



CAPITAL AREA FIRE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

YOUR FIRE DISTRICT NEWS SOURCE

MARCH 11TH, 2023

EDITOR - TOM RINALDI

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If you can't see yourself as a life-long learner, then please do us all a favor and retire.

THE CAPITAL CALENDAR:

WWW.AFDCA.ORG

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

It's March Already and Dues are Due!!

To date 62 **Fire Districts** have submitted renewal dues for 2023. Those fire districts that have not renewed that were members last year are: Coeymans Hollow, Hemstreet Park, Quaker Street, Glenville #7, Hoosick Falls Joint, Schodack Valley, Town of Mohawk, Selkirk, Guilderland, North Creek, Speigletown, and Petersburg. We are looking forward to hearing from those districts plus any more in the Capital Area that wish to join.

To date 24 **business partners** have submitted renewals for 2023. Those business partners that have not renewed for 2023 yet are: Ballston Spa National Bank, NBT Bank, UBS Financial Services, Fox Pest Control, VFIS, Gentile Brengle & Lin, Safety First, White Wolf Computer, Hannigan Law, Salt City Fire Equipment, Marvin & Company CPAs, and The D'Amato Law Group.

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!

SATURDAY MARCH 25TH STARTING AT 8AM

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!

You are going to like the new format of this presentation.

Just west of the intersection of Routes 29 & 30

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

LAST CHANCE IN THE CAPITAL AREA FOR IN PERSON TRAINING

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
RESERVE YOUR SEAT AT: Email caaofd@gmail.com

CAFDA FALL WORKSHOP

Saturday, November 4th, 2023 8:00 AM Fall Workshop Location to be determined

ARE THERE SUBJECTS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE COVERED? LET US KNOW!

We want to thank the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Fire District for allowing us to use their facility for the Capital Area meetings.

IF NOTHING ELSE READ THE ARTICLES PRECEDED BY **

CAPITAL AREA ASSOCIATION NEWS:

WWW.AFDCA.ORG

CAPITAL AREA ENDORSEMENT FOR STATE 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

The Capital Area has unanimously endorsed Regional Director Dave Denniston for the position of 2nd Vice President of the State Association. Dave has been nominated by the Virgil Fire District and will be a candidate at the State Association's Annual Meeting on Friday May 18th at the Turning Stone. If there is an election it will be held at 4PM on Friday May 18th. We would hope that Dave has no opposition and is elected at the annual meeting on Friday morning.

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>

Benefits of membership include meeting attendance, receiving the Bulletin, access to legal advice

The Capital Area has logo ware available, 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:

- The Wilton Fire District is looking for policies regarding Driver Certification, send to Megan Washburn, District Administrator at mwashburn@wiltonfiredept.org. Thank you.
- Are you interested in becoming a Director to represent our region, Region 1 for the next two years, please contact Tom Rinaldi or any of the Capital Area officers? Directors can still assume the position at the Annual Meeting in May.
- Two Long Island fire departments have joined others in New York to sue the state. The group of departments say New York has failed to collect and distribute millions of dollars in funding from insurance companies, known as 2% money. That money goes toward fire districts' infrastructure, injured firefighters' health care and New York state's Firefighters Association.

- Norfolk-Southern who was responsible for last month's derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, has agreed to pay more than \$7 million to cover costs incurred by Pennsylvania agencies and fire departments and establish a relief fund for residents and businesses, Gov. Josh Shapiro said Monday
- The Capital Area Fire Districts Association would like to express its appreciation to H₂M Architects and RBC Financial for their generous sponsorship of our Annual Officer's Reception which was held at the Embassy Suites in Saratoga Springs this year.
- Fire Department Breakfasts are back, Gansevoort Fire Department holds theirs on the 3rd Sunday of each month except for July and August. Clifton Park Fire Department is every other month with the next breakfast on the first Sunday of April. Vischer Ferry Fire Department holds two per year with the next breakfast being held on Sunday March 19th from 8 to 11am. (If any other department would like to notify readers of their activities please let us know through the officers or directors

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

ON THE GRANTS FRONT:

Fire Prevention and Safety Grant (FP&S) is Open!

The FP&S grant provides critical resources needed to support a wide array of fire prevention projects that improve the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards.

The application period is now open and is scheduled to close on March 31 at 5pm EST.

FEDERAL GRANTS NOT RENEWED SO FAR – IN DANGER OF NOT BEING FUNDED!!

