

JOHN MARTIN BEST Ed.D
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EDUCATION:

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN

September 2020 -- Doctor of Education

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX, East Elwood Street, Phoenix, Arizona

October 1999 -- Master of Arts in Organizational
Management (MA) Graduated Cum Laude.

COLUMBIA UNION COLLEGE, Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland

May 1991 -- Bachelor of Science Degree in
Business Administration (BA)

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE, Mannakee Street, Rockville, Maryland

May 1977 -- Associate in Arts Degree in Fire
Science (AA)

August 1973 -- Fire Science Certificate

CAREER EXPERIENCE:

CONSULTANT, John M. Best & Associates, 1988 to present

Consultant services for:

- Public Safety Solutions, Chester, MD
- Carroll Buracker & Associates, Harrisonburg, VA,
- Emergency Services Consulting, Intl, Wilsonville, OR,
- International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the
- National Fire Protection Association

Completed more than 40 public safety agency analyses and
strategic plans nation-wide

Provided public safety services to local governments
involving fire/rescue service management, planning,
organization, code application and enforcement

Presented strategies in over fifteen major United States
cities for accomplishing legislation requiring residential
fire sprinklers

LECTURER (Adjunct Distinguished Lecturer; Three Terms) [Graduate
and Undergraduate] John Jay College of Criminal Justice,
Department of Security, Fire and Emergency Management
(formerly Protection Management), New York, NY, 2001 to
Present.

Regularly instruct (Illustrative):

- Emergency Management Planning and Response
- Emergency Management Mitigation and Recovery
- Technology in Emergency Management
- Risk Analysis Loss Prevention
- Business Continuity Planning
- Hazard Identification and Mitigation
- Risk Management
- Seminar in Fire Protection Problems
- Contemporary Fire Protection Issues
- Fire Investigation
- Fire Safety Administration
- Analysis of Building and Fire Codes
- Theory and Design of Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems
- Introduction to Fire Science

STAFF LIAISON/PROGRAM MANAGER, Montgomery County, MD, Fire and Rescue Service 2006 to 2012.

Serve as Customer Relations Ombudsman, fire code enforcement

Analyzed the County's fire investigation process, "360 Degree" fire investigations

Served as Staff Liaison to the Senior Citizen Fire Safety Task Force. This 25-person Task Force was established by Executive Order to address the significant increase in senior citizen fire fatalities in Montgomery County.

FIRE CHIEF, Emergency Services, *Walt Disney World*, Reedy Creek Improvement District, Lake Buena Vista, FL. 1995 to 2001.

Responsibilities: (Illustrative)

Administration, management, and fiscal control of the Reedy Creek Improvement District's Emergency Services Department including:

Authority Having Jurisdiction for the *EPCOT Fire Prevention Code*. (Florida State Fire Official)

Management and administration of 165 personnel and three stations with a \$17 million annual budget.

Emergency Management

Resolution of complex fire, rescue, emergency medical and related incidents.

Selected Accomplishments:

Instrumental in the formulation and implementation of the Department's five-year customer centered strategic plan.

Achieved Emergency Management/Homeland Security Awareness certification for more than 500 public safety personnel.

Improved and modernized Emergency Services fleet and facilities. This included the implementation of a full time fleet maintenance section.

Enhanced employee career development and education.

Reorganized the Department's organizational structure to achieve improved efficiency and effectiveness.

Initiated pre-emergency plans for all structures in the District.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE INSTRUCTOR, (part time) Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland, Fire Science
1993 to 1995.

Served in all merit ranks of the Montgomery County, Maryland, Department of Fire and Rescue Services as outlined below:

DEPUTY FIRE RESCUE CHIEF

A. Bureau Chief - Bureau of Management Services
February 1990 to June 30, 1994.

Responsibilities: (Illustrative)

Administration, management, and fiscal control of the Department's:

Training Division
Communications Division
Budget Section
Personnel Section
Procurement Section

Represent the Department, as required, to the County Executive, County Council, and other agencies.

Consolidated the annual budget submittals (\$70 million) of the Fire Rescue Commission, Fire Rescue Corporations, and the Department into a single budget submittal.

Administered four career Firefighter/Rescuer Recruit Classes.

Consolidated and streamlined the Department's policy formulation and update process as chairman of the Policy Formulation Committee.

Reorganized the Department's process for reviewing candidates for promotion to all uniformed ranks as chairman of the Department's Promotion Board.

Organized the Department's discipline process for significant infractions or those requiring progressive attention to insure consistent, equitable treatment within established mandates.

