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July 26, 2007

Kirk Junk, Board Member
Randy Carpenter Memorial Foundation
PO Box 921
Baker City, Oregon 97814-0921

Dear Mr. Junk:

I wish to thank the Randy Carpenter Foundation for their generous support and funding for the truck company operations class held July 10 and 11, 2007. Lieutenant Michael Wilbur's class was extremely well presented, and his mastery of the subject and his passion for the fire service were all clearly evident. I have received multiple comments during and after the class about how important his training was to firefighter safety in Oregon. Long discussions were held among the students about how this training will be taken back to each of their individual departments to help improve their truck company tactics and operations.

The class had 34 attendees, representing fire departments from Corvallis, Albany, Cornelius, Lebanon, Eugene, McMinnville, Hasley-Shedd, Springfield, Stayton, Millington, Dallas, Hood River, and Baker City. On the second day we had the opportunity to do hands on truck operations on various buildings in downtown Albany, which attracted quite a few spectators. It is not often that you see that many ladder trucks from that many fire departments in one location. I have enclosed pictures of the training for you to review.

The Randy Carpenter Foundation was born of a tragedy that occurred almost five years ago, but we will not forget, and we will try to learn from this hard lesson. The Randy Carpenter Foundation made this training possible – without the support of the Foundation we would not have been able to provide it.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. My phone number is (541) 619-6192, and my email address is mkinkade@lebanonfire.com. Again, thank you very much for your assistance in making this class possible.

Sincerely,

Michael Kinkade
Division Chief, Lebanon Fire District
Vice President, Linn-Benton Fire Training Council