



CAPITAL AREA FIRE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

YOUR FIRE DISTRICT NEWS SOURCE

APRIL 20, 2024

EDITOR - TOM RINALDI

tom@rinaldi1.com

[Beginning our 10th year.](#)



CAPITAL SHORTS:

- ***Sorry No Bulletin Next Week, April 27 Due to the upcoming CAFDA Conference, just not enough time.***
- **OSHA IS EXTENDING THE PERIOD FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS BY 45 DAYS (Until June 21st) TO ALLOW STAKEHOLDERS INTERESTED IN THE NPRM ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE ADDITIONAL TIME TO REVIEW THE NPRM AND COLLECT INFORMATION AND DATA NECESSARY FOR COMMENT.**
- **AN OSHA INFORMATION SUPPLEMENT HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE END OF THE BULLETIN AND PROVIDES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND LINKS TO IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS. STAY INFORMED!!**
- Annual Financial Report (AFR formerly AUD) filing deadlines are 120 days after the end of the fiscal year, or **Monday April 29th 2024**. Extension requests can be submitted by the CFO in the [Annual Financial Reporting application](#) or in a letter signed by the CFO and emailed to AFRFILE@osc.ny.gov, faxed to (518) 486-3146 or mailed to Office of the State Comptroller, Data Management Unit, 110 State Street 12-8-C, Albany NY 12236. Fire Districts will also be required to report their statutory spending limit.
- ***CAFDA would like to thank Averill Park Fire District, Halfmoon-Waterford Fire District, Berkshire Fire District and Warrensburg Fire District for the use of their stations to provide the 2024 Commissioner's training, we appreciate your hospitality and the assistance from your members.***
- Welcome to **Alltek Energy Systems** as our latest Business Partner.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS FOR 2024

Averill Park-Sand Lake Fire District #2
Ballston Lake Fire District #1
Berkshire Fire District
Berlin Fire District #1
Boght Community Fire District
Burnt Hills Fire District
Charlton Fire District #1
Chestertown Fire District
Clifton Park-Halfmoon Fire District #1
Coeymans Fire District
Coeymans Hollow Fire District
Delmar Fire District
Dutchess County Fire District Officers Assoc.
Eagle Mills Fire District #1
East Glenville Fire District #3
East Greenbush Fire District #1
Fort Edward Joint Fire District
Fort Hunter Fire District/Alb Co

Fort Hunter Fire District/Mont Co
Glenville Fire District #5
Glenville Fire District #7
Glenville Hill Fire District #8
Glenham Fire District
Grafton Fire District
Greenfield Fire District
Guilderland Fire District
Halfmoon Fire District #1
Halfmoon-Waterford Fire District #1
Harmony Corners Fire District
Hemstreet Park Fire District #4
Hoags Corners Fire District
Hoosick Falls Joint Fire District
Hoosick Fire District
Jefferson Fire District
Johnsonville Fire District
Kiskatom Fire District

Knox Fire District
Latham Fire Department
Lewis Fire District
Mayfield Fire District #2
Melrose Fire District
Milton Fire District No. 1
Niskayuna Fire District #1
Niskayuna Fire District # 2
North Greenbush Fire District # 1
Northside Fire District
Northumberland Fire District #1
Perth Volunteer Fire Company
Piseco Fire Department
Pleasantdale Fire District #5
Plotterkill Fire District
Providence Fire District
Quaker Springs Fire District #1
Quaker Street Fire District No. 1
Raymertown Fire District
Rexford Fire District
Rotterdam Fire District #1
Rotterdam Fire District #2
Rotterdam Fire District #3
Rotterdam Fire District #6

Rotterdam Fire District #7
Sand Lake Fire District #3
Schodack Landing Fire District No. 1
Schuyler Heights Fire District
Selkirk Fire District
Slingerlands Fire District
South Schodack Fire District
Stanford Heights Fire District
Stillwater Fire District
Ticonderoga Joint Town/Village Joint Fire District
Town of Mohawk Fire District
Verdoy Fire District
Vischer Ferry Fire District
Warrensburg Fire District
Wells Fire District
West Athens Limestreet Fire District
West Crescent Fire District
West Glenville Fire District #6
West Sand Lake Fire District #1
Westmere Fire District
Wilton Fire District
Wright Fire District
plus 2 additional Associate Members.

Have you sent in your Dues for 2024 yet??

Those who have not renewed for 2024 yet: North Creek Fire District, & Speigletown Fire District, Fox Pest Control & Marshall & Sterling Insurance.

CAFDA NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES:

WWW.CAFDA.NET

**Your Choice: One Day, or Two Days, or All Three Days,
but don't miss the 1st Local Fire Service Conference
THE 1st ANNUAL CAFDA REGIONAL CONFERENCE
for Fire District Officials – LAKE GEORGE SPRING 2024**

Don't put it off Register now – Registration at the end of this Bulletin.

CAPITAL AREA FIRE DISTRICT CONFERENCE April 25, 26 & 27th 2024

Announcement and Registration Forms at End of The Bulletin!

[General Membership Meetings - - In person and Zoom](#)

[Next General Membership Meeting, Thursday May 9th, dining at 6 Meeting at 7.](#)

[Printable Calendar with much more – See End of Bulletin](#)

[Thank you to the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Fire District for allowing us to use their facility for the CAFDA meetings.](#)

All correspondence & Capital Area Fire Districts Association Mailing Address should be directed to:

CAFDA PO Box 242 East Schodack, NY 12063 or EMAIL: SECRETARY@CAFDA.NET

Financial issues should be addressed to: TREASURER@CAFDA.NET

OTHER FIRE SERVICE ORGANIZATION NEWS

Registration is Open for the 2024 Fire & Life Safety Educators' Training Series

For over 40 years, NYS AFC has partnered with the [New York State Office of Fire Prevention & Control](#) to host the Fire & Life Safety Educators' Conference at the New York State Academy of Fire Science.

