



FF Cancer Survey 2014

This survey was conducted by the Fire Smoke Coalition nearly 4 years ago and included the Coalition's membership base, participants in the *Know Your Smoke* on-site training program, and some of those who participated passed it on to others. If nothing else, read the comments. Their experiences just might change a few bad habits.

Responses

	329	96.76%
Are you:		
Volunteer	21	6.19%
Career	285	84.07%
Both	34	10.03%
# of people who answered question	339	
Positions held during career:		
Firefighter	303	89.12%
Engineer	169	49.71%
Captain	138	40.59%
Lieutenant	105	30.88%
Battalion Chief	52	15.29%
Deputy Chief	32	9.41%
Chief	24	7.06%
# of people who answered question	340	
Have you been diagnosed with cancer?		
Yes	188	55.79%
No	149	44.21%
# of people who answered question	337	
If yes, what type of cancer?		
Thyroid	13	6.77%
Colon	18	9.38%
Bladder	6	3.12%
Prostate	39	20.31%
Lung	4	2.08%
Breast	3	1.56%
Stomach	4	2.08%
Brain	3	1.56%
Lymphoma	25	13.02%
Kidney	15	7.81%
Liver	2	1.04%
Pancreatic	0	0.00%
Testicular	17	8.85%
Other	65	33.85%

If yes, what type of cancer?

of people who answered question 192

Do you have a family history of the same type of cancer?

Yes 35 12.73%

No 240 87.27%

of people who answered question 275

Have you been diagnosed with any of the following diseases/conditions?

Cardiomyopathy (3.7% / 2)

ALS

Parkinson's Syndrome

Parkinson's Disease

Other Response (96.3% / 52)

Do you have a family history of the disease/condition from which you suffer?

Yes 13 6.16%

No 198 93.84%

of people who answered question 211

What is your prognosis for life-expectancy?

1-5 Years 20 9.01%

6-10Years 21 9.46%

11-15 Years 10 4.50%

More 174 78.38%

of people who answered question 222

Can you relate your diagnosis back to a specific instance/fire?

For example, have 5 of 10 firefighters who were on a specific fire been diagnosed with cancer?

Yes 19 8.02%

No 218 91.98%

of people who answered question 237

During your firefighting career, how many years would you estimate that SCBA were not, or are still not, required during fire ground and overhaul operations?

1-5 Years 102 36.69%

6-10 Years 69 24.82%

11-15 Years 47 16.91%

16-20 Years 29 10.43%

21-25 Years 14 5.04%

26-30 Years 18 6.47%

of people who answered question 278

Does your department strictly adhere to NFPA 1404 (standards for air management) at every scene? (This includes dumpster and the small pan on the stove fires.

Yes 175 52.55%

No 158 47.45%

of people who answered question 333

Have you ever been treated for smoke inhalation?

Yes 79 23.37%

No 259 76.63%

of people who answered question 338

Have you ever experienced headaches, sore throats or nausea following a fire?

Yes 274 81.31%

No 63 18.69%

of people who answered question 337

Does your state have presumptive legislation that qualifies your illness/disease as work-related?

Yes 201 63.81%

No 114 36.19%

Does your state have presumptive legislation that qualifies your illness/disease as work-related?

of people who answered question

315

Please provide additional commentary as you feel necessary.

138 40.59%

Individual Responses:

First 2 yrs. no SCBA. (Chicago) Next 10 yrs. we used it when needed, in structure fires. Never used SCBA, in Overhaul, Car Fires or Dumpster Fires. It was not required, for these scenes. Chicago still does not require SCBA on Overhaul, but, we monitor the scene. My Volunteer Dept. requires SCBA, in all stages of Fire and Smoke. Spent 30 yrs. with Chicago. Retired 6 yrs.

On paper we are very strict. In the field, many officers either don't care (too old), or are too reckless (too young). Enforcement is spotty at best.

As a member of ladder 9 in NYC I spent many weeks at the world trade center searching for victims of the terrorist attack.

One other person in my fire department was diagnosed 6 months after me with the same cancer as mine. We were on same crew for approximately 4 years prior.

