AFESA Ethics Committee Spotlight / *VICE CHAIR*

LEONARD CHAN — *Management Analyst IV, Houston Fire Department*

I have been in the fire service since 2012 with over the past seven years with Houston Fire Department. Along with supporting data analysis functions, my portfolio includes responsibilities related to accreditation, strategic planning, emergency management planning, and government affairs.

I hope my legacy in the fire and emergency services is helping bring fire service data into the classrooms of higher education. Through collaboration with local universities, students have directly worked with our real-world data as they build their technical skills. Their work has demonstrated that the fire service has barely grazed the surface of what is possible in analyzing the data that we routinely collect.

My philosophy of fire and emergency services data is that every piece of data including fire inspection, apparatus maintenance, training, and emergency response records has a story behind it. Fire analysts should not just crunch the numbers but understand the how and why behind the numbers. Technology cannot displace the humans needed to make the necessary decisions that have ethical implications.

AFESA will help spread ideas how the vast amounts of data in the fire service can be meaningful and actionable to improve the livelihoods of our communities.

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