



**Georgia Fire Academy**  
**Scenarios: Chief Officer**

### **Scenario 1: Out of Control Controlled Burn**

One of your firefighters is ejected from an apparatus while en route to a fire call in his first due. The Brush truck being utilized for the call spun out of control on a forestry break while responding to assist the local Forestry with a controlled burn that had jumped the break unpredicted wind gusts. The ejection of the firefighter was due to the unusual nature of the crash. The vehicle did several 360 degree spins while throwing the firefighter out of the vehicle and running him over. Upon your arrival, the local law enforcement officer is there and is finishing writing his initial report. In his initial report, he discloses that due to the unusual nature of the death and cause of death of this firefighter, that in his report he has indicated that the operator was “impaired”. There is media arriving in the immediate area and you have more firefighters arriving on scene.

### **Scenario 2: Council Member / Jilted Lover**

You are a newly appointed Chief. Monday afternoon, approx. 2:45pm, your department is having an open house for the City council. This is giving you the opportunity to discuss some of the needs of your department with some of the Council members that don't know you that well as some of the others do. An upset woman appears at the fire station and states she is there to see one of your firefighters who may have “wronged” her over the weekend. She walks into the station and is not satisfied with the answer she has received from the secretarial staff about how to properly contact this individual. So, she then proceeds to start speaking loudly and using profane language that can be heard across the station. She then looks through the double doors and sees her dad's neighbor, Bob, who is a council member and recognizes him and calls out his name. She then attempts to approach the group while you are talking to them and you notice her immediately.

### **Scenario 3: Georgia Showers**

Saturday afternoon, approx. 12:25pm, you receive a phone call from one of your county commissioners wanting to know if you are aware of what your firefighters are doing and “is that we bought those \$400,000.00 trucks for?”

That morning the weather was pretty unforgiving with thunderstorms and heavy gusts of winds pushing through your area. You allow your firefighters to drive the apparatus to the store and they had gone this particular morning to get some lunch and supper food for the day. While parking on the side of the store and not in traffics way, they are able to put the groceries on the truck without being effected by the weather. After starting the vehicle, the CO on the truck jumps on and tells the driver to pull in front of the store. There stands a young lady with a buggy full of bagged goods and cell phone in her hand. Apparently, the cell phone service she utilizes is out and she cannot reach her husband to come by the store to pick her up, as he is at home keeping the 2 year old twins out of the weather. It is then seen by onlookers that the firefighters assist the lady by putting her groceries in the cab of the truck, help her on board, and take off out of the parking lot and down the road opposite of the way back to the Fire Station. A concerned onlooker then follows the apparatus to the lady's home, some 6 miles down the road and near station #4's area. The concerned constituent then calls his buddy, Dave, the county commissioner who is now awaiting your response.

#### **Scenario 4: City Council Meeting**

The regularly scheduled council meeting starts at 7:00pm. You, as the Fire Chief, are attending. There are no Fire Department items on the agenda. The mayor, while conducting this open meeting, demands your resignation. He bases this upon how you, as the Fire Chief, do not have a higher education level than an Associates degree that you received some 20 years ago. This, in his mind, is unacceptable. He surprises everyone on the board with this demand and it is obvious by their reactions (non-verbally and murmurings). The job requirement for a position of this type of authority should be at a Bachelors level or greater, he says. You worked your way up through the ranks and were appointed to this position on a unanimous vote by the Council. Keep in mind, this meeting is televised and there are firefighters present.

#### **Scenario 5: Violence for breakfast, anyone?**

You receive a phone call early Saturday morning at approx. 1:35am from your Battalion Chief that is on shift. He is much shaken in his conversation

and you ask him to calm down. You two have been close friends for several years. He then tells you his side of the story.

“Chief, I don’t know what to do... I didn’t mean for this to happen this way... I’ve really messed up. She’s going to tell everybody and she is on her way here. She says you know, too. (You have no idea what he is talking about) She ain’t afraid to tell the newspaper or anybody... I can’t take this pressure... I don’t want to ruin your career...”

The phone then hits the floor and, to the best of your knowledge, you hear an argument occurring in the background. You hear gunfire and your cell phone starts ringing. The caller ID shows Capt. Watson, the ‘C’ Shift Captain for the evening at the same station. You try to hang up the phone, but cannot get a dial tone because the station phone on the other end is still ajar. You answer the cell phone and the Captain tells you that he heard a gunshot from the Admin office, the door is closed, and there seems to be a light on in the office but he doesn’t feel good about going in there and he instructed the guys to go outside. He asks you what to do and is waiting for your response. Over the cell phone you hear sirens in the background.