



CAPITAL AREA FIRE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

YOUR FIRE DISTRICT NEWS SOURCE

JANUARY 28TH, 2023

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THE CAPITAL CALENDAR:

WWW.AFDCA.ORG

2023 CAPITAL AREA MEETING & TRAINING SCHEDULE

Member Dinner Meeting Thursday February 9th 7:00pm dinner served at 6PM

Thursday March 9th 7:00pm general membership dinner served at 6PM

Saturday, March 11, 2023 6:00 PM Officer Installation Location in Saratoga Springs TBD

Thursday April 6th Board of Director's Meeting 7PM

Thursday May 11th Meeting of the General Membership

Thursday June 8th Board of Director's Meeting 7PM

Thursday July 13th Board of Director's Meeting 7PM

August, No Meeting

Thursday September 14th, General Membership Meeting 7PM

Thursday October 12th General Membership/Nominations for Officers & Directors

Thursday November 9th, 7:00pm general membership dinner served at 6PM/Elections

December, No Meeting

Printable Calendar – See Last Page

Long Way to Travel to Meetings? Zoom In!

It's our desire that every member district have the opportunity to attend Capital Area meetings. We know we cover a large area, in 8 counties and beyond and wish to give all of our members a chance to participate in the general membership meetings. You have a voice and we would like to hear it. Join us at our next meeting either in person or via Zoom. The link will be sent via constant contact prior to each general membership meeting. Thank you for being a member and we hope you will join us.

Commissioner Training, Register Now and pay at the door!

Averill Park and Clifton Park are slowly filling up. There are seats available at Berkshire Fire District, 320 Steele Ave Extension, Gloversville, NY for any of the Commissioners in the Western portion of the Capital Area or adjacent counties. Whatever is convenient for you!

Mandated Commissioner Training Sanctioned by the State Comptroller's Office, \$85.00 per person

Saturday, February 11, 2023	8:00 AM	6 hour Commissioner Training	Averill Park, Rensselaer Co. w/Greg Serio
Saturday, March 4, 2023	8:00 AM	6 hour Commissioner Training	Clifton Park Saratoga Co. w/Greg Serio
Saturday, March 25, 2023	8:00 AM	6 hour Commissioner Training	Berkshire Fire District Fulton, Co. w/Greg Serio

320 Steele Ave Ext, Gloversville, NY 12078
Email caaofd@gmail.com

2023 Membership Activity Options Being Explored

IF NOTHING READ ARTICLES WITH ** IN FRONT OF THEM

CAPITAL AREA ASSOCIATION NEWS: WWW.AFDCA.ORG

[You Are Invited to Become a Member of the Capital Area Association!](#)

The Capital Area Association has voted to amend its By-laws to allow both individual and regional or county Fire District Associations to join. The updated By-laws are posted to the AFDCA.org website.

Individual membership fee will be \$50 annually, fire district association fees will be \$300 annually.

Download THE APPLICATION HERE: <https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2022-Application.doc>

The Capital Area has logo ware for sale, long and short sleeve polo shirts. Contact Secretary/Treasurer Tony Hill to purchase shirts.

Please advise your secretaries that all correspondence go to the Capital Area Association Mailing Address at:

AFDCA PO Box 242 East Schodack, NY 12063

EMAIL: CAAOFD@GMAIL.COM

[518-407-5020](tel:518-407-5020)

If you see ** it indicates a must-read article with educational value or leadership qualities.

CAPITAL SHORTS:

- We still need someone to step up to be a region 1 director for the next two years, please contact tom rinaldi or any of the officers if you are interested. Nominations from the region can still occur until the May annual meeting.
- We hope the staff from Malta Stillwater EMS recover quickly from their frightening experience of their MVC and subsequent fire which destroyed their EMS rig.

If you no longer wish to receive the Capital Bulletin you have the option to “unsubscribe” at the bottom of the introductory email.

STATE ASSOCIATION NEWS: WWW.AFDNYS.ORG

[2023 Annual Meeting & Leadership Summit Expo](#)

Wednesday, May 17 - Saturday, May 20

Turning Stone Resort & Casino

5218 Patrick Road

Verona, NY 13478

[Click Here to Register](#)

A link to reserve your hotel room at the Turning Stone Resort & Casino will be included on your confirmation page and in your confirmation email. **No call in reservations will be accepted.** 1 room per person

Anyone with hotel reservations in the AFDSNY block that is NOT registered for this event will be subject to your reservation being canceled by the host. Prior notice will be given when possible but is not guaranteed.

Edward "Ned" Carter Memorial Scholarship

- The Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York is pleased to offer the Ned Carter Memorial Scholarship Award for High School Seniors. These scholarships are named in honor of Past President Ed 'Ned' Carter', and all deceased past presidents of the Association. In keeping with Ned's lifelong dedication to community service and helping others, four, onetime \$1,500 scholarships will be presented to graduating high school seniors who will be pursuing a career in a community services related discipline. **LINK TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** https://www.afdsny.org/general_information.php
- Must be submitted online or Postmarked by March 3, 2023.

TRAINING APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR ENTIRE BOARD/SECRETARY/TREASURER



COFFEE WITH COMMISSIONERS FOR 2023

Thursday, February 2nd at 7PM, "Training for Success"

Saturday March 4th at 9AM, "Protecting Your Assets"

REGISTER AT THIS LINK: https://webinar.ringcentral.com/webinar/register/WN_-RyApNLIQrK-v3xBiNtnAA

Log on To Previously Recorded Sessions

https://www.afdsny.org/coffee_with_commissioners.php

You Must Log on to the State AFDSNY web site to access!

THE LATEST FROM THE NYS LEGISLATURE

Tentative Date for Fire Service Alliance Lobby Day, Tuesday February 28th, more details are pending.

2023 Issues of United Concern – NYS Fire Service Alliance Legislative Initiatives

- **ENSURE VFBL PARITY WITH WORKERS COMPENSATION**
Bring the volunteer firefighters benefit law pay equal to worker's compensation/what career firefighters receive when injured in the line of duty.
Corresponding legislation: S.1340 (Brooks) / A.3597 (McMahon) (2021-2022 Session)
- **DESIGNATE EMS AS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE AND EXPAND THE BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO EMS PERSONNEL AND SET STANDARDS FOR EMS**
Recognizes EMS as an essential service, establishes a special district for the financing and operation of general ambulance services, expands access to health insurance and retirement benefits available to EMS providers.
Corresponding legislation: S.8432-A (Mayer) / A.9509-A (Otis) (2021-2022 Session)
- **ANALYZE FINDINGS FROM THE NYS DHSES RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION TASK FORCE IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE ON:**
(1) RECRUITMENT EFFORTS
(2) RETENTION EFFORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY AND BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE ISSUES

- **AMEND PENAL CODE TO ADD ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF OCCUPANTS AND FIRST RESPONDERS**
Corresponding legislation: S.3741 (Gaughran) / A.6087 (Zebrowski) (2021-2022 Session)
- **RECOVERY OF 54-G FUNDING TO SUPPORT CODE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS**
Ensure state funds collected through dedicated fees on each fire policy written in the state go to support local code enforcement activities and not continue to be swept into State General Fund.

