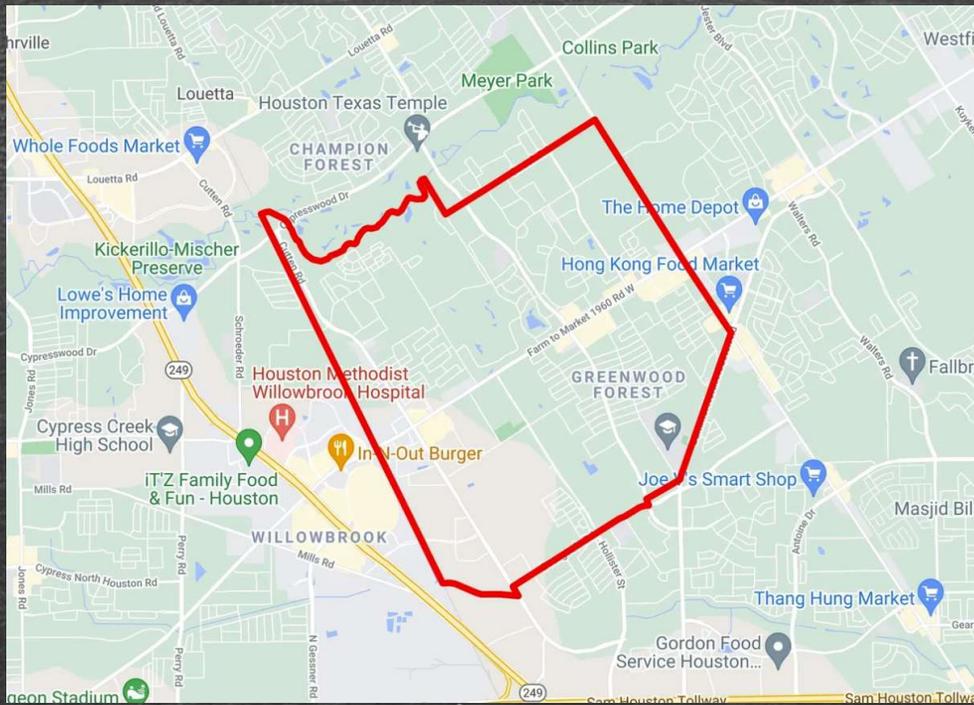
- This is not a class that guarantees you will leave knowing more than when you walked in.
- This is a class where you may leave with more questions than answers.
- This is a class that is designed to make you think.
- There is a possibility that we may make some of you uncomfortable..... **GOOD!**

- **“You gotta get comfortable being uncomfortable if you ever want to be successful”.** - *Steve Harvey*

- **“A comfort zone is a beautiful place, but nothing ever grows there”.** - *Anonymous*



Champions Emergency Service District



7.8 Square Miles

2 Fire Station

1550 call for 2025

Average response time < 5 min

ISO Class 1

19 Full-Time & 48 Part-Time Staff

13,260 Residential properties

1,380 Commercial properties

Our hope for today is to stoke the fire in your belly that got you into the fire service, or that desire to serve others as a commissioner. Then send you home with questions:

Have we forgotten our true mission?

Do our priorities align with that mission?

Are we being good stewards of the resources our taxpayers have provided for us?

Goal

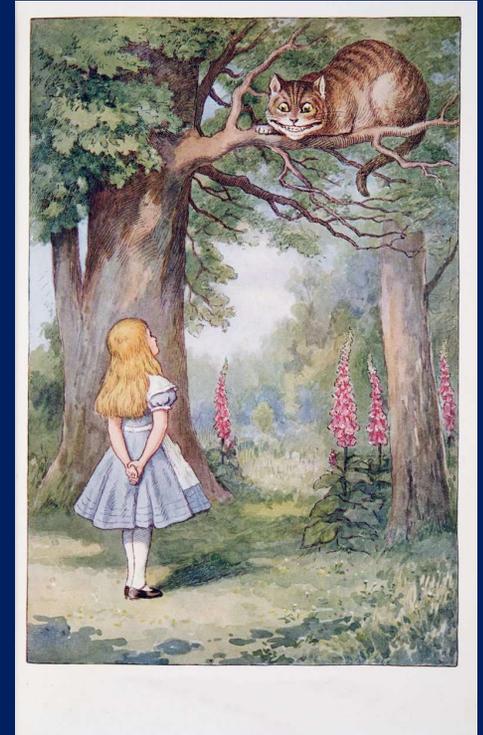
Connect **mission**, **prevention**, and everyday **decisions** to show why a Fire & Life Safety Division is essential.

