

# REDUCING CANCER RISK AMONG FIREFIGHTERS

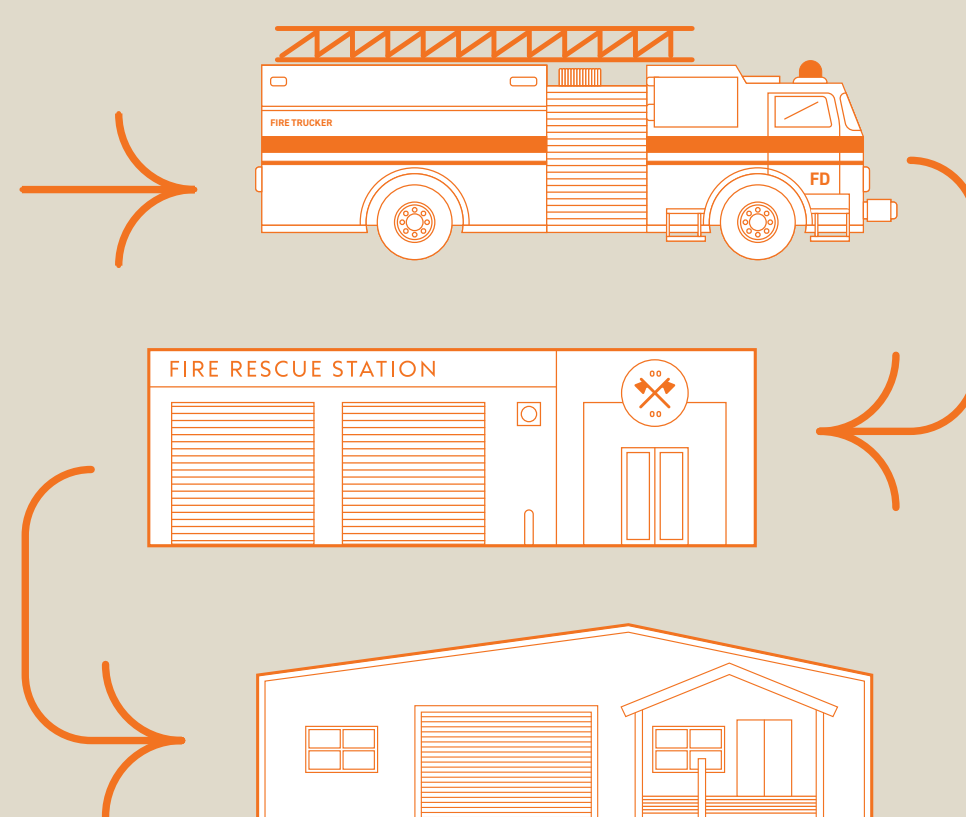
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center launched the **Firefighter Cancer Initiative (FCI)** in 2015 to protect firefighters from unseen risks that cause cancer.



## CLOSE TO DANGER

Smoke contains cancer-causing agents, including benzene, asbestos and arsenic. Firetrucks emit diesel exhaust. Even protective gear and foam fire suppressant contain PFAS, commonly referred to as "forever chemicals."

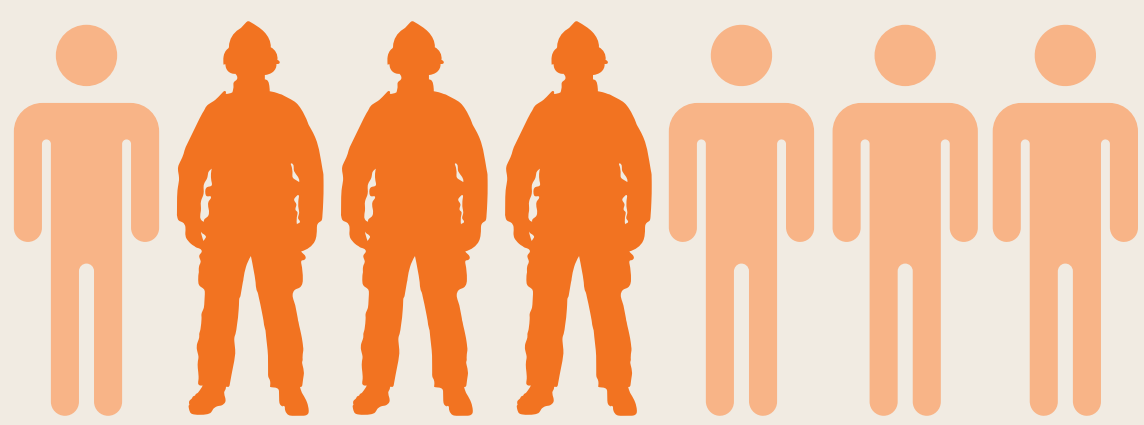
**Contamination can spread to firetrucks, fire stations and firefighters' homes.**



## CANCER CONSEQUENCES

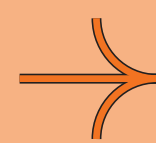
Firefighters have a higher risk of skin, thyroid, bladder, brain and testicular cancers than the general population.

The World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classifies the occupation as a cancer risk.



## RISK REDUCTION

PFAS-free gear, particle-proof hoods and more use of SCBA gear help protect firefighters. Equipment and personnel decontamination washdowns also play a crucial role in protecting firefighters. **Health monitoring and education curriculum are important to reduce cancer risk.**



## SYLVESTER'S FIREFIGHTER CANCER INITIATIVE

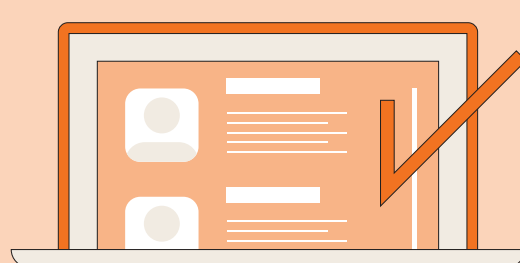
FCI research has helped change law and policies in Florida and around the country.



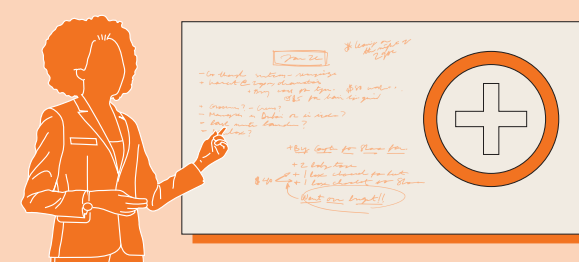
**1.** Workers' compensation for firefighters diagnosed with certain types of cancer.



**2.** Improved decontamination practices.



**3.** Firefighter cancer registry.



**4.** Requirements for new firefighters to undergo trainings on occupational cancer risk and prevention.