

**Miller, Diane M. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)**

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**To:** NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)  
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**Subject:** 141 - FFUS Comments

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**Comments**

After reviewing the NIOSH draft for "Preventing Death and Injuries When Fighting Fires In Unoccupied Structures" I have a few comments to make. As an active professional fire fighter I respect and appreciate the effort the authors are making to prevent death and injury to fire fighters, however, making comments that indicate we would no longer make interior attacks on unoccupied structures is in complete contradiction to the mission of most fire departments. We are sworn to protect life and PROPERTY, that is what we do each and every day. Please remember that a burnig home with a family that has been evacuated is an "unoccupied structure", but that "unoccupied structure" is filled witt that families belongings and memories. In many neighborhoods, the belongings are just as irreplaceble as the memories due to financial constraint. Also please consider that any structure housing a business would also be considered an unoccupied structure after hours. I am quite certain that most tax paying business owners would be quite disappointed if the fire department they support would not make every effort to protect the equipment and property of their business.

In order to be more constructive, please consider changing the statements to reflect only 'unoccupied and VACANT structures'.

Again I appreciate and whole heartedly respect the intent of the authors, but such a policy would effectively tie the hands of fire departments and make it very difficult to fulfill our mission and sworn vow to protect both LIFE and PROPERTY.

Respectfully,

Christopher A. Moore  
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