“If it’s predictable, it’s preventable.” – *Gordon Graham.*

EVERYONE IS HERE TRYING TO GET BETTER

You Matter What you do Matters We GET to do this*Nobody made us*

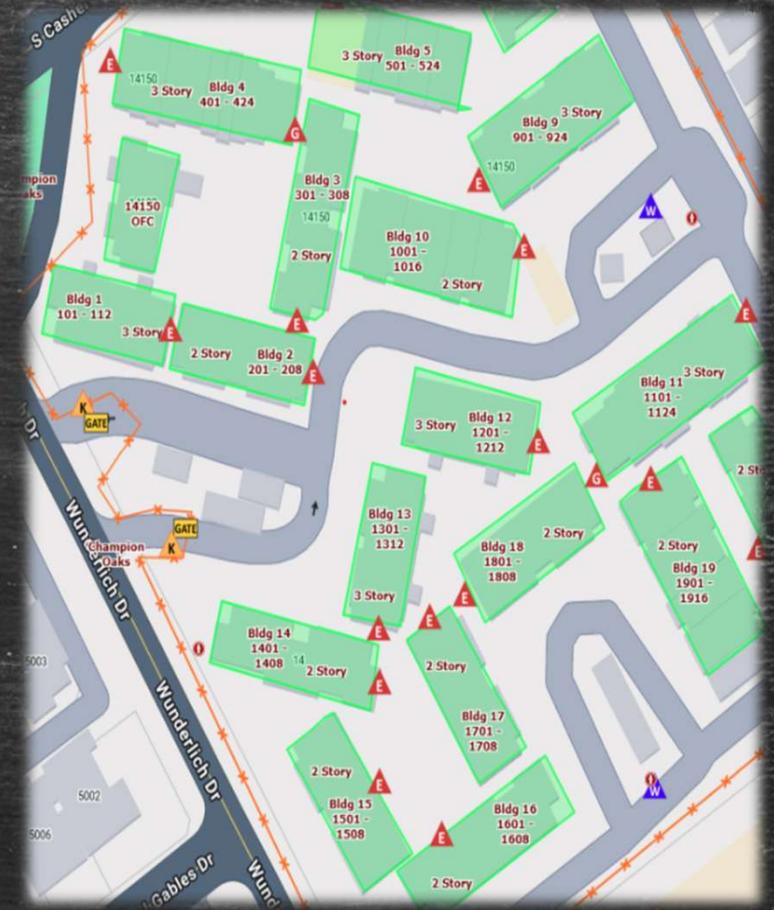
- “Would you please tell me which way I ought to go from here?” - *asked Alice.*
- “That depends a good deal on where you want to get to.” - *said the cat.*
- “I really don’t know.” - *replied Alice.*
- “Then it doesn’t matter which way you go.” - *said the cat.*



We, as the fire service, must have vision and purpose-guided commitment.

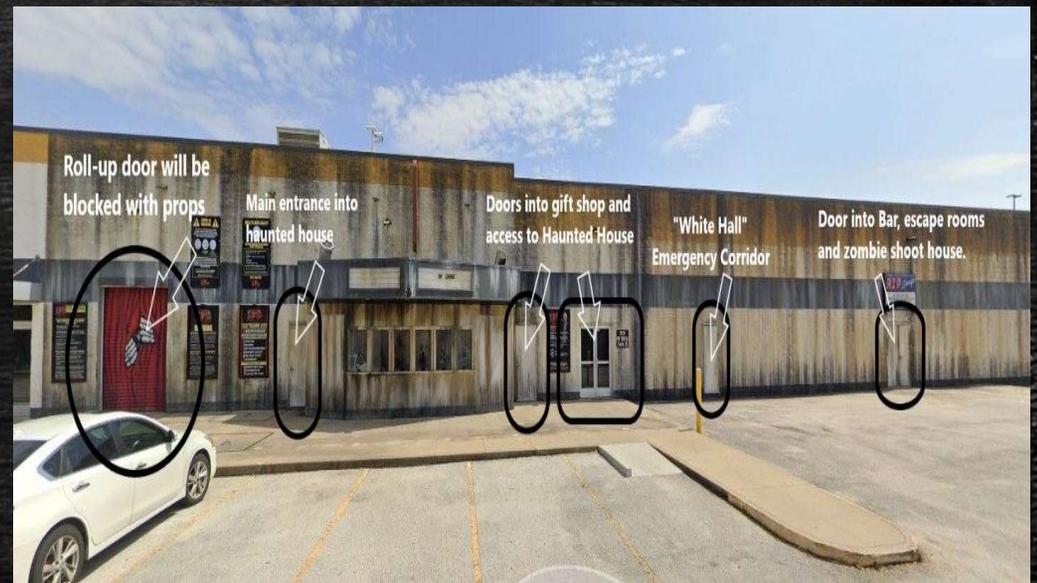
What is a Pre-Fire Plan?