MILLIONS IN FUNDING FOR NY FIREFIGHTERS COULD GO UP IN SMOKE

Ashley Dager

Two programs that help staff and equip firefighters in New York state have the chance of being eliminated.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program, and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program, have helped federally fund volunteer and professional fire departments throughout New York state for the last 20 years.

"Since these programs have launched, they provided nearly million \$700 million to firefighters across New York" said U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), "including over 23 million just alone last year."

Schumer said the programs are two of the only major resources fire departments receive from the federal government.

The programs are set to expire in September. As of right now, they do not have a promised future.

In 2018, the Albany Fire Department received \$426,000 to purchase a fire simulator trailer for hands-on emergency training. In 2022, the Schenectady Fire Department received \$417,032 to purchase personal radios for its firefighters.

The Saratoga Springs and Troy fire departments were also awarded nearly \$8 million to bring on new firefighters to suit up in the community last year.

"We've been awarded a grant from FEMA to hire and train 14 firefighters for 3 years," Troy Fire Chief Eric McMahon said.

"As you can imagine, that's an incredible expense. It's almost \$4 million."

McMahon said without the grants, municipalities would have to cover the costs.

"If those funds were not coming to the City of Troy, the City of Troy would have to find those funds within their budget,"

McMahon said. "And it would put extra stresses and strains on the tax payers in the City of Troy."

A bill known as the Fire Grants and Safety Act of 2023 has been introduced in hopes of continuing these programs.

"Local fire departments deserve state of the art equipment," said Schumer. "And to be able to adequately staff their fire departments and not worry about the bottom line."

Schumer said the bill needs plenty of support. If passed, it would extend these resources through to 2030.

FY 2021 AFG Programs Status Update

Award announcements are still underway for all three programs. Even though FY 2021 ended Sept. 30, 2022, awards will continue to be made because of the \$300 million in supplemental funds provided through the American Rescue Plan Act (AFG-\$90 million, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response-\$200 million, and Fire Protection & Safety-\$10 million). Awards are expected to continue into March. As award determinations are finalized, notification will be sent to grant recipients. Award information will also be posted on the FEMA website as each round is announced.

FY 2022 SAFER Grant application period is open until Friday, March 17, 2023 at 5 p.m. ET. Start your application today by reviewing the FY 2022 SAFER funding notice and associated tools posted on the FEMA website at www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safer/documents

STATE ASSOCIATION NEWS:

WWW.AFDNYS.ORG

[The Capital Area Fire Districts Association endorses Dave Denniston](#)

The Capital Area Officers and Directors voted at the March 9th meeting to endorse Dave Denniston for 2nd Vice President of the State Association. Dave is in his fourth term as commissioner in the Virgil Fire District and have served on the AFDSNY Board of Directors for the past 8 years. During this period, he has participated in some great accomplishments, and have witnessed the challenges that the organization faces. Dave has also been endorsed by the Central NY and Monroe County Fire Districts Association for this position. We are confident that Dave will represent the member districts of the Capital Area well and work in the best interests of the association members.

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

Wednesday, May 17 - Saturday, May 20

Turning Stone Resort & Casino

5218 Patrick Road

Verona, Ne 13478

Annual Meeting & Leadership Summit Expo

[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.

The Capital Area Association officers and directors are urging all fire districts who are members of the State Association to at least travel to Turning Stone on Friday Afternoon May 18th no later than 4PM to VOTE in favor of the By-law change which will allow future voting either in person or by Proxy. This would empower all of the members who pay dues to vote on the future of the State Association without having to travel, pay for and attend the annual conference. If you pay dues to this not for profit Association, you should be enfranchised to vote!

TRAINING APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR ENTIRE BOARD/SECRETARY/TREASURER

Mark your calendar for November 4th 2023 for the Capital Area Fall Leadership Workshop, final location to be determined. If there are subjects that YOU think we should be covering, please let us know.



Coffee with Commissioners

THE LATEST FROM ALBANY

From the 2024 Executive Budget Briefing Book

Improve Statewide Emergency Response Services.

