

First Responder Lithium-Ion Battery Awareness Symposium

Fire Fighting strategies for Lithium-Ion battery related incidents.

The increasing installation of solar panels and battery storage systems in communities across the world has significantly impacted firefighting operations. Traditional strategies and tactics must evolve to address the unique hazards presented by this rapidly expanding technology.

This course provides firefighters with the updated training necessary to safely and effectively mitigate incidents involving:

- Scooters and e-bikes
- Electric vehicles (EVs)
- Large-scale battery energy storage systems (BESS)
- Solar panel farms
- Residential and commercial structure fires involving photo voltaic (PV) systems and energy storage systems (ESS)

This is event is FREE of charge. Participation from all companies and management is encouraged. Please utilize the approved QR code to RSVP. RSVP by: 3/2/2026



Event Details:

- Tuesday, March 24th 2026
- The Venue at Thunder Valley Casino, 1200 Athens Ave. Lincoln CA 95648
- 0800-1200 / 1300-1700
(4 hrs. morning • 4 hrs. afternoon session)
- Instructor, Capt. Richard Brit



Captain Richard Birt
retired from Las Vegas
Fire & Rescue in 2021

About The Instructor:

With a distinguished 30-year career in the fire service, Captain Birt is a longtime advocate for renewable energy. He founded Solar and Fire Education (S.A.F.E.), a program that provides free training to firefighters around the world.

His teachings include safe mitigation with structure fires involving photovoltaic (PV) systems, energy storage systems (ESS), while demonstrating the resilience of renewable energy to communities during power outages caused by natural disasters.

Following Hurricane Maria, Captain Birt led a disaster relief effort in Puerto Rico that resulted in the installation of 19 microgrids at strategically placed fire stations across the island. These systems allowed emergency services to remain operational even after the collapse of the electrical grid, helping save countless lives.

Captain Birt was awarded the Medal of Honor by his fire department. He continues global disaster relief efforts as a technical advisor for the non-profits The Footprint Project and Empowered by Light.

Richard is a leader in global studies and advancements related to lithium-ion battery technology. He brings a wealth of knowledge as a subject matter expert in the field of lithium-ion batteries.