- A pre-fire plan (*pre-incident plan*) is a detailed, collaborative document created by fire departments and property owners to map out a building's specific features, hazards, and fire protection systems to prepare for emergencies, enhancing firefighter safety and operational effectiveness for high-risk or complex structures like commercial buildings, schools, and hospitals. It details building layouts, access points, water supply, hazardous materials, and utility shutoffs, transforming potential unknowns into actionable data for responders.

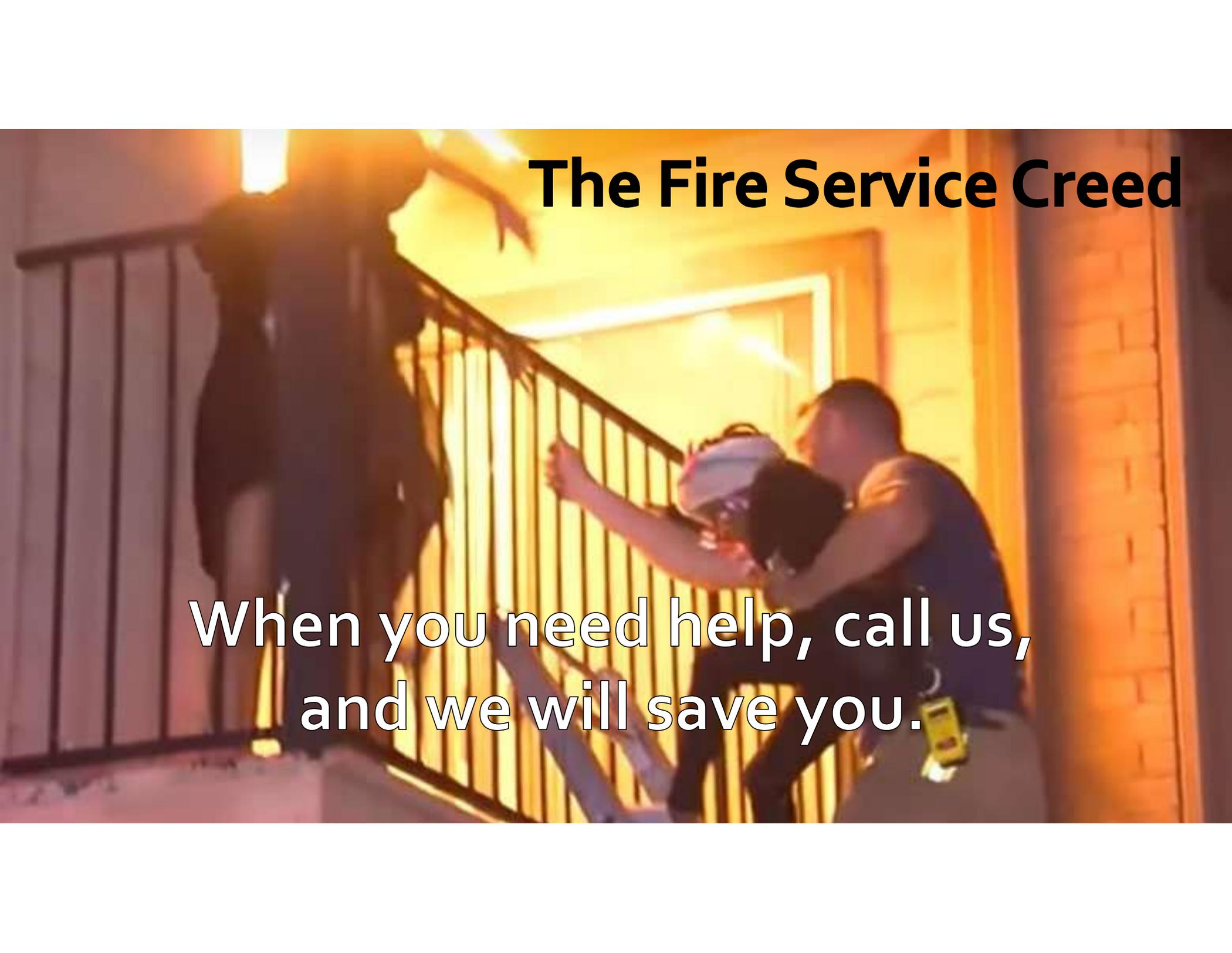


What is in this building that is going to KILL US FIRST

- Here is an opportunity to learn the building's layout, how to get in, and how to get out.
- Is the building equipped with a fire suppression system?
- What kind of condition is the building in? Are there AC units on the roof, or holes in the floor?
- Are there hazardous materials on site?
- Is there FD access (Knox) into the building?
- Contact information for the property/building owner.



Why did you get into the fire service?

A firefighter in a dark uniform is seen from the side, carrying a person wrapped in a white thermal blanket down a metal staircase. The scene is illuminated by a warm, orange glow from fire, with a brick wall visible on the right. The firefighter has a yellow tag on their belt. The person being rescued is wearing a dark top and light-colored pants.

The Fire Service Creed

When you need help, call us,
and we will save you.

We swear an oath to our citizens and fellow brothers and sisters we serve with, that we will BE READY and WILLING to come to their rescue. Even if that means putting our own safety at risk. We are willing to DIE to save someone, especially our own.

Why do we swear an oath to serve our fellow citizens in their time of tragedy, but dedicate so little to preventing that tragedy from ever occurring?

We can't tell you what a Fire & Life Safety
Division should look like in your
department.

Let's look at a few tasks we perform and ask yourself,
who is doing this at my agency?

➤ Conduct Pre-Fire Plans

- > Use information to update Responder 360.
- > Provide up-to-date information so that responding personnel and the Incident Commander can make informed tactical decisions.

Possibly preventing our worst-day scenario.

- > Update dispatch with the current occupancy name and contact information.



3 STORY, 39727 SQ FT, FULLY SPRINKLERED ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCY WITH WOOD TRUSS ROOF AND WOOD WALLS

Occupant

Chateau Nouvelle - 14525 Champions Dr.

