



Hey,

Some of you may have heard that several Firefighters in North Middletown, Monmouth County, New Jersey had been struck by lightning this evening, while operating at a working house fire. Initial reports were that several Firefighters were reported down at the scene of that working house fire. Reports are now that apparently the Firefighters are fine (1 Chief took a fall and 1 EMS member has minor injuries) and that no Firefighters were struck by lightning. Unfortunately, reports are that others including 1 civilian were struck at the scene and at least was a working code. We'll post relevant details tomorrow but the latest we have is that no Firefighters were struck and all are fine. If that changes, we'll advise.

### **VIRGINIA APPARATUS CRASH**

There was a crash today in Tazewell County (VA) involving fire apparatus just before 1730 hours. An Abb's Valley Volunteer FD apparatus appeared to have lost brake power on a hill as they returned from a call. The engine rolled over on it's side, trapping the driver and another firefighter inside the truck. The passenger was transported to a local hospital in Tazewell County, Va. but the driver was flown by helicopter to a hospital in Johnson City Tennessee. There's no word on the extent of injuries.

### **FF DOWN CPR/AED SAVE IN TENN.**

Last evening at approximately 19:00 hrs, a Dallas Bay FF (Hamilton County, TN) went down, in cardiac arrest. Companies were operating at the structure fire when he went down in sudden cardiac arrest, FF's immediately started CPR, and AED was used and he was converted. He was transported to local trauma center and the latest word (this evening) is that he was communicating with family and is listed as stable. Good stuff.

### **SEX CONTROVERSY IN RECENT TEXAS LODD:**

The family of a Firefighter who died in the Line of Duty is battling in court to keep the woman he married away from his assets. According to court records the Firefighter's wife is a man. Wharton (Texas) Fire Captain Thomas Araguz died in the Line of Duty July 4 of this year while operating at a working egg farm fire. His mother is now finishing what she says her son started, having the marriage between Thomas and Nikki declared legally void. "A certified copy of her birth certificate indicates she's a male and in Texas two men can't be married" says Frank Mann III. Mr. Mann is the attorney representing Thomas Araguz's 7 and 9-year-old sons from a previous marriage. In late April it was Mann who says he broke the news to Thomas Araguz that his wife was born a boy.

Mann presented the birth certificate and the request for a name change. The request was filed with the Harris County District Clerk's office in 1996. In the document Justin Graham Purdue asks to have his named changed to Nikki Paige Purdue and says he had been living as Nikki for some time. "(Nikki) admitted in an affidavit she was working toward getting a sex change operation and that she'd been living as a woman for over a year" says Mann. Friends say Thomas felt scammed, was devastated and immediately moved out. Two months later on July 4th, the Captain tragically died in the Line of Duty. It also appears that the fallen Firefighter's wife has quite a criminal record as both Justin and Nikki. Charges include everything from felony theft to DUI.

Details **HERE:** <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/7114026.html>

May he rest in peace.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 7-19-10 / 2308 Hours

[www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com](http://www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com)