

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

-a 501(c)3 Organization

*Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel*

## Weekly Report 4/12/24

**The MSFA announces the passing of Chaplain Charles Barnhart, Jr.:** Services are as follows:

Viewing: Thursday, April 18 3pm – 7pm at the Keysville Lutheran Church 7301 Keysville Rd. Keymar, MD

Funeral: Friday, April 19 11am at the Grace Lutheran Church 21 Carroll St Westminster, MD

Please keep Charley's family and friends in your prayers.

**LEGISLATIVE CALL TO ACTION:** Please be advised that the MSFA Legislative Committee is announcing a call to action for HB 404. This bill **MUST NOT** be allowed to be signed into law. This bill would negatively impact Fire and EMS and their response to "check the welfare" calls. Although many counties have submitted letters of OPPOSITION, the bill still passed to be signed by the Governor. Our voices **MUST** be heard on this bill and we ask that ALL counties submit a form letter of opposition.

Please see the attached document and copy/paste the form letter to your department or county letterhead and forward back to [legislative@msfa.org](mailto:legislative@msfa.org) ASAP.

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IS COMING UP! - April 21-27, 2024** What is your department planning to recognize the hard work of your volunteer fire and EMS personnel? How will you use the Recruiter Portal <https://marylandvolunteer.org/recruiter/> to define your retention and recruitment efforts to help boost your membership this year? Let us know how we can help!

**NERIS Data Framework and Development Update: May 2nd, 2024 | 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. EST**

This webinar will share the latest NERIS developments and explore how the USFA is moving towards a modernized approach in managing emergency response data and analytics across the nation.

Through this virtual session, we'll cover key updates and advancements on the NERIS project, and you'll have an opportunity to: Learn about the latest progress and next steps for NERIS - Explore the newly launched beta version of the Core Data Schemas - Hear first-hand insights from Fire Chiefs testing the prototype version - Engage directly with the NERIS team in a Q&A segment

Register here: <https://web.cvent.com/event/fb4dc5b4-0aa4-483a-8a1b-772f343cc457/summary>

Featured Speakers

- Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell, U.S. Fire Administrator, USFA
- Dr. Steve Kerber, Vice President and Executive Director, FSRI
- Tom Jenkins, Research Manager, FSRI (Moderator)
- Don Lombardi, Chief, West Metro Fire and Rescue (CO)
- John Butler, Chief, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue (VA) and the President of the IAFC

**The NFFF Memorial Service** will be held Sunday, May 5th at the National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial in Emmitsburg, MD. Please keep the families of the fall in your prayers.

**REMINDER TO REGISTER: 2024 MSFA/LAMSFA Cancer Support Walk of Hope:** Sunday, April 28, 2024. This year's walk will begin at 4pm (registration at 3pm) for an "Evening Stroll Through Annapolis", ending at Stan and Joe's Restaurant. The After-Walk fundraising event at the restaurant will be held in support of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Foundation. Register to walk/be an event sponsor here:

<https://www.msfa.org/2024-msfala-cancer-support-walk/>

**Recruiter Training Announcement:** **\*Please note location change for May 18-19**

The MSFA R&R Team is excited to present regional offerings of the MissionCIT Retention and Recruitment Officer Course!

May 18-19	Northeastern MD	MFRI North East
September 14-15	Upper Eastern Shore	MFRI Centreville
October 19-20	Lower Eastern Shore	MFRI Princess Anne
October 26-27	Northern MD	Frederick County Public Safety Training Facility
November 2-3	Mid-State	MFRI College Park

-This SAFER-funded two-day workshop takes a retention-first approach to help participants evaluate the type of environment they're inviting potential members into and offers keen insight and process improvement from the moment of inquiry, to application and acceptance, and through the onboarding phase. -NOTE: **To ensure a personalized experience, the course will be open to a limit of 24 attendees per region (and limited to two people per department) so be sure to register early!** This course is for those that are active in their department's retention and recruitment efforts.

-Mileage will be reimbursed for all attendees traveling 50+ miles one way.

-Lodging will be reimbursed for one night up to \$175 for those traveling 75+ miles one way as well as mileage.

Register here: <https://missioncit.com/maryland-state-firemens-association-retention-and-recruitment-officer/>

**SAFER Marketing Grant Program Round 2 Extended:** The MSFA is excited to announce Round 2 of the SAFER Marketing Grant Program. This program is designed to help member departments increase community awareness through items designed for recruitment events. In the second phase of this program, which will run from **March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>**, \$1200.00 will be allocated for another 65 departments for event materials.