Administered promotional examinations and assessment centers through the County's Personnel Office for the ranks of Fire Rescue Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief and Deputy Chief. This included the formulation of the examinations.

Initiated the revision of the Montgomery County Communications Manual for the Montgomery County Fire Rescue Commission. This document governs the receipt, dispatch of incidents, radio and telephone procedures, radio frequency discipline and all matters relating to fire rescue communications for the County.

Provided oversight to upgrades to Enhanced 911 and radio frequency trunking for the Department.

Initiated plan to update training curricula to be commensurate with NFPA Standards.

Serve as Director of the Department in his absence.

Second in command of a 950-person department.

Resolve complex fire, rescue and medical emergencies as required.

B. Bureau Chief -- Bureau of Fire Prevention
January 1988 to February 1990

Responsibilities: (Illustrative)

Administration, management, and fiscal control of the Department's:

Code Enforcement Division
Fire Investigation Division
Internal Affairs Section

Represent the Director as the Authority Having Jurisdiction for the administration, application, and enforcement of the Montgomery County Fire Safety Code.

Represent the Director for the administration, application, and enforcement of the State of Maryland Fire Prevention Code in Montgomery County.

Represent the Department, as required, to the County Executive, County Council, and other agencies.

Serve as Director of the Department in his absence.

Resolve complex fire, rescue and medical emergencies as required.

Selected Accomplishments:

Instrumental in implementing the legislative reorganization of the County's fire rescue organization whereby employees of 18 independent fire rescue corporations transferred to County employment. This resulted in our County Department enlarging from 80 employees to approximately 900 in one day including all of the associated personnel, administration, management, and fiscal tasks.

Developed the *Fire Safety Code Enforcement Guidelines* manual as a reference to standardize the in-service fire inspection program Countywide.

Initiated training for all officers of the Department in the policies and procedures for conducting in-service fire inspections Countywide. The *Fire Safety Code Enforcement Guidelines* manual was the reference for this training. Volunteer officer personnel from the independent fire rescue corporations also participated in this program.

Achieved Montgomery County Council approval of Executive Regulation Legislation adopting amendments to the *Fire Safety Code* and its referenced standards.

Organized and implemented the Department's Internal Affairs program.

ASSISTANT FIRE RESCUE CHIEF (Chief Fire Marshal)
November 1983 to January 1988.

Responsibilities: (Illustrative)
Administration, management, and fiscal control of the Department's:

Fire Safety Education Section
Fire Investigation Section
Engineering/Plans Review Section
Fire Safety Code Enforcement Section.

Represent the Director as the Authority Having Jurisdiction for the administration, application, and enforcement of the Montgomery County Fire Safety Code.

Represent the Director for the administration, application, and enforcement of the State of Maryland Fire Prevention Code in Montgomery County.

Represent the Department, as required, to the County Executive, County Council, and other agencies.

Serve as Director of the Department in his absence.

Resolve complex fire, rescue and medical emergencies as required.

Selected Accomplishments:

Instrumental in the rewrite of the *Montgomery County Fire Safety Code* as chairman of the Montgomery County Fire Safety Code Committee.

Instrumental in achieving legislation to mandate the installation of residential fire sprinklers in new residential properties in Montgomery County, MD.

Established the Montgomery County Fire Safety Code Exception Review Committee to hear exception and equivalence proposals to the Code in lieu of literal compliance.

Established the program, in partnership with owners, to retroactively install approved fire sprinkler systems in 42 existing "high-rise" commercial buildings in Montgomery County, Md.

Instrumental in the implementation of the more than 60 recommendations of the Montgomery County Arson Task Force. This task force was comprised of representatives of all aspects of the community who analyzed the "fire problem" in the County in the areas of fire safety education, prosecution, juvenile arson intervention, fire law enforcement, data collection, resource allocation and other aspects, making recommendations to reduce the County's fire problem.

Negotiated with the State of Maryland to become the first fire agency to have access to criminal databases. and an FBI access code.

FIRE RESCUE CAPTAIN

A. Assistant Fire Marshal

September 1981 to November 1983

Responsibilities:

Planned, directed, and coordinated the activities of the Department's:

Fire Investigation Section
Fire Safety Code Enforcement Section
Engineering/Plans Review Section

Resolved complex fire, rescue and medical emergencies as required.

Selected Accomplishments:

Represented the Division of Fire Prevention on the Montgomery County, MD., Arson Task Force.

Reorganized the Fire Investigation Section to be more efficient with and responsive to case loads.

Reorganized the Code Enforcement, Engineering/Plans Review Section into two entities to address workloads more efficiently.