Phone

713-887-0362

Occupancy Type

Assembly

Building Status

Occupied and operating

Construction Class

Day Load

972

Night Load

972

Needed Fire Flow

Num Units

Floors

Height

Width

Length

Total Sq Ft

1

3

30

39727

Protection / Sprinklers

All Coverage

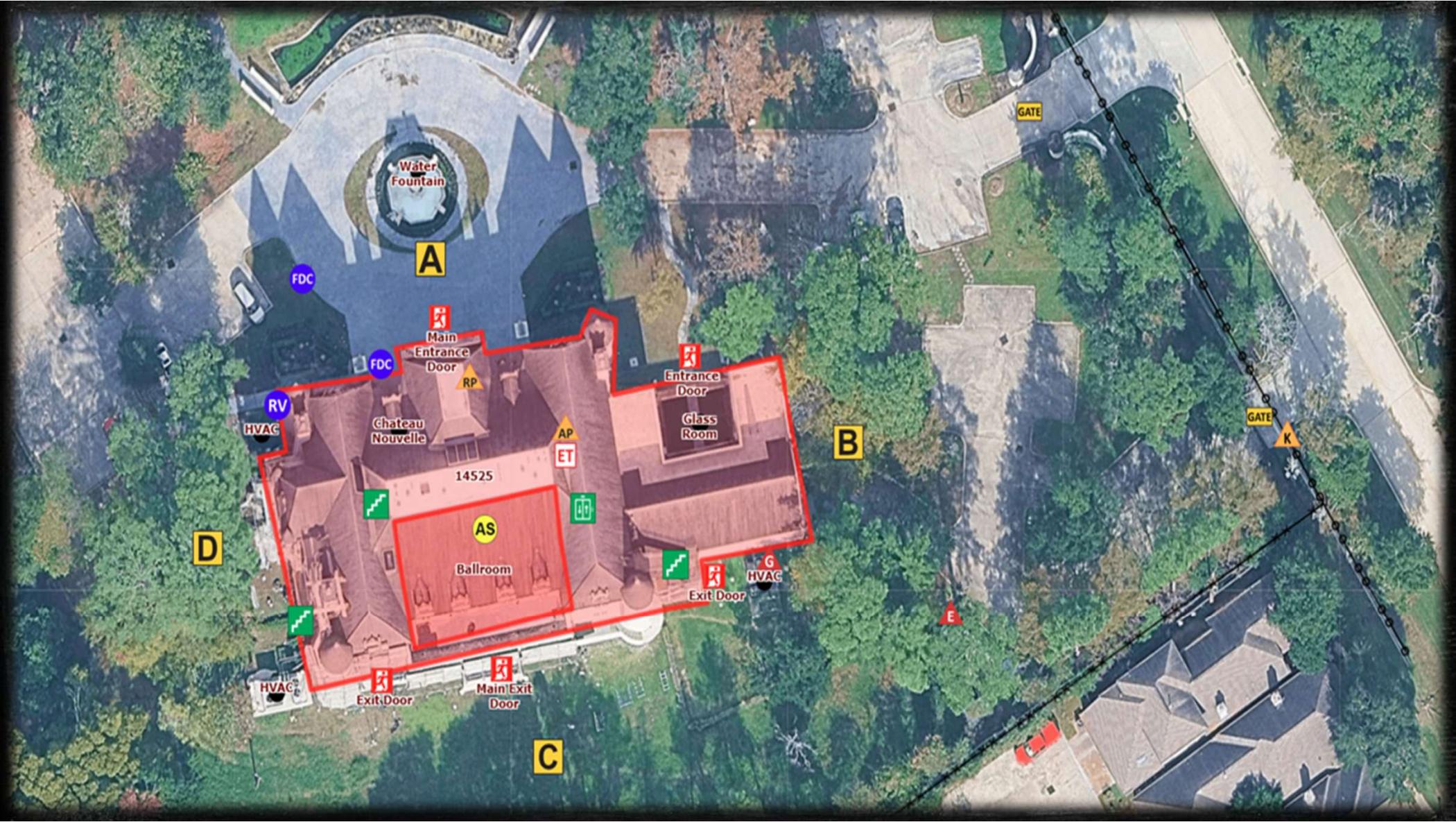
Exterior Wall Construction

Wood support, Masonry cover