Corresponding legislation: S.6970-A (Kavanagh) / A.8802-A (Zebrowski) (2021-2022 Session)

- **TIMELY ADOPTION OF UPDATED STATE FIRE AND BUILDING PREVENTION CODE**

Would require that a new building code as published by ICC would be adopted by the NYS Codes Council within specified time frame.

Corresponding legislation: S.6210-A (Skoufis) / A.3559-A (Hunter) (2021-2022 Session) provides a framework to accomplish; support amendments to extending the timeline of enactment from 12 months.

- **ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS** – Ensure the Executive and Legislative prioritization of provision of affordable housing stock through legalization of more residential space is executed in a manner that prioritizes occupant safety and the safety of first responders in emergencies. Ensure a focus on legalizing existing units as well as create new units; advocate for increasing access to housing for first responders as a recruitment and retention tool.

Corresponding legislation: To be determined.

- **LITHIUM-ION BATTERY SAFETY STANDARDS**

Ensure proper registration/permitting, research and standard development, repairing and regulation of products containing lithium-ion batteries, work with stakeholders to raise public awareness around best fire safety practices, and examine solutions proposed from decision makers and opine as a trusted public safety voice.

- **CONTINUE TO IMPROVE TAX BENEFITS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS**

Push to allow volunteer firefighters to receive both real property tax exemptions and income tax credit, while continuing to advocate for an income tax credit increase (has been at \$200 since its inception in 2006.) This credit would step increase tied to qualifying years of service up to \$2,500 for 10 or more consecutive qualifying years of service.

Corresponding legislation: S.3989-A (Reichlin Melnick) / A.1320-A (Zebrowski) (2021-2022 Session)

- **CANCER COVERAGE COST RELIEF**

Pursue data collection to enable establishment of a funding stream to alleviate fiscal burden on districts/departments providing the coverage.

NEWS FROM THE NYS VOL. FF R&R TASK FORCE

[Updated Link for the Recruitment and Retention Task Force:](#)

<https://www.dhSES.ny.gov/volunteer-firefighter-recruitment-and-retention-task-force>

A report from the Task Force is pending, it's recommended that the Task Force continue for 2023.

Open Meetings and Webcasts are located at: <https://www.dhSES.ny.gov/open-meetings-and-webcasts>

View the final report of the NYS VFF Task Force HERE:

<https://afdca.org/view-the-final-report-of-the-nys-vff-task-force/>



The report can also be downloaded from the Association's website at AFDCA.org

LET YOUR MEMBERS KNOW ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY!

[REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE NYS AFC 117TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & FIRE 2023 EXPO!](#)

June 14-17 • The Oncenter • Syracuse, NY With exhibits, fire and EMS classes, Hands-On Training, and networking events for personnel of all ranks, there's something for everyone at the premier fire industry, rescue, and EMS conference and expo in the Northeast!

CLASSROOM EDUCATION

More than **35 classes** will be presented by some of the most respected leaders in the industry from Wednesday – Saturday for Conference Full Term registrants. **EMS CME** classes will be delivered, and special training for **codes** personnel and **commissioners** will be available. The schedule of classes is coming soon!

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

REGISTER IN ADVANCE or at the door! **New** – online registration is available for single registrants! Those registering groups must use the PDF form.

ONE DAY TICKETS (EXPO ONLY)

Pre-Registration: \$25 (per person, includes three tickets)

On-Site: \$10 (per person, per day)

FULL TERM REGISTRATION (EXPO & CLASSES)

NYS AFC Individual Member: \$100 (per person)

Non-Member: \$175 (per person)

NYS AFC 2023 Seminar Series, "Truck Skills Beyond the Textbooks"

Early in our firefighting orientation, we're taught basic skills and tactics from textbooks. In addition, we'll drill and be tested on many of these skills at fire academy buildings to attain our firefighting certifications. It's a good process, but our learning shouldn't stop there because we haven't been exposed to many of the situations we'll encounter at fires and emergencies. Plus, the buildings in the academy aren't conducive to allowing us to operate with tools to open the walls and ceilings, pull suspended ceilings, remove baseboard and window trim, or even cut open tongue and groove sheathed roofs. This [interactive lecture](#) strives to go beyond textbook learning and bring alive street skills, tips, and tactics of truck work in: portable ladders, overhaul, forcible entry, roof ventilation, tool use, and more.

Registration (per person):

\$35 – NYS AFC members

\$50 – non-members

Pre-registration encouraged.

Albany Co. 10/23/23, Fulton Co. 9/7/23, Rensselaer Co. 4/3/23, Saratoga Co. 10/24/23, Schenectady Co. 3/6/23

REGISTER AT THIS LINK: <https://www.nysfirechiefs.com/2023seminarseries>



Beginning Thursday, December 15th, we will be rolling out a new version of VFIS University.

This change will allow us to clean up organization rosters and offer you a streamlined and efficient experience.

During the transition period, please note that the current system will be available through 12/30 (we will have a direct link to the page for this.) **We recommend downloading your organization's course history by 12/30 to ensure the smoothest transition possible, as access to course completions on the current system will *NOT* be available after that date.**

Some additional things to note:

- The training officer within your organization will approve users and assignments
- New features for your organization will be introduced in Q1 2023
- Only VFIS-authored courses and approved educational material will be available

As part of the registration process for the new system, you will be sent an email from "VFIS Authentication System" (noreply-ss0@vfi5.com). You will receive the email automatically, once our staff adds you to the new system. Please follow the instructions in that email to verify your email address and update your password. The password should be at least 8 characters long and contain an uppercase letter, lowercase letter, number and symbol.

All customer service for VFIS University will be provided by VFIS, so if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out via phone at 800.233.1957 Ext. 7228 or via email at csapps@vfi5.com, Monday – Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm.

