

MARYLAND STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

-a 501(c)3 Organization

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

Weekly Report 7/20/24

President Carey has announced the dates and locations of the 2024-2025 Executive Committee Meetings:

August 17-18, 2024; Union Bridge VFC; Carroll County

December 14-15, 2024; Berlin VFC; Worcester County

February 22-23, 2025; Ridge VFC; St. Mary's County

April 26-27, 2025; Midland VFC; Allegany County

August's meeting and hotel information is attached to this report.

Please note that as of yesterday, there were still 3 double rooms available at the Westminster Best Western. Room rate is valid through July 29th.

Proposed OSHA Standard 1910.156: Maryland Fire Service Organization Response (attached)

*Please note that at the time these comments were written and signed, the name of the MSFA was still the "Maryland State Firemen's Association" and was identified as such.

Representatives from the MFCA, MSFA, Professional Firefighters of Maryland, Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Council of the State of Maryland, and MFRI jointly submitted the attached comments on behalf of their respective memberships. As indicated in the response, these comments were developed in a series of meetings held over the past four months, and actively facilitated by Maryland's Occupational Safety and Health plan ("MOSH"), a State Plan program with jurisdiction over public sector entities.

Comments are still open through this Monday, July 22nd.

AFG, SAFER, AND USFA Reauthorization Bill Signed into Law

The Fire Grants and Safety Act, which reauthorizes AFG, SAFER, and the USFA, was signed into law on Tuesday, July 9th. This bill reauthorizes the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program, and U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) through September 30, 2028.

2024 Federation of Fire Chaplains Conference October 24-31, 2024; Annapolis, MD. Conference fees, travel and lodging reimbursement available through the MSFA SAFER Grant. Please email Chaplain Long for an application if interested in attending jflongjr@yahoo.com

Grant Opportunity through State Farm and NVFC:

"State Farm is teaming up with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) to award \$500,000 in grants to local volunteer fire departments – the ultimate good neighbors. Through the State Farm Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program, 50 fire departments will receive \$10,000 grants to help them obtain the equipment they need to increase responder safety and improve service to the community. The application period will be open from August 1-18, 2024, or until 500 applications are received, whichever comes first." **The link for the application will be shared through our social media outlets as well as the August 2nd weekly report.**

2024 Maryland Medical Protocols Manual (July 1, 2024 Edition) Released:

https://miemss.org/home/Portals/0/Docs/Guidelines_Protocols/MD-Medical-Protocols-2024-Web-20240612.pdf

Shock Trauma/UMMC Stop the Bleed Training

Host a Free Class for Your Community at Your Firehouse. Register here:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/7a13c6b88ae14c2b9b4d949837c1f9ce?>

MSFA Updated Tag Application:

Tag applications may be delayed due to updating the tags to the new Association name. We will announce when the new tags are in and processing resumes. ***Please use UPDATED VR-124A attached to this report email.** This form will be distributed to all tag coordinators. If you are a new tag coordinator or if we do not have your current contact information, please send to Chair Wayne Tome at Wayne.Tome@cecilcountymd.gov and CC Lynn Hawkins at lhawkins@msfa.org.

REGISTRATION OPEN for Fall Retention and Recruitment Officer Courses! Register NOW as space is limited. <https://missioncit.com/maryland-state-firemens-association-retention-and-recruitment-officer/>

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| 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!**

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

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

Free Webinar Available: NVFC Roundtable Talk: Prioritizing Behavioral Health in the Fire Service

-July 24, 2024 at 1400 hrs. Fire and EMS personnel regularly put others before themselves. Join a panel of experts to learn what self-care looks like, why it's so important, and how it impacts first responders' behavioral health. The discussion will equip responders with the tools needed to take care of themselves both now and in the future, and provide practical tips for implementing self-care in everyday life, after a difficult call, and following a disaster. [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Panelists include: Dick Brown, California State Firefighters' Association Chaplain; Jeff Dill, Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance; and Wendy Norris, Texas LODD Task Force

SAVE THE DATES!

-September 28, 2024; *Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Gala*, 1800hrs; Double Tree, Annapolis, MD

-February 22-23, 2025; *Maryland Weekend at the NFA*, Emmitsburg, MD (More info: tdyche@mfri.org)

-March 22, 2025 - *Public Fire and Life Safety Seminar*, 0800-1700; MFRI Headquarters, College Park, MD

Upcoming Training:

-August 19-20, 2024; *Fire Investigation: First Responders* 0800-1700; MFRI Headquarters, College Park MD

This course has a Canvas component which requires internet access.

<https://www.mfri.org/register/NFA-101-S001-2025/seminars>

-September 16-17, 2024; *Incident Command for Structural Collapse Incidents* (NFA) 0800-1700; MFRI Headquarters, College Park MD

<https://www.mfri.org/course/seminars/MGMT/141/>

**To add training to this report, email the info to KLoveless@msfa.org

MSFA Committee Notices/Meeting Dates:

***All Committee Chairs: Please send any upcoming meeting/training dates to KLoveless@msfa.org to be posted in the weekly reports. Please also send any requests to use the MSFA Zoom link at least two weeks prior to your meeting.**

-The Safety Committee will be meeting tomorrow, Sunday July 21st at 1100 hrs at the Mechanicsville VFD.

Safety Committee Chair: Jon Black (cdrb2115@comcast.net) Zoom attendance is available.

-The VCAF Committee will be meeting on Sunday, July 28th at 12pm at the Riviera Beach VFC located at 8506 Fort Smallwood Rd Pasadena, MD. Zoom will not be available for this meeting.

-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?

Trumpet Editor: Jonathon Dayton (jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com)

-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> . Cancer Committee Chair Susan Hilton (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:

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| 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 (Vice Chair) | mbilger@miemss.org |
| Dorchester/Talbot | Bob Phillips | rfcchief48@gmail.com |
| Frederick | Chip Jewell | 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 | Malcolm Faust | ssgbabyduck@atlanticbb.net |
| Somerset/Wicomico/Worcester | PP Roger Steger (Chair) | rsteiger21842@gmail.com |
| Washington | Dale Fishack | chiefringgold@aol.com |

MSFA SAFER Grant Contractors:

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| Program Manager (Mont/How/AA) | Heather Gorski | hgorki@msfa.org |
| Regional SAFER Coordinators: Western MD (Wash/Alleg/Garr/Fred) | Nicole Stotelmyer | nicoles@msfa.org |
| Eastern Shore (Wic/Wor/Som/Dor/Car/Tal/QA) | Mike Alfieri | malfieri@msfa.org |
| Southern MD (St.M/Cal/Char/PG) | Dale Bowen | dbowen@msfa.org |
| Northeastern MD (Carr/Cecil/Har/Balt/Kent) | Debbie Koermer | dkoermer@msfa.org |