Roof Construction

Wood Truss support, Wood deck, Wood Shingle cover

Floor Construction



Water Fountain

A

FDC

Main Entrance Door

FDC

RV

HVAC

Chateau Nouvelle

14525

AS

Ballroom

Entrance Door

Glass Room

B

AP

ET

D

Exit Door

HVAC

E

HVAC

Exit Door

Main Exit Door

C

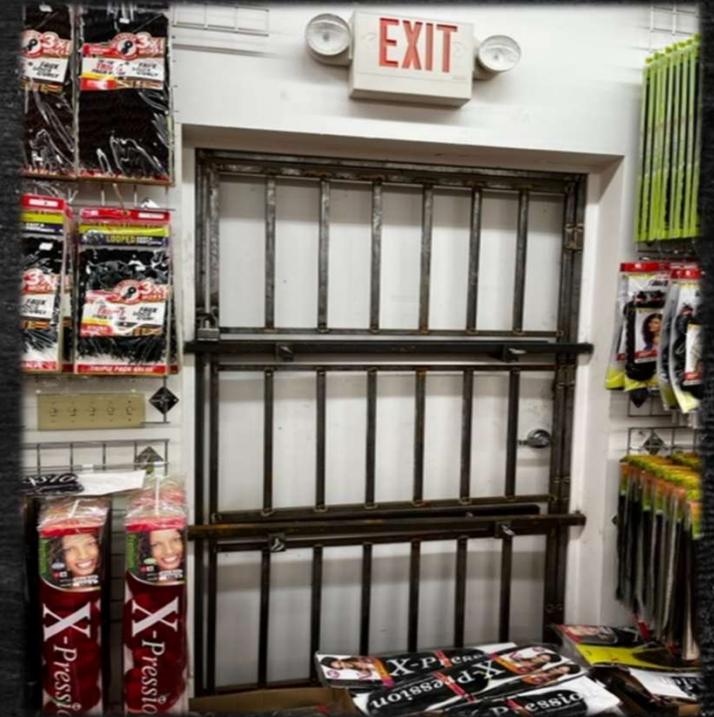
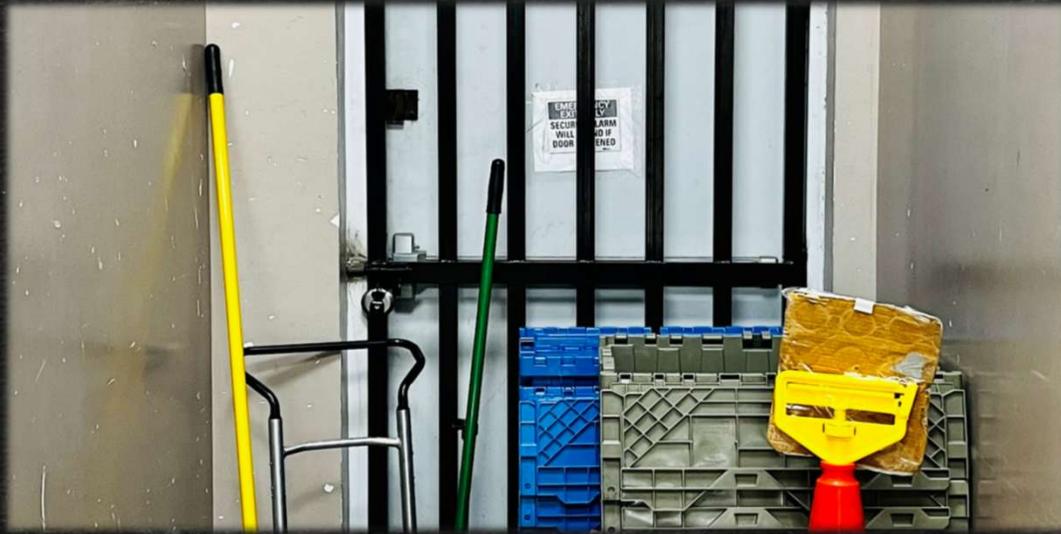
GATE