Posted to our web site at this LINK: <https://afdca.org/vfi5-training-opportunities-a-wealth-of-information/>

You will find:



VFIS University User
Guide.pdf

[2022 VFISU-Flyer](#)

Hands-On Training at FIRE 2023 in Syracuse Announced

Registration is open for Hands-On Training at the NYS AFC 117th Annual Conference & FIRE 2023 Expo! HOT will be delivered from Wednesday, June 14 – Friday, June 16 at the Syracuse Fire Department Training Center. Seven courses led by some of the nation's most knowledgeable and experienced instructors will be available: "Advanced Thermal Imaging Camera Ops," "Advanced Vehicle Extrication," "Aggressive Interior Fire Attack," "Fire Behavior On the Inside," "First-In Officers' Responsibilities," "Hoarder Fires," and "Truck Company Essentials."

[Learn More and Register At This Link...](https://www.nysfirechiefs.com/fire2023hot) <https://www.nysfirechiefs.com/fire2023hot>

New Course! Leadership for the Fire & Emergency Services

The NVFC has released a new course in the Virtual Classroom on "Leadership in the Fire & Emergency Services." This on-demand course provides an overview of leadership roles, how anyone can be a leader regardless of rank, and tips to help in succeeding as an emergency service leader. Virtual Classroom courses are always free to **NVFC members**, but this course is free for a limited time to all members of the fire and emergency services. **Register now:** <https://virtualclassroom.nvfc.org/products/leadership-for-the-fire-emergency-services>

Innovative Recruitment Ideas for Volunteer Fire, EMS, and Rescue Departments

Recruitment is a challenge for many volunteer and combination emergency service departments. The NVFC has released a new one-pager featuring 10 ideas to help jump-start your recruitment initiatives. Download it [here](#). You can find more tools and resources to help with recruitment – including customizable outreach materials and PSAs – from the NVFC's **[Make Me A Firefighter campaign](#)**.

OUR CHANGING FIRE SERVICE -CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES!

OPPORTUNITIES:

State Taking On Volunteer First Responder Recruitment Issue Head On

Ben Kinne

What if no one was there to answer the call at local volunteer fire companies? Across the state, volunteer fire departments are struggling to recruit new members. From 1998 to 2021, New York saw a 32 % drop in the number of volunteers. David Glenn, the director of recruitment and retention at the firemen's association of New York says the biggest reason for the drop, time. "The workforce is so demanding, life is so demanding, their careers and their schooling takes a lot, so, it's a lot to take on" Glenn Said. According to the New York state office of fire prevention and control, the New York state basic firefighter course is a total of 79 hours of instruction.

That's why Governor Hochul proposed legislation that will allow communities to pay some compensation to volunteer firefighters and will create a state fund to cover some of the costs associated with their training. Glenn hopes it will help departments attract new members and keep old ones as well.

"On the retention side, hopefully the ones that are already there say hey, we are trying to come up with different ideas to help keep you doing what you do." Glenn explained

In addition, a new tax law that went into effect on January 1st will allow municipalities to give a 10% exemption on the assessed property value of a volunteer first responder. Which Glenn says shows the state recognizes a problem with the recruitment numbers.

"They see the need for New York State to do something to help them because they give so much back to the community and the state."

CHALLENGES:

[18 Kids Injured, 1 Critically, In Fire Sparked By Lithium-Ion Battery At NYC Daycare](#)

Eighteen children were injured Wednesday in a fire that was sparked by a lithium-ion battery at a Queens daycare, officials said.

The blaze broke out in the basement of the two-story house in Kew Gardens Hills around 2:05 p.m., according to the FDNY. City officials were investigating whether the day-care facility was unlicensed, said a law enforcement source. Neighbors said they hadn't known the location to be a daycare.

On Friday in the same borough, a man was killed and 10 others were hospitalized when a charging e-bike sparked a fire. "The batteries should not be charged in the entranceway or pathway to leave your apartment and you should not charge them overnight," the chief cautioned. "The best might be to charge them in a room with a closed door while you're awake and alert and at home."

[Challenges Mount For West Point Fire After Years Of Underfunding](#)

Lana Bellamy

Emergency vehicles have failed inspection. Critical equipment, such as imaging cameras, breathing apparatuses and structural gear, are so outdated they cannot be repaired or replaced. The staff is diminishing.

These are some of the challenges facing the West Point Fire Department and which officials say have been exacerbated after two years of significant budget shortfalls in the federal funding the military academy relies on.

Since 2014, the non-salary budget for the 44-member department — down from 57 members five years ago — has been reduced by more than 90 percent. "They need and deserve better," U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer said during a news conference at West Point on Jan. 11.

West Point Fire is in a unique position compared to other local professional and volunteer departments. It serves the United States Military Academy and surrounding communities — including Highland Falls, Woodbury, Cornwall and Fort Montgomery — and often covers mutual aid for Newburgh, one of the busiest local fire departments. Last year, it responded to 894 service calls. The department is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense through U.S. Army Installation Management Command, as opposed to municipal budgets or fire districts.

For the 2022 fiscal year, West Point Fire sought a \$1.76 million budget from Army Command for fire and emergency services, referred to as a management decision package. Though the department's request was validated by Army Command, in the end, it was only granted about \$90,000. Schumer is calling on Army Command to fully fund the department's \$1.2 million request for the 2023 fiscal year.

That money would be used to replace worn turnout gear — coats, helmets, gloves, boots, pants and other protective clothing — that firefighters literally jump into when they respond to emergencies, according to the fire department. That gear costs about \$6,000 a set.

Schumer attributes the underfunding to a \$44.6 million non-pay shortfall in the Department of Defense budget that affected all of the other 78 garrisons that operate like West Point Fire. But West Point is considered one of the largest in the program and, therefore, is more harshly affected by the budget shortfall than smaller departments, a representative from Schumer's office explained. "She knows I'm the majority leader," he told reporters gathered at West Point last week. "She called me to get her name put in place for nomination — one of my jobs is to put things on the floor of the Senate — and she knows we have a lot to say about budgets and that I've always fought for West Point and the military to get the budget they need."

[FDNY: Battery-Sparked Fire Leaves 1 Dead, 10 Injured at Queens Home](#)

VIDEO: Fire investigators are ready to point blame at the cause of a deadly overnight house fire in Queens that claimed the life of a man in his 60s and injured nearly a dozen people. The inferno kicked off around 11 p.m. in the Elmhurst neighborhood, quickly engulfing the home on 89th Street in flames and heavy smoke. Video showed flames several feet high shooting out of the building's windows. A 2-alarm response was dispatched to the 3-story residence, where the injury count eventually climbed into double digits. Officials say 10 people were injured -- that figure includes four firefighters -- and one man died. **Investigators with the FDNY believe the fire was sparked by a lithium-ion battery possibly used to power an e-bike or scooter.** Such a device was pulled from the

[Ambulance Service Partners With Irondequoit To Get 'Steady Funding' Back For Operations](#)

The Town of Irondequoit is stepping in to keep a long-time ambulance service in the town able to remain fully staffed and keep up with high call volumes to serve the town. After studying how Irondequoit Ambulance operates for two years, the Town Board learned the non-profit emergency service was having a hard time bringing in enough funds to pay for more resources to meet the demand these days. So, a new partnership was created. In a unanimous decision, Irondequoit Councilmembers voted to approve a one-year contract to pay Irondequoit Ambulance up to \$300,000 to respond to calls within the town. "You see EMS struggling all over the state and country and Irondequoit is no exception to that," Irondequoit Supervisor Rory Fitzpatrick said.