B. Shift Commander

December 1978 to September 1981

Senior Career Officer to forty career, fire/rescue personnel and an independent, volunteer, fire rescue corporation. Managed the daily operation of the combination department operationally and administratively, including budget preparation and personnel management.

FIRE RESCUE LIEUTENANT

April 1975 to December 1978.

Completed "special projects" as required by the Director.

Coordinated media relations with the Department.

Coordinated the Insurance Services Office (ISO) grading of Montgomery County, Md.

Researched, compiled, and developed draft material for the Department's Career Development Program.

Compiled the Department's annual report.

Coordinated visits by international, national, state and local fire, and other officials to the County.

Management of all aspects of a fire rescue station facility and personnel.

Supervised the resolution of fire, rescue, and medical emergencies.

FIRE/RESCUE SERGEANT 1971 to 1975. Appointed to Department 1966.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER/RESCUER, Silver Spring, MD, Volunteer Fire Department. 1964 to present.

OVERVIEW OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

2022	Inducted into the Hall of Legends, Legacies & Leaders. National Fire Heritage Center, Emmitsburg, MD
2021	Graduate Student Writing Coach, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, NY
2020	Doctor of Education (Ed.D) American College of Education
2017	President, Exchange Club of Antietam, MD

2017 Certified Tutor, Washington County, MD Literacy Council

2014 "Top Online Professor for New England," Firescience.org

2013 Certificate of Completion, National Fire Academy, "Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist."

2012 Certificate of Completion, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, "Preparation for Teaching Online: A Foundational Workshop for CUNY Faculty."

2011 Certified, University of Maryland, University College proprietary WebTycho, online teaching software

2010 Fire Safety Code Customer Advocate for Montgomery County, MD

2009 Co-Author, *Fire Engineering's Handbook for Firefighter I and II*, PennWell Corporation, 2009.

2008 Served as staff liaison and facilitated the formulation of the final report of the Senior Citizen Fire Safety Task Force: *Seniors at Risk: Creating a Culture of Fire Safety*, for the Montgomery County, MD County Executive.

2007 Certificate of Completion, Montgomery County, MD, "Information Security Awareness and Training Program."

2006 Certificate of Completion, Montgomery County, MD, "Enhancing Staff and Chair Working Relationships for Boards, Committees and Commissions."

2006 Certificate of Completion, Montgomery County, MD, "How to Run Effective Meetings for Boards, Committees and Commissions."

2005 Speaker, Graduate Lecture Series, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY

2005 Faculty, Florida Fire Prevention Officer's Conference, Florida Fire Chiefs' Association

2000 Author of the Foreword to textbook *Fire Service Tactics and Strategies*, written by Angle, Gala, Harlow and Maciuba. Delmar Publishers, 2000.

2000 Faculty, Fire Rescue East 2000 Conference, Florida Fire Chiefs Association, Jacksonville, FL.

1999 Faculty, Spring Fire Seminar, Utah Fire and Rescue Academy, Park City, Utah.

1999 Appointed by the President of the United States: Commissioner to the *America Burning - Re-Commissioned* Project.

1999 Graduate, Leadership Pathways to Excellence Seminar, Walt Disney World, Florida.

- 1999 Representative, State of Florida, Terrorism Summit, Department of Community Affairs.
- 1998 Appointed, Technical Committee on Fire Service Training, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).
- 1997 Appointed to the Orange County, FL. Public Schools Task Force to identify and prioritize life safety issues in schools.
- 1997 Appointed Chairperson, Communication and Technology Committee, Florida Fire Chief's Association.
- 1996 Certificate of Attendance, Accreditation Self-Assessment Workshop, IAFC.
- 1996 Appointed to the Valencia Community College, Florida, Fire Science Advisory Board.
- 1996 Appointed to the Editorial Review Board, International Society of Fire Service Instructors.
- 1995 Keynote Speaker, Florida Fire Marshal's Association, Gainesville, FL.
- 1994 Selected by the Montgomery County Executive to participate in his "Team Excellence" program where upper management personnel formulated a total quality management, empowerment philosophy for County employees.
- 1992 -- 1993 Appointed by Governor Schaefer to the Task Force on Uniform Maryland Building Performance Standards. Represented the Maryland Fire Service to determine a minimum state building code.
- 1993 Certified as an instructor for the Zig Ziglar *See You at the Top* motivational, total quality management training in Dallas, Texas.
- 1992 Faculty, *Overcoming Barriers to Code Enforcement* New Hampshire Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators.
- 1992 Consulting editor for publication, *Strategies for Residential Sprinklers; A Checklist for Community Action*, Operation Life Safety, International Association of Fire Chiefs.
- 1988 -- 1992 Consultant to Operation Life Safety, International Association of Fire Chiefs, Residential Fire Sprinkler Seminars. Presentations made in over fifteen major United States cities on strategies for accomplishing legislation requiring residential fire sprinklers.
- 1988 -- 1991 Faculty, Company Officer Development Residency Program, International Association of Fire Service

