

2012 Injury Update

I wanted to take a minute and provide everyone with an update on injury reporting and changes we are making both in the system and here at the commission.

For the last 6 months I have had an opportunity to speak with and meet quite a few of you. In getting to know everyone, you have been able to provide me constructive feedback on issues regarding the injury reporting system. We have also had a couple of informal user groups meet to get more in-depth information from the user community. We have been able to identify some areas to which we can make changes and quite a few that are on the list for when the injury reporting system is revised. We will continue to take your feedback and address your concerns.

Here are the changes we are making to the system effective January 1, 2012:

1. Adding **EMS** as an Activity. We want to be able to see how many injuries are happening on EMS calls. We can tell by the narrative's these are occurring, but want to be able to break this information out in order to get a better handle on it.
2. Adding **Student** as an Employee Status in order to accommodate the training facilities, colleges as well as those departments that handle academies.
3. Adding the following to Work Assignment after injury –
 - a. Deceased,
 - b. Retired,
 - c. No longer with department,
 - d. Medically Separated (see FAQ for definition),
 - e. Change of duty (permanent change)
 - f. Modified / Light Duty (temporary change – previously restricted duty)
4. Adding Injury of **Exposure Body Fluids**. This is another area where we see quite a bit of activity. See FAQ's for definition.
5. We are not closing the injury reports until 10 calendar days have passed from the date of entry to help address the issue of an injury going from minor to serious.

As requested we will be collecting information on multiple injuries to a single individual so we can better track those issues. What we need from you is the following:

1. Input into FIDO the most severe injury. Select the injury information from the drop downs in FIDO. Then in the narrative, include the specific body part and symptom from the NFIRS list (included here and in the FAQ's) we can track more specifically the injury information and collect additional injuries as necessary (see example).
2. For SOP's, identify which TCFP state regulated SOP has not been complied with. Once again this is for tracking purposes to see if we need to address additional training needs. See FAQ's for SOP list.

The FAQ's have been updated to reflect the above mentioned changes as well as others. Please take a few minutes to review these.

No injuries to report? I still need to hear from you at least quarterly (March, June, September and December). Feel free to notify me via email that your department has not sustained any injuries during the quarter.

There was a large list of requests for change that we looked into but we either feel we cannot change at this point or are system structure/wording changes that will be addressed when the injury reporting system is revised. Here are a few of the more prominent requests:

1. In the “Was failure to comply with TCFP mandated SOP’s a contributing factor to the injury?” A request was made to include “**OR department SOP’s**”, we cannot enforce department SOP’s, so this will remain the same.
2. Burns will remain the same in the current system. We will be collecting the type of burn in the narrative and track for the supplemental data collection. Burn types will match NFIRS (Burns-thermal, Burns-Scald, Burns-Chemical, Burns-Electric)
3. No Changes to:
 - a. PPE Malfunction/failure in order to open an inquiry,
 - b. Was PPE being worn
 - c. Was injured FF treated at scene and Was FF transported to hospital
 - d. No exports of data
 - e. Injury reporting will be moved into its own section when the re-write is completed

Any reports you are interested in seeing please let me know what you want and I will produce what I can.

Continue to view the [Avoid Injury!](#) blog for updated injury report numbers and library information.

Any additional help or information needed please let me know.

Be Safe

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Example on how commission is recording injuries and multiple injuries

<i>FIDO Injury</i>	<i>Primary Body Part NFIRS</i>	<i>Primary Injury / Symptom NFIRS</i>	<i>Exposed to (if applicable)</i>	<i>Secondary Body Part NFIRS</i>	<i>Secondary Injury/ Symptom NRIS</i>
Strain-sprain – Back – Neck – Minor	Back	Strain or sprain		Neck	Strain or sprain
Exposure Blood Pathogens – Multiple/other – Minor	Multiple Body Parts – whole body	None	Blood		