- **Allow for Compensation Volunteer Firefighters.** The Executive Budget proposes legislation to allow municipalities and fire companies to pay volunteer firefighters modest compensation based on call response and still retain their volunteer status.
- **Volunteer Firefighter Training Stipend.** The Executive Budget includes \$6.5 million to provide a State-funded stipend to volunteer firefighters who complete foundational training as well as funds for DHSES to administer the program and enhance their training capacity.
- **Create NY Emergency Services IP Network.** The Executive Budget includes \$20 million to assist counties in transitioning to Next Generation 911 via a fiberoptic cable network that would connect to a single Public Service Answering Point in each county
- **Amend Emergency Medical Services** This part would require the State Emergency Medical Services Council to advise the Commissioner of Health on issues related to EMS; establish a statewide comprehensive emergency medical services plan; establish mobile integrated healthcare program for ESM agencies; and establish a new process for the approval of EMS applications.
- **Emergency Medical Services (EMS):** The Executive proposes \$7.6 million to increase the EMS special revenue fund in addition to providing capital equipment resources to enhance the statewide fleet of EMS vehicles including ambulances and non-transport treatment vehicles.
- **Create the Transit-Oriented Development Act of 2023** This part would require local governments to authorize the construction of residential dwelling units within proximity to any non-seasonal rail station.
- **Authorize a Property Tax Exemption for Accessory Dwelling Units** This part would authorize municipalities to adopt a property tax exemption program for residential property owners to create one or more additional residential units on their property.
- **Prohibit Installation of Fossil Fuel Equipment and Building Systems** This part would prohibit the installation of fossil-fuel equipment and building systems in new building construction and establish building benchmarking requirements

The executive budget will be presented to the legislature; they will review it, come up with their budget and then the negotiations begin. The budget is supposed to be in place by April 1st. We'll see.

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)
- **S4120 MAYER/A3992 OTIS---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.
- **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

- **S3458 SKOFUS/A2776 ZEBROWSKI---AMEND PENAL CODE TO ADD ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF OCCUPANTS AND FIRST RESPONDERS**
- **S2986 KAVANAGH/A4430 ZEBROWSKI---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)
- **S3531 SKOFUS---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.

- **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.

- **S324 OBERACKER---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.

ALSO: A165 WOERNER AND S324 OBERACKER

- **A1999 HAWLEY---CANCER COVERAGE COST RELIEF**

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

- *occupational, and other information from firefighters on an ongoing basis to enable public health researchers to learn more about the causes of firefighter cancer in order to better treat and prevent it.*
- **The SIREN Grant**, which is run through the Department of Health and Human Services and helps public and private nonprofit EMS agencies that serve rural areas pay for equipment, training, and staffing.
- Housing Guaranteed Loan Program assists approved lenders in providing loans to low- and moderate- income households to build, rehabilitate, or improve a home in eligible rural areas. **This bill will allow volunteer firefighters to participate in the loan program even if their income exceeds the maximum allowable income level by up to \$18,000.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Good Neighbor Next Door Sales Program *gives law enforcement officers, teachers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians a 50-percent discount from the list price of a home located in a revitalization area.*

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

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!



VFIS Instructor-Level Program Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVDT)

EMS Vehicle Operation (EMSVO) Description ***This program is a train-the-trainer program*** which is designed to teach the necessary instructional methodology in order to successfully deliver the following programs within your own agency. Upon completion, an instructor kit will be provided.

Course Information

4/15/2023 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

4/16/2023 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Wynantskill Fire Department / NGFD#1 511 Church Street Wynantskill, NY 12198



EVDT 12-16hr Instructor Level PDF.pdf

Register online at www.vfis.com

Insured by VFIS \$0 for first 3 seats, \$60 for each additional Not insured by VFIS \$500 per seat

Brush Fire Response ESIP WEBINAR SERIES

Date: 3/15/2023 Time: 7:00 PM EST

The time of year is upon us that we see a spike in the number of brush related fires in much of the country. Join us as we discuss the hazards and best practices associated with brush fire response.

REGISTER AT THIS LINK: <https://mcneilandcompany.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=03596f243a9d922954ebaf15e&id=ac552adc8f&e=781e9a2c81>

UL FSRI Fire Safety Academy – 1 Hour Web Based Course on Lithium Ion Batteries

This course focuses on foundational research about lithium-ion batteries, thermal runaway and how fire and explosion hazards can develop. The knowledge you gain in this course can help you identify the risks associated with lithium-ion battery products in your personal and professional life.

COURSE ACCESS AT THIS LINK: <https://training.fsri.org/course/035-science-lib>

Available at any time for your members.

