Fighting Fires with FACTS

Preventing Goals

Reasons for Non Reporting

Negative Results
Reporting software is too expensive.

I'm a volunteer, you can't expect me to...
I'm a volunteer, you can't expect me to run calls AND do paperwork.
I'm a volunteer, you can run calls AND do paperwork.

We are a small department so our information does not matter.
Our department does not have a computer.
The previous Fire Chief left and took the computer, software, and information.
We did not realize no one from our department was reporting.
No reason to report if no one ever uses our reports at the state or federal level.
There are too many codes.
There are not specific enough code.
We do not want our report to be used in court.
We do not want to be hauled into court to defend our cause determination.
Paper forms are easier.
State Fire Marshal Office does not have useable fire data to respond to media and legislative requests for information.
Feasible vs Whining

Feasible:
* Software is too expensive
* No department computer
* High turnover of staff; ongoing training needs
* Black hole
* Lack of statewide data

Whining:
* I'm a volunteer, we shouldn't be required to report
* We're a "small" department
* Too many/too few of codes available
* We do not want our reports to be used in any legal matters
* Paper forms are easier
Solution

Purchase a statewide, user friendly, web based software for departments to use free of charge as a single department database for NFIRS reports, staff information, training records, inspections, and annual reporting.
Requested help from fire organizations and individual firefighters to receive one time funding from state general fund.

"Saving Money" by purchasing statewide fire department database system.

Data Opportunities Missed
Funding

One time funding of $235,000 for purchase of Iowa Rescue Bridge; $34,000 Annually for Support/Maintenance

Live Date of 7/1/2011
Training
Benefits

- 32% to 76% of departments reporting in 3 years
- 140,000 to over 180,000 incidents reports received
- Now 96% of Iowa's population is covered by a reporting dept

USABLE DATA!!!!!!
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