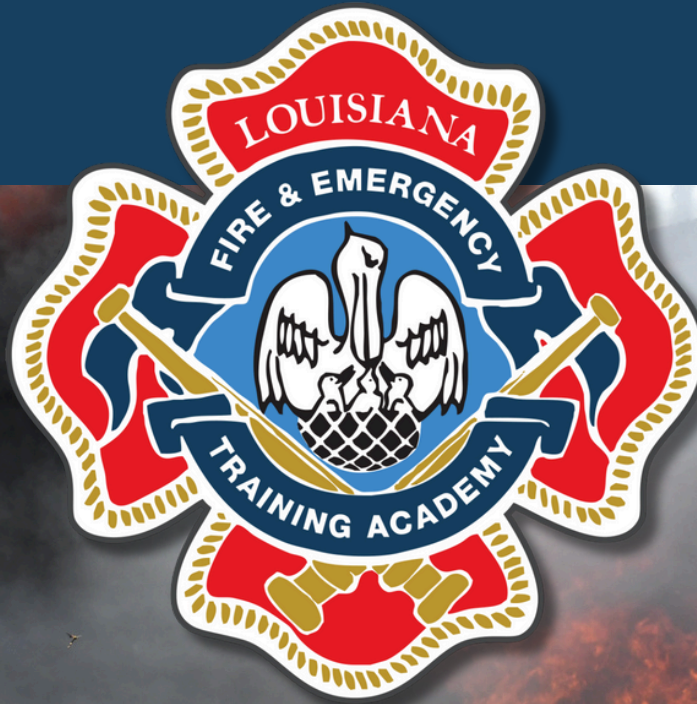


Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy

**FETA**  
**FLASHPOINT**

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The Academy Brief



**SEPTEMBER 2025**





# Superintendent Says...

As we move into September, I want to thank each of you for the warm welcome and for the dedication you continue to show to the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy. The commitment of our instructors, staff, and partners is evident in the quality of training we provide across the state.

My vision as Superintendent is to strengthen our foundation while continuing to innovate. We will expand training opportunities, invest in our facilities, and ensure that every student who comes through FETA is prepared to serve with skill and professionalism.

The future of Louisiana's fire service is bright, and together we will lead it forward. I am proud to stand with each of you in this mission.

*Chief Tracey Normand*  
**FETA Superintendent**

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## ***Vision***

*We will meet the needs of our customers and create a destination fire academy. To do this, we will create sought after and memorable student experiences with knowledgeable and professional instructors that deliver curriculum that is current and relevant – supplemented with props on and off campus that are modern, clean, functional and safe. Committed to excellence, we will embrace new technology and techniques to adapt to the changing needs of our customers. We will be known as a premier training agency across the country.*

# Chiefs' Corner...



From the earliest days of my career as a volunteer firefighter, I learned quickly that the fire service is more than a calling—it's a lifelong commitment to service, growth, and readiness. That first pager tone, the camaraderie of the station, the adrenaline of the response—those moments leave a lasting mark. But as the years passed, I realized that while heart and courage are essential, they must be backed by knowledge, skill, and preparation.

My journey has taken me from those volunteer roots to the honor of serving as Fire Chief, and eventually to a position with the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office. In each role, my responsibilities grew, but so did my appreciation for the men and women who answer the call every day. Now, as President of the Louisiana State Firemen's Association, I have the privilege of representing firefighters from every corner of our great state.

Over the years, I've traveled to countless fire departments—small rural stations with volunteer crews, midsize combination departments, and large municipal agencies. Each one is unique, with its own challenges and traditions. But one truth is universal: training is the lifeblood of our profession.

Training is what allows us to respond with confidence in moments of crisis. It's what enables a firefighter to size up a structure fire in seconds, to make a critical rescue decision under extreme pressure, or to perform life-saving medical interventions when every second counts. And while we often think of training as hose drills, ladder work, or classroom instruction, it's also about building leadership, decision-making, and teamwork skills that will serve us for a lifetime.