Due to infrastructure updates taking place at the academy, in lieu of the annual conference, we're taking the show on the road this spring, conducting one-day events at fire departments across New York state!

[Registration](#) is available through the New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services

REGISTRATION LINK: https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001TOCwg3ovEF_Y28vMWgdj2oPPagxNG2-mYpdNUPneh6IaJI4mhJOeZaCmBmObFEQjdl_xVVUMZKGxm5d0yZPCeZq3WbKfLNE5oQJCA0MFJClxDI4DXOdx5IrnFee9bDpFpL53S-gKJk-Maz9nMjFxE3vfGilhA1X0KU1tI6254k=&c=QVmeJMoBbdFID0x2tKh9M197wXDFggb6joOaqJZZgn-Wgg1mCKjo6w==&ch=IERkeJz7oTSsZozU8hdkBs-2uYgkwOxNO7ptOln1qAmqlqEMnFKJuQ==

Schedules and session descriptions are available [here](#).

2024 Dates and Locations:

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at all locations.

Rensselaer County – April 27 In Person

IF NOTHING ELSE READ THE ARTICLES PRECEDED BY **

THE LATEST FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

THE SCORECARD IS BEING UPDATED EACH WEEK WHILE THE LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION

See what's included in the Budget, that will affect the Fire Service

- Budget extender being voted on until next Monday and perhaps beyond, one party in power, still no budget!! Budget extenders have been issued to keep the government running.
- All attention in Albany has been focused on the budget and associated hearings. Budget was due April 1st.
- Albany is now awaiting the one chamber budget bills, one from the senate and one from the assembly to see how or if they mesh with the Governor's proposal.
- The legislature will be on break between April 19th and May 3rd, resuming on May 6th!

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

It is important to note that the "taxable status date" in most towns was March 1. See more information at: <https://fasny.com/resources/county-index-numbers/>

THE LATEST FROM WASHINGTON

NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS OPPOSE CUTS TO AFG AND SAFER GRANTS

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) joins with other national fire service organizations to strongly oppose cuts to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants. These programs provide critical funding to help fire departments secure needed equipment, training, and staffing to adequately protect their communities.

Funding was slashed 10 percent for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG), the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Program (SAFER). SAFER and AFG programs. They are earmarked to receive \$324 million not \$360 provided in FY 2023.

The AFG and SAFER grants provide a lifeline to fire and EMS departments across the nation as they face challenges such as expanding missions, increased costs, and staffing shortages.

THE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

LI Fire Chief, Captain Sexually Assaulted Medic During Station House Birthday Party: \$25M Lawsuit

Yaron Steinbuch

A volunteer medic on Long Island is speaking out after accusing two senior firefighters of plying her with booze and sexually assaulting her during a birthday party — saying she is still traumatized by the ordeal but has continued to volunteer with the department.

Amanda Gross accused Wantagh Fire Department Chief Kenneth Kelly and Capt. Josef Seier of plying her with alcohol to taking advantage of her at the party at the firehouse in 2022, according to the \$25 million lawsuit filed in Nassau County Supreme Court and viewed by The Post.

“I thought these people were my friends and they weren’t. They did the complete opposite and took advantage,” Gross told WNBC this week. **“They circled the wagons immediately and did what they always try to do — victim shame and victim blame.”**

Gross, who was 27 at the time, claimed the men made continuous advances at her during the party before Kelly dismissed the other guests about 2 a.m., according to the lawsuit.

She realized the high-ranking smoke-eaters were planning to rape her when she heard Kelly tell Seier that they were going to “wet her like a sponge,” the filing alleges.

Once everyone else had left, Seier allegedly began forcing himself on Gross and kissing her despite her cries of “No!” At one point, the two men told Gross that “there were no cameras where they were” — and Seier then became more aggressive and asked her if she wanted to see his penis, the complaint alleges.

She accused the men of raping her in the bathroom when she slipped in and out of consciousness.

“Seier kept telling the Plaintiff ‘come on’ and ‘what is a bad idea?’ while the Plaintiff repeatedly tried to fend him off as she was trapped between Defendant Seier and Defendant Kelly, Jr., as she was too intoxicated to leave,” the lawsuit states.

“Defendants removed the Plaintiff’s clothing from the waist down and Defendant Kelly forcibly bent the Plaintiff over the sink and vaginally penetrated her, unprotected and without her consent,” it alleges.

“At the same time, Defendant Seier forced the Plaintiff to perform fellatio on him, against her will, and without her consent,” the document adds.

“Defendant Kelly said to the Plaintiff ‘we know you like it’ and then reminded the Plaintiff that it was Defendant Seier’s birthday and that she was to be his ‘present’ all while the Plaintiff was trapped between both of the Defendants who were visibly sexually aroused,” the lawsuit states. Gross said she finally left the firehouse about 4 a.m. and claims she received a text from Kelly reading: “Had fun last night. But, remember, that’s between you and me and Joe only forever.”

The lawsuit, which names Kelly, Seier, **and the Wantagh Fire District**, claims the medic suffered multiple bruises, contusions, and pain, as well as “severe psychological harm and depression” It alleges assault, battery, negligence, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

Gross’ lawyer told WNBC that no one had been charged criminally after a police report was filed. Gross, who had been a department volunteer for six years before the alleged assault, told WNBC she has continued volunteering with the department despite the alleged attack.

“My goal is to make it safe, to create a safe environment for people who join, the people still in the department,” Gross said, noting that the two men no longer work with the force. “They can think what they want, but as long as I stay strong, I will be OK.”