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” *Local Date Coming Up*

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



VFIS Instructor-Level Program Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVDT) EMS Vehicle Operation (EMSVO)

Description This program is a train-the-trainer program which is designed to teach the necessary instructional methodology in order to successfully deliver the following programs. Upon completion, an instructor kit will be provided. Course Information 3/11/2023 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM 3/12/2023 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM Empress Ambulance 740 Nepperhan Avenue Yonkers, NY 10703

Registration Insured by VFIS Not Insured by VFIS \$0 for first 3 seats, \$60 for each additional \$500

[VFIS TRAINING AND RESOURCE CATALOG 2023](https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-ETC-Resource-Catalog-VFIS.pdf)

<https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-ETC-Resource-Catalog-VFIS.pdf>

[VFIS UNIVERSITY – USERS GUIDE](https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/VFIS-University-User-Guide-3.pdf)

<https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/VFIS-University-User-Guide-3.pdf>

[VFIS TRAINING OFFICER USERS GUIDE](https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/VFISU-Training-Officer-User-Guide.pdf)

<https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/VFISU-Training-Officer-User-Guide.pdf>

[VFIS RESPONDER HELP FLYER](https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-VFIS-Responder-Help-Flyer.pdf)

<https://afdca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-VFIS-Responder-Help-Flyer.pdf>

[Hands-On Training at FIRE 2023 in Syracuse Announced](https://www.nysfirechiefs.com/fire2023hot)

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>

OUR CHANGING FIRE SERVICE –CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES!

[OPPORTUNITIES:](#)

[First Responders Spotlight: Barnard Fire Keeps Monroe County Senior Community Safe, Prepared](#)

VIDEO: Assistant Chief Steve Dorgan with the Barnard Fire District says they have a fondness for a certain senior living community in Greece. "We've had lunch, we've had dinner. They're family," he said. At Episcopal Senior Life's Beatrice Place on Denise Road, a big part of what the crews do when not responding to emergencies is prevention and training with the residents. "If we can get to somebody ahead of time and stop something from happening, or pick up on something..." said Dorgan. Workshops like blood pressure clinics, fire safety, and others help keep the residents safe. Firefighter and paramedic PJ Doyle says going over there is "awesome." "The staff is very caring for the residents. We interact with them frequently," said Doyle.

Commissioner Explains State's Plan To Stabilize Volunteer Fire Department

Andrew Donovan

Towns in New York might soon have the option to pay their volunteer firefighters as a way to recruit new members. The possibility will become reality if Governor Kathy Hochul's state budget proposal passes through the State Legislature. In an interview with NewsChannel 9, Commissioner Bray said, "Every single place I went, the thing I heard over and over was we have a recruitment and retention crisis in the fire service."

In general, volunteer departments have constantly faced dwindling rosters but increasing calls.

"Part of what we're trying to do is give communities options," said Commissioner Bray. "...The governor doesn't want to mandate what a community does to solve this problem. We want to put options on the table."

The first option: a 10% property tax break for volunteer firefighters pending each county's approval. The Onondaga County Legislature recently approved it.

The second option, pending budget approval: a nearly \$1,000 stipend for each of the first three volunteer firefighter training courses for new recruits, funded by New York State.

The third option, pending budget approval: allowing towns to pay volunteer firefighters, limited to twenty percent of what a career firefighter makes.

"This is not about turning the volunteer fire service into a paid or career service," said Commissioner Bray. "Frankly, that would be billions of dollars. My intent, our goal, the governor's goal is to stabilize the volunteer service, not move in a different direction."

The state is working to change the definition of "volunteer" in the law governing firefighter benefits. Because each town has to fund the payments, each town can locally decide whether to offer it or not.

Bray said: "Some can buy apparatus. They can build great firehouses. But they aren't legally allowed to spend those resources on the things they need most, which is people."

Some technicalities are still being worked out in the pending legislation, including how volunteer departments serving different towns are impacted and how mutual aid calls impact the pay.

State budget hearings continue in the State Legislature for the rest of the month. The budget takes effect on April 1.

Apply Now for a \$1500 College Scholarship From FASNY

Each year we provide 25 deserving high school seniors with \$1500 Gerard J. Buckenmeyer Memorial FASNY Volunteer Scholarships to continue their post-secondary education. The scholarships are a great way to help retain your youngest members. Applications are being accepted through March 15.

