

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

-a 501(c)3 Organization

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

## Weekly Report 5/4/24

**Please join us in keeping the families of our nation's fallen firefighters in your prayers this weekend as they travel to Emmitsburg to honor their loved ones at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial**

**This Weekend: Lights & Bells in all 50 States: The NFFF Needs Your Help!** Each year, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation invites you to join them in remembering our nation's fallen firefighters. At this year's National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, May 4-5, 226 fallen firefighters from across the United States will be honored.

There are many ways you can remember these fallen heroes in your own community. Two of these are by participating in Bells Across America for Fallen Firefighters (May 4-5) **Bells Across America for Fallen Firefighters** and Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters (May 1-5) tributes. **Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters**

Please sign up for one or both of these important remembrances, and you'll be added you to the national map. Your participation can help inspire others to sign up, too—and most of all, it shows our Fire Hero Families that we remember their heroes.

**REMINDER: LEGISLATIVE CALL TO ACTION:** Please be advised that the MSFA Legislative Committee has announced 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 Chairman Chief Bob Phillips [rfechief48@gmail.com](mailto:rfechief48@gmail.com) ASAP. The document also includes a copy of a letter that was submitted to the Governor's office last week from leadership across Maryland's fire service.

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

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

-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: **The House of Representatives will be voting on S. 870, The Fire Grants and Safety Act, to reauthorize AFG, SAFER and the U.S. Fire Administration the week of May 6.** It is critical that you reach out to your Representative urging them to vote yes on S. 870 ahead of its consideration.

If Congress does not pass this bill, AFG and SAFER grants will shut down on September 30. Please save AFG and SAFER by using this Action Alert to contact your Member of Congress and urge them to vote yes on S. 870, The Fire Grants and Safety Act. **Tell Your Representative to Vote YES!**

<https://www.votervoice.net/NVFC/Campaigns/111584/Respond>

**--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](#)

**Webinar: Update from OSHA on the Proposed Emergency Response Standard**

Attend this NVFC webinar on May 9 at 2pm ET to hear from OSHA staff about how volunteers would be impacted by this standard and what you can do to make your voice heard.” [REGISTER](#)

### **2024 Convention News:**

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

-**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. Schedule attached to this report. Please share these offerings with your members and encourage registration.

**Note that the EMT Refresher (Sat and Sun) registration will only be available on the MFRI website;** <https://www.mfri.org/register/EMS-202-S038-2024/msfs>

-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/>

-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!

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

-**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/>

### **Upcoming Training:**

**-May 15, 2024; NVFC Webinar - Responding to Warehouses and High Challenge Facilities: Considerations for Volunteer Departments** 1400 hrs. Sponsored by Stonehouse Media

Register here: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_TzAfWDItRWu1uG1TqexSHA#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TzAfWDItRWu1uG1TqexSHA#/registration)

**-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)

**-May 21, 2024; Mental Management & Mindful Movement for First Responders** 1000-1330 Junior

Achievement of the Eastern Shore 301 Tilghman Rd. Suite 101, Salisbury, MD

Register here: <https://bit.ly/MMMM-May244>

**-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](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](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/>

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 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](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 Fire Police Committee* will be meeting May 4, 2024 at 11am at the Carroll County Training Center.  
Topic: Standardize Minimum Fire Police Equipment and start on SOG's

-*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. All County coordinators should have received an email from Chairman Hemphill.

-*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:rfechief48@gmail.com">rfechief48@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>