Diagnosed with Prostate Cancer in August 2010. Surgery was performed in October 2010. Follow up PSA are good.

You guys are doing a great job. Keep it up.

I have Malignant Melanoma....stage 3 at this time. It was found on my left ear, underneath the outer rim (inside not on the top of it. This would be the "shaded" part of the ear.

My husband passed away in 2001 from colon cancer. He was 37 and had been a firefighter for 20 years.

I have Multiple Myeloma Cancer Stage 3, diagnosed in 2008 after a multiple back fracture from a structure fire. Multiple Myeloma is a blood cancer, (non-curable and a chronic disease). Had a Bone Marrow Transplant in 2009, only lasted 3 months. Been on treatments with chemotherapy since and up to date. Also suffer from Osteoporosis and neuropathy from the chemo. Retired from the Department in 2010.

I have C.O.P.D.

I have had pre-malignant dysplasia of my uterus, fibroids on the outside of my uterus which required a partial hysterectomy, and have had breast cancer three times and finally did a bilateral mastectomy. I have been disabled retired under the heart - lung bill in the state of Florida due to hypertension, arrhythmia, and tachycardia .

Prostate cancer at age 44. Proton beam therapy at Loma Linda. No side effects.

I am a thirty year survivor - FCSN Michigan Director.

Head/neck cancer primary site at base of tongue which metastasized to neck. I went through fire academy at a time when PCB oils were being burned. There is an increased rate of cancer among FF's who went through that facility while PCB oils were being burned for training.

Nasopharyngeal Throat Cancer

Unknown life expectancy at this time, but I am still working at the present time.

Squamous cell carcinoma to the base of the tongue, 4 known causes 1) long term heavy smoking (not a smoker) 2) Long term heavy drinking (not a drinker) 3) HPV Human Papilloma Virus (tested completely negative) 4) and what my doctor contributed the cancer to ... inhalation of HPV's, the products of incomplete combustion of organic products given off during brush fires (we

run them routinely and are specifically told NOT to use air and have no other airway protection provided, and overhaul where I have been specifically ORDERED to remove my SCBA to conserve air so that the Batt in charge did not have to call for a portable fill unit.

Presumptive legislation was just recently passed – I'm not fully aware of the details. There was some debate as to what cancers were covered. There is research which has shown that there is a link between testicular cancer and soot absorption. Most emphasis seems to be on wearing SCBA – which we should and continue to support. However, there is little education and awareness relating to gear cleaning, decon, and basic hygiene following a fire. The fire service still seems to need to have that "badge of honor" when it comes to dirty gear.

Retired, 40+ years ago we rarely used SCBA. As each "revelation" about smoke, exhaust gases/particulates, contaminated PPE, and all the rest became known, we tried to improve. Tight budgets and attitudes have always been factors in how quickly improvements occurred.

Just want to add that I have CLL Leukemia and a secondary cancer Melanoma. I had my first Melanoma in 2005 and a second Melanoma in 2009. In 2011 I had a Basil Cell cancer on my temple. My oncology doctors say I have had the Leukemia since around 2001 although I was officially diagnosed in 2008. Leukemia actually can hyper-activate the skin cancers. My primary jobs were firefighting and fire investigation for just shy of 25 years. I am now on permanent disability due to multiple injuries and illnesses.

My brother was 50 and had a colonoscopy and they found cancer. I was 48 and wanted to wait until I was 50. My wife talked me into getting a scope. They found cancer. I had part of my colon removed and made a full recovery. It makes sense that Firefighters should be eligible for scopes at an earlier age than 50 since we are in dangerous atmospheres. Not sure what caused mine but my wife and my doctor saved my life just like I had been trained to do for others!

Diagnosed with MDS in August of 2011.

The EPFD did not require SCBA during car fires and dumpsters for the first two years I started working (1989 and 1990). SCBA were still not required during overhaul when I retired in 2011.

I have suffered from Prostate and most recently skin cancer. I have no family history of either type of cancer. I am 48 years old and have worked as a career firefighter for over 25 years.

I had Prostate Cancer 5.5 years ago and at the moment after Radiological Treatment I am in remission.

