5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Risk Management: Let’s Break The Accident Chain

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Student:________________
Dept:___________________
Station:_________________
Training Code:___________

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CHALLENGE
Often we are quick to point out “human error” as the cause of an injury or accident. Rarely is there a simple explanation to the whole story. It is much more difficult and time consuming to get to the “root” cause of accidents and injuries. We can only stop accidents if we break the accident “chain” of events or behaviors that are the true causes of accidents.

DISCUSSION
• Do we have a practice of reporting and analyzing “near misses?”
• Is there a policy concerning the activity and was it violated? If so, was the violation common place or a “cultural drift” where practice and policy no longer coincide?
• Is there adequate training that is frequent enough to perfect behavior? If so, was it violated?
• Has the proper environment been established? Do our companies act as a professional team of firefighters or do they get a group-mind that promotes risk taking?
• Are all firefighters trained to make appropriate decisions and act as thinking professionals responding appropriately to the chain of command?
• Are firefighters empowered to provide input regarding safety?

The greatest asset of the fire service is our people; protect them.