APPLY AT THIS LINK: <https://firefightersassociationofthestateofnewyork.cmail20.com/t/y-l-pljldhl-ikjuyhjliy-j/>

Join FASNY at Their Annual Convention

Aug. 10-12 in Niagara Falls

We're excited to host our 151st Convention in Niagara Falls Aug. 10-12. Held at the Niagara Falls Convention Center, the event is an excellent opportunity to network, train, and provide input into decisions affecting the operation of your Association. A comprehensive Convention pamphlet will be mailed to all FASNY members shortly and will help you plan your trip. [Click here](#) for additional details, or call (518) 434-0987.

CLICK HERE FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS: <https://firefightersassociationofthestateofnewyork.cmail20.com/t/y-l-pljldhl-ikjuyhjliy-h/>

CHALLENGES:

RecruitNY April 22-23

Hundreds of fire departments across the state will open their doors for RecruitNY. We encourage you to host your own open house and show your community the value of the volunteer fire service. FASNY offers helpful recruitment resources and grants to help you have an effective open house.

Tesla on Autopilot Blamed in CA Fire Truck Crash

Tom Krisher & Michelle Chapman

U.S. safety regulators are turning up the heat on Tesla, announcing investigations into steering wheels coming off some SUVs and a fatal crash involving a Tesla suspected of using an automated driving system when it ran into a parked firetruck in California.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Wednesday it is launching a special crash-investigation team to probe the Feb. 18 crash involving a Tesla Model S and a ladder truck from the Contra Costa County fire department.

The driver of the 2014 Tesla Model S was killed in the crash and a passenger critically injured. Four firefighters were treated for minor injuries, and the \$1.4 million ladder truck was damaged.

NHTSA is investigating how the Autopilot system detects and responds to emergency vehicles parked on highways. **At least 14 Teslas have crashed into emergency vehicles nationwide while using the system.**

NHTSA has sent investigators to 35 Tesla crashes in which automated systems are suspected of being used. Nineteen people have died in those crashes, including two motorcyclists.

HOT TOPIC - LIVING WITH LI-ION TECHNOLOGY

[VIDEO: Battery Eyed in Devastating Bronx Supermarket Fire](#)

Fire investigators are blaming a lithium-ion battery for sparking a massive 5-alarm inferno that tore through a supermarket in the Bronx. The fire took off around 10:40 a.m., triggering a response from approximately 200 firefighters to the Concourse Food Plaza on Sunday. Huge plumes of thick smoke filled the sky, visible from miles away. Mayor Eric Adams and top FDNY brass said the origin of the raging fire was a battery-powered scooter, caught on video igniting inside the store. "The video is chilling. When you saw how fast this fire started and spread, it just really gives you a point of pause," Adams said at a press conference, as crews continued to extinguish hotspots some five hours after the fire started. The scooter and battery being blamed for the complete destruction of the store, which was open when it caught fire, was carted out during the briefing.

[Federal Push For Lithium-Ion Battery Safety As New York City Fires Mount](#)

VIDEO: As lithium-ion battery fires continue to break out across New York City, Congressman Ritchie Torres is proposing new legislation to establish safety standards at the federal level. Torres, a Democrat representing parts of the Bronx, says that the proposal is aimed at preventing fires like the five-alarm inferno that tore through a borough supermarket on Sunday when an e-bike battery burst into flames. That blaze left seven people injured and took more than 200 firefighters to extinguish. The legislation would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish federal safety standards for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in personal mobility devices, like e-bikes. Torres is set to introduce the legislation Tuesday morning.

[Related: Investigation Continues After Lithium-Ion Battery Fire Destroys New York Grocery, Laundromat](#)

VIDEO: The FDNY is still putting out hotspots after a fire destroyed a supermarket and laundromat in the Bronx over the weekend. Investigators were working Monday to try to figure out if the lithium-ion battery responsible for a fire that burned through a supermarket and homes in the Bronx was not approved. "There is nothing left and it is all because of this one single bike," FDNY Commissioner Laura Kavanagh said. As the sun came up Monday morning, the light poured into the Concourse Food Plaza and laundromat next door, showing nothing but debris and charred rubble. Officials say it was the result of an e-bike lithium-ion battery fire that started Sunday. "We have seven injuries, five firefighters, one member of EMS and one civilian, everyone is stable but this really shows you how incredibly serious this can be," Kavanagh said.