HUMAN RESOURCES FOR THE FIRE SERVICE

[Core Values: 16 Ways To Consider Your Contributions To The Fire Service](#)

Brian Watson

One day in 1982, my grandmother got off the bus and was walking home in the Hollywood Heights area of Shreveport, Louisiana. Sometimes I'd go and meet her on her way back to the house after work. I can still see her uniform – an overcoat over a white uniformed dress, white stockings and white shoes. She always had a smile on her face, no matter the time or day.

As we got closer to each other, I asked her a question: "Grandma, what is it that you do for a living?" She stopped for a second and replied, "I'm a servant to a people and someday you will be too."

I didn't know in that moment what she meant – and I still didn't have an idea for many years. In fact, it wasn't until I was 17 years old that I got my first exposure to her message for me and my life's purpose. I had started working at the Brookshires Grocery Company. This is where I began developing the core values that have helped me become a public servant for the Shreveport Fire Department.

CORE VALUES

Each of the core values displayed below is part of our fire service tradition, history and service to the community. And in 2015, my department added this list of values to our rules and regulations.

Which of these values stand out to you? Think about what you were doing before you began your fire service career. Which core value was already stirring in the fiber of your being? This could be the initial link to why you joined the fire service.

As we review each, I'll share my personal experience with these values, from my youth to the fire department. How do these values manifest in your fire service experience?

1. Integrity and honesty in all matters, the highest manner of trustworthiness.

As I reflect to my very first job as a grocery bagger, this building block established the ground rules for being honest by not accepting tips. The grocery company offered pay above the other local grocery companies, so there was no need to accept tips – it was a pleasure to serve the customer.

Across the world, the firefighters have an impeccable standard of being honest and displaying integrity. We must display honesty and integrity as we help individuals in their immediate time of need.

2. Professional pride in our appearance and service while adhering to strong moral and ethical conduct.

As a grocery store bagger, I was one of the first and last people with whom a customer would interact. My professional pride had to show through my appearance before I even opened my mouth for a greeting. A white long-sleeved, button shirt with a bowtie, tan khakis and a clean apron was the attire for service.

Similarly, the firefighters' uniform has always been an iconic signal for excellence. Before a firefighter says a word, that ironed uniform, shined boots and neat hair is a symbol of the care and treatment we offer.

3. Respect displayed at all times for all citizens and coworkers up and down the chain of command.

As the grocery store entry door swung open, there was always a welcoming greeting of "Come in!" as customers arrived. This was the first show of respect – a respect that would last throughout their entire store environment.

The fire service culture must show care and respect for its community. Whether it's during a call or in between calls, we connect the modern-day firefighter to the bucket brigade of Benjamin Franklin.

4. Positive servant attitude reflected on all incidents and interactions with the public and with coworkers.

Each grocery store had a core group of people who worked together, both during the times of economic growth and during a sustaining period when we battled other companies for the best sales.

The fire service must maintain its resilience, during times of goodwill and challenges. We have seen lately some sacrifice in equipment, jobs and pay. But even during challenging times, firefighters must continue respond to calls with a servant attitude.

5. Humility displayed by putting others needs ahead of our own.

As a grocery store bagger, I embraced the pride in making sure the customers' needs were met. This helped me understand that placing them first, no matter how many times they came into the grocery store, helped the company succeed.

At our fire department, our citizens must come first. We must meet their needs as we encounter difficult situations, putting their needs before our own.

6. Initiative for each member to take the leading action to provide the best service and improve one's KSAs as a firefighter.

As a bagger, keeping a clean and ready-to-go environment meant several tasks: restock displays, clean floors and hang new signs in the windows. Not being told to do these things – just doing them – creates an atmosphere of initiative.

Each firefighter has their responsibilities that they understand well. This keeps the shift running like a well-oiled machine. By being ready to go, each firefighter is prepared to take on the next challenge. This takes physical and mental initiative.

7. Consistent and fair in all our actions as leaders and followers.

Each customer at the grocery store deserved a smile, a cordial atmosphere and an overall positive experience each time they shopped with us. This consistency was rewarded with return visits, plus the monthly and yearly awards that the grocery company shared with workers.

When fire crews respond to calls, they cannot allow tunnel vision in repetitiveness of calls. Some calls may be demanding, and others may seem routine; however, being consistent and fair is important across the board.

8. Commitment to give our total best everyday: "Today I gave everything I had; what I kept I have lost forever."

We served every customer that came into the grocery store. We knew the peak shopping times, so we pushed and adapted to keep a high commitment of service.

Fire and EMS members work tirelessly at calls. Some calls are short, others longer or more complex in nature. The commitment must remain constant no matter the call type, and that commitment must extend from the time the member first hears the call to when they physically response to it.

9. Personal courage to always do the right thing and make the right decision even though it may be unpopular.

As noted, not taking tips at the grocery store was a part of being honest and integrity. Personal courage enhances that description, as we had to consider several factors beyond whether to accept a tip for the job. We were store ambassadors.

Firefighters have a different experience with courage. For example, the Johnsons' house is burning, and Mr. Johnson is not breathing. Firefighters take on that charge to enter the scenario with a personal courage meter on 110%. This value is at the top of the list, rooted deep inside potential members applying for this job.

10. Compassion to foster a genuine concern for those who call us and do everything we can to improve their worst day.

Carrying out groceries was important to the success of the grocery shopping experience. It was a pleasure to serve in this capacity. The compassion that was gained from the act of carrying out groceries grew more at each opportunity.

Firefighters must show compassion on every call. We want the best outcome for the situation. And we are human, so compassion is rooted deep within each of us.

11. Encouragement to build up our coworkers and make them better and feel appreciated.

There were so many teams within teams at the grocery store. The cashier would ring up the groceries, and the bagger would sack them up. It was a glorious team effort. But sometimes the teams weren't balanced as they seem. This is where it was important to build up the newly hired, those who haven't caught on as quickly to a routine, not to mention if someone is having a bad day and needs some assistance.