***We have 35 departments already signed up already so don't wait!***

Each kit includes: One Full Color 10x10 Tent with Logo and Department Name; One Table Cover with Logo and Department Name; Backwall with logo and Department Name (customizable). There will be an opportunity to add additional items to spend the entire \$1200.00

-To be eligible to apply for this grant program, your department cannot be participating in any other SAFER grant program (as per FEMA). Your department must also have an up-to-date profile on MarylandVolunteer.org and must have an individual that will be able to communicate with the vendor directly.

**\*\*To apply, please send the following info to [kloveless@msfa.org](mailto:kloveless@msfa.org) no later than April 15th:**

-Name, Address, and Phone Number of Department -Contact information for person applying -Any information that needs to be updated on the department's MarylandVolunteer.org profile, especially the recruitment contact info (if applicable) -If you do not have a department profile on the MarylandVolunteer.org website, one can be created here: <https://www.firstarriving.com/maryland/>

Once approved, you will be sent a link to the online shopping cart. The vendor will work with your department directly to customize the kit and coordinate shipment.

### **2024 Convention News:**

\*The 132nd MSFA Convention and Conference is scheduled for June 16 – 21, 2024\*

**-Upcoming Deadline:** All Officer, Committee Chair Reports and all program book ad submissions are due to the Program Book Committee by April 15<sup>th</sup>

Ads can be purchased here: <https://convention.msfa.org/sponsors/advertising/>

Email reports to Ginny Wilhite at [gwilhite231@aol.com](mailto:gwilhite231@aol.com)

**-Credentials and Dues:** Reminder for all Departments to submit their dues ASAP and credentials by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**-Exhibitor Registrations** are filling up fast! Reserve today: <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/exhibitors/>

**-The 2024 Program** had been posted to the convention website under Shortcuts: <https://convention.msfa.org/>

**-The Seminar Schedule** is now available! <https://convention.msfa.org/calendar/category/education/list/> We are excited to offer classes on many topics from instructors around the country on relevant fire service issues.

**Note that the EMT Refresher (Sat and Sun) and PDI registrations will only be available on the MFRI website.**

-Award Nominations are still being accepted. **Please note that there are specific deadlines for some of the awards so be sure to nominate today.** Visit: <https://www.msfa.org/awards/> for more info.

There are also **Certificates of Recognition** from the MSFA for EMS Top Responder, Fire Top Responder, Rescue Top Responder, Active Military Service, Three or More Generations in the Fire Service, Over 90 years of Age and Still Active, 50 Years of Service, and the Life Saving Award.

COR Requests can be made online here: <https://www.msfa.org/awards/recognition-certs/>

-The **Convention Events** page has been updated for 2024 and will include additional information on as we get closer to Convention. \*Be sure to visit the website <https://convention.msfa.org/> often for the most up-to-date info!

### **Upcoming Training:**

**-May 4, 2024; Lithium Ion Battery Fires: First Responder Awareness;** 10AM-1PM Ridgely Volunteer Fire Department 101 Sunset Blvd Ridgely MD 21660 Register: <https://www.mfri.org/course/seminars/SEM/141/>

**-May 18-19, 2024 Northeastern MD Recruitment and Retention Officer Course;** MFRI North East Register here: <https://missioncit.com/events/the-retention-and-recruitment-officers-rro-role-in-organizational-success-sponsored-by-the-maryland-state-firemens-association-north-eastern-md/>

**-May 20-21, 2024; Supervising Emergency Medical Services (SEMS)** 0800-1700 MFRI Headquarters; College Park, MD Register here: [www.mfri.org/register/NFA-230-S001-2024/seminars](http://www.mfri.org/register/NFA-230-S001-2024/seminars)

**-June 8-9, 2024; Maryland Weekend at the National Fire Academy** has been Rescheduled! Visit <https://www.mfri.org/course/seminars/SEM/119/> to download the application. Must be mailed in by April 30

**-June 15-16, 2024: National Women's Weekend Program at NFA** National Emergency Training Center; Emmitsburg, Maryland <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/about/usfa-events/2024-06-15-womens-weekend/> Don't miss this chance to meet women firefighters from across the U.S. This program strengthens the fire service community by providing education, personal networking and a shared collegial experience.

**-June 15-16, 2024; Maryland EMT Skills Refresher,** 0800-1600; MSFA Convention and Conference; Ocean City, MD Registration coming soon.