GATE

K

➤ Perform Fire Safety Surveys

- Educate the business or property owner on why corrections should be made.
- Notify the A.H.J. for code enforcement, as necessary (HCFMO).
- Ensure that CESD personnel are aware of the life safety hazard (**Safety Alert**).
- Monitor Follow-Up request from line personnel via JotForm (**See Something, Say Something**).





Fire & Life Safety Follow-up Request

* Employee

Dustin Ledford

* Safety Concern Date

1/20/2026 00:00

* Address

Business Address

Run Number

Occupant Name

Occupant Phone Number

* Narrative

Property: Chateau Nouvelle



Champions E.S.D.
12730 Champion Forest DR
Houston, TX 77066-1528
281-444-2014

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Property / Occupancy ID 25-14525
 Property Name Chateau Nouvelle
 Location 14525 Champions Dr. Houston, TX 77009
 Annual Fire & Life Safety Survey Date 10/21/2025
 Risk Type Low
 Contacts (1)

Contact Type	First Name	Last Name
Key Holder	Karoline	Jones
Cell Phone #		
(832) 401-5130		
Notes		
ETA from home 10 minutes - 10/21/2025		

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY SURVEY DETAIL

Safety Survey ID 14525 Champions Drive
 Status Completed
 Fire & Life Safety Officer Blount, Brandon
 Current Business / Property Name Chateau Nouvelle
 Date/Time Scheduled 10/21/2025 13:00
 Date/Time Arrived 10/21/2025 13:00
 Fire & Life Safety Survey Type Fire-Plan
 Date/Time Completed 10/21/2025 16:00
 Life Safety Survey Result Pass
 Total Safety Suggestions 2
 Fire and Life Safety Survey Suggestions to be Rechecked ACCESS/EGRESS/ELECTRICAL/FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS/The fire alarm system has been inspected/tagged by a licensed company within the last 12 months.#1. Needs Annual Inspection-The fire sprinkler system has been inspected/tagged by a licensed company within the last 12 months.#1. Needs Annual Inspection-UTILITIES/HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/GENERAL INFORMATION

FOLLOW-UP SURVEYS

Fire & Life Safety Officer Blount, Brandon

Survey Checklist (1)

FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS (9)

1) THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM HAS BEEN INSPECTED/TAGGED BY A LICENSED COMPANY WITHIN THE LAST 12 MONTHS.

➤ Ensure Emergency Access for Apparatus

- Knox locks & automatic gate access.
- Low-hanging tree limbs.
- Blocked entrances





But listen to the grumbling and complaining from the engine or truck company when they find out they must do a pre-plan of a commercial occupancy in their territory.

