



FEMA

R308

Dear National Fire Academy Student:

Congratulations on being selected to attend the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy's *Command and Control of Fire Department Operations at Natural and Man-Made Disasters* course.

This 2-week course is designed for fire officers who have the responsibility of commanding significant fire and rescue operations at catastrophic disasters. Some of the subjects covered in this course are: advanced applications in incident command; command and control; Incident Command System (ICS)/Emergency Operations Center interface; evacuation; sheltering; and communications. The course will apply these subject areas to catastrophic events involving hurricanes, blizzards, civil disturbances, terrorism, hazardous materials releases, tornadoes, and floods.

Due to the complexity of the command and control procedures required of this course, it is imperative that you have a solid foundation in ICS. On the first day of class, you will be evaluated regarding your competency in this area. We strongly suggest that, prior to attendance, you make every effort to be proficient in this area. In an effort to assist you in this goal the USFA has developed two-web-based, self study courses that are equivalent to ICS-100 and ICS-200 and meet NIMS requirements. Q462 (I-100) and Q463 (I-200) are both available on our web site through NFA Online at <http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov>

End-of-class graduation ceremonies are an important part of the course and you are expected to attend. Please do not make any travel arrangements to leave campus until after you and your classmates graduate.

Increasing numbers of students and instructors are bringing laptop computers to campus. You alone are responsible for the security and maintenance of your equipment. The Academy cannot provide you with computer software, hardware, or technical support to include disks, printers, scanners, etc. There is a limited number of 120 Volt AC outlets in the classrooms. A Student Computer Lab is located in Building D and is available for all students to use. It is open daily with technical support provided in the evenings. This lab uses Windows XP and Office 2003 as the software standard.

Should you need additional information related to course content or requirements, please feel free to contact Mr. Robert Bennett, Incident Policy and Analysis Curriculum Training Specialist at (301) 447-1483 or email at robertj.bennett@dhs.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denis Onieal".

Dr. Denis Onieal, Superintendent
National Fire Academy
U.S. Fire Administration