



LADDERS

The recruit newsletter of the South Euclid Fire Department

Climbing to a career as a firefighter in the South Euclid Fire Department, one rung at a time.

Issue Five

Where's the Fire?

Have you ever been driving down the road and had a fire truck go by with lights and siren, and you wonder, where is the fire? If you are like me, you may wonder, what type of call are they going on? If I see smoke off in the distance, I start hoping the best for the victims and firefighters. Perhaps if we have time, we stop and watch their efforts.

Today, for the future firefighter, the sirens are sounding. There is smoke ahead. Openings for firefighters are picking up pace. Now is the time, are you ready?

- Are you scanning the papers and internet sites for job announcements?
- Do you have your application materials ready?
- Have you been keeping in good physical shape?
- Are you driving smart, fastening your seatbelts and staying safe?
- How about your reading? Spend just fifteen minutes a day reviewing fire materials and you will spend almost eight hours a month.
- This is your chosen career, how well do you know the current issues facing the fire service? How well do you know who the fire service leaders are.
- Have you practiced your interview techniques? How many times have you been interviewed? This is a skill to show your potential employer the real you. To show them that you will be a great worker and that you have the passion that will make you an asset for their community. If you have never been interviewed or only once or twice, it is important that you practice. Find someone to help you, it will make a difference.
- Don't forget about part time departments. They not only can provide you with experience, but are an excellent way to build your reputation and skills.
- Have you written out your plan? If you have put it where you will see it every day.
- When was the last time you spoke with someone about your career? A friend or mentor can be an invaluable help.

This is a great career. The competition is tough, but it is yours if you work hard and do the right things. It may not happen the first time you test or even the tenth time. Keep going, stay strong and work smart.

Happy Holidays to you and your family. Stay Safe.

Chief Huston