

MARYLAND STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

-a 501(c)3 Organization

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

Weekly Report 1/11/25

Upcoming MSFA Executive Committee Meeting: February 22-23, 2025; Ridge VFC - St. Mary's County

A Notice from the Secretary's Office

-President Carey has scheduled his February Executive Committee Meeting of the Maryland State Firefighters Association for Saturday and Sunday, February 22 & 23, 2025. The meeting will be at the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., 13820 Point Lookout Road, Ridge, MD. The meeting will be called to order promptly at 9:00 a.m.

-For those desiring to stay overnight, arrangements have been made at Sleep Inn & Suites, 23428 Three Notch Road, California, MD. A block of rooms is being held for MSFA at a reduced rate. Each individual is responsible for making their own arrangements. For reservations, call 301-737-7244. Rooms are \$112.00 per night plus tax, using code "Maryland State Fire Association".

-A "Welcome Reception" has been planned for Friday evening, February 21st, at the Hotel between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

-Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary advised that there will be a Hot Breakfast and Hot Lunch on Saturday, February 22nd for a fee and will provide a Hot Breakfast on Sunday, February 23rd."

The Weekly "Did You Know?"

Did you know that the MSFA has scholarships available for fire service volunteers to assist in their continuing education costs? Individuals and departments can also donate to the scholarship fund, including an "in memory of" donation for a departed member.

Find out more here: <https://msfa.org/resources/scholarship/msfa-scholarships/>

CONVENTION 2025; June 15 – 19, 2025 Ocean City, MD

-Online Links Now Open:

Department Credentials/Registration: <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/departments-credentials/>

Exhibitor Registration: <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/exhibitors/>

Sponsorships: <https://convention.msfa.org/sponsors/opportunities/>

Program book ads: <https://convention.msfa.org/sponsors/advertising/>

-Check out all of the Awards that are available to submit a nomination for: <https://msfa.org/awards/>

-Convention Website: The Convention and Conference website will be updated on a weekly basis to reflect all events and programs for 2025. Please visit the site often: <https://convention.msfa.org/>

-Participating hotels will be added to the website shortly!

SUBMISSION DEADLINES APPROACHING:

****January 15th: Request for Instructor Proposals** If you are an instructor and have a relevant topic to cover in June, we would love to hear from you! Seminars should focus on state or federal issues and have an impact on Maryland's fire and emergency services and should be either 1.5 hours - 4 hours in length. Submit here: <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/instructor-proposal/>

****February 1st: Joint Memorial Service:** Reminder to submit the names of your departed members
Submit here: <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/department-credentials/joint-memorial-service/>

Training Sponsorships:

-The MFCA is sponsoring MD fire service individuals to attend the **January 18, 2025 - Mark G. Falkenhan Operational Leadership Seminar**; Carroll County Public Safety Training Center.

Register here: <https://www.mfri.org/register/SEM-136-S001-2025/seminars>

Reimbursement will be for ONE night lodging up to \$110/night at the Best Western in Westminster MD and mileage for anyone traveling over 50 miles one way. No application to attend is required.

-The MFCA is sponsoring 15 MD fire service individuals to attend the **March 2-7, 2025 - National Fire Service Staff and Command** in Annapolis, MD. Register here:

<https://www.mfri.org/register/MGTS-301-R002-2025/seminars>

Reimbursement will be for \$2,075/pp which includes UP TO 6 nights lodging or \$1,355/pp without lodging. All class materials, refreshments, and off-site activities are included.

[Training-and-Conference-Scholarship-Request-Form.pdf](#)

Please email this request to attend to scholarships@mdchief.org

-The MSFA and MFCA are sponsoring 20 MD fire service individuals to attend the **March 24-25, 2025 - 1st Responder Conference: 1st Responder Mental Health & Wellness** in Ocean City, MD

<https://app.clearvent.com/eventPortal#event/6f44d386-02dd-4ac6-a941-bcc28ca20fe4/home>

Reimbursement will be for the conference fee, up to TWO nights lodging at \$115/night, and mileage for anyone traveling over 50 miles one way.

