

# MARYLAND STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

*-a 501(c)3 Organization*

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

## Weekly Report 1/25/25

### **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 21<sup>st</sup>, 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 22 for a fee and will provide a Hot Breakfast on Sunday, February 23."

#### **The Weekly "Did You Know?"**

Did you know that the MSFA's legislative committee works out of the 17 State Circle office every weekday during legislative session, reading through hundreds of bills to identify those that may impact the volunteer fire service? Members of the committee provide testimony at hearings, meet with elected officials on behalf of the volunteers, and make sure that we have a voice in proposed legislature.

**CONVENTION 2025:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Mail out will be sent out next week to all departments. It will also be included in the 2.1.25 weekly report email.

Visit <https://convention.msfa.org/> to submit your Joint Memorial Requests by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Credentials, Exhibiting, Sponsorships, and Hotel information are all available online.

#### **Training Sponsorships:**

-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](mailto:scholarships@mdchief.org)

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

<https://app.clearevent.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](mailto:scholarships@mdchief.org)

The **Federal Mileage Reimbursement Rate** has now increased to \$.70/cent/mile for business use. This rate will be used for all travel reimbursements.

**MSFA Online Directory** The MSFA is working on implementing an online, secure 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>

#### **Upcoming In Person Training:**

- 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 Universities at Shady Grove, <https://www.mfri.org/register/MGTS-302-S003-2025/seminars>
- March 22, 2025 - Public Fire and Life Safety Seminar**, 0800-1700; MFRI Headquarters, College Park, MD Registration will open soon.
- March 24-25, 2025 - 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Conference: 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Mental Health & Wellness**; Co-hosts: Behind the Line, Inc./ Worcester County Sheriff’s Office. Ashore Resort & Beach Club, OC MD

#### **Upcoming Virtual Sessions from the NVFC:**

- January 30, 2025; 1900 hrs - **R&R Coffee Talk: Supporting Families**  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEKduigrz0tGdE7inc1ky6BSMLRdCd2q\\_KE#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEKduigrz0tGdE7inc1ky6BSMLRdCd2q_KE#/registration)
- February 5, 2025; 1400 hrs - **NVFC Roundtable Talk - Clearing the Air: Addressing Pipeline Misconceptions**  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_8rfdosRZSv-MsMlrbycoVQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8rfdosRZSv-MsMlrbycoVQ)
- February 13, 2025; 1400 hrs - **NVFC Webinar - Essentials of Volunteer Retention & Recruitment**  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_VHqUYcZbRGKOy0SJ8K2Atw#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VHqUYcZbRGKOy0SJ8K2Atw#/registration)
- February 20, 2025; 1900 hrs - **R&R Coffee Talk: Leadership**  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsfuisqDsrH9GVN-3T\\_RdsguyWH-4M0-wt#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsfuisqDsrH9GVN-3T_RdsguyWH-4M0-wt#/registration)

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

*\*All Committee Chairs: Please send any upcoming meeting/training dates to [KLoveless@msfa.org](mailto: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.*

-The **EMS Committee** will be meeting on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the Pleasant Valley Fire Department, Westminster MD. 1100-1200 ALS/BLS Subcommittee; 1200 Full Committee. Contact

[jeana.panarella@ufc3.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com)

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## **LAMSFA NEWS**

**BESSIE MARSHALL** - 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. Info here: <https://msfa.org/lamsfa/resources/>

## **LAMSFA 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	<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 (Vice Chair)	<a href="mailto:mbilger@miemss.org">mbilger@miemss.org</a>
Dorchester/Talbot	Bob Phillips	<a href="mailto:rfchief48@gmail.com">rfchief48@gmail.com</a>
Frederick	Chip Jewell	<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	Malcolm Faust (Vice Chair)	<a href="mailto:ssgbabyduck@atlanticbb.net">ssgbabyduck@atlanticbb.net</a>
Somerset/Wicomico/Worcester	PP Roger Steger (Chair)	<a href="mailto:rsteiger21842@gmail.com">rsteiger21842@gmail.com</a>
Washington	Dale Fishack	<a href="mailto:chiefringgold@aol.com">chiefringgold@aol.com</a>

## **MSFA SAFER Grant Contacts:**

Program Manager

(Mont/How/AA)

Heather Gorski

[hgorski@msfa.org](mailto:hgorski@msfa.org)

## **Regional R&R Coordinators:**

Western MD

(Wash/Alleg/Garr/Fred)

Nicole Stotelmyer

[nicoles@msfa.org](mailto:nicoles@msfa.org)

Eastern Shore

(Wic/Wor/Som/Dor/Car/Tal/QA)

Mike Alfieri

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Southern MD

(St.M/Cal/Char/PG)

Dale Bowen

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Northeastern MD

(Carr/Cecil/Har/Balt/Kent)

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