Firefighting teams depend on each other. Every scenario needs attentiveness to achieve the best outcome – from everyone on the team. There are times when a team member will need encouragement. We do this well, encouraging others within the team and helping move them forward to the best outcome.

12. Diversity of the people in our department and our community and recognizing everyone has value.

One value of being a community grocery store is you get to see and meet everyone at some time of the year. Depending on the location of the store, you can meet or work with a diverse group of individuals.

For the fire service, our communities are diverse, and fire department membership should reflect and represent this. Diversity gives the fire service as a whole the opportunity to live up to each of our core values.

13. Accountability to ourselves, each other and to our citizens by taking ownership of our actions.

Work schedules were tight back at the grocery store, but you earned your way for more hours. Showing up on time, dressed the part, and mentally ready for the shift was important to supervisors.

The fire service accountability system buries itself in the job description. Every incident shows our accountability status. The community calls us, and we are there – and we must be ready for the next call.

14. Knowledgeable to continue professional development by training and education to improve our skills in delivering the best emergency all hazards service.

As a 17-year-old who couldn't wait to become an adult, this new adult work world was my new life. So, while facing a new set of people, job description and environment, there was a craving for "How can I do my job better?"

One of the best things in life is learning something new every day. The fire service projects learning more about the craft of being a firefighter at the highest priority, as it can be the difference between life and death. It's essential to be knowledgeable about your fire service.

15. Teamwork in knowing we can always accomplish and perform so much better together as team.

The teamwork I mentioned earlier considered teams within teams. But there was another important factor that I realized later in my career. This was the teamwork of supervisors. Some may have seemed to just bark out directions, but they were team members, too.

Teamwork is highly beneficial to the best outcomes for each fire crew (team). Every call, we show up together. Whether it's a small team or a complex one, teamwork makes the dream work.

16. Safety to ensure our own health as well as the safety of our team and those we serve.

As a bagger, cashier, manager, etc., safety was key and foremost – even in the grocery industry.

The same is true at the fire department. Every aspect of a call, our training and leadership begins with safety.

HEALTH – SAFETY & LODDS – TAKING CARE OF OUR MEMBERS!

[January Dedicated as Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month](#)

Occupational cancer is now the leading cause of death among fire fighters – surpassing heart disease. The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) and the Firefighter Cancer Support Network (FCSN) are committed to reversing this trend to save more fire fighter lives.

[Governor Hochul Announces State Cancer Prevention Efforts to Protect Firefighters and Their Families During Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month](#)

Newly Announced Decontamination Protocols Reduce Firefighters' Exposure to Toxic Contaminants by 85 Percent
State Office of Fire Prevention and Control Expanding Classes and Trainings to Include Cancer Awareness and Prevention Education

Sessions to Begin at Local Fire Departments this Week, Distributing Free Decontamination Kits and Educational Materials
Educational [Video](#) Released to Raise Awareness of the Cancer Risk Facing Firefighters and Detail Decontamination Protocols

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced the State's Office of Fire Prevention and Control will begin new outreach efforts to help protect New York's firefighters and their families from the threat of cancer. State Fire officials initially launched a similar outreach program in early 2020, which was placed on hold due to the pandemic. This new initiative coincides with January's Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month, raising awareness among the fire service on how to develop life-saving protocols for cancer prevention, and to support those who've already received a cancer diagnosis within their fire departments.

"The state's firefighters bravely risk their own lives and safety every day to protect their fellow New Yorkers," **Governor Hochul said.** "Sadly, cancer is a serious threat to the health and wellbeing of all of our fire service members, and we are

committed to ensuring that these heroes have the most up-to-date guidance and information so they can enjoy a long, safe career and live a healthy life."

New York State Homeland Security and Emergency Services Commissioner Jackie Bray said, "The brave women and men of New York's fire service protect us from danger every day. However, too many lives of firefighters are being lost to cancer. During Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month, we are ramping up efforts to educate the fire service and mitigate their risks of exposure to carcinogens found in smoke. I am proud of our State Fire team for leading the way on this initiative, providing in-person training sessions and distributing decontamination kits to fire departments across the state."

Studies have shown firefighters are at a higher risk of cancer than the general public, largely due to their exposure to an increased level of toxins found in smoke at structure fires. To ensure New York's firefighters are not only aware of this threat but also know how to limit their own risk, State Fire officials developed basic protocols for decontaminating firefighting gear following a response call and will be traveling throughout the state to promote their use by firefighters. Research has shown that fire service members can take simple and inexpensive steps to reduce their exposure, as well as protect their families, to toxins and other carcinogens by up to 85 percent.

State Fire officials have begun working with counties across the state to schedule Firefighter Contamination Reduction and Cancer Prevention classes. At these meetings, State Fire will distribute firefighter decontamination kits to attendees. These kits contain information on decontamination immediately after incident response and items, such as a five-gallon bucket, post-fire wipes, hose, detergent, brush, and spray bottle.

New York State Fire Administrator Jim Cable said, "We are thrilled to continue our program educating members of the State Fire Service on immediate steps they can take to protect themselves following an incident response. Sadly, cancer is now the leading cause of firefighter deaths in the nation. Our goal is to reduce occupational illness by educating our brothers and sisters in the fire service on specific measures they can take to reduce exposure to contaminants and lower their health risks."

If firefighting turnout gear is not decontaminated properly after a fire, firefighters risk exposing harmful chemicals to their firehouses and homes, potentially harming co-workers and family members. According to two studies conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), firefighters are currently being diagnosed with cancer at a nearly 10 percent higher rate than the general public and experiencing cancer-related deaths at a nearly 15 percent higher rate.

To combat these trends, DHSES and OFPC have established basic, inexpensive protocols which will go a long way in limiting firefighters' exposure to harmful chemicals often found in smoke.

If exposed during a response, firefighters should:

- Perform on scene gross decontamination, stop the exposure, and stop the spread of contaminants to the apparatus and station.
- While on scene, use post-fire wipes to reduce exposures.
- Shower as soon as possible and put on clean clothes.
- Wash tools, equipment, and apparatus after fires.
- Transport gear in non-porous containers such as a clear garbage bag.
- Wear only clean gear, including hood.

Starting this month, State experts will travel across New York State to bring these protocols directly to firefighters via in-person educational sessions at local fire departments. At each session, firefighters will view a live demonstration of the new decontamination protocols, a new educational video that details the protocols and the risks facing firefighters and have an opportunity for a Q&A with OFPC personnel involved in developing the protocols. Additionally, OFPC is expanding its entire roster of firefighting classes and trainings to include a section on cancer awareness and prevention education. New sessions are being scheduled on a rolling basis. Firefighters looking to attend or host an educational session can view the State Office of Fire Prevention and Control's [training calendar](#), or contact their county's fire coordinator.

