

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

-a 501(c)3 Organization

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

Weekly Report 5/18/24

EMS Week (May 19-25) is Celebrating 50 Years!

This year's theme is "Honoring Our Past, Forging Our Future"

The MSFA thanks all of Maryland's EMS Clinicians for their tireless work and dedication to providing highly-skilled emergency medical care to the members of their communities.

MSFA 2nd VP Candidate Announcement: At this time, the MSFA has one candidate who will be on the ballot for the office of 2nd Vice President - William "Bill" Faust from the Sudlersville VFD, Queen Anne's County.

Legislative Report Issued: MSFA Legislative Chair Chief Bob Phillips has provided Senator Mike McKay's End of Session Report for the Maryland Fire/EMS Coalition. You will find it attached to this report.

The Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Foundation has announced that the Annual Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, June 2nd at 1pm at 101 Calvert Street, Annapolis.

Recruiter Training Announcement: 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	THIS WEEKEND!
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/>

From the NVFC:

--OSHA Proposed Standard: NVFC Issues Statement, Offers Resources for Comments

"The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is replacing its 44-year-old Fire Brigade Standard with the proposed new Emergency Response Standard. While the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) agrees that several of the proposed provisions would be helpful and improve the safety of emergency responders, we are opposed to the implementation of the rule in its current state as it will place new requirements on emergency service organizations that would be impossible for many volunteer departments to fully comply with."

Call to Action: "We are sounding the alarm for all firefighters, EMS providers, and their communities to flood the public comment portal by the June 21 deadline to let OSHA and our elected officials know that this proposal would have disastrous effects on your communities." **READ CALL TO ACTION**

The NVFC has created a landing to provide resources to help members of the fire and emergency services and the public better understand the issue and submit a public comment by June 21. This includes an outline of the proposed standard, comment guide, and recorded webinars. This page will be updated periodically with new resources and information. [VISIT LANDING PAGE](#)

-Progress in the fight to reauthorize the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG), Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants, and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA).

As previously reported, Congress cut both AFG and SAFER funding by 10% in FY 2024, from \$360 million per program to \$324 million. The NVFC is working hard to restore and increase funding for these critically important programs. The NVFC is asking Congress to provide \$405 million in FY 2025 funding for each program. The battle for this funding is off to a good start, with 123 Members of Congress cosigning a letter last month supporting the NVFC's funding request.

NERIS (National Emergency Response Information System)

Effective January 1, 2026, all U.S. fire service incident reporting will occur through NERIS and departments will no longer input data into NFIRS. This webinar <https://vimeo.com/932930106/831a83e3bc?share=copy> shares updates about onboarding timelines, how to sign up to be an early adopter, and the upcoming Beta Data Schema just released on May 6. The USFA's goal is to be as transparent as possible through the process and ensure the fire service knows that their concerns are heard and are being addressed to the best of their ability.

2024 Convention News:

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

-Credentials: Reminder for all Departments to submit their credentials by June 1st.

-Program Book Ad submissions are now CLOSED. Thank you to everyone who submitted an ad for this year's edition!

-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. Please share these offerings with your members and encourage registration.

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

-The Convention Events page has been updated for 2024. Get your tickets today for BINGO, Jolly Roger, and the annual Prayer Breakfast! <https://convention.msfa.org/calendar/category/special-events/>

-Reminder to reserve your Convention Week Lodging soon! The MSFA has partnered with many hotels this year that are offering deep discounts to convention attendees! See the list of participating hotels here: <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/hotels/>

Upcoming Training:

-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 22, 2024; NVFC Roundtable Talk - Answering the Call: Volunteer EMS Recruitment & Retention Strategies 1400 hrs Register here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oXCnAsMASxySBRZb3SJ6kw#/registration

-May 22, 2024; Port and Shipboard Firefighting Seminar 0800-1600 Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS), Maritime Conference Center 692 Maritime Blvd, Linthicum Heights, MD Register here: <https://www.mfri.org/register/SEM-142-S001-2024/seminars/>

-May 29, 2024: NVFC Webinar - Managing Combination Departments: Leadership Challenges 1400 hrs Register here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QIW4aPGCRRihPmUtRR2Lfg#/registration

-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/>

-June 15-16, 2024; Maryland EMT Skills Refresher, 0800-1600; MSFA Convention and Conference; Ocean City, MD Register here: <https://www.mfri.org/register/EMS-202-S038-2024/msfs>

-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

-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

MSFA Committee Notices/Meeting Dates:

-The Scholarship Committee will be holding its annual review of applications on Wednesday, May 22nd at 6pm at the MSFA Crofton Office. All scholarship awards will be presented at the annual Convention.

-The Safety Committee will be meeting on Sunday, June 2nd at 1100 at the Kent Island VFD in Stevensville.

-The Incentives Committee will be holding a meeting for all LOSAP coordinators at the MSFA convention in Ocean City on Tuesday, June 18th after elections in Room 208. All County coordinators should have received an email from Chairman Hemphill.

-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 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

-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	daytontd22@gmail.com
Anne Arundel	Ron Block	blockntackle@comcast.net
Baltimore	Doug Simpkins, Jr.	dougsimpkins350@gmail.com
Calvert/Charles/St. Mary's	Randy Smith	firehouseblues56@yahoo.com
Carroll/Howard	PP Mark Bilger	mbilger@miemss.org
Dorchester/Talbot	Bob Phillips	rfechief48@gmail.com
Frederick	Chip Jewell (Chair)	cjecc171@comcast.net
Harford/Cecil	PP Steve Cox	msfa96@gmail.com
Montgomery	Buddy Sutton	b.sutton@ldvfd.org
Prince George's	Lee Lutz	leelutz49@gmail.com
Queen Anne's/Kent/Caroline	Bill Faust	billf44@atlanticbb.net
Somerset/Wicomico/Worchester	PP Roger Steger	rstege21842@gmail.com
Washington	Dale Fishack	chiefringgold@aol.com