The Wantagh Fire District told WNBC that “at the advice of our legal counsel, the District cannot comment on pending litigation.”

The department referred The Post to its legal counsel, which did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Kelly and Seier also could not immediately be reached.

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.

FIRE APPARATUS PURCHASING!

The Aerial “Truck”: Rear-Mounts vs. Midmounts

Louis Sclafani

Then, on the fireground, there are a few operational differences between the two that firefighters should be aware of. Here, we will compare rear-mounts with midmounts.

REAR-MOUNTS

The most popular mounting option is the rear-mount.

By far, there are more rear-mount aerials out there than midmounts. One of the biggest reasons for this is economic because rear-mounts are less expensive than midmounts. The difference between the two can be \$100,000 or more. That alone can be a major factor when making a purchasing decision.

Rear-mounts tend to have fewer ladder sections than midmounts. We typically see three sections for most rear-mounted ladders and platforms. The good news about having fewer sections means the truck has a lower gross vehicle weight (GVW). If you can save weight here, you can have less wear and tear on brakes and tires, providing an economic savings. On the other hand, if your GVW is still lower than what the truck is rated for (GVWR), then you have room (weight) to spare if you want to add extra equipment onto the truck.

Rear-mount aerials tend to have a higher travel height. This is because the device itself lays across the top cab of the truck. If you have height restrictions in your area, be it your fire station, an overpass, or even a building overhang, then a higher truck could be a problem.

Not only do rear-mounts have a higher travel height, but they tend to be longer as well. This is again because of the ladder extending over and out in front of the cab. There are many smaller firehouses across the country where the bay door may be too low, or the apparatus storage area may be too short for a rear-mount to fit.

If purchasing a truck, all of the above are things you may want to consider beforehand. If you have that rear-mount already, let's discuss some of the operational issues. Since rear-mounts are longer in overall length, they may be less maneuverable on a crowded fire scene, preventing them from taking the best spot. Consider a strip store fire. You have taken a position in front of the building. You have positioned yourself to go to the roof if needed. Then the incident commander (IC) declares that this a defensive firefight. Rather than raising your aerial up high and setting up an elevated master stream, the IC asks you to do a low-level attack with your master stream right in the front windows of the store. With the longer boom of a rear-mount, it may be difficult to rotate the device to the desired angle if you are too close to the building.

So, with rear mounts, you typically need to set up a little farther from the building. Maybe one of the biggest concerns I hear from firefighters who operate rear mounts is the overhang in front. Most say that when they first get behind the wheel, it is strange and uncomfortable to see the ladder or, worse yet, the platform hanging over the front of the truck, blocking part of their view. Drivers are constantly looking at the top of their windshields to make sure they don't hit anything.

Interestingly, in my area we have plenty of trees that extend over the road. Upon inspecting a rear-mount platform, I have found leaves, twigs, and branches inside the platform numerous times. It's not uncommon to see the front of the platform, or the master stream device, with marks indicating they struck small limbs while driving down the road. Luckily, I am not aware of any in my area that sustained major damage to the platform. However, there are a number of photos on the Internet showing when they weren't so lucky after hitting low-hanging objects. ***When given a strategic objective such as rescuing a victim from a window, the driver will want to line up the truck in the best spot possible. Typically, this means lining up your turntable with your objective—in this case, the window.*** Given the space and the time, I always teach my students to take the best spot available to them, not just one that is close enough or in the area. Take the BEST spot available. From the driver's seat, it is harder to line up the turntable with your objective when the turntable is all the way in the back of the truck. Perhaps some of us have better depth perception than others.

Finally, when it comes to below-grade operations, rear-mounts have a major advantage. Today, most all aerials can operate at an angle of negative degrees. Of course, some trucks can go lower than others. At least one manufacturer states its device can go to -200. The issue is that rear-mounts can typically maintain their low-level operation on both sides of the truck as well as the rear, where midmounts can only do it off the side of the truck.

MIDMOUNTS

Midmounts can cost \$100,000 or more than rear-mounts. **But, they are also shorter in height and travel length.** If you have height restrictions you have to work with, this alone may make the extra expense worth it. The reason they are shorter is that the ladder or platform doesn't have to fit over the cab and extend out front. Since it doesn't extend out front, not only is the truck shorter in length but there is no obstruction of view for the driver. If it is a platform, it may extend out back and actually "swing" around when making a turn. This is not as big of a problem as it used to be, as manufacturers have engineered improvements in this regard.

How does a 100-foot device that doesn't extend over the cab actually end up being a shorter vehicle in length? Engineering. Midmounts are engineered with more sections, typically five instead of three. These five sections are shorter and sit inside each other in a telescoping configuration.

So, for simple mathematical purposes, consider a 100-foot device. Instead of three sections being roughly 33 1/3 feet long with a rear-mount, a midmount may have five 20-foot sections for that same 100-foot length. So, what is the impact of more sections? There are a few. To begin with, more sections mean more weight, or a higher GVW. If the ladder weighs more, then there is less available weight for equipment. If it's really heavy, it may mean having to purchase a heavier duty and more expensive braking system as well as more tires for the tandem axle. **Remember, midmounts cost more than rear-mounts up front. Why? Their construction requires extra materials for those extra sections as well as the engineering changes to the vehicle itself.**

Operationally, the shorter length provides some advantages. To begin with, a shorter truck is more maneuverable on the fireground and allows us to position closer to a building. Go back to our strip store fire scenario. Since you need less room because of a shorter ladder length, you can more easily maneuver into position. Then, it will be easier to rotate the device around 90° to the front of the building for the firefight, or at least there is less chance of being blocked by another vehicle or the building itself. Also, with the turntable being much closer to the driver, it is easier to line it up with your objective when positioning.