- Instructors, Ashland, Massachusetts. Quarterly presentations.
- 1989 Faculty, Fire Department Instructor's Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 1988 Consultant to the National Fire Protection Association --Residential Fire Sprinkler Seminar Program.
- 1988 Author, *Managing Support Systems -- Coordinating Inspection Programs*, International Society of Fire Service Instructors, Ashland, Massachusetts.
- 1988 Faculty, Electro-Protection Central Station Alarm Association Conference, Kauai, Hawaii.
- 1987 Faculty, International Association of Fire Chiefs Conference, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 1987 Faculty, Fire Department Instructor's Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 1981 Faculty, *Parascope 81, Promoting EMS in the Fire Service*, Montgomery County, Maryland.
- 1981 Appointed Special State Deputy Fire Marshal
- 1980 Instructor, Montgomery County, Maryland Budget Preparation Course.

SELECTED COMMENDATIONS:

- 2022 Inducted into the Hall of Legends, Legacies & Leaders. National Fire Heritage Center. Emmitsburg, MD
- 2012 Certificate of Appreciation from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for dedication to the 2012 Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program
- 2008 Certificate of Appreciation from Montgomery County, MD, County Executive Isiah Leggett for dedicated service to Montgomery County and the Senior Citizen Fire Safety Task Force.
- 2008 Letter of Appreciation from Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley for service as Chief Election Judge, Washington County, MD.
- 2007 Letter of Commendation from Irwin Goldbloom, Chairperson of the Montgomery County, MD, Commission on Aging for the outstanding presentation of the Senior Citizen Fire Safety Task Force accomplishments and recommendations.
- 2001 Central Florida Fire Chiefs Association's *Thomas L. Siegfried Leadership Award*. Third Recipient.

- 1994 Governor's Citation for 25 years service to the Silver Spring, MD. Volunteer Fire Department.
- 1994 Governor's Citation for 32 years of outstanding service to the Montgomery County, MD, Department of Fire and Rescue Services.
- 1992 Governor's Citation for impressive commitment to the people of Maryland as demonstrated by your dedication to the Uniformed Maryland Building Performance Standards Task Force.
- 1992 Fire Officer of the Year, National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, Scottsdale, Arizona.
- 1991 Commendation from Montgomery County, MD., for the rescue and CPR revival of teenage boy from a drowning accident.
- 1990 Commendation by the International Association of Fire Chiefs, Operation Life Safety, for Dedication and Commitment to Life Safety.
- 1989 Commendation from Dr. Harry Pitt, Superintendent of Montgomery County, Md. Schools for development and implementation a new occupancy process for opening new, life safe schools.
- 1988 Letter of appreciation from Montgomery County Executive Sidney Kramer for leadership shown in accomplishing the legislated transition process where the 900 employees of the County's independent fire rescue corporations became County employees.
- 1988 Letter of appreciation from Montgomery County Executive Sidney Kramer for accomplishments of the Montgomery County Residential Fire Sprinkler Task Force.
- 1987 Letter of commendation from the Montgomery County Fire Rescue Commission for accomplishments on the Fire Rescue Service Classification and Compensation Plan Task Force.
- 1986 Letter of commendation from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the fire protection presentations at the National Fire Academy.
- 1986 Letter of commendation from the Fire Marshal's Association of North America for achievements in fire sprinkler legislation.

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS:

Silver Spring, MD. Volunteer Fire Department (Life Member)
 National Fire Protection Association
 Fire Marshal's Association of North America

International Society of Fire Service Instructors
International Association of Fire Chiefs
Florida Fire Chief's Association
National Society of Executive Fire Officers
President, Exchange Club of Antietam, MD (2017-2018)
Otterbein United Methodist Church, Hagerstown, MD

SELECTED CERTIFICATIONS:

Zig Ziglar's, See You At The Top, Train-the-Trainer
Fire Protection Expert -- District Court of Maryland
Executive Development II -- National Fire Academy
Emergency Medical Technician - Maryland
Hazardous Materials -- Montgomery County, MD
Officership -- Montgomery County, MD
Firefighter III -- N. F. P. A.
Florida Fire Official, Certificate of Compliance #89168
Chief Judge - Washington County, MD Board of Elections
Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist, NFA
Certified Tutor - Washington County, MD Literacy Council