In Louisiana, we are fortunate to have the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy (FETA) as a cornerstone of our fire service education. This academy is more than a training ground—it's a place where the future of the fire service is shaped. From basic recruit academies to advanced technical rescue, and leadership courses, FETA is committed to ensuring that every firefighter—paid or volunteer—has access to the best training possible.

Training is not a box to be checked or a requirement to be met once and forgotten. It must be constant, evolving, and relevant to the changing nature of our work. Modern firefighting demands knowledge of building construction, fire behavior, hazardous materials, emergency medical care, and the latest rescue techniques. And while our tools and technology continue to advance, it's the well-trained firefighter that remains our greatest asset.

To every firefighter in Louisiana, my message is simple: never stop training. Push yourself to learn new skills, revisit the basics, and seek opportunities to grow. Your safety, your crew's safety, and the safety of the public depend on it. The lessons you gain from training are yours for life—no one can take them away.

As I look back on my career and ahead to the future of the Louisiana fire service, I have no doubt that our greatest strength lies in our people and their commitment to readiness. Let's continue to build that strength, one training session at a time.

*Assistant Chief Mark Treadway  
President, Louisiana State Firemen's Association*



# In the Can...

## Baton Rouge Campus



### Haz-Mat Technician - August 11-14

- *Industrial Training - This course trains emergency responders to identify and control hazardous substance releases. The training emphasizes hands-on response strategies to minimize environmental impact and ensure safety during hazardous materials incidents.*
- *18 Shell - Norco First Responders*



### Fire Service Instructor II - August 18-22

- *This course prepares instructors to develop lesson plans, manage course resources, understand budgeting of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), modify instruction to meet student needs, evaluate student and course effectiveness, and supervise and mentor other instructors.*
- *7 Students representing 6 Departments*



### Fire Officer II - August 25-29

- *The objective of this course is to provide students with training in company operations and administration.*
- *11 Students representing 7 Departments*

## Pine Country Campus



### Fire Officer III - August 25-29

- *This course prepares chief officers to handle the administrative and operational challenges of today's fire service. Key topics include ethics, building community partnerships, budgeting and fiscal planning, and multi-agency emergency response coordination.*
- *22 Students representing 14 Departments*



# On Deck...

## Fire Inspector I

September 15–19, 2025 | FETA Baton Rouge  
November 3–7, 2025 | FETA Pine Country

## Fire Inspector II

December 8–12, 2025 | FETA Pine Country

## Fire Investigator

September 15–19, 2025 | FETA Baton Rouge  
November 17–21, 2025 | FETA Pine Country

## Fire Officer III

October 6–10, 2025 | FETA Baton Rouge

## Fire Officer IV

December 15–19, 2025 | FETA Baton Rouge

## Fire Service Instructor III

September 22–26, 2025 | FETA Baton Rouge

## Live Fire Instructor

October 13–14, 2025 | FETA Pine Country

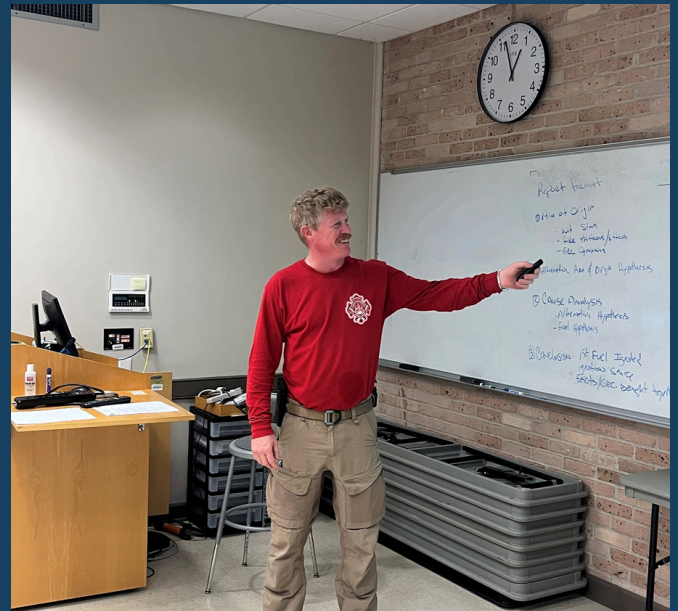
## Live Fire Instructor In-Charge

October 15–17, 2025 | FETA Pine Country



# Instructor Insight

- **Name:** Andrew “Opie” Degenhardt
- **Time with FETA:** Since Jan. 2007
- **Department:** Fire Training



