The Art of Reading Smoke

Through dynamic teaching and the use of fire-ground video, the South Carolina Fire Academy is offering a free half-day virtual workshop to assist fire department personnel with the skill of “reading smoke” for improved strategic and tactical decision making. Students will learn about the characteristics of smoke, such as volume, velocity, density, and color, and how those characteristics can be used to predict fire size, location, and behavior.

Often, smoke issuing from a building is the only clue available to predict fire behavior and the likelihood of a flashover or rapid fire spread. First-arriving members and officers must read smoke before choosing tactical priorities. All members must know how to rapidly read smoke in order to keep firefighters within an acceptable risk-profile.

Chief Dave Dodson (retired), a fire service author and lecturer, created the original version of this course and best-selling DVD. After teaching with Chief Phil Jose at FDIC, Dodson chose him as an adjunct instructor for the Reading Smoke curriculum.

**DATE:** Thurs., Nov. 10, 2022  
**TIME:** 1 – 5 p.m.  
**VIRTUAL EVENT:** Attendees will receive an agenda and access link prior to the event.  
**REGISTER:** 8688-23-w01 [https://fire.llr.sc.gov/Portal/Registration/registration.aspx?crsidnt=76414](https://fire.llr.sc.gov/Portal/Registration/registration.aspx?crsidnt=76414)

*Note:* Students who are pre-registered, and attend the workshop, receive SCFA transcript credit. If you are unable to attend the live event, it will be recorded and posted for viewing at your convenience. However, if viewing the recorded workshop, SCFA transcript credit is not available.

**ABOUT THE SPEAKER**

After 30 years of service, **Phillip Jose** retired as Deputy Chief of the Seattle Fire Department. He was named Seattle Fire Department Chief of the Year in 2014. He was also the Chief Officer Mayday Training Program Manager for four years and received the FDIC Tom Brennan Training Achievement Award.

He is the co-author of "Air Management for the Fire Service" Fire Engineering 2008, a chapter author of Fire Engineering Handbook for Firefighter 1 and 2 – SCBA, and the author of the Fire Engineering Bread and Butter Video Series – SCBA.

**Questions?** Please contact Amy Williamson.