My cancer was tongue cancer.

I also worked for my department as haz-mat tech, collecting household materials on the weekends. There were little to no precautions used.

Diagnosed with Sino-naso undifferentiated (SNUC) in 2005. Have been clean of the disease for 7+ years. My story is on the FFCSN testimonial page.

I was a firefighter 33 yrs. Exposed to wildland and city type fire scenes. I was diagnosed with rare sarcoma 3 months after retiring. Gastrointestinal stromal tumor. It was removed with surgery with my spleen, tail of pancreas and part of my stomach. I am presently taking targeted chemo therapy.

Thyroid cancer Dx 2008. Treated by removal and synthroid. Prognosis good after radiation treatment. Long term outlook good.

My cancer is melanoma. Family history of Squamous cell, but first in family with melanoma.

I am supplying this information for my Father who has passed away from the Cancer in 2006. The City does not wish to provide any assistance to my Mother and neither will the State of Michigan

I was diagnosed with a small tumor in my liver in Sept. 2010. I was treated by the transplant system at university hosp. in San Antonio, Texas for 1 1/2 yrs, undergoing a TACE procedure and radiation and oral chemo I was transplanted in Jan 2012, I am recovering well and plan on going back to the trucks. I am 59 years old and feel great.

We have at least 6 firefighters with cancer right now.

Station house diesel exhaust – dorms above apparatus floors without enclosure for pole holes contributing factor to my cancer.

My father was diagnosed with Prostate cancer when he was 68 and passed away at 74 in 2005. Have been doing PSA's since 2000 and had a change in 2011. Had a biopsy done last October and got diagnosed in November. I have an older brother and two younger ones. I have been the only one diagnosed with cancer so far. Had a Prostatectomy done last December and for now I'm cancer free.

Esophageal cancer – Stage IV

Colon cancer @ age 40 w/ 20 years of service. No family history

My cancer is multiple myeloma

Retired 1994 with presumptive Lung Disease, COPD, Asthmatic Bronchitis Upper Airway respiratory disease. Diagnosed Invasive malignant melanoma w/metastasis 1/11 prognosis 11 mos. Had tumor removed from abdomen and radiation to left shoulder tumor 3/1. Declined clinical trials opted for alternative treatment called CELLECT. Info can be found at ncrf.org Since 10/11 I have been cancer free. This protocol works for many types of other cancers. I have known of many successes and I am living proof. I would urge my fellow F/F with cancer to research this program.

While I have been fortunate up to this point, 4 other guys in my station have had cancer of one form or another (survived) and we have had past members die from cancer. New Jersey Firefighter.

I was mainly a wildland firefighter for both the US Forest Service for 15 years and never used a SCBA with them and was 22.5 years with CAL FIRE where SCBAs were required on most all fires except wildland where non have been developed for this use to date. Much exposure was from both inhalation and absorption being on the fire lines for significant numbers of hours and days. Through much of my career we also did not have engine bay exhaust systems. Therefore, I believe my cancer was from cumulative issues, which also included those with LE exposures as well, since I was also a peace officer with the department. My positions with CAL FIRE were equivalent positions to those listed above including Forestry Technician, Forestry Assistant II, Forester I and Division Chief. Other diseases are mainly nervous system issues, with Neuropathy, muscle twitching, numbness and loss of muscle strength.

Recently diagnosed with COPD due to chronic asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia due to scarring in lungs. Now see a pulmonologist on a regular basis.

Had skin cancer. Squamous cell.

I am 25 and not too sure how I got cancer. But LIFE SCAN for routine yearly physicals is a life saver. I have never had had problems but they found the small nodule on my thyroid on 7/19 on 8/13. I was officially dx with cancer and had surgery on 8/30 to completely remove my thyroid. After a single tx of radio-actve iodine I should be cancer free.

After going before an arbitrator for 207–a disability benefits, I lost because of the arbitrator seemed from the start that is was not related to my job and the city continues to fight me against an existing workers comp. claim.

Many years of inadequate Fire Officers in the local good'ole boys' fire department that have no SOP's. Also I participated in Flight 93 Clean up. Nothing ever investigated about possible health issues from crawling around on the ground for several days looking for small pieces of anything!