*Andrew is a fourth generation firefighter. He has an associate's degree in Fire Science, and a bachelor's degree in Fire & Safety Engineering Technology with an emphasis in Fire/Arson Explosion Investigation.*

*“Give students the best techniques and knowledge in modern fire behavior in today's buildings so they can do an effective job . Tell them not just why, but how. Make them better than I was.”*



## FEATURED COURSE

- **Course Title:** Fire Officer III
- **Course Details:** This course prepares chief officers to handle the administrative and operational challenges of today's fire service. Key topics include ethics, building community partnerships, budgeting and fiscal planning, and multi-agency emergency response coordination.
- **Course Dates:** October 6-10/FETA Baton Rouge



# IAMI

## MARINE FIRE INVESTIGATION TRAINING

OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup> 2025

LOUISIANA STATE FIRE & EMERGENCY TRAINING ACADEMY - BATON ROUGE, LA

### FIRE INVESTIGATOR SAFETY

***MONDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 1430-1500***

The Safety block of instruction will cover a basic understanding of fire investigator safety when conducting marine fire investigations. We will identify common hazards present when investigating fire in and around boats. Those hazards include electrical hazards and fuel hazards. Finally, we will discuss the proper personal protective equipment the fire investigator should consider.

### SEAN TRIMBER

***ASSISANT CHIEF- LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL***

Sean Trimber is an Assistant Chief with the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal, overseeing fire investigation operations and training. He previously served as a Senior Special Agent and Certified Fire Investigator with ATF, where he investigated a wide range of complex fire scenes, including marine-related incidents, and was a member of the National Response Team. Sean holds certifications through IAAI and degrees from the University of Notre Dame and Oklahoma State University.



***FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, PLEASE VISIT: [HTTPS://IAMIMARINE.ORG/EVENTS](https://iamimarine.org/events)***



# Learn Fire Service Best Practices with the National Fire Academy (NFA)

Take advantage of NFA's fall and winter training opportunities to enhance your knowledge and skills in the fire service. These courses bring nationally recognized instruction right here to Louisiana.

To secure these valuable training sessions, **we must have at least 20 students registered no later than 45 days before the course start date.** This is a requirement set by NFA to avoid course cancellations. It allows NFA time to book travel for its instructors.

**Register early to ensure the course can proceed as planned.**

**Good news:** Registration will remain open until the first day of class—but don't wait! Early registration helps us keep these opportunities available to everyone in the Louisiana fire service community.



**National  
Fire  
Academy**  
Courses



## NFA TRAINING

### ***F0756 Fire Investigation : Fire as a Weapon***

*Oct 4-5, 2025*

*Marksville, LA*

### ***F0458 Preparation for Initial Company Operations***

*Oct 21-22, 2025*

*Carlyss, LA*

### ***F0770 Fire Investigation : First Responders***

*Nov 11-12, 2025*

*Chauvin, LA*

### ***F0610 Wildland Urban Interface Firefighting for the Structural Company Officer***

*Jan 27-28, 2026*

*Monroe, LA*

### ***F0633 Youth Firesetting Intervention Specialist***

*Feb 5-6, 2026*

*Pineville, LA*

# Register Now in ACADIS

# Recruit Round Up



The first month of the 18-week fire training academy is in the books. Class 189 spent August focused on Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training, learning life-saving skills that are critical for any first responder. Pictured is FETA Instructor Katherine Kleinpeter leading hands-on training using essential tools like the spine board, stretcher, mega mover, scoop stretcher, and stair chair — giving recruits real-world skills they'll use on the job. FETA is preparing tomorrow's firefighters today.

