

### Incident Summary Page for the Smokejumper Line of Duty Death

<b>Name of Smokejumper LODD:</b> Mark T Urban (NIFC-03)	<b>Incident Name:</b> Parachute test jumps
	<b>Incident Date &amp; Time:</b> September 27, 2013
<b>Smokejumper Base:</b> BLM Boise smokejumpers	<b>Incident Location:</b> Smith Prairie Airfield, Idaho
<b>Personal Information</b>	
<p>Mark Thomas Urban was born in 1973 in Lynn MA. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst with a degree in building materials and wood technology. After graduation, Mark served in the Massachusetts Air National Guard for eight years from 1991 to 1997 as an A-10 mechanic. Mark began his career in fire with the United States Forest Service in California in 1999. In 2001 he joined the Black Mountain Hotshot Crew and spent 2 fire seasons there. In 2003, Mark began his 11 year smokejumper career with the Bureau of Land Management Boise Smokejumpers. Mark became a highly respected leader in wildland fire. He served as a lead rookie trainer and spotter while a jumper. He compiled 324 total jumps including 102 fire jumps.</p> <p>Mark had a great passion for life in the outdoors. He was an avid cyclist bicyclist, volunteering for the Boise Bicycle Project riding trails around Boise and pedaling to work regardless of the weather. Mark was survived by his wife Rebecca and his parents Pamela and Thomas.</p> <p>The Boise Smokejumpers built a trail in the Boise foothills to honor Mark's memory. It is called the Urban Connector. Once a year, they parachute into this trail to honor their brother and maintain the trail (see links below). A group of former and current jumpers do an extended backcountry bicycle trip each year round the anniversary of Mark's death in his memory. It is called the Urban Ride.</p>	
<b>Brief description</b>	
<p>Mark was participating in a series of test jumps to gather data on Automatic Activation Devices (AAD) for future use on the smokejumper parachute deployment system. The jumps were being made from 6000 feet above ground level in order to collect the needed data. On the 2nd jump of the day, Mark did not pull his drogue chute release handle and was killed on impact. It is believed he lost consciousness under his drogue due to a spin.</p>	
<b>Links to more information on this incident:</b>	
<p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/BLMFire/posts/a-powerful-reminder-that-our-fallen-wildland-firefighters-are-never-forgotten-ea/1106822571482696/">https://www.facebook.com/BLMFire/posts/a-powerful-reminder-that-our-fallen-wildland-firefighters-are-never-forgotten-ea/1106822571482696/</a> <a href="https://wlfalwaysremember.net/2013/09/27/mark-urban/">https://wlfalwaysremember.net/2013/09/27/mark-urban/</a> <a href="https://lessons.wildfire.gov/incident/smith-prairie-smokejumper-fatality-2013">https://lessons.wildfire.gov/incident/smith-prairie-smokejumper-fatality-2013</a></p>	

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### 2013 Boise Smokejumpers

**Third Row:** B Oakleaf, D Calderoni (pilot), Ju Broliier, Ja Broliier, B Johnson, S Sorensen, K Maier, T Jenkins, M Bowers, I Smith, F Clements, C McGowan, P Lind, J Drazinski, , M Skudlarek, J Lafferty (pilot), K Atkins

**Second Row:** E Walker, J Flinders, D Hartman, G Harry, T Hayes, Z Becker, D Staab, R Miller, S Orr, M Stockholm, J Reedy, M Urban, G Kirpach, D Geving, A Plaza, R Benoit

**First Row:** M Adell, Ro Turner, N Towers, T Mackey, J Williams, C Skinner, J Wyatt, P Gerhardson, J Raudenbush

**Not Pictured:** A Abols, S Alberts, D Bohan, C Boldman, Q Chung, D Coomes, B Cresto, A Cushman, D Estey, H Germann, F Goodson, T Hart, T Johnson, P Lenmark, H Madrid, M Matush, M Motes, E Okkonen, D Permenter, S Ramaekers, R Rosetti, S Salisbury, D Smith, D Springer, R Steinman, S Stroud, M Tenneson, I Webb, D Zuares

