

Instructor Bios

Friday Sessions

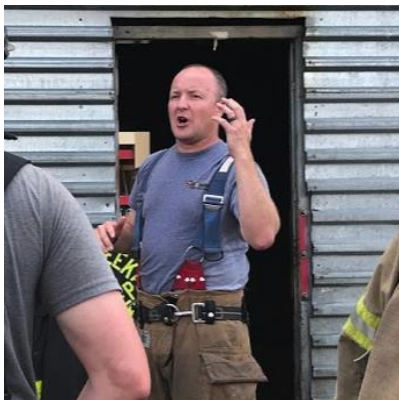
Thomas Tardo



Thomas Tardo is a the 15-year Veteran in the Fire Service. Currently Assigned to Greenville City Fire Department Rescue Co 4, and Training Officer for Tyger River Fire Department. Serving as a Section Leader and HQ Platoon Sergeant in the 82nd Airborne Division, further prepared Thomas for Leadership in Emergency Services. With 2 Combat Deployments to Afghanistan, Thomas held an additional duty as FOB Lightning Fire Chief where he stood up the fire

brigade and was an US Advisor for the 203rd Afghan Corps. Currently, Thomas is a certified ACE/IAFF Peer Fitness Trainer for the City of Greenville, Greenville City 9/11 Memorial Stair climb Coordinator, 1st Vice President of the South Carolina Instructor Society, and Owner of Valkyrie Tactical Solutions.

Jonah Smith



Jonah Smith is a Captain with the Charlotte Fire Department on Engine 20 and serves as an Assistant Chief for the Pleasant Valley Fire Department. Jonah is an Adjunct Faculty member at Rowan Cabarrus Community College and in 2018 will serve as the lead instructor for The South Carolina “Hand in Hand Enjin School”.

Keith Wilson



Keith Wilson is the Deputy Director for Lancaster County Fire Rescue and has worked for Lancaster County the past 15 years. Keith retired as a NASCAR crew member after 23 years. As a firefighter with 40 years of experience his insight will help departments use a different model to help bring TEAMWORK to firefighting.

Douglas Cline



Chief of the Training and Professional Development Division with Horry County Fire Rescue, a Metro Department with over 650 Fire and Emergency Medical Personnel, serving a diverse population and 1250 square miles of jurisdiction. He is the Executive Editor for The Fire Officer and Executive Director for the Command Institute in Washington D.C. A 38-year fire and emergency services veteran as well as a well-known international speaker and instructor presenting dynamic power packed /high intensity programs on leadership, instructor development, officer development, fire ground tactics, rapid intervention team training and firefighter safety and survival. Cline is a highly published author of articles, blogs and textbooks for both Fire and EMS. As a Chief Officer, Cline is a distinguished authority of officer development and has traveled internationally delivering distinguished programs on leadership and officer development. He also has a diverse line of training videos on Leadership, Rapid Intervention Team Training, Vehicle Fires, Hose Line Management, Emergency Vehicle Operations and Fire Ground Safety and Survival. Cline, a retired Fire Chief, is a Level III Fire Instructor, National Fire Academy Instructor and an EMS Instructor. Chief Cline is the Immediate President of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI), past President of the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs (SEAF), a member of the South Carolina and North Carolina Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors. Cline serves as a

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) Advocate for Everyone Goes Home, serves on the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Act Grant criteria development committee, Congressional Fire Service Institute (CFSI) National Advisory Committee, FDIC Advisory Board and a peer reviewer for the Fire Act Grants. In 1999, Cline was honored by the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) by being awarded the prestigious George D. Post International Instructor of the Year. He holds a bachelor's degree in Social Services with a Minor in Education from Concord University. He is an Associate Professor at Horry Georgetown Community College teaching in the Fire Science Associates program. Chief Cline has been actively involved with the fire dynamics research conducted by ISFSI and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). As a Strategy and Tactics theorist he has worked to help translated the research data into cutting edge operational theories, methodologies instructional programs and fire ground tactical operations focused on the Modern Fire Environment. Chief Cline is the executive producer of Fire Engineering's "Fire and Training Blog Talk Radio show and Fire Weekly's radio show "The Chief's Trumpet", the official Blog Talk Radio show for the Southeast Association of Fire Chiefs. Cline is the co-producer of the Fire and EMS Blogs "The Fire Officer".

Christopher Naum



A 44-year fire service veteran and a highly regarded national and international instructor, author, lecturer and fire officer. He is a distinguished authority on building construction issues affecting the fire and emergency services and has traveled throughout the United States and internationally delivering training programs on building construction, command management and operational safety. A former Adjunct Instructor with the National Fire Academy and National Fallen Firefighter (NFFF) Firefighter Safety Advocate, he is a past member of the Board of Directors, IAFC Safety, Health & Survival Section and a past Vice President with the International Society of Fire Service Instructors. He recently traveled with a prestigious contingent of international instructors to the Kingdom of Bahrain and presented as part of the IAFC's First International Fire Operations Symposium. He serves on the Faculty of the, IAFC Officer Development Program ODP-COLS, Kean University (NJ) New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Training Programs and Massachusetts Fire

Academy's Dept. of Fire Services Sr. Fire Officer Forum as a visiting lecturer. A former architect and fire protection engineer, he was the 1987 ISFSI George D. Post National Fire Instructor of the Year. He is the Chief of Training for the Command Institute (NYIDC) is a consultant to NIOSH (USA) Firefighter Fatality Investigation & Prevention Program and a well-respected Fire Protection, Management and Operations Consultant, researching and developing emerging and cutting edge strategic and tactical operational methodologies, concepts and practices based on fire research to improve fire ground operations and firefighter safety and is active in numerous national & international fire service agenda programs and committees. He is the Executive Producer of the Buildingsonfire.com, FiregroundLeadership.com and Co-produces TheFireOfficer.com. he has been lecturing and instructing throughout the United States and internationally for over thirty-five years. His previous service included Fire Command, Fire Protection & Safety at a US nuclear power plant. Over twenty years in field operations & suppression as a commanding company officer in New York and Training & Fire Academy and College academic curricula administration and management.