You call me your brother, you're willing to die for me, but for the love of God, Chief, please don't make us do preplans!

Why did you join the fire service?

Do you truly have a servant's heart and a genuine commitment to the citizens and your colleagues, or are you looking for medals and melted helmets?

MISSION STATEMENT

We all have one

Why do we have them?

Do they have any value?

Do you know your organization's mission statement?

➤ Objectives of the organization's mission

- To ensure unity of purpose within the organization.
- To provide a basis for motivation, the use of the organization's resources.
- To develop a basis, or standard, for allocating organizational resources.
- To establish a general tone or organizational climate.

Source: Adapted from William R. King and David I. Cleland, *Strategic Planning and Policy* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1978), p. 124

MISSION

The Mission of CESD is to be a leading emergency service organization meeting the needs of our community in fire prevention, fire suppression, rescue operations, and emergency medical first response.

VISION

The Vision of CESD is to utilize and improve the skills and dedication of our people, constantly improving operations and services, and assist similar organizations upon request with available resources.

Note: *Our Mission is "who we are", our Vision is "where are we now, and where are we going".*

Why do we typically put "fire prevention" first in our mission, but often invest the least effort and resources in it?

Let's look at a few more tasks we perform and ask yourself,
who is doing this at my agency?

➤ Q&A Fire Alarm Responses

- Look for patterns and identify nuisance fire alarm systems.
- Billing for nuisance fire alarms per CESD policy.

➤ Monitor territory for new construction and remodels

- Ensure that HCFMO is aware of the construction so that the work is done in accordance with current fire codes.
- Ensure that CESD personnel are aware of the construction (*Safety Alert*).



➤ Work as a liaison between CESD and local government agencies

➤ Harris County Fire Marshal's Office.

➤ Harris County Engineering.

➤ Harris County Pollution Control.

➤ Local Law Enforcement Agencies.

➤ Build and maintain relationships with

- > Local business owners.
- > HOA.
- > MUD.
- > Multi-unit housing facilities.
- > Community Leaders

➤ Respond to emergencies

- Operate within the command structure.
- Operate as the Safety Officer if necessary.
- Conduct initial scene investigation.
- Work as the liaison with HCFMO Investigators/Inspectors.
- Assist property owners as needed so they can return to normal operations as soon as possible.

- Work with local media during or after a significant event (PIO)
- Coordinate fire prevention education for local schools and daycares

Could you put a name next to each task?

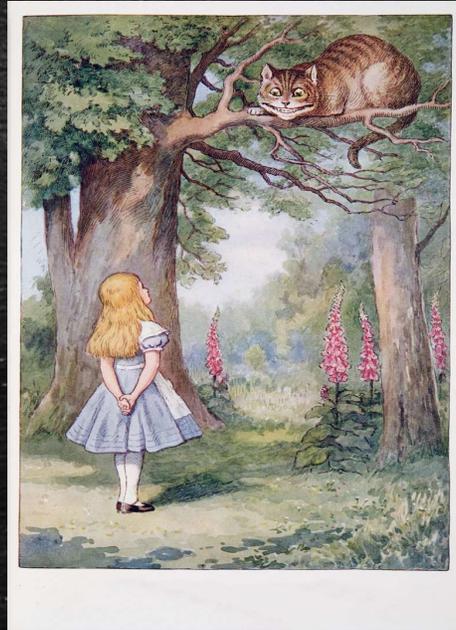
Maybe there is something to this idea of a
Fire & Life Safety Division

Where do I start?

Take your time and find the right people

- > Experienced (this is no place for a rookie).
 - “Real World” Pre-Plans.
 - Capable of explaining the “why” in fire safety.
- > Capable of leaving their ego at home.
- > Pro-active, self-motivated.
- > Ability to speak to people on their level.
 - Build relationships with business owners and stakeholders.

Adjust your budget to align with your new mission



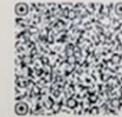
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Fire & Life Safety Division?



CHAMPIONS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT



DUSTIN LEDFORD
DIVISION CHIEF
FIRE & LIFE SAFETY



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HOUSTON, TX 77066
ESD29.ORG
ISO CLASS 1

DLEDFORD@CHAMPIONSFIRE.ORG
281.444.2014 MAIN
832.761.2909 DIRECT
281.444.1524 FAX

CHAMPIONS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT



BRANDON BLOUNT
CAPTAIN
FIRE & LIFE SAFETY



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