
ROBERT AVSEC

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Owner at RPA Professional Services

Summary

I completed my "1st Career" in the fire service following a 26-year career with the Chesterfield County (Va.) Fire and EMS Department where I retired as a battalion chief.

In my "2nd Career" as a freelance writer and management consultant, I continue to be passionate about how we can make improvements in Fire and EMS organizations, and in the communities that we serve, to deliver great services to both internal and external customers.

To that end, I write and publish in a variety of "places" in cyberspace including my own weekly blog and for the Lexipol Digital Group of websites that include FireRescue1.com, EMS1.com where I'm a monthly contributing author.

I also create online learning content for Lexipol's FireRescue1 Academy that provides online training for firefighters and fire officers, from entry-level training through fire service executive training.

I also provide management consulting service to clients in public safety as well as private sector companies that work closely with public safety agencies.

Work experience

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| 2012 - Present | <p>Freelance Writer</p> <p><i>RPA Professional Services</i></p> <p>Create content for clients to use in their content marketing strategy. Current and past clients include FireRescue1.com, EMS1.com, Action Training Systems, and Base Camp Connect.</p> <p>Also have created content for the Praetorian Digital Group's FireRescue1 Academy and its Fire Officer and Firefighter Level I and II curricula.</p> |
| 2009 - 2010 | <p>Staff Instructor and Course Developer</p> <p><i>Georgia Fire Academy</i></p> <p>Delivered firefighter and fire officer training at the Georgia Fire Academy on the campus of the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, Georgia.</p> <p>Course development work to produce a Chief Fire Officer III curriculum for fire officers in the state of Georgia.</p> |
| 1992 - 2005 | <p>Contract Instructor</p> <p><i>National Fire Academy</i></p> <p>Delivered two-day NFA courses to firefighters and fire officers, both on-campus at NFA and during NFA's Direct Delivery Program to fire departments at locations across the USA.</p> |
| 1983 - 2007 | <p>Adjunct Instructor</p> <p><i>Virginia Department of Fire Programs</i></p> |

Served as adjunct instructor delivering firefighter and hazardous materials training to career and volunteer fire departments across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

1982 - 2007

Battalion Chief

Chesterfield County (VA) Fire and EMS Department

Middle Manager responsible for leading, guiding, and directing people in pursuit of the mission-- delivery of high quality emergency services--for a public sector Fire and EMS department serving a full-time population of 310,000 residents. Assignments during career included: command in the Emergency Operations Division; Director of Training and Safety Division; Director of Emergency Communications Center; and Director of EMS Division.

January 2012 -
December 2016

President and CEO

Prevention Connection International ~ Training, Teaching Tools & Technology

There are many "silos" in the world of fire and injury prevention for communities. Fire, police, EMS, hospitals, Safe Kids coalitions, etc., all usually have some sort of programs devoted to keeping children safe from preventable injuries. And they all have the same "target audience" (kids and their parents) and mission (keeping kids safe), but there's usually not much interconnection between agencies and resources.

Prevention Connection's mission is to help communities "break down" those silos with our Community Involvement Strategy. Nowhere else in North America is there such a growing network of capable and willing professionals with a shared passion and desire to help improve community safety education initiatives. There really is no need to keep recreating the wheel when you have a Resource Source like Prevention Connection!

Jan 2013 - Present

Chief Content Creator

Fire & EMS Leader Pro

I started writing and posting on my blog, Talking "Shop" 4 Fire and EMS, to put some meaning to the concept of sharing organizational knowledge, the unique organizational knowledge that every officer in the Fire and EMS world possesses.

My mission is to use my blog, along with various social media platforms, e.g., Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn, as a "point of connection" for each of us to share our collective wisdom with each other and the future leaders of Fire and EMS.

Feb 2012 - Present

Freelance Writer & Social Media Communicator

RPA Professional Services

I'm a freelance writer who creates on-line content for fire and emergency services publications and websites. I'm also the Owner, Editor and Chief Correspondent for my blog, Talking "Shop" 4 Fire and EMS, on WordPress. Lastly, I consider myself to be an "emerging" subject matter expert in the application of social media for personal and professional growth.

Education

1997 - 2001

Executive Fire Officer Program

National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, Maryland

The Executive Fire Officer (EFO) Program is the flagship program of the National Fire Academy (NFA). It provides senior fire officers with a broad perspective on various facets of fire and emergency medical services (EMS) administration. The courses and accompanying research examine how to exercise leadership when dealing with difficult or unique problems within communities.

2003 - 2005

Masters Executive Fire Service Leadership

Grand Canyon University

The Master of Science in Executive Fire Service Leadership (Now entitled MS Leadership: Homeland Security and Emergency Management) focuses on the role of leadership and the immediate application of ethical and practical leadership skills. This master's degree in leadership also focuses on disaster preparation, crisis management and alleviating environmental issues. Graduates of this degree will be

armed with the necessary skills to become adept leaders, able to organize and mobilize forces for good.

Training & Certifications

NFPA Fire Officer IV Certificate

NFPA Fire Instructor II Certificate

NFPA Firefighter III Certificate

NFPA Hazardous Materials Specialist Certificate