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Post and Courier: North Charleston fire chief helps start firefighter cancer database
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160905/160909825/north-charleston-fire-chief-helps-start-firefighter-cancer-database->

Angie Jackson

When North Charleston Fire Chief Greg Bulanow was shopping around for a more comprehensive health physical for his department a few years ago, an ultrasound screening came back with a startling revelation. Bulanow learned he had thyroid cancer. And firefighters' requests for referrals to his surgeon suggested that others were affected by the disease, too. Now Bulanow is helping lead a statewide effort to collect data from firefighters who have been diagnosed with cancer. The new survey follows national studies that say firefighters are at an increased risk for cancer due to occupational exposure. The S.C. State Firefighters' Association is collecting the information with plans to build a database that could assist in providing firefighters with better benefits and resources, as well as potentially help draft legislation.

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