

# MARYLAND STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

-a 501(c)3 Organization

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

## Weekly Report 3/8/25

### **Upcoming Executive Committee Meeting:**

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

See attached notice from the Allegany and Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire Rescue Association

Agenda and hotel information will be forthcoming.

**Important Update from FEMA:** All NFA in-person training has been cancelled. “FEMA is reportedly evaluating programs and spending to ensure alignment with Administration priorities”. We will be watching this development closely and will share any updates as they become available.

**Current MSFA/MFCA SAFER Grant:** At this time, all MSFA and MFCA projects and training are ON HOLD due to the uncertainty of funding reimbursements from FEMA. Once outstanding reimbursement requests are processed and federal funding issues are resolved, projects and trainings will resume through the end of the grant (November 30). We will share updates to all member departments as they become available. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

### **Latest Update on NERIS- The National Emergency Response Information System**

Please see the attached the NERIS Transition Letter and Onboarding InfoSheet from the Office of the State Fire Marshal

NERIS has begun its 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.

Everything you need to know about the new platform is here: <https://fsri.org/programs/neris>

**Updated MSFA Apparel Now Available:** All Officers, executive committee members, committee chairs and anyone representing the MSFA at any public event or meeting, especially at the county and state levels, are asked to wear the updated **Maryland State Firefighters Association** logo.

Two vendors below have our new logo on file and can assist you in purchasing items:

<https://shop.nationalinkandstitch.com/msfa/shop/home>

<https://badlabapparel.printavo.com/merch/maryland-state-firefighters-associatio>

### **CONVENTION 2025:**

The 2025 Seminar Schedule is posted! Be sure to check out this year’s offerings and register today!

Seminar Schedule and Registration <https://convention.msfa.org/2025-education-schedule/>

Department Credentials: <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/departmentscredentials/>

Program Book ads: <https://convention.msfa.org/sponsors/advertising/#fdpricing>

Exhibit space registration: [convention.msfa.org/registration/exhibitors/](https://convention.msfa.org/registration/exhibitors/)

Awards: <https://msfa.org/awards/>

Visit <https://convention.msfa.org/> for up-to-date info regarding Department Credentials, Awards,

Exhibiting, Sponsorships, and Hotel information.

---

The **MSFA Scholarship Application Period** is OPEN through April 1st! The MSFA proudly offers several scholarship opportunities for active members of the Maryland volunteer fire service who are enrolled in higher education. Visit <https://msfa.org/resources/scholarship/> for more information. We thank our partners at Shock Trauma and Delmarva Power for their continued support of our volunteers! There is also information on how you or your department can donate to the MSFA Volunteer Fire and EMS Continuing Education Fund.

The **MSFA VCAF Application Period** is OPEN! Visit <https://msfa.org/committees/financial-branch/vcaf/> for more information on VCAF and how to apply. Please note that companies applying for a VCAF loan must be in the pre-contract phase of their acquisition process. Companies that have already signed a contract for the project (apparatus and/or equipment) are ineligible to apply for a VCAF loan. For more on this important update and the current schedule for loans, please visit <https://msfa.org/an-important-message-from-the-msfa-vcaf-committee/>

### **Volunteer Trumpet Mailing List and Health Contributor Request**

Trumpet Committee is currently in the process of updating the Volunteer Trumpet mailing list. Our request form is now active. Please note that Maryland Volunteer Fire Departments already receive copies of the newsletter, and if you are already on our mailing list, there is no need to complete the form. This request is for new subscriptions only.

Additionally, we are seeking a health contributor for the newsletter. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in contributing, please contact [jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com).

Link to subscribe: <https://forms.gle/Qui6NaE8uZ5YFPG68>

### **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 ***Water Supply and Resources Committee*** is holding its Spring Water Supply Drill, hosted by the Whiteford VFC located at 1407 Pylesville Rd, Whiteford, MD on **April 26 at 0730 hours**

-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)

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

-**March 22, 2025 Public Fire and Life Safety Seminar**, 0800-1700; MFRI Headquarters, College Park, MD - Registration <https://www.mfri.org/register/MGTS-201-S001-2025/seminars>

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

-**March 29, 2025 Shock Trauma EMS Education Conference**, 0800-1300; Shock Trauma Center Auditorium (See attached flyer). Seats are limited. Con ed hours offered.

Register here: [EMS Conference at Shock Trauma](#)

---

### **Upcoming Online Training:**

The NVFC is hosting the following online events in March:

**Roundtable Talk- Incident Response Lithium-ion Battery Fires: Best Practices** March 20 at 2pm

**R&R Coffee Talk- Behavioral Health**, March 27 @ 7pm

For more information and to register, visit <https://www.nvfc.org/online-trainings/>

### **LAMSFA NEWS**

**February 1 Mailing:** <https://msfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/LAMSFA-Feb-1-mailing.pdf>

Please reach out to Corresponding Secretary Robin Shorb @ [rshorb@pleasantvalleyfire.org](mailto:rshorb@pleasantvalleyfire.org) or [shorb2family@earthlink.net](mailto:shorb2family@earthlink.net) with any questions.

**Spring Conference Information:** April 5, 2025, at Parsonsburg VFC. <https://msfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-Spring-Conference-Info.pdf> Please reach out to Conference Co-Chairs Kristi Grinder @ [klg1184@gmail.com](mailto:klg1184@gmail.com) or Traci LaMar @ [traciandroland@verizon.net](mailto:traciandroland@verizon.net) with any questions.

**Convention:** Credentials have been sent, please get them in ASAP. The mailing and forms can also be found on the website as well: MSFA.org under Ladies Auxiliary Documents <https://msfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/LAMSFA-Credentials-form-2025.pdf>

**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/>

---

### **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:rfcchief48@gmail.com">rfcchief48@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>