[Virginia Lawmakers Mandate Electric Vehicle Fire Risk Training](#)

Virginia firefighters will be required to complete a training program starting next year, about the risk of electric vehicle fires. Del. Israel O'Quinn, R-Washington, proposed House Bill 2451 to require the executive director of the Virginia

Department of Fire Programs to develop a training program for electric vehicle fires. The program must be developed and available by July, 1 2024, according to the bill. **All firefighters, including volunteer firefighters, must complete the training by Dec. 1, 2025.** The bill unanimously passed committees and both chambers. Sen. Bryce Reeves, R-Spotsylvania, asked for one clarification in the Senate General Laws and Technology committee, about whether the program would be offered both in-person and virtual. "I heard from some of my fire folks, and they were concerned that this is more time away," Reeves said.

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

IN 2022 WE HAVE SADLY EXPERIENCED *12 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...

- Virginia Department of Forestry Firefighter Rocky S. Wood was killed Thursday night while fighting a wildfire, Wood had also been serving as chief of the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department.
- More at: <https://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/>

Reference Material for Use in a Line of Duty Death

- [VFBL Firefighters Guide to Benefits](http://wcb.ny.gov/content/main/vf-vaw/injured-in-lin-of-duty.pdf), wcb.ny.gov/content/main/vf-vaw/injured-in-lin-of-duty.pdf
- [Survivors Benefit Guide](http://www.firehero.org), 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? WEEKLY FIRE FATALITY DATA AS REPORTED BY THE MEDIA

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.

Fire Deaths in 1&2 Family Dwellings in NYS	23+5 = 28
Last fire death Spring Valley, Rockland Co. Female 29, Male 34, 4, 27, 13	
Fire Deaths in any type of Dwelling in NYS	38+9 = 47
Fire Deaths in 1&2 Family Dwellings Nationally	300 + 32 = 332
Top Three State with the most 1&2 Family Deaths	1 NY = 47
	2 IN = 28
	3 PA - GA = 25
There has been a total of 0563 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.

RETENTION & RECRUITMENT

[New Legislation In West Virginia Could Help Retain Volunteer Firefighters With Free Vehicle Registrations](#)

West Virginia is considering a new bill, House Bill 2191, to provide free motor vehicle registrations and license plates to volunteer firefighters with at least five years of service. The bill was introduced by Delegate Burkhammer on January 11, 2023, and has been referred to the Committee on Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services and then Finance. The proposed legislation aims to recognize and appreciate the invaluable services that volunteer firefighters provide to the state. Volunteer firefighters often put their lives on the line to save others, and the least the state can do is make their lives easier. By exempting them from paying for vehicle registrations and license plates, the state could give back to the volunteers and help ease their financial burden. Additionally, the bill would encourage more people to join the firefighting services and help retain experienced volunteers by showing that their contributions are valued.

THE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

[**Nashville Sued by Driver Over Collision Due To Hose Falling Off Apparatus](#)

Curt Varone

A woman who was injured in a collision caused by “equipment or firehose” coming off a Nashville fire truck in 2022, has filed suit against the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and the driver of a third vehicle that struck her from behind after the initial collision. Kristin Boesen filed suit in Davidson County Circuit Court alleging negligence.

Boesen’s suit claims Metro government is liable because its personnel negligently secured the equipment and hose on the apparatus, as well as for negligent hiring, training and supervision of its personnel. The other driver, Cameron Dupree, is accused of negligence for failing to keep a safe distance, and failing to keep a proper lookout. [Anyone else see a level of hypocrisy in Boesen’s allegations???

Boesen claims she suffered personal injuries, lost income and property damage. The suit is seeking up to \$250,000 in damages. Here is a copy of the complaint.

[Treasurer Charged With Stealing From North Carolina Fire Department](#)

Curt Varone

The former treasurer of a North Carolina volunteer fire department has been charged with stealing over \$48,000 from the department. Kimberly Hutchens Reeves is facing felony larceny charges for her alleged theft from the Pearce’s Mill Fire Department.

Reeves served as treasurer and secretary of Pearce’s Mill from July, 2021 until earlier this year. According to the Fayetteville Observer, she reportedly wrote unauthorized checks and e-checks to herself over that period of time. She also made a number of unauthorized cash withdrawals. [Failure to institute internal controls by the department]

An audit discovered the theft, and the matter was turned over to the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office. Reeves was subsequently dismissed from the fire department.

If this fact pattern sounds familiar – check out Kelly Paxton’s web site on Pink Collar Crime. Cases like this are not isolated nor uncommon.