Started wheezing earlier this year (had pneumonia 3 times this year), the Doctor explained that the wheeze, thankfully it's not cancer, is caused from years of fighting fires and all the smoke I was exposed to.

Though the presumptive legislation exists in Colorado, the insurance carriers have appealed and lost twice in my case. They are appealing again and I suspect this will continue. My union footed substantial attorney bills, and my family has not been reimbursed for my treatment. I'm blessed to have the support I do – unfortunately not all firefighters have the resources for a 'presumptive' fight. I hope this improves for the next generation of firefighters.

I have irregular heartbeat aka inappropriate tachycardia unknown cause. My Dr. believes it to be continuous exposure however there is no proof.

I was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins Lymphoma in January of 09. I received a full treatment of Chemo followed by radiation. I was out of work for 9 months. Connecticut's presumptive law was not signed until after my treatment so my illness is not considered job related I guess, unless I am grandfathered in which I highly doubt.

State law allows the work comp to rebut the illness diagnosis as work related. Also 1 out of 4 diagnosed with cancer has died. We were all at a carpet store fire.

Reno Fire with a line staff of approximately 160 personnel has had a minimum of 9 firefighters diagnosed with prostate cancer in the last decade. Other cancers in the dept have been thyroid, lymphoma and kidney.

We have had 2 die from cancer, plus one secretary. We have several with skin cancers and one with thyroid cancer.

The survey does not include exposure to duties while performing Wildland operations which may be an important issue also.

I was a lateral-entry paramedic that was trained to firefighter II and I am an active retired member of L0734. I was forced to retire from BCFD following my diagnosis and treatment of lymphoma.

Ohio has presumptive legislation for chronic cardiac and lung disease, however the pension board does not recognize my case (Stage 4 rectal CA, metastasis to lungs) as a chronic issue...it is for me!!

Stage 4 squamous cell carcinoma, left neck. Unknown primary source but suspected base of tongue. Required radical left neck dissection surgery then 33 radiation therapies and 3 rounds of chemo along with feeding tube and additional procedures.

I have only been a career fire fighter for 9 years when diagnosed in February 2012 was also 51 years old. This was the first time I was checked for prostate cancer and my PSA 4.87 was a little elevated. My dr was criticized for sending for a biopsy. What they found was adenocarcinoma with a gleason score 3+4=7 6 out of 6 cores were positive for cancer on the left side and 4 out of 6 on the right. During surgery they had to take the nerves from the left side as the cancer was wrapped around it. They think surgery was successful time will tell. I fell out of the presumptive guidelines so this has been denied by the state L&I. I have a month to challenge their findings. But I do not hold much faith in any change. I had no symptoms – all seemed fine it was a fluke they found it when they did. I would have certainly had a worse outcome if they did not follow through with the biopsy. I had 9 years paid service and another 5 years as a volunteer years ago I guess this didn't count towards my time.

I was diagnosed with stage four testicular cancer 5 1/2 years after I was retired. Another firefighter and a police officer were diagnosed of the same cancer with months of each other. We were a small city with 21 firefighters and 24 police officers. The cases were treated as non-related and mine was considered not job related because it was over five years since my retirement.

I have had breast cancer twice. Once was in 2002. I was diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer which is very deadly and I was given a 20% chance to live 5 years. I had 4 kinds of chemo, radiation and a mastectomy. I survived that and was diagnosed with ductal carcinoma in situ in 2011 which is a very treatable and non-life threatening cancer when it is caught early (which it was). I had a mastectomy and no other treatment this time. These are 2 separate kinds of cancer, it was not a recurrence. I have been a firefighter since 1995 serving part time until 1999 when I was hired as a career firefighter. If there is any other questions that I can answer or anything else I can do, please contact me. Thanks for doing this survey!

Question 11 – doesn't give me the option of putting in 0. I am fortunate in that SCBA has been the standard in the fire departments I have worked since I joined the fire service in 1983. Cancer was found early and treated with surgery in 2005.