IN 2022 WE HAVE SADLY EXPERIENCED *4 FIRE FIGHTER LODD'S

*According to FirefighterCloseCalls.com**

In 2022 we experienced 101 LODDs reported nationally.!

National Vol Fire Council FIRST RESPONDER HELPLINE AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Firefighting and emergency response are stressful, and the holidays can bring added pressures. The [NVFC First Responder Helpline](#) is here for you. NVFC members and their household families can call for assistance with work-life-volunteer challenges, including stress management, relationships, financial concerns, addiction, and more. [Register for this webinar](#) to learn more about the Helpline. If you are unable to purchase an NVFC membership for yourself or someone else who needs the Helpline, use [this form](#) to receive a complimentary membership.

YOU JUST NEVER KNOW...

- According to news reports, Kevin Dailey, a lifelong member of the Middleport Volunteer Fire Department in Meigs County, Ohio, and the former chief of the Richland Township Fire Department in Fairfield County, Ohio, died on Tuesday from injuries sustained in a fire truck rollover crash on September 18, 2022.
- Firefighter Robert “Bob” Thomas Gardner, Jr., 55, died Thursday of an apparent heart attack, he had been at the Richmond-Carolina Fire District station putting apparatus and equipment back in service after a residential structure fire call Wednesday. Gardner, a former deputy chief, went home and sometime overnight suffered an apparent heart attack and passed away.
- Frank Nunez a Chicago-area firefighter-paramedic who received an emotional escort home from a hospital with his fiancé and their dog last year has died after a long battle with cancer.
- at: <https://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/>

Reference Material for Use in a Line of Duty Death

- [VFBL Firefighters Guide to Benefits, wcb.ny.gov/content/main/vf-vaw/injured-in-lin-of-duty.pdf](http://wcb.ny.gov/content/main/vf-vaw/injured-in-lin-of-duty.pdf)
- [Survivors Benefit Guide, www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org)
- [National Fallen Firefighters Foundation https://www.firehero.org](https://www.firehero.org)

BUILDING & FIRE CODE ISSUES – WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Home builders and realtors already “drive” legislation with a history of disregard for life safety and a disgusting misinformation campaign about the cost of residential fire sprinklers, deaths are an awfully expensive price to pay to save money. Stop the carnage, install residential sprinklers.

WEEKLY FIRE FATALITY DATA AS REPORTED BY THE MEDIA

Fire Deaths in 1&2 Family Dwellings in NYS	00+2=02
Last fire death Poughkeepsie, Ulster Co. Male 88	
Fire Deaths in any type of Dwelling in NYS	0+4=4
Fire Deaths in 1&2 Family Dwellings Nationally	17 + 55=72
Top Three State with the most 1&2 Family Deaths	1 NC-9
	2 IN-6
	3 VA & MI-5
There has been a total of 0124 civilian home fire fatalities in 2023	
There were a total of 2251 residential fire fatalities reported in 2022 in the US media.	
Both the states of Maryland and California require sprinklers in residential dwellings	

In 2022 in New York State 77 residents perished in fires in 1 & 2 family occupancies.

****WHEN FILING OATHS THIS MONTH, DON'T FORGET THE TREASURER BONDS TOO**

By Greg Serio, CAFDA Counsel

In November, 2021 Brad Lander was elected comptroller of the City of New York. By January 31, 2022, just a little more than two months later, he was no longer the city comptroller.

What happened?

While Lander filed his oath of office with the Clerk of the City of New York in a timely manner, that is, within thirty days of his taking office on January 1st, he did not also file with the oath proof of the undertaking, or surety, that is required of the comptroller. As a result of the turn of the calendar to January 31st, he was automatically, without action of any official body, no longer the city comptroller. It took an act of the state legislature in March of that year to rewind the clock back to January 1st, allowing the comptroller to rectify his omission and file in a "timely" manner the undertaking securing his work within that office.

This rule pertaining to the city comptroller applies to a great many government officials who are responsible for the handling of public money, including fire district treasurers. The New York Town Law is quite specific as to this requirement. According to Town Law section 176(4) provides, according to the Fire District Officers Handbook by Ray Diraddo, Esq.:

The treasurer, before entering upon his duties, must execute and file with the town clerk of the town in which the district is located an official undertaking, conditioned for the faithful performance of his (or her) duties. This undertaking shall be in the form and an amount as approved by the board of fire commissioners and the board must vote their approval on the undertaking.

Actually, the language in the statute, found in the section of law pertaining to the powers and responsibilities of fire district commissioners, *requires* that the fire district commissioners compel the treasurer to give "an official undertaking" and that the treasurer "will well and truly keep, pay over and account for all moneys and property belonging to the fire district *and coming into his hands as such treasurer....*" The provisions further requires that "such undertaking shall be filed in the office of the town clerk."

Thus, the provisions of section 176(4) has several important parts: 1) requires the district to make sure the treasurer submits to whatever process necessary to obtain a surety or other kind of undertaking; 2) obtain an undertaking in an amount that the treasurer is expected to have control over or have access to, after determining the amount, and type of undertaking by a resolution of the board, and 3) file it, and proof of approval by the board of fire commissioners, in the town clerk's office.

An interesting element of this requirement is that all of this undertaking activity is to be done "before entering the duties of [the treasurer's office]," which could create a bit of a timing conundrum when districts are conducting organizational and first monthly business meetings at the same time. Advanced work with the district's insurance broker or surety provider, likely at the end of the prior year, is probably the best way to address this issue.

Given the number of conversations had in recent weeks, it seems as though this section of law has been hiding in plain sight for many years, with some long time district officials privately acknowledging that this practice has not always been followed notwithstanding the fact that this provision goes back many years, and that it has been included in commissioner training provided by the Association of Fire Districts of New York State. Focusing on looking forward,

suffice to say that 2023, especially with the Lander story fresh in people’s minds, be the year that this provision of the fire district board’s responsibilities is followed to the letter of the law.

Some districts may find town clerks asking why this material is being provided in addition to the traditional oath of office form. District secretaries or those submitting the oaths and undertaking to the clerk can tell the story of the New York City comptroller from last year and that the fire commissioners wish not a similar fate for their treasurers. Even if the filer dispenses with the story, the clerk will still be required to collect, stamp and accept the documents provided to prove that section 176(4) is followed.