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

STEP INTO THE CHIEF'S OFFICE:

****What Is an Expectation? A Company Officer's Guide**

Edward Myers

Most firefighters can tell you who their first company officer was, what they learned from him, or what they did or did not like about him. They can also tell you who their best and worst company officers were over the years. This leaves the company officers who were just okay and basically managed their way through the ranks to retirement and were easy to forget. The worst company officers had no expectations of themselves or their people. The mediocre officers maybe had an expectation of just getting through the shift unscathed by runs or the administration. Finally, you have successful company officers who were always up for a challenge and who have solid expectations for their crew. Their expectations are clear, concise, achievable, and usually have been vetted by countless successful officers over the years.

Expectations are a vital part of leadership and leading by example. If company officers are going to set expectations for their crew, they must be willing and able to meet those expectations themselves. If you expect your crew to have their uniform squared away, you better be squared away. If that company officer expects his or her crew to have their engine or truck ready for work, that officer needs to know that particular apparatus inside and out and when it is truly ready for work. Leading by example and meeting the expectation go hand-in-hand. A true leader cannot expect what they do not represent. Firefighters are intelligent and will see through the smoke and shenanigans. All credibility will be lost for company officers who cannot meet or exceed their own expectations.

Many will ask the all-important question: What exactly is an expectation? An expectation is a standard of performance that is based on an essential function of the job, that is in turn based on legitimate job expectations and the expectation has a rational nexus (Dr. B. Crandell, 2019). Each officer and each fire department will have their own expectations of their people. Some will have no expectations of their crew or department, some will have a few simple expectations, and some will have very detailed expectations. The overall performance of a crew and the culture of an organization is directly related to these expectations. Crews and departments with no expectations can get lucky and have everything go right on a run and the stretch or search goes right. On the flip side, a solid crew or department can do everything right and still come up short, but that is part of life.

Where the rubber meets the road is when the crews are consistently failing or they are mediocre at best. This is where we see no real expectation of the members, which in a nutshell boils down to the lack of leadership. When the stretch is consistently short, search isn't getting done, or your crew is consistently failing to get quick water on the fire, you are failing to meet the expectation of those we are sworn to protect. Successful crews and departments have one thing in common: they have set the expectations for their people and then they hold them accountable for those expectations. We should never hold our people accountable out of fear of being disciplined; a healthy culture will make them want to hold themselves accountable to both the citizens' and the organizations' expectations. Although there are many factors that come into play that can throw a wrench into any operation, a solid crew/organization with a good culture is consistently making the right decisions.

Many of these right decisions are based on expectations, which come in a variety of forms. First, the citizens have an expectation of the fire department to show up and solve their problem, be it a fire, medical call, a rescue...the list goes on and on. This expectation has continued to evolve since the birth of the American fire service 286 years ago. Meeting and exceeding the citizen's expectations have made the fire service what it is today.

Next is the company officer's expectations of a firefighter. These expectations should be laid out at the beginning of the officer/firefighter relationship. An expectation needs to be easy to perceive, interpret, and understand. The expectation also needs to be brief, but concise as to not overwhelm the employee with too much information. The third part of the expectation is that the expectation needs to be achievable. If an officer sets an expectation that is out of the reach of the

firefighter, the expectation will never be met and the employee may get frustrated and give up altogether. When the employee falls short, not only is it frustrating for the employee, but the organization will suffer as well.

While it is important for the officers to have expectations of their crew, there also needs to be an understanding that the firefighters will have expectations of their company officer as well. It is important to ask firefighters what their expectations are of their officer. These expectations have to be reasonable as well, but should not overstep their place in the organization. Things like leading by example, having an all-in attitude, and being fair and consistent are just a few examples of what a firefighter's expectations of an officer should be.

Finally, we have the chief's expectations of the administrative/operational chiefs as well as his or her expectations of the company officers. These expectations should be similar, but there will also be more expectations because of their positions within the organization. As officers promotes up through the chain-of-command, they should have a good understanding of the organization's expectations of each position that they have previously held. With each step comes more responsibility and even more expectations from both the organization and the boots-on-the-ground firefighters. Therefore, it is important to understand the basic expectations of the organization at each level. Without this foundation it can be easy to lose sight of the mission and forget where you came from early on in your career.

It's critical to understand that expectations are a vital part of a successful organization. You do not need a never-ending list of expectations to cover every little detail. For example: Expectation #1: Be at work on-time and ready to work. This would mean to be early, get pass over from the outgoing member you are relieving, get your gear in order (self-contained breathing apparatus, mask, etc.), and ensure your tools and rig are ready to respond prior to the start of your shift. This is a basic expectation that encompasses multiple things. Your organization and its leadership need to determine what the expectation should be.