[Training-and-Conference-Scholarship-Request-Form.pdf](#)

Please email this request to attend form to scholarships@mdchief.org

MSFA Online Directory The MSFA will be working on implementing an online, password-protected directory to be placed on the website. If you are currently listed in the directory and wish to OPT OUT of the online version, which will only consist of emails and phone numbers (no addresses), please fill out and submit this form no later than March 1st: <https://msfa.org/msfa-online-directory-opt-out-form/>

Is your Department “NERIS-Ready”? Beginning this month, NERIS will undergo a 12-month nationwide rollout, eventually replacing the legacy National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) as the primary reporting tool for fire and emergency response for the nation’s approximately 27,000 fire departments.” –FSRI Keep up to date on how and when it will impact your department here:

<https://fsri.org/programs/neris>

2024 Tax Incentive Forms Now Available <https://msfa.org/2024-tax-incentive-form-information-packet-now-available/>

Upcoming Training:

-**January 18, 2025 - Mark G. Falkenhan Operational Leadership Seminar**; Carroll County Public Safety Training Center. Register here <https://www.mfri.org/register/SEM-136-S001-2025/seminars>

-**January 18, 2025 - The Anne Arundel Fire Summit**; MFRI Upper Eastern Shore Regional Training Center <https://www.mfri.org/register/SEM-148-S001-2025/seminars>

-**February 22-23, 2025 - Maryland Weekend at the NFA** The 2025 brochure and registration application are located here: <https://zone.mfri.org/izone/schedule/export/file/SEM/119/S001/2025>

March 2-7, 2025 - National Fire Service Staff and Command DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Annapolis. Register here: <https://www.mfri.org/register/MGTS-301-R002-2025/seminars>

-March 8-9, 2025 – John W. Hogle Maryland Officers Seminar The registration link will be available shortly.

-March 22, 2025 - Public Fire and Life Safety Seminar, 0800-1700; MFRI Headquarters, College Park, MD Registration will open soon.

-March 24-25, 2025 - 1st Responder Conference: 1st Responder Mental Health & Wellness; Co-hosts: Behind the Line, Inc./ Worcester County Sheriff's Office. Ashore Resort & Beach Club, OC MD <https://app.clearevent.com/eventPortal#event/6f44d386-02dd-4ac6-a941-bcc28ca20fe4/home>

Application Dates for the FY-2024 Grant Application Cycle

*FEMA has pushed back the FY2024 application date for SAFER and FP&S. We will advise when they confirm the new dates. Be prepared and start your application prep now!

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safer>

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safety-awards/>

MSFA Committee Meeting Dates/Notices:

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

-NEW DATE: The *Convention Committee* will be meeting this Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at the Odenton VFD. Steering committee at 1800hrs. Full committee at 1900 hrs. An email has been sent to all committee members.

-The *EMS Committee* will be meeting on Saturday, February 8th, 2025 at the Pleasant Valley Fire Department, Westminster MD. 1100-1200 ALS/BLS Subcommittee; 1200 Full Committee. Contact jeana.panarella@ufc3.org with any questions.

-The *Safety Committee* will be meeting Sunday, February 9, 2025 at SHA Hanover Complex Blvd, Hanover, MD from 1100-1400 and again on May 4, 2025 at the Sudlersville VFC 1100-1400. Contact Chair Jon Black with any questions at cdrb2115@comcast.net

-The *Volunteer Trumpet Committee* is always 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 Trumpet Editor: Jonathon Dayton jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com

LAMSFA News

Bessie Marshall Fund

Any member of a company or department in good standing with the Maryland State Firefighters Association who is sick or injured (NOT IN THE LINE OF DUTY OR DEATH BENEFIT) and thereby incapacitated, may be entitled to weekly benefits. Approval will depend on compliance with the application requirements. More info here: <https://msfa.org/lamsfa/resources/>

Spring Conference

April 5, 2025 – Parsonsburg Volunteer Fire Company

**2025 Scheduled Executive Committee Dates:
April 26-27, 2025; Midland VFC; Allegany County**

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 (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 (Vice Chair)	ssgbabyduck@atlanticbb.net
Somerset/Wicomico/Worcester	PP Roger Steger (Chair)	rsteiger21842@gmail.com
Washington	Dale Fishack	chiefringgold@aol.com

MSFA SAFER Grant Contacts:

Program Manager

(Mont/How/AA)

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