



California Association of Professional Firefighters

A Non-Profit Mutual Benefit Association
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To: All CAPF Directors
From: Rick Floyd - CAPF Plan Administrators
Subject: PSR® Introduction

I want to take this opportunity to introduce Professional Safeguard Response® (PSR®) to each of you. PSR® is a specialized career training process specifically designed for public safety fire fighters.

In early 1998 CAPF and PSR® developed a “strategic alliance” in an effort to (1) reduce the number of back and other musculoskeletal and connective tissue injuries, (2) to minimize their financial and physical impact,, and (3) to prevent the injury altogether. As you may be aware, many such injuries have resulted in lengthy workers’ compensation court battles and often times the fire fighter has been forced into early retirement which caused him to become financially devastated.

This strategic alliance was developed in the spirit of cooperation and excellence and in a proactive approach to loss containment for the CAPF LTD and LTC funds. CAPF and PSR have clearly observed a substantial reduction in the enormous impact of a typical lumbar back injury both financially to the employer and personally to the firefighters.

In two such CAPF departments, San Jose and San Leandro, where PSR® Training was implemented, a clear and identifiable reduction in both injury occurrence (claims files) and CAPF claim dollars paid resulted within one year after the PSR® training was completed.

The cities of Sunnyvale and San Jose experienced significant reductions in lost city revenue that resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars becoming available for future collective bargaining negotiations.

The PSR® training can be a “win-win situation” for the employer, the employee and the CAPF Plan. It is one of the few safety issues that all parties should “get on board” together. It is of paramount importance that the employer’s most valuable asset, the healthy employee, has every advantage made available to him to remain that way.