Another way to create buy-in is to have the troops help decide what the expectation should be at their level within the organization. Here at Goshen Township (OH) Fire and EMS, we asked everyone within the organization what they think the expectations should be at their level of responsibility. We then condensed the ones that were similar and developed our expectations from this list. This not only makes the members part of the process, but they also helped develop the standard by which they will be held accountable.

Expectations should be discussed and set with the employee at the very beginning of their tenure with your organization, with each promotion, and periodically reviewed with the members to keep them fresh in their mind. Expectations should be kept current and meet the needs of the organization. These expectations should also be tied to the employees' periodic performance evaluations as well. Evaluating the members based on this list of expectations will only help strengthen and validate the entire process. It is our responsibility as officers, senior firefighters, and leaders to set the expectations and hold them and ourselves accountable for those expectations.

CLASSIFIED

Position Announcement Greenfield Fire District

The Greenfield Fire District is looking for a professional and highly-motivated person to perform custodial services and maintenance of fire district buildings, grounds and equipment. Must have good communication skills, the ability to manage several projects simultaneously, and 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.greenfieldfd.org.

Please send application, cover letter & resume to Joyce Petkus, District Administrator via email at jpetkus@greenfieldfd.org or regular mail to Greenfield Fire District, P.O. Box 103 Greenfield Center, NY 12833 no later than Friday, March 17, 2023.

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

Position Announcement Station Keeper/Maintenance Person

Full Time (40 hours/week) hourly position, commensurate with experience. 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.
- 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

General Statement of Duties and Responsibilities:

- Performs work under the general direction of the Building Committee Chairman and Fire District Secretary, as directed by the Board of Fire Commissioners
- Maintain Fire District buildings, grounds and equipment.
- Provide custodial type services at District Office and firehouse
- Other duties as assigned and approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners
- Within one (1) year of hire date, must be a qualified driver and pump operator on all District vehicles. (Training will be permitted on District time).

Examples of Work to be performed:

- Mowing and trimming of lawns, pruning and mulching, rake and remove leaves/debris as necessary.
- Custodial type services including but not limited to: mopping, vacuuming, washing, scrubbing, cleaning windows, buffing, carpet cleaning, and garbage removal.
- Paint interior/exterior of buildings as needed; power wash exterior buildings as necessary.

- Responsible for maintenance and upkeep of vehicles and equipment provided by the Board of Fire Commissioners to complete duties.
- Assist in the coordination of fire apparatus and equipment. Clean, fuel, maintain and transport apparatus and equipment as necessary.
- Assist in coordination of various equipment testing (i.e. hose, ladder, pump).
- Create written correspondence, generate maintenance records as necessary, enter data into fire district software and create reports as needed.

THE LIGHTER SIDE!

Two Irishmen went into a pub in Dublin and asked for two pints of Guinness. The Barman cleaning the tables said, “Sorry we don’t open for another hour.”
 One of the men asked, “Mind if we wait?”
 “No” said the Barman, “Would you like a pint while you’re waiting?”

OFFICERS OF THE CAPITAL AREA ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS

2023 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Tom Rinaldi, Commissioner Stillwater/Saratoga
1st VP: John Meehan, Commissioner West Crescent/Saratoga
2nd VP: Art Hunsinger, Commissioner Clifton Park Halfmoon/Saratoga
Board of Directors: Les Bonesteel Commissioner Burnt Hills/Saratoga, Tom Wood Commissioner Northumberland/Saratoga, Joyce Petkus Treasurer Greenfield/Saratoga, Ed Woehrle Commissioner Niskayuna #1/Schenectady and Mike Podolec Commissioner West Glenville/Schenectady
Secretary/Treasurer: Tony Hill
Sargent at Arms: Tom Wood
Chaplain: Fred Richards
Legal Council: Greg Serio

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!!

Business Partner Applications Available At: WWW.AFDCA.ORG

Welcome Back all of our Business Partners for 2023

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.

LEGAL SERVICES

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Jack Clark, Fire District Attorney
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BANKING

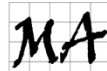


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Brendan Kennedy ext 356

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
tuesday, 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
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For General Membership meetings food is served 1 hour prior to the start time of the meeting, usually 6pm.