

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has received notice of the following firefighter fatality:

Captain Nicholas “Nick” Van Dam

Murdo Volunteer Fire Department

Murdo, South Dakota

While responding to the War Creek Fire (Jones County, South Dakota) in a 2,000-gallon tender, Captain Nicholas Van Dam was involved in a motor vehicle accident. Captain Van Dam was ejected from the vehicle as it left the roadway and rolled. Captain Van Dam sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Age: 37

Classification: Volunteer

Date of incident: July 26, 2025

Date of death: July 26, 2025