

DENNIS COMPTON – KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Presentation: Personal and Professional Leadership

Introduction Bio:

Chief Dennis Compton was the Fire Chief in Mesa, Arizona for 6 years and Assistant Fire Chief in Phoenix where he served for 28 years. He is Past Chairman of the Executive Board of the International Fire Service Training Association and Past Chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Council. He has most recently served as the Chairman of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Board of Directors, and Secretary of the International Public Safety Data Institute Board of Directors.

Dennis is a well-known speaker and the author of several books and articles. During his nearly 50 year career in the fire service, he has received many prestigious awards and recognitions. A few include the CFSI/Motorola Mason Lankford National Fire Service Leadership Award; the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association and the Arizona Fire Chiefs Association Lifetime Achievement Awards; the John Granito Award for Excellence in Fire Service Leadership and Management Research; and the IAFC James O. Page EMS Achievement Award. Dennis has been inducted into the National Fire Heritage center Hall of Legends, Legacies, and Leaders; the Firehouse Legends and Icons National Hall of Fame, and is a charter member of the Arizona Fire Service Hall of Fame.

Presentation Synopsis:

It is simply not possible for a fire department, nor any other organization, to consistently out-perform the individual and collective capabilities of their leaders. This session explores specific aspects of personal and professional leadership that directly impact the effectiveness of leaders, those they lead, and the overall performance outcomes of the organization. Leaders at every level of the fire service will benefit from this brief look at the past, a discussion about leadership development, and an overview of future issues. Attendees will be able to apply aspects of what they've learned as soon as they return to their organizations.

Learning Objectives:

- Review the focus of past fire service leaders and how it relates to the performance of current leaders.
- Discuss key leadership behaviors and skills that are critical to developing and maintaining a high level of personal and professional leadership.
- Identify important considerations for leadership development and specific areas that must be addressed by current and future fire service leaders.