Even though I cannot directly link my cancer to a specific fire, I feel strongly that it was the cause.

Diagnosed with Osteosarcoma in 2004 – surgical removal no further treatment. Hypertension – workers comp.

I was hired on to RWB in 2000 and at the time we did not wear SCBA during overhaul ops. That did change around 2003–04. I had a seizure playing softball 8/9/08 when they discovered a brain tumor that had been growing for at least 5 years or so. There has been 3 firefighters since then that had been diagnosed with some type of cancer: one skin (40yr male, one prostate (45 yr male) and one bone (50yr male). My type of brain tumor (oligodendro –glioma) is very rare in type of brain tumors. My doctor is at Swedish Hospital in Denver, Colorado and I am the third firefighter he has treated with a brain tumor, one of which passed away from it after it degenerated into a more aggressive type of cancer. I was awarded workers comp after a lengthy battle with the insurance company, and I was awarded on duty injury status from the CO FPPA. I am more than happy to be contacted with any questions.

My cancer was covered 100% by Workman's Compensation, I was stage 4 before treatment and now have been in remission for 5 years.

My Cancer was diagnosed as GIST cancer with a tumor in my Stomach which was removed, another small tumor in the area of my spleen. GIST doesn't respond to chemo and I'm monitored every six months via CT scan.

Information provided is from 1969 – 1974 when SCBA was not required and worn as a matter of tactics. First in hose team did not stop to put on SCBA. Those arriving would sometimes don a Scott Pack, but not always. Cancer diagnosed in 1981, seven years after leaving fire service.

Now retired as of 3/12. Thymoma cancer stage 1 found after bicep surgery. It was removed in 2002. No problems since.

20 years as a suppression firefighter. 7 years fire investigator. We need to slow down and not be so worried about getting units cleared from the scene. Postpone overhaul as much as possible and allow for fire investigators to let the scene cool off then conduct their task. Much of the overhaul conducted simply is not needed. The atmosphere would be safer and more fires will be solved. Of course less exposure to products from the fire.

Type of cancer – Carcinoid Tumor located at the Anal Verge. Not a true "colon" cancer. SCBA always "required" but not strictly enforced during overhaul.

I have not had any of these diagnoses, but several members of the department have and have died. There is no pattern to one particular incident but appears to be result of cumulative exposure.

Prostatectomy was performed 2 months after dx of cancer and have been cancer free since (6 years)

I have Multiple Myeloma. (9–2010) to Present.

There is a presumptive law in California but the city of Sacramento is still denying my work comp claim saying I have not been exposed to any carcinogens. Still working with a lawyer to fight it. Since 2005 our department has had 7 firemen diagnosed with various cancers, 2 of them were fatal.

Lots of exposure on fire scenes during swapping of SCBA bottles

We can do a better job at minimizing our exposure each day as we perform our duties. I believe that there is also a complete wellness component that adds to the risk of disease process, in addition to direct smoke and contaminant exposure.

I am a retired FF I am a volunteer at the cancer center here in Kingston and council fire fighters with cancer both career and volunteer. I direct them to the appropriate resource, with their associations and the Ontario government.

I was adopted no family history. I have been diagnosed with multisystem atrophy or Parkinson's disease.

I've been retired for 3 years now with 30 years of service credit. Twelve members of the Milpitas Fire Department have died of cancer in the last 25 years. I worked and knew all of them. Milpitas currently has 4 station with a constant staffing of 16 per shift. In the past there was only 3 stations so the department was smaller. Members have talked about the cancer link and really never pinpoint one exact cause. We know that there is cancer causing agent in smoke.

Look forward to the publication of the white paper!