**-June 17-18, 2024: MSFA Convention and Conference Training Seminars,** Ocean City Convention Center <https://convention.msfa.org/calendar/category/education/list/>

**-June 16-22, 2024; Safety Standdown 2024 Fire Training: Back to Basics; Online resources and planning** The 2024 Safety Stand Down will take place June 16-22 and emphasize the importance of a solid, foundational training program with the theme "Fire Training: Back to Basics." Five daily focus areas will highlight building the foundation of a training program, assessing the needs of the community and department, safety during training, physical and mental health considerations, and the 10 commandments of firefighter training. Use the online resources on this site to start planning your Safety Stand Down event. More resources and planning tools will be added over the coming months: [www.safetystanddown.org](http://www.safetystanddown.org)

**-June 26, 2024; 12-Lead ECG and STEMI Masterclass** 0800-1200; MFRI Headquarters, College Park MD <https://www.mfri.org/course/seminars/SEM/135/S001/2024/> **This course is also available on June 27, 2024.**

\*\*To add training to this report, email the info to [KLoveless@msfa.org](mailto:KLoveless@msfa.org)

### **MSFA Committee Notices/Meeting Dates:**

-The *Scholarship Committee* has announced that the Scholarship application period for 2024 is now open **through April 30, 2024**. There have been additional scholarship opportunities posted to the committee page so please visit <https://www.msfa.org/committees-2/scholarship/> for more information!

**\*New to the Scholarship program this year is the opportunity for individuals or departments to donate to the Scholarship fund in a loved one's name. The donation will be awarded to a deserving volunteer at the Convention in June.**

-The *Incentives Committee* will be holding a meeting for all LOSAP coordinators at the MSFA convention in Ocean City on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> after elections in Room 208.

-The *Cancer Support Committee* would like to assist any Maryland volunteer fire, rescue, or emergency medical services personnel who are facing a battle with cancer. We would like to provide a gift card that can be utilized to help offset fuel costs or purchase needed supplies. You can submit a request through this form: <https://tinyurl.com/382scb7a> . To donate to the Cancer Support Committee program, please contact Chair Susan Hilton at [shilton2323@yahoo.com](mailto:shilton2323@yahoo.com)

-The *Volunteer Trumpet Committee* is looking for contributors! Are you a subject matter expert in Health and Wellness, Firefighter Safety, Recruitment and Retention or just have a cool story to share? Contact Chair Jonathon Dayton for more info. <https://www.msfa.org/committees-2/trumpet/>

-The *Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Foundation* is selling bricks! Honor those that have made an impact in your life by buying a brick in their name to be placed at the Annapolis memorial. For more information, visit <https://www.fundraisingbrick.com/online-orders/marylandfire/>

Interested in serving on an MSFA committee? Submit your interest here:  
<https://www.msfa.org/committees/interest-form/>

### **MSFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS BY COUNTY:**

Allegany/Garrett	Tim Dayton	<a href="mailto:daytontd22@gmail.com">daytontd22@gmail.com</a>
Anne Arundel	Ron Block	<a href="mailto:blockntackle@comcast.net">blockntackle@comcast.net</a>
Baltimore	Doug Simpkins, Jr.	<a href="mailto:dougsimpkins350@gmail.com">dougsimpkins350@gmail.com</a>
Calvert/Charles/St. Mary's	Randy Smith	<a href="mailto:firehouseblues56@yahoo.com">firehouseblues56@yahoo.com</a>
Carroll/Howard	PP Mark Bilger	<a href="mailto:mbilger@miemss.org">mbilger@miemss.org</a>
Dorchester/Talbot	Bob Phillips	<a href="mailto:rfcchief48@gmail.com">rfcchief48@gmail.com</a>
Frederick	Chip Jewell (Chair)	<a href="mailto:cjecc171@comcast.net">cjecc171@comcast.net</a>
Harford/Cecil	PP Steve Cox	<a href="mailto:msfa96@gmail.com">msfa96@gmail.com</a>
Montgomery	Buddy Sutton	<a href="mailto:b.sutton@ldvfd.org">b.sutton@ldvfd.org</a>
Prince George's	Lee Lutz	<a href="mailto:leelutz49@gmail.com">leelutz49@gmail.com</a>
Queen Anne's/Kent/Caroline	Bill Faust	<a href="mailto:billf44@atlanticbb.net">billf44@atlanticbb.net</a>
Somerset/Wicomico/Worchester	PP Roger Steger	<a href="mailto:rsteiger21842@gmail.com">rsteiger21842@gmail.com</a>
Washington	Dale Fishack	<a href="mailto:chiefringgold@aol.com">chiefringgold@aol.com</a>