THE STUFF WE BUY FOR OUR MEMBERS

[How Will The Upcoming NFPA Changes Affect Firefighters’ Gear?](#)

Courtney Levin

The fire service is constantly changing, introducing new tools, PPE, tactics and more to continuously ensure firefighter safety and efficiency. Some of these changes occur quickly, while others take time to evaluate and evolve. To keep up with these industry dynamics, the [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA) periodically modifies the codes and standards to which everyone in the fire service must adhere.

The NFPA is currently in the process of revising several standards and consolidating them to develop a clearer set of guidelines surrounding protective gear, self-contained breathing apparatuses and personal alert safety systems.

Expected to be released in early 2024, the new standard, NFPA 1970, will encompass much of the information contained in NFPA standards 1971, 1975, 1981 and 1982, along with revised guidelines and mandates.

During a [recent FireRescue1 webinar](#), sponsored by [MSA’s Globe Products](#), Jeff Stull, president of International Personnel Protection, Inc., explained what those in the fire service can expect as the NFPA considers the following proposed changes, which are described below as proposed.

PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 1

The proposed new NFPA 1970 standard will significantly affect currently used hood designs, eliminating any reference to “standard hoods” and **mandating that all newly manufactured hoods feature particulate-blocking capabilities**. Given that this barrier layer can affect comfort and sizing, departments will need to pay close attention to the specifics of this proposed change.

Data from a study conducted by North Carolina State University found that many 2-layer hoods currently in use will not meet the new NFPA insulation requirements, which specify an average thermal protective performance (TPP) rating of no less than 20. Though not all hoods currently in use were tested, most of the 3-layer hoods that were examined will not meet the new breathability requirements set forth by NFPA 1970, which stipulates a total heat loss (THL) rating of no less than 325 W/m².

It’s also noted that cleaning effectiveness for particulate-blocking hoods will need further examination.

PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 2

Though not required, the proposed new NFPA 1970 standard **will provide manufacturers a basis to claim their garments are free of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) if they choose to**. The revised standard will include a definition for PFAS, outline specific garment labeling requirements and detail all means of verification to be conducted by independent organizations.

Currently, there are no standardized tests for PFAS in textiles, including in the fire service, though there are standardized methods to test for PFAS in water and to test for total fluorine. The NFPA 1970 standard will aim to streamline the verification that certain materials have none, or have below a threshold amount, of certain substances and only allow manufacturers to make PFAS-free claims for garments made solely of materials with the corresponding verification.

PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 3

The life of turnout gear is a closely explored topic in the proposed NFPA 1970 standard with this proposed change establishing new criteria to ensure turnout gear maintains its level of performance throughout the life of the garment. It will include guidelines that entail repeated washing, heat and UV light exposure, as well as flex and abrasion testing in an attempt to simulate use conditions.

Not all turnout gear provides the same levels of durability, and some garments may be affected by the new changes. ***Ultimately, this proposed change will help ensure manufacturers are crafting gear that will last and perform according to the standard.***

PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 4

Thermal protection and breathability are often highly prioritized when selecting turnout gear. The proposed NFPA 1970 standard ***will include new analysis methods and requirements for evaporative resistance, breathability and insulation. A focus will also be placed on material shrinkage, which can affect the process of testing for thermal protection.***

These proposed changes will include new metrics that could add complexity when deciding how to balance various aspects of garment performance. Once specific performance levels are established, this modification could affect the qualification of some existing gear.

PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 5

Methods of effectively cleaning clothing to remove fireground contaminants are more closely explored within the NFPA 1970 standard. ***This proposed change will include guidance on measuring cleaning efficacy specific to individual materials using procedures similar to the current NFPA 1851 standard.***

Since not all materials clean in the same way and repeated cleaning can alter a material over time, this change may require manufacturers to modify their garments to include increased contamination resistance or provide enhanced cleaning protocols. The cleanability of garments may become a larger factor in clothing selection once this standard is revised.

PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 6

Gear selection is an important element of firefighter safety and effectiveness, and this proposed change will create criteria to help departments assess how different types of PPE work together. Grouped by areas of performance rather than by product, the NFPA 1970 standard will include a range of new test methods for evaluating overall ensembles for thermal protection, heat stress impact and protection from particulates and gases.

This change will place a greater emphasis on gear interoperability and aid firefighters in making informed choices about their PPE. Test methods will also be introduced for manufacturers and laboratories.

LOOKING AHEAD

The NFPA aims to operate a transparent and collaborative process, offering multiple opportunities for individuals, agencies and organizations to provide input that can help shape standards revisions.

The public comment period on the NFPA 1970 standard closed January 4, 2023. The [NFPA website](#) indicates that a second draft report is expected to post October 4, 2023.

Once the new standard is implemented, manufacturers will be given 12 months to certify their products that are currently being manufactured. Equipment and gear purchased before NFPA 1970 can still be used by agencies as long as it is serviceable and was compliant with NFPA regulations at the time of purchase.

THE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

[Kansas City, Missouri, To Pay \\$1.3M+ To Families Of Fire Truck Crash Victims](#)

Andrea Klick

Kansas City will pay more than \$1.3 million to family members of victims killed when a [fire truck crashed](#) into a vehicle and a building in Westport in December 2021, according to court documents filed Wednesday.

According to the settlement, each family will receive \$459,893 from the city plus an additional \$80,000 from Farmers Insurance, the private auto insurance provider for Dominic Biscari, the Kansas City firefighter who drove the truck on Dec. 15, 2021.

The Kansas City Fire Department and the city declined to comment on the settlement and cited a pending investigation into the incident.

With lights and sirens flashing, the Pumper 15 driven by Biscari was speeding when it ran a red light and entered the intersection of Westport Road and Broadway Boulevard and struck a Honda CRV that night. The force of the crash propelled the vehicles northwest, causing them to hit a pedestrian before slamming into a building.

Jennifer San Nicolas and Michael Elwood, who were in the Honda, and Tami Knight, the pedestrian, were killed. Knight's boyfriend Alexander Llera was also injured. San Nicolas and Elwood worked together at Ragazza Food & Wine, and Knight was a data analyst with Kansas City Public Schools.

After the crash, the victims' families, Llera and the owners of the building filed lawsuits against the city and Biscari, which also alleged that he was driving negligently and too fast.

In November, Kansas City's City Council approved the transfer of \$1.8 million from its general fund to help pay for lawsuits. Earlier that month, Judge Jennifer M. Phillips approved a \$32 million arbitration award against Biscari. That included \$9 million to Elwood's parents, \$11 million to Knight's mother, \$9 million to San Nicolas' mother and \$2 million to Llera. It also included \$1.4 million to the company that owns the destroyed building.

