

## **It's Not the Fire That Will Burn You**

*Instructor: David Denniston*

Thousands of hours of fire and EMS training did not prepare me for what would become my most difficult challenges as a firefighter, Chief and Commissioner. As I now work with fire service leaders from across the country, I understand I was not alone. This fast paced, sometimes humorous, eye opening presentation will discuss some of the biggest issues in the fire service today. We will have frank conversations about sexual harassment, substance abuse, firefighter mental health and community issues. I wish I had a dime for every time I heard "you are going to believe this one". Chances are I have heard it, seen it or lived it. My most difficult days in the service have had nothing to do with fires, floods, EMS or extrication. Yes, I have seen many difficult ones of those. The things that have threatened my success had more to do with the daily interactions with my fellow first responders than the calls we went to.