

Media Advisory

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For Immediate Release

February 22, 2005

What: Fire Training

When: Wednesday, February 23, 2005, 10:00 AM till 4:00 PM

Where: 722 and 744 Naples, near the campus of UNLV

16 members of the current Rookie Academy and their training officers will participate in specialized firefighting training utilizing two structures donated by UNLV. Cadre members will ignite numerous small fires, one at a time that the rookies will observe, extinguish, and overhaul.

"This is a great opportunity for class members to gain experiences they will need to have prior to graduating", said cadre leader, Captain Jon Wiercinski. "Without the generous donation of these buildings by UNLV, we would not have the necessary resources to provide the specifics of this training."

Rookies will gain first hand knowledge of fire spread, proper techniques for extinguishment, and search techniques using thermal imager cameras. After each fire, they will be critiqued on their efforts, particularly for teamwork.

Fires will be set in 55-gallon drums so that fire damage to the structures will be minimal. Unlike real emergencies, these fires will most likely not be visible outside the structures.

Rookies and cadre members will be available for interviews.

NOTE: Thursday and Friday, rookies will expand their activities with rescue training that will involve finding and retrieving mannequins.