Dear National Fire Academy Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance into the United States Fire Administration’s (USFA’s)/National Fire Academy’s (NFA’s) “Emergency Medical Services: Incident Operations” (EMS:IO) course.

This course offers you the opportunity to study proper incident command techniques for management of medium to large incidents involving multiple sick or injured patients. Topics covered include Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions within incident command, resource management, interagency and mutual aid, sizeup and strategy, EMS operations in the mass casualty incident, preincident preparation, incident organization, and strategic command. Through several simulated incidents involving increasing patient totals, the course will provide ample opportunity for practicing effective implementation of the EMS components of the National Incident Management System Incident Command System.

The EMS:IO course contains simulation activities based in the fictional Central City, Liberty County and state of Columbia. Links to the online reference and a quick reference to the EMS and hospital resources available in these jurisdictions are both available in your online classroom; you should become familiar with this prior to your arrival in class. Throughout the exercises, you will assume roles in those organizations.

The course materials for this course are now available in the NFA Online Mediated platform. This web-based system will provide not only the Student Manual, but also forum discussions, activities and electronic submission of homework assignments. You will receive (or have already received) instructions specific to accessing your NFA Online Mediated account for this specific course. You are expected to bring your laptop or other device capable of completing online education requirements, including completing homework assignments. You are responsible for the security and maintenance of your equipment. The host site may not be able to provide computer software, hardware (which includes disks, printers, scanners, monitors, etc.) or technical support for your device.

This is a six-day class with evening classes possible. Check with your host site for the schedule.

If you need additional information related to your course’s content or requirements, please contact Mr. Michael Stern, EMS Training Specialist, at 301-447-1253, or by email at michael.stern@fema.dhs.gov. Good luck, and I hope to see you on campus.

Sincerely,

Eriks J. Gabliks, Superintendent
National Fire Academy
U.S. Fire Administration