My career began in 1982 as a volunteer firefighter with the Twsp of Sarnia. Two years later I was hired on a full time basis. The Twsp of Sarnia Fire Dept. was a composite dept. at the time, (20 Vol. 20 full time). As a career full time FF., with Twsp of Sarnia, I was a firefighter/engineer, hydrant catcher, ladderman, etc. (get the picture). We did everything that needed to be done. Around the yr. 1991 the Twsp of Sarnia FD amalgamated with the City of Sarnia FD. The volunteer sector was phased out shortly after 1991. For the next 12 to 14 years I primarily performed the duties of a pump operator/engineer. In the fall of 1996 that I contracted my disease (Testicular cancer), 14 years after starting as a volunteer firefighter. Four or five months of chemotherapy and I was diagnosed as cancer free. I remain cancer free today. In the autumn of 2004 I was promoted to the position of Training /Safety Officer. I held the position until I retired Sept. 30, 2011. Training/Safety Officers responded to structure fires and other emergencies. The Province of Ontario does have presumptive legislation, but not for Testicular cancer. Feel free to contact me for any further inquiries.

Cancer caused Blood clots in right leg.

I was diagnosed with Squamous Cell of the Head/Neck. Parts affected were my tongue and lymph node. I am cancer free now, but doctor told me each year I survive, I have a 3% chance of getting it back.

My first department the San Pablo Fire Protection District chastised us for using SCBA's, until our Union stepped in. Presumptive legislation is in place but still an uphill battle with workers compensation claims and risk management. (Virginia Laws)

Hired in 1990. SCBA use has been required at all times

Labor in Georgia is simply labor. Little legal protection for cancer or heart/lung. My father a veteran of the fire service died of renal cancer.

Although presumptive legislation is in place in CA, it only really covers Lung and Brain cancers. Everything else must be proven by the employee.

Although I suspect one particular fire I cannot prove it. Part of being able to make my claim was a good history of filling out exposé reports after every fire. I was covered by work place insurance after filing a claim.

Diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma in 2004, treatment once a month for 2 years, then every 3 months till 2011, stem cell transplant fall 2011. One year later, latest PET scan shows "no metabolically active disease noted in the bone marrow". Thank God for insurance, \$380,000 for last six months of treatment. Started as volunteer in 1966 at age 19, only 2 SCBA on one truck and 1 SCBA on the other - reserved for the "wuss" on the tip. Full time paid in 1976 SCBA at each position but use not enforced till mid-nineties, but still not for "other than structure" fires. Use taught in fire academy, but not really enforced at my department. Poorer city with lots of bedroom fires. Missouri state presumptive law passed as "heart and lung" bill in the 70's. Cancer added in the 80's as an oversight. Law is so weak and so hard to use it is hardly ever successfully used. Retired in 2006 at age 59.

In addition to the bladder cancer, which occurred in 2007, I was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2009. Treatment thus far: spinal stabilization on T-10, chem's and three bone marrow transplants: 1) August 2009-Auto 2). March 2012-Auto 3). September 2012.

We have been taking department sponsored physicals for the last few years. A large percentage of us have metabolic syndrome with the low testosterone. It would be interesting to include that in your survey.

Indiana only has Parkinsons that I know of. We just started a new policy where we wear our packs all the way through overhaul.

We are mandated to wear SCBA until an "All Clear" is given based on monitored readings. This, however, is usually prior to all overhaul being completed, therefore crews are usually overhauling without SCBA unless they choose, as a personal preference, to continue to wear it.

When I hired on, it was cool to be a "smoke eater". Thankfully, I've always been one to wear my SCBA when working on a worker. I did have a particular fire, where I sucked my bottle dry and had to remove my mask as I was exiting the residence. I had to take on big breath of some pretty bad smoke to make it out. The feeling I had following that fire was one I never experienced before, nor wish to again. My heart rate was elevated for the next 4 hrs, accompanied by a very severe headache. I felt nausea and coughed for about 12hrs. I not only practice the use of SCBA but also preach it.

I feel that cancer should be a presumptive disease for all firefighters.

I've also worked for one other Fire Department as well for over 8 years.

I completed this survey for a firefighter who recently passed from cancer and we are attempting to have it considered LODD because of the cancer. I have been unable to connect cancer to one fire, since as you know it may be an accumulation from many fires.

I have been diagnosed with pre-cancerous skin cancer.

I have been treated for myelogenous leukemia twice in the last decade – caught as a result of early detection from a simple blood donation and bone marrow transplant sign up. I am currently on long term medication – (glevic) that seems to keep it in check. Just last week I completed another follow up and am awaiting the results of all those tests. This process will take about 3 to 5 weeks.

