



Session 3B Safeguarding Construction

A presentation through the eyes of the fire service on the requirements and enforcement of NFPA 241, Safeguarding Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Operations. These operations present an increased potential for fire due to the presence of large quantities of combustible materials and debris, as well as unusual ignition sources that may not be present following construction operations. Discussion will cover historic fires, the regulatory code path, gaps in the construction industry and real-life examples of some of the issues commonly found.



Lieutenant Christopher G. Towski
Fire Prevention Bureau Inspector
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Chris Towski is a Fire Lieutenant for the City of Cambridge Massachusetts Fire Department with over 22 years of service. For the last 10 years, Lieutenant Towski has served in the Fire Prevention Office, where his primary duties are to enforce State laws and codes related to Fire Prevention and Protection. He is also a Massachusetts Licensed Electrician and Construction Supervisor. He is certified in the fields of Emergency Medical Technician, Firefighter Levels I and II, Fire Officer Levels I and II, Fire Instructor Levels I and II, and Fire Incident Safety Officer. He has been his department's Electrical Safety Officer for almost 10 years.

Lieutenant Towski is a Technical Committee Member for the National Fire Protection Association standard number 241 for Safeguarding Buildings under Construction and Demolition, 18 for Wetting Agents, 18A for Water Additives for Fire Control and Vapor Mitigation, 1150 for Foam Chemicals for Class A Fires and 855 for Stationary Energy Storage Systems. In addition, he is currently the Second Vice President of the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts, a partner with the Construction Fire Safety Coalition, an AHJ member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers New England Chapter and the Automatic Fire Alarm Association of New England. He is also a member of the Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts. He has presented at the NFPA Conference in Boston in June 2017 and has been published in Firehouse Magazine (June 2017).

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