Retired Judge Miles Sweeney, who oversaw arbitration proceedings in October, found Biscari's driving to be "dangerous and reckless." A medic had warned the department about Biscari's driving months before the crash.

A lawsuit filed in November that lists as plaintiffs the victims' families, Biscari, Llera, the building's owner and the fire department union claimed the city owes \$32.4 million to the families and building owners **after withdrawing legal representation for Biscari.** He was originally provided legal representation by the city, but it was later withdrawn. The fire department's union, International Association of Firefighters Local 42, could not find a previous case in which the city refused or withdrew legal representation for another fire department employee, the lawsuit said.

For information only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice. The opinions expressed are the opinions of the individual author at the time the facts were presented and based on the law then applicable. The information contained in these opinions is not guaranteed to be up to date. The information provided is not legal advice. Since legal advice must be tailored to the specific circumstances of each case, and laws are constantly changing, nothing on this site should be used as a substitute for the advice of competent legal counsel. The authors assume no responsibility to any person who relies on information contained herein and disclaim all liability in respect to such information. You should not act upon information in this publication without seeking professional counsel from an attorney admitted to practice in your jurisdiction.

STEP INTO THE CHIEF'S OFFICE:

CLASSIFIED

Full Time Stationkeeper Position Announcement West Crescent Fire District

The West Crescent Fire District is looking for a professional and highly-motivated person to perform custodial services and to maintain fire district buildings, grounds and equipment. Must have good communication skills, the ability to manage several projects simultaneously, be flexible with work hours when necessary. Prior experience preferred and all candidates must have clean driver's license. Employment application and job description can be found on the district website at www.westcrescentfire.com or by emailing Fire District Secretary Arthur Hunsinger at wcfdsec@nycap.rr.com

Please send application, cover letter & resume to Arthur Hunsinger via email at wcfdsec@nycap.rr.com

Position Announcement Station Keeper/Maintenance Person

Full Time (40 hours/week) at a rate of up to \$18.00 an hour. Benefits available (health and disability insurance, vacation, sick days, holidays, retirement).

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Minimum High School diploma or equivalent
- Relevant work or experience
- Pass District Physical, able to lift objects weighing 70 lbs. & Drug Testing
- Preference given to those candidates at least 21 years of age
- Ability to understand and carry out instructions.
- Ability to deal with the public and work successfully with other employees and members of the Fire Department.
- Familiarity with equipment found in fire stations.
- Experience with cleaning and light building maintenance.
- Ability to perform minor mechanical repairs.
- Initiative, resourcefulness and good judgement.
- Basic computer knowledge for data entry.
- Hold a valid NYS vehicle operator's license. A CDL-B license will be required within six (6) months of employment, to include Air Brake Endorsement. Driver's license will be enrolled in the NYS License Event Notification Service. License acceptable to Fire District's insurance carrier
- Background check for Arson Conviction and Sex Offender Registry.
- Preference may be given to an active SCBA qualified member in a local fire department.
- Need to be CPR/AED Certified

THE LIGHTER SIDE!

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The Capital Area Association represents fire district officials from the fire districts in Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Warren, Washington, Saratoga, Fulton and Montgomery Counties

Fire District Officials include Commissioners, Treasurers, Secretaries and Chief

All are invited to participate in all of the Capital Area Activities

The Capital Area Association wants to take this opportunity to thank all the Fire Districts who continue to support the local Capital Area Association as members for 2023.

FIRE DISTRICT RESOURCES - -THE BACK PAGE - - FOR YOU TO FOLLOW UP!

What are the duties and responsibilities of a Commissioner?

The Answer is posted on our web site at www.AFDCA.org

Vital Statistics on the State Association Regions – the break out is on our web site.

CAPITAL AREA BUSINESS PARTNER'S

PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US!!

NOTE: New Contact for Penflex, Nicole Meeker

We want to welcome LaBella Engineering & Vent Wizard to our list of business partners

Business Partner Applications Available At: WWW.AFDCA.ORG

Welcome Back all of our Business Partners for 2022

We invite our business partners to submit educational information to be included in this Bulletin for district commissioners and chief officers

Write me at tom@rinaldi1.com

Please Support Those Who Support Us!!

If you have information on new products you wish to showcase or is educational and informative for fire districts, please submit it and we will use it in this Bulletin under the appropriate heading.

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The Capital Bulletin is reaching well over 400+ fire district members and now other members of the fire service on a regular basis. Since the Capital Area Association covers an area the size of Connecticut it is difficult to meet in person to exchange information and ideas.

This is a service of the Capital Area Association through the effort of Tom Rinaldi who can be reached at tom@rinaldi1.com for comments or content contributions are always welcome.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS OF THE CAPITAL AREA

Would you like to join the Association of Fire Districts of the Capital Area and join 75 members in 8 counties? Both fire protection districts and Village departments are eligible for membership.

The yearly membership dues (January 1st to December 31st) shall be as follows and shall be based on the annual budget of the Fire District/Organization;

To take effect January 2023:

- \$0 to \$200,000: \$50
- \$200,001 to \$400,000: \$100
- \$400,001 to \$600,000: \$200
- \$600,001 plus: \$300

Business Partners: \$100.00 annual member fee



**association of fire districts
OF THE
CAPITAL AREA, INC.**

2023 Events Calendar

Date	Time	Type	Location
Saturday, January 7, 2023	9:00 AM	Organizational Meeting	Clifton Park
Thursday, February 9, 2023	7:00 PM	General Membership	Clifton Park
Saturday, February 11, 2023	8:00 AM	Commissioner Training	Averill Park
Saturday, March 4, 2023	8:00 AM	Commissioner Training	Clifton Park
Thursday, March 9, 2023	7:00 PM	General Membership	Clifton Park
Saturday, March 11, 2023	6:00 PM	Officer Installation & Reception Dinner	Embassy Suites, Saratoga
Saturday, March 25, 2023	8:00 AM	Commissioner Training	Berkshire
Thursday, April 6, 2023	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Clifton Park
Thursday, May 11, 2023	7:00 PM	General Membership	Clifton Park
Thursday, June 8, 2023	7:00 PM	General Membership	Clifton Park

Thursday, July 13, 2023	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Clifton Park
Thursday, September 14, 2023	7:00 PM	General Membership	Clifton Park
October 2023	NO MEETING		
Thursday, October 12, 2023	7:00 PM	General Membership	Clifton Park
Saturday, November 4, 2023	8:00 AM	Fall Workshop	TBD
Thursday, November 9, 2023	7:00 PM	General Membership	Clifton Park
December 2023	NO MEETING		
Saturday, January 6, 2024	9:00 AM	Organizational Meeting	TBD