We have always be required to use SCBA for fires, but not for overhaul. We just have had exhaust hoses installed in all are stations five plus years ago.

I was diagnosed with rectal cancer in 2008. As a result I had to retire in 2010. So far, 5 firefighters have had cancer that were at the same fire in the early 1980s. This fire had illegally stored asbestos involved. Of these 5, three have died.

Federal firefighters are not protected by presumptive cancer or cardiac laws afforded others.

I honestly can't recall when SCBA became required for overhaul, and I know that enforcement at incidents is "spotty". Personally, I am a fool, and tend to underplay the importance of resp. protection. So I am glad that there isn't always somebody buggin' me about when to be "on air".

During my career, especially during the early years nothing was being done about air quality on wildland fires. We go long periods of time in these environments and it has only been in the last few years that it seems any attention has been given to this issue.

As far as Cancer history, my father had kidney cancer and had one kidney removed.

My dad has prostate cancer, my father in law has colon cancer. I have numerous firefighter friends with cancer or who has died from cancer. Thanks for all you do to help firefighters avoid cancer and deal with cancer.

My specific type of Cancer is called Clivical Chordoma (bone/brain CA). In our department we have had 6 brain Cancers and 17 thyroid Cancers. Our incidence of thyroid Cancer is estimated to be 1:79. Many, many retirees have had been diagnosed with Cancer within % years of retirement.

I had skin cancer on my face.

Since I have been in the fire service it has been mandatory to wear a SCBA in an IDLH environment. (17 years) I have worked for several departments voluntary and career.

I have had non-melanotic skin cancers (a presumptive cancer) that are likely due as much to my off duty lifestyle as on duty exposure.

I've never been treated for smoke inhalation, but I'm sure I've had it to some degree. Perhaps you should ask how long a person has been on the job...was my cancer covered by the presumptive laws?

I do not have a disease right now. My dad was a firefighter and died of prostate cancer. I am 54 years old and have been a firefighter for over 27 years.

Retired January 2012 after 37 combined years of Volunteer, Part-Time, and Career Fire Service.

I had a 6 year old son diagnosed with medullablastoma. Of course I have no way of knowing how he got it, but I wonder whether my career had anything to do with it.

I am a retired firefighter. I have been retired for eleven years. The cancer was diagnosed October 2011 a number of years passed the presumptive legislation time period.

I have one of the 30 types of Non-Hodgkins lymphomas. Virginia State has presumptive legislation but does not cover non-Hodgkins lymphoma.

Only Cancer I have had was basil cell carcinoma. Back of neck and left shoulder. Neck was treated as work comp because of exposure to sun.

Work Comp is dealing with my case, been over ten years dealing with Work comp!!!! Still not settled, guess they are waiting for me to pass on.

Diagnosed with Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

Stage IV head and neck (throat) cancer, non-smoker

Worked at the WTC site, following the collapse of WTC1&2. There for the collapse of WTC #7.

Number 11 should have the option of NA for SCBA not strictly required during overhaul.

Seems that my department has had 1 death at a young age of a rare cancer and my cancer (Wldenstroms) is also of a rare type.

At age 56 I was diagnosis with Asthma and a lung capacity was 67%. It took a year of medications to get me up to 72%. I have been a live burn instructor for over 20 years and burned a lot of houses over the years. I know my breathing problem is work related and can recall several times getting into smoke that took my breath. I think the asthma is work related, occupational asthma.

My cancer was detected early. It resulted in my having a colon resection but no further treatment. It has been 10 years since the resection and subsequent Colonspasys have been fine (No reoccurrence.)

I was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 1989 and I was diagnosed with Stage IV head and neck cancer in 2011. I am currently not exhibiting any signs of cancer. I am 18 months post-treatment, radiation and chemo.

I have submitted a work cover claim to not only help myself but other firefighters. The claim was rejected in December 2012 and I have the option to appeal this decision within 3 months. I am currently gathering as much information on the effects of smoke vs the links with cancer as I can. If you have any researched findings or doctor statements would be much appreciated.