Finally, let's consider negative angles (below grade operation) and vertical reach. For angles, we have to remember that with a midmount, you can only operate in a negative degree angle if working off the side of the truck. There is no way to go negative off the rear or front of the truck. If you want to extend your device vertically up over the front of the truck, you will need to raise your boom so you don't crush the cab. This could put some lower elevation evolutions out of reach. **Some midmounts are equipped with a "Crush Zone" sensor to prevent the ladder from hitting the cab. You should know if yours does or does not.**

As for vertical reach, we need to consider some of the same factors we would for a negative-grade evolution. To obtain the maximum vertical reach to a building, a rear-mount can place the turntable directly next to a building and work off the rear or the side of the truck, obtaining the same maximum vertical reach. A midmount needs to have the side of the truck next to the building to make its maximum vertical reach. If backed in or nosed in, a midmount cannot make that same high point. Conversely, if a rear-mount noses into a building, it will lose much more reach than if it backed in. Firefighters have debated a long time about rear-mounts and midmounts. There is no such thing as the perfect truck, but there are trucks that are more suited to your community or department's method of operation than others.

This article discussed many but not all of the potential differences between rear-mount and midmount trucks. Consider your operating methods and, if purchasing new, have this conversation with your salesperson. I should point out that not all manufacturers offer both mounting options. It's important to train with your truck so you know what it can and can't do. In the meantime, I encourage everyone to Know Your Truck! Know Your Truck! Know Your Truck!

BUILDING A FIRE STATION?

Station Design: Construction Delivery Methods Explained

Laura Eysnogle

Laura Eysnogle lays the foundation for fire department personnel who are involved in the development of a new station in regard to GCs, CMs, CMAs and CMaRs.

Officials approved a new station. You hired your architect. However, what will the project delivery method be? How will the construction be bid? When will the contractor come onboard? Who will hold the contract?

During the process of constructing a new firehouse, lots of terms are thrown around, including general contractor (GC), construction manager (CM), construction manager agency (CMA) and construction manager at risk (CMaR). What do they mean? Which method is best for you?

GC METHOD

The GC method, or design-bid-build, is the most traditional approach to publicly funded projects. An owner works with an architect on the design process without input from contractors. When construction documents are complete, the project is released for bidding, with the lowest, most qualified GC on bid day awarded the project.

In a municipal setting, the owner has limited control over who the GC will be and no control over who the subcontractors will be.

The owner holds one contract with the GC; the GC holds all of the contracts with the remaining contractors. GCs can self-perform work and can hold contracts with as many subcontractors as they like. This allows the GC to make profit from those subcontractors if the total construction cost isn't above the bid price.

CM METHOD

In our experience, the CM method gained a lot of popularity over the past few decades. Within the CM method, there are two different approaches: CMA and CMaR. In either case, when the owner decides to go with a CM, the earlier that the CM is brought onboard, the more value that the CM brings to the beginning stages of the project. We suggest that a CM be brought on at the same time that the architect is selected or just after.

To hire a CM, owners solicit proposals and interview desired firms. The selected CM often attends all design meetings and serves the project by considering constructability and material lead-time trends, preparing detailed estimates and keeping an eye on the bidding environment. Ideally, the CM and the architect become a solid team that supports the owner throughout the design and construction process.

In either CM method, there can be minimal contracts (such as general trades, site, mechanical, electrical, plumbing) or numerous contracts that are broken into work categories, such as painting and flooring. These smaller categories often allow local contractors the opportunity to bid directly to their municipality.

Key differences between CMA and CMaR are the assumed risk to the contractor and who holds the contract.

A CMA is a professionally led system in which the CM acts as an advisor to the owner and can make decisions on the owner's behalf. The owner holds the contracts for all of the subcontractors. The CM doesn't self-perform work and isn't obligated to bring the project in under a guaranteed price or to assume any construction risk.

The CMaR does the same project coordination and oversight as the CMA but is obligated to complete the project for a guaranteed maximum price, assuming risk for the construction. CMaRs can self-perform work, which allows for more control over the construction schedule, the price and/or the quality of the craftsmanship.

A MISCONCEPTION

It often is assumed that CM projects cost the owner more money than GC projects. However, that isn't often the case. With a GC-delivered project, contractors include a percentage of the cost as overhead, and profit on bid day isn't negotiable. The profit often is determined by how competitive the GC needs to be on bid day. If the GC is busy, this fee could be higher than if the GC is slow.

As a direct hire by the owner, CM fees can be negotiated. Other fees, such as on-site costs, also are known up front in a CM project and will be charged at cost to the client.

Ultimately, the owner selects whichever delivery method fits its needs. However, considering upfront involvement of contractors can be a serious advantage in the current bidding climate.

FIRE DISTRICT/COMPANY FINANCES!

*****Annual Financial Report (AFR) Due to State Comptroller by April 29th***

Annual Financial Report (AFR formerly AUD) filing deadlines are 120 days after the end of the fiscal year, or Monday April 29th 2024. Extension requests can be submitted by the CFO in the [Annual Financial Reporting application](#) or in a letter signed by the CFO and emailed to AFRFILE@osc.ny.gov, faxed to (518) 486-3146 or mailed to Office of the State Comptroller, Data Management Unit, 110 State Street 12-8-C, Albany NY 12236. Fire Districts will also be required to report their statutory spending limit.



Volunteer Firefighter Training Stipend Webinar

Date & Time Monday May 6, 2024 07:00 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Volunteer Firefighter Training Stipend Program Webinar – what you need to know about the new law! Join FASNY General Counsel Tim Hannigan, FASNY Secretary John D’Alessandro, and a representative from the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control in a live discussion of the new law and how to implement it in your firehouse.

