



# 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 Nine

**“The single most common denominator of men and women who achieve great things is a sense of destiny.” – Brian Tracy**

What is your destiny? Chances are if you are receiving this newsletter, you believe your destiny is to be a firefighter. If you achieve your goal of becoming a firefighter you will achieve great things. You will make a difference in people’s lives nearly every day you work.

Webster defines destiny as: *An event (or a course of events) that will inevitably happen in the future.* If you believe your destiny will happen in the future without effort on your part, then we have a problem. It is the *course of events* that you must control and manipulate. You must use your “*sense of destiny*” as your motivation to achieve your dream.

In each of us, our source of motivation differs. We need to find that force or trigger that makes us work in every way possible to achieve our objective. I have heard the motivational speeches of several great speakers and enjoyed each of them. Their words though only had a short term impact. What truly keeps each of us motivated differs. So what works for you? Find that trigger that drives you to reach your goals. This is not easy. One of my favorite quotes comes from Despair.com, “*If a pretty poster and a cute saying are all it takes to motivate you, you probably have a very easy job. The kind robots will be doing soon.* It takes a plan, and working on your plan each and every day. What have you done today, to get you closer to your goal?

Over the last sixteen years I have had the privilege of being part of the team that has hired sixteen firefighters. Each of these firefighters had a plan and worked hard to achieve their goal. None of these firefighters got hired because they had a destiny. Each of them were hired because they had; the skills to do the job, the passion to do the job and kept working at getting hired. This week another firefighting television show debuts and with it will come another group of people who suddenly want to be firefighters. They don’t stand much of a chance when up against people who have developed a career plan, taken every possible civil service test, practiced interview techniques, kept a clean driving record, found part-time firefighting work and kept up with their training.

Keep focused, work hard, smile and stay safe.

Rick Huston, Chief  
South Euclid Fire Department