## Next Academy...

- Class 190
- January - May 2026
- Register in ACADIS





# Tools of the Training

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## Max Fire Box

The Max Fire Box is a training prop used to teach fire behavior and thermal imaging in a safe, controlled environment. It simulates realistic fire conditions, allowing firefighters to practice key skills like reading smoke and recognizing flow paths before facing them on the fireground. This training provides a safer, more economical alternative to live fire training, while preparing firefighters for real-world challenges.

FETA has five Max Fire Boxes, three Phase 1 and two Phase 2 units. The majority of these are on trailers and used in regional training. Phase 1 is a single-chamber burn unit, while the Phase 2 is a larger, multi-chamber, multi-story unit with an interchangeable roof system. Phase 2 offers greater versatility, allowing firefighters to simulate one-story or two-story structures and vent both the garage and main structure, providing more comprehensive training for various fire behavior and thermal imaging objectives.

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## Firefighter Training Classes

- First 5 Minutes
- Scene Size-Up, Strategies and Tactics
- Smoke Reading
- Fire Ground Simulations
- Basic Fire Ground Search and Rescue
- Thermal Imaging
- Rapid Intervention Team Concepts
- Firefighter Survival Training
- Mayday
- Flashover
- Car Fire
- Modern Fire Attack: Incumbent Firefighters
- Live Fire Training Evolutions
- Multi-Story Attack
- Forcible Entry Practical
- When Hydraulics Go Down (Vehicle Extrication)
- Introduction to Elevator Technology
- New Vehicle Design Awareness
- Max Fire Box
- Flammable Liquids and Gases (FLAG)
- Firefighter Safety and Photovoltaic Systems
- Grain Bin Awareness
- Traffic Incident Management: Responder Safety on the Roadway
- SCBA Refresher

## Driver/Operator Classes

- Water and Water Supply
- The Fire Pump
- Mathematics of the Driver/Operator
- Performing Check-Out and Maintenance
- Driving
- Emergency Vehicle Driving
- Fire Ground Operations
- Drafting and Water Shuttle Operations
- Relay Pump Operations
- Foam
- Aerial Device Operations
- Fire Service Communications



## Fundamentals of Firefighter Skills, 5th Edition

- The Fire Service
- Evolution of the Fire Service
- Firefighter Health and Safety
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Firefighter Rehabilitation
- Fire Service Communication
- Firefighter Tools and Equipment
- Ropes and Knots
- Fire Behavior
- Building Construction
- Portable Fire Extinguisher
- Ladders
- Forcible Entry
- Search and Rescue
- Ventilation
- Water Supply Systems
- Fire Hose, Appliances, and Nozzles
- Supply Line and Attack Line Evolutions
- Fire Suppression
- Advanced Fire Suppression
- Firefighter Survival
- Salvage and Overhaul
- Wildland and Ground Fires
- Vehicle Rescue Extrication
- Assisting Special Rescue Teams
- Fire Detection, Suppression, and Smoke Control Systems
- Fire and Life Safety Initiatives
- Fire Origin and Cause
- Establishing and Transferring Command

# STAY CONNECTED

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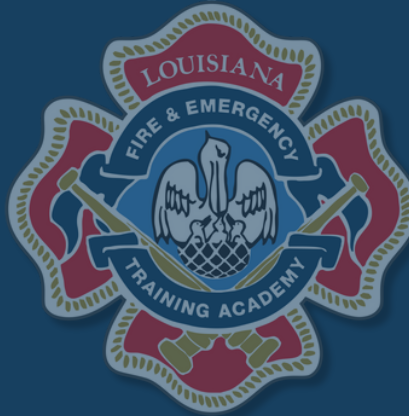
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## Mission

*The mission of the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy is to train, certify and support emergency responders to safely perform basic and advanced skills through the delivery of high-quality, relevant and accredited training curriculum developed to meet the needs of the ever-changing Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical industries.*

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Course Evaluation



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