REGISTER AT THIS LINK: https://fasny.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sJKvUur_RRkDaEbpGG3-QA#/registration

*****Volunteer Fire Infrastructure & Response Equipment Grant Program***

It needs to be understood that this is a reimbursement grant program and the funds need to be expended before they are released by the State.

Complete eligibility and program information can be found in the Request for Applications (RFA) and other supporting documentation can be found at the following link: <https://www.dhSES.ny.gov/state-funded-programs>

The application deadline is April 30, 2024, by 5:00 pm.

THE WEB SITE INCLUDES LINKS TO:

- Request for Applications (RFA)
- Application Worksheet
- Frequently Asked Questions
- E-Grants Tutorial

LINK TO THE SYNOPSIS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM: <https://cafda.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Synopsis-of-the-2023-Grant-Program-1.docx>

- ✓ Further work is being done to change the program from a re-imbursement program to an invoice submittal program, especially the smaller departments who don’t have the funding up front. More to come on this concept.

Message from Deputy State Fire Administrator Luci Labriola-Cuffe on the NYS Volunteer Firefighter Stipend Program

I am very pleased to announce the NYS Stipend Regulation is now final and the program information is now live on our website. OFPC is now accepting applications for the stipend monies for volunteer firefighters who have successfully completed (first time completion) one of the eligible courses on or after August 31, 2023.

Learn what you and your Chief’s need to do to comply with this new program!!

Further information and documents found here:

<https://www.dhSES.ny.gov/new-york-state-volunteer-firefighter-stipend-program>

The final regulation can be found on the NYS Register starting on page 4:

<https://dos.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2024/03/030624.pdf>

If anyone has questions, please send them to OFPC-Stipend@dhSES.ny.gov

Thank you,

Luci

Luci Labriola-Cuffe, MPS-HS: PHP & CT

Deputy State Fire Administrator

Fiscal Oversight Responsibilities of the Governing Board

The governing board’s oversight role can touch virtually every aspect of a local government’s operations. This session will discuss some key functions including budget responsibilities, interim reporting, the audit of claims, and the annual audit requirements. We will also provide resources available to assist in these oversight activities.

DATE: 2024-01-24 LENGTH: 46:53 TAKE THIS ANYTIME AT THIS LINK: [On Demand Slide Show Presentation \[pdf\]](#)

Local Government and School Accountability Contact Information:

STEP INTO THE CHIEF'S OFFICE

The Reality Of Generational Differences: It's About Society, Not Individuals

Andrew Holter

Over the years, pop psychology has led us to believe that people of various generations need different things to feel engaged and satisfied in the workplace or have distinct motivations for coming to work. I have read the articles and attended these seminars that tout these beliefs about generational differences and what makes each generation unique.

What you read next might be hard to believe, but it's based on hard evidence, academic research and other credible sources: Most of the information that has become common belief on the subject is actually inaccurate or at least unsupported by empirical evidence. The less-talked-about critical changes in the workforce and workplace are far more pressing, requiring us to adapt now or face an uncertain future of survival rather than sustainability.

GENERATIONAL RANGES

For full disclosure, I'm a part of Generation Y (aka a millennial), which has recently become the largest generation in the U.S. workforce. Millennials are 27 to 42 years old. **Generation Y** accounts for more than 35% of all workers and will soon become a large majority of the workforce over the next 5 to 10 years.

The younger people entering the workforce are members of **Generation Z**, which accounts for about 5% of the workforce today. Many are younger, still in college or school, ranging from 11 to 26 years old in 2023.

Moving in the other direction from Gen Y, **Generation X** includes people aged 43 to 58, and accounts for 33% of the workforce, nearly the same percentage of the workforce as Generation Y.

Baby boomers have been leaving the workforce in droves since 2020. Baby boomers range in age from 59 to 77.

These significant age ranges within generations provide unlimited variables and huge variances within each group, making generational stereotyping and bucketing incredibly shortsighted.

DISPELLING GENERATIONAL MYTHS

Let's take a moment to dispel some of the common beliefs about generations in the workplace.

Myth: Each generation has specific and unique differences that require distinct approaches to manage and lead.

Facts: Little to no evidence supports claims that people of different generations require different things at work, have unique motivations, or need diverse management styles. The more significant factor to consider is perception and perspective. People of different ages have different views of the world around them, shaped by experience, maturity, family life, education, and personal and professional development. The changing workplace landscape is not caused by the individuals' inherent characteristics, but rather their reaction to societal change. For example, the workplace is different today than three years ago, not because of generational differences but because of how society views work pre- and post-pandemic.

Similarly, the workforce is changing, not because of a new generation but because of changes happening in our world. Employees, in general, want to be valued by their organization and be treated fairly and justly, regardless of age or generational affiliation. All people want more access to more information. This is not a result of age but rather the speed and access our society now expects of information.

Myth: Young people quit their jobs too much – and there is no more loyalty!

Facts: On average, millennials change jobs about every 26 months. This is likely the byproduct of other factors unrelated to generational differences. For example, many organizations treat tenure differently than they did 20 or 30 years ago. In fact, job-hoppers often find positive outcomes, resulting in higher pay over their career and better career advancement. Part of the issue is that the workplace is different. Few of us on the younger side are working toward a pension package, lifetime medical benefits, or a similarly meaningful reward for our loyalty.

In contrast, older employees in the workforce are still working toward those benefits and would be negatively impacted by leaving or job-hopping at this point in their careers. Older workers also have more commitments, including children, and millennials, compared to other generations, have far fewer children than previous generations.

That trend seems to be increasing for Gen Z. This is a complex issue but isn't necessarily as simple as a generational difference. In part, it could be a matter of age and career progression. This tenure conundrum will likely fade as millennials age into their 30s and 40s. However, many millennials have seen that job-hopping results in better career advancement. It may take organizations designing more professional and career development opportunities to keep employees from leaving, regardless of age, as those loyalty benefits slip away.

Myth: Baby boomers are stubborn, resist change, and have mentally checked out on work. They are fear-driven and risk-averse.

Facts: Firstly, firefighters, like all people, generally dislike change, which naturally makes at least some of us stubborn. But in some studies, baby boomers were the most engaged and responsive workers interested in learning new things. As far as being risk-averse, this behavior could be rooted in the simple fact that they have either retired or are quickly approaching retirement. Like our financial advisor cautioning us to be more conservative with our investments as we approach retirement, baby boomers are using caution as they reach that career milestone.

Just as a millennial is more likely to change jobs to advance their career, a baby boomer is far less likely to change jobs, not because of fear, but because they are likely near retirement.

CHANGE THE FOCUS

Ultimately, grouping people by generation is stereotyping. Instead, we should focus on a concept known as **diversity consciousness** and appreciate that every individual in the organization brings a unique perspective, set of beliefs, values and understanding. Age, gender, race, religion, education, sexual orientation, childhood upbringing, ethnicity, affluence, etc., all help to construct the pieces of who we are as individuals and how we see the world. Likewise, the uniqueness of our perspective is a gift and a tool if leaders are willing to leverage it as a strength and listen to employees. Workplaces need to focus on the inclusion of all people rather than finding reasons to put people into buckets, even generational buckets.

Most studies of generations indicate that workers from all generations are seeking the same things: fair and just compensation, sustaining benefits to meet their healthcare needs, flexible working arrangements to balance their personal lives and work, and a safe workplace for them to be themselves and feel respected. Employers must focus on these factors to retain and recruit workers in this competitive environment. Regardless of generation, these are critical to workforce sustainability.

THE CHANGING WORKPLACE AND WORKFORCE

While considering the reality of generational differences, some differences should be ringing the alarm for all public safety entities. Where is the labor market going for firefighters, EMTs and paramedics?

I've been asked this question by at least a handful of chief officers in the fire service. I wanted to blame the declining numbers on young people who are just not interested in careers like this anymore – the typical generational crutch. You may have also considered the decline in volunteerism, which has also been blamed on the "generational issue" of self-centered young people. But the true answer is so much scarier than default assumptions.

As baby boomers retire, the working-age population of the United States has been contracting faster than ever since World War II. Gen Z is smaller than Gen Y, and the projections for Generation Alpha coming up after Gen Z is even smaller. Population growth in the United States has slowed. In 2021, it was the slowest ever in U.S. history. So, how does the labor market affect the fire service? There are more jobs than workers available, and based on numbers alone, it will get much worse.

Further complicating our task of filling ranks is the changing dynamics of society. As the labor market contracts, workers find more flexible options to make ends meet. The average salary of a DoorDash driver is just shy of \$40,000, while the national average for EMTs is \$36,500. We all might be quick to look at the salary line and see an issue, but flexibility and autonomy may be the more significant problem we need to see. Gig economy workers can work when they want and without the stress of set hours, expectations or conflicting commitments. Further, younger workers can remain on their parent's insurance longer, are attending college longer, and are currently not entering the workforce at the rates we saw in the past. Technology has made work available to them in a completely different form.

This is also complicating work for young families. Nearly 60% of households in the United States are dual-income, compared to just 30% back in 1967. Additionally, younger people move around much more than their baby boomer and Gen X counterparts. In the 1980s, finding a job 1,000 miles away in a new state was hard, if not impossible. Today

websites like LinkedIn and Indeed make it as easy as one click. Collectively, this means young families today are figuring out ways to raise children that are vastly different than 20 and 30 years ago. When many members of Gen X could have had help raising children, millennials are often finding their own way to do it. That may require one parent to leave the “traditional” workforce and find alternative work, contributing to the workforce shortage. The bottom line is that none of these issues come down to generational differences in the individuals but rather changes in society and technology to which the individuals must adapt. Fire and EMS agencies must adapt, not to these new young people, but to the new workplace, which is rooted in bigger picture societal changes.

OUR CHANGING FIRE SERVICE –CHALLENGES & POSITIVE IDEAS!

POSITIVE IDEAS THAT MIGHT WORK FOR OTHERS:

Clayton County, GA, to Take Over Fire Services in Riverdale

Clayton County will be taking over fire services in the City of Riverdale. City officials approved the measure Saturday during a public hearing. Riverdale fire officials say the consolidation could take place in the next 90 days. Clayton County officials said they were approached by Riverdale as a cost-saving measure. Council member Kenny Ruffin also said the merger will improve response times. Some Riverdale residents voice their concern that some of their firefighters will lose their jobs. But, county officials said that's not the case. Personnel will become county employees.

Fire Department In Tennessee Adds Dash Cameras To Firetrucks, Improving How Crews Respond To Calls

VIDEO: Firetrucks in Pigeon Forge now have dash cameras, recording how crews respond to calls and helping them improve how they approach emergencies. Fire Chief Tony Watson said crews and fire department leaders can watch videos to learn how to better fight fires. He said the cameras cost around \$130,000 and they help expand the station's training opportunities. "A picture's worth 1,000 words," he said. "I don't think there's a better thing that we can do than to be able to share some of the stuff that we're seeing out here on a daily basis." He said the videos can help save the lives of firefighters, making sure they approach emergencies prepared with vital information. "We can look at how we position our apparatus. We can look at the actions our firefighters do. You got to tell them, 'Okay, this is non-punitive, we're not gonna get you in trouble. Let's talk about how we can do this better,'" he said.

PA Fire Department to Pursue Consolidation Study

The Danville Fire Department is moving forward with a consolidation study that will examine its resources and determine best practices.

Last week, Danville Borough Council approved a letter of intent regarding the study. According to the chief, the paperwork is currently being sent to Harrisburg so a time can be set up for the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to visit the Danville department and conduct a review.

Last month, Danville Fire Chief John Buckenberger said having the study done was a preliminary step and did not confirm any changes to the department would be made.

“The review will look at all the stations and how we can operate under one roof to better serve the community and the grants that are available,” Buckenberger said. The department will provide the service for free to examine the fire department in its current state and determine how a consolidation might work, according to Montour County Commissioner and volunteer firefighter Trevor Finn. “It’ll inform the department and council on best practices, how to get grants and things of that nature,” Finn said. “They explore different ways for municipalities to realize savings and economies of scale and put personnel to the best use.”

Finn explained these sorts of studies are done not only on fire departments, but also on other municipal bodies such as police departments. “It’s looking at how to best use our resources,” Finn said. “And our number one resource is our volunteers.” Of Danville’s four fire stations, including Station 10 Friendship Fire Co., Station 20 Washington Hose Co., Station 30 Continental Fire Co. and Station 40 Goodwill Hose Co., most leaders are in agreement to at least explore the idea, Buckenberger said. “Sometimes it’s hard to change so there are people that are resisting it,” he said. “We will have to see where it goes.”

CHALLENGES:

Also: See Follow Up Article/Response from FireRescue Staff Writers

****Stop Pretending You Have A Fire Department**

Billy Goldfeder

I want to share with you a recent fire in the City of Jeannette, located in western Pennsylvania. Jeannette has a population of approximately 9,000 people. The median income for a household in Jeannette is about \$30,000. The per capita income for the city was \$15,961. About 11% of families and 15% of the population were below the poverty line, including 21% of those under age 18 and 13% of those aged 65 or over. It should be clear that they are not “rolling in dough.” It is a hard-working blue-collar community with its share of struggles.

On March 20, the Jeannette Fire Department (JFD) responded to the scene of a fire, and when it was all over, four children – Kyson, 7; Kinzleigh, 6; Keagan, 3; and Korbyn, 1 month – and their dad, 27-year-old Tyler King, were dead. Their mother, Miranda John, and two of her children survived the fire, thanks to the efforts of the Jeannette Fire Department. The three survivors are now out of the hospital.

Let’s walk through what happened here.

The JFD was alerted and the Westmoreland County dispatchers upgraded it to a working fire dispatch because they received multiple calls. The JFD response:

- Two on-duty in-quarters career firefighters (one full-time and one part-time) on an engine;
- The chief went to the firehouse and took the tower ladder;
- The alarm assignment recalled off-duty and part-time JFD members, two who went to the scene (they had PPE with them) and arrived instantly, and were able to affect some rescues with neighbors; and
- Eight other call or off-duty members who arrived from outside the city.

The JFD also receives automatic aid for the working fire, which, in this case, consisted of two volunteer engines, one volunteer truck and a volunteer salvage truck, which arrived within 10-12 minutes *with* interior qualified firefighters. Interior-qualified firefighters are essential, but an unfortunate reality is that many volunteer firefighters are not interior-qualified. They do what they can to help when needed.

WILL MUTUAL AID SHOW UP?

I mention volunteers specifically, as their response is dependent upon who is around to make the run, respond to quarters, get the rigs out, etc.

While there are certainly reliable volunteer fire departments in North America, unfortunately, there are many that are *not* reliable. (And for the record, most of the reliable VFDs are ones that require a scheduled duty time to assure the public that a well-staffed piece of fire apparatus is on the way.) Regardless, the tones go off, and those in need await the response. And while there is technology these days to allow the dispatcher to immediately know who is responding, many don’t use it. So the tones drop, the whistles blow and the time clock starts – as the fire spreads – to see who will respond. And that’s true in their own communities as well as when they are called for mutual aid.

THE GUARANTEED FIRE RESPONSE

When I say *guaranteed*, I mean generally speaking, without other runs and activities, we should easily be able to predict what our response (staffing and arrival time) will be. And even with multiple runs, we must have systems in place to compensate for that.

In the City of Jeannette, the only guaranteed response is ONE on-duty full-time firefighter and ONE on-duty part-time firefighter. Everything else is dependent upon who is around, available, nearby, etc. And that usually works OK – until it doesn’t, and the *doesn’t* part is very predictable.

In other words, the JFD model works pretty well as long as there are no fires or emergencies requiring more than two firefighters. As long as a family isn’t trapped in a dwelling fire, everything is probably fine, and when that fire does occur, that “model” predictably falls flat, crushing the people who need urgent help and the firefighters who are expected to make the problem go away. ***It’s impossible for two firefighters to do the job of 17 firefighters. Absolutely impossible. And yet here we are.***

Again, I want to note that in this fire, some occupants WERE saved by two off-duty members who were in the area and arrived quickly to the scene.

NFPA 1710 STATES ...

The initial full alarm assignment to a structure fire in a typical 2,000-square-foot, two-story, single-family dwelling without a basement and with no exposures must provide for a minimum of 16 members (17 if an aerial device is used).

- Firefighters establishing/providing water
- Firefighters on hose lines
- Firefighters searching
- Firefighters handling ventilation
- Firefighters rescuing
- Firefighters leading the scene

Do all that with two guaranteed firefighters. Nope. Not gonna happen.

Would you bet on a professional football team with fewer predictably needed players? I doubt it. But that's not the point. Here's where it matters: In football, if the minimum number of players don't show up, the game is canceled. In firefighting, we don't have that option. And what we do is NOT A GAME. It is staffing- and task-intensive if we have a chance in hell to make things better when someone has a fire.

In municipal garbage collection, if the staffing is reduced, the garbage sits. As good as they may be, sanitation workers are not going to be able to – or risk their lives to – collect more than they predictably can.

We are different. We go in willing to risk life and limb even though our risk – and the risk to civilians – is beyond human achievement. But we try anyway, no matter how many games the city hall-dwellers may have played.

So now what?

HARSH REALITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY

Despite the title of this piece, there is a Jeannette Fire Department; however, it is not what the community expects when they have their own fire.

Fighting the staffing issue isn't new for the JFD. Like many cities, there are politics and all kinds of games at play. But here's the deal: ***Until the JFD and any community like it can provide a response that predictably meets the needs and risks within the community, one the community can afford, they have to be upfront and forthright on who will and will not respond.*** The mayor, city council, city manager, fire chief and union local all have a responsibility to inform the public about what they can expect, and to share this information knowing that the public in any city or town typically just assumes that their fire department response will look like what it does in kids' school books or on TV shows – several fire trucks filled with loads of firefighters. Unfortunately, in many communities like Jeannette, it's just that, a storybook tale.

You may be wondering what you'll need to do once the public is informed about what their local fire department can and cannot realistically deliver.

Prepare the facts on what it will cost them (the taxpayers) if they want more staffing – and give them the option to decide. Present the numbers and facts so the public can then decide what they can afford as their priorities. Pay balances. Volunteer recruitment. ***(And if the public wants more firefighters and funding isn't an option, hand them some applications.)***

Like your home or car insurance, it will cost more for better coverage. Or you can go as low as possible, which is great ... until you have a crash or worse, until someone is hurt or killed.

IT'S NOT PERSONAL, IT'S NUMBERS

The reality is that fire department funding can often get mixed up with personal feelings and emotions instead of what's best for the public. Sometimes it's cops making more than the fire chief. Sometimes it's elected officials feeding pet projects. How do you prioritize beautiful parks vs. two people on a fire engine?

Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons (including sometimes of our own creation), fire and rescue services can end up on the back burner when the public isn't educated and genuinely doesn't understand who will (or will not) show up (and how quickly) when they have a fire. Having unbiased elected officials to work on behalf of the public to determine what is needed and what can be afforded is a big reason why local government exists in the first place. Seems simple enough, right?

Rest in peace, Kyson, Kinzleigh, Keagan, Korbyn and Tyler King.

[Follow Up Article and Response from FireRescue Staff:](#)

[LINK TO ARTICLE HERE:https://www.firerescue1.com/staffing/i-like-being-a-firefighter-i-dont-like-being-the-firefighter?utm_source=delivra&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=FR1-Daily-4-15-24&utm_id=6866949](https://www.firerescue1.com/staffing/i-like-being-a-firefighter-i-dont-like-being-the-firefighter?utm_source=delivra&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=FR1-Daily-4-15-24&utm_id=6866949)

[U.S. Investigates Gasoline Leaks in Bronco Sport; Defect Can Cause Engine Fires](#)

The U.S. government's auto safety agency has opened an investigation into a Ford recall for gasoline leaks from cracked fuel injectors that can cause engine fires, saying in documents that the remedy doesn't fix the leaks. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said in the documents posted Friday on its website that the probe will "evaluate the adequacy and safety consequences of the remedy" that Ford specifies in the recall. The recall covers nearly 43,000 Ford Bronco Sport SUVs from the 2022 and 2023 model years, and Escape SUVs from 2022. All have 1.5-liter engines. NHTSA documents filed by Ford say the problem happens only in about 1% of the SUVs.

[Wrong Fluid Puts Lockport \(NY\) Ladder Truck Out of Commission](#)

Lockport Fire Department's only ladder truck has been put out of commission temporarily, Fire Chief Luca Quagliano advised the Fire Board of Commissioners during their Tuesday meeting. According to Quagliano, during routine maintenance at the city garage, **the wrong kind of hydraulic fluid was put into the apparatus, and that corroded the seals on several cylinders. The estimated cost to repair the cylinders is upwards of \$70,000 and the ladder truck will be out of service until early June.**

The mayor said he would accompany Quagliano and try to "negotiate for the best possible contract" with an outside mechanic service. He added that he would encourage routine preventative maintenance of the ladder truck going forward. **The fire board's recommendation to the Common Council's finance committee is to seek an outside contractor for repair of the ladder truck.**

[Highlandville \(MO\) FPD Pumper Flips Over, Catches Fire on Way to Call](#)

Engine 75 was traveling east on Highway EE to a call for a MVC when it was involved in a collision. There were no injuries and no other vehicles were struck. According to Missouri State Highway Patrol, the fire apparatus overcorrected on the road and flipped over and caught fire. As a result of the crash a SCBA cylinder in the apparatus



exploded.

TRAINING FOR YOUR MEMBERS AND OFFICERS: PLEASE PASS IT ON!!

[NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL - TRAINING TIMES - COURSES/WEBINARS/EVENTS](#)

LINK TO THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM: https://virtualclassroom.nvfc.org/featured_courses

NVFC TRAIN STRONG *Presents: Managing Combination Departments Webinar*

May 29, 2024 02:00 PM

JOIN THE WEBINAR AT THIS LINK:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QIW4aPGCRRihPmUtRR2Lfg#/registration

NVFC TRAIN STRONG
Free HazMat Training

FREE HAZMAT TRAINING

Join us on
Saturday, May 4, and Sunday, May 5,
from 9am-5pm
at
Maynard Fire Department
Marcy, NY

Open to anyone interested in teaching others about hazmat response. No instructional experience necessary! Courses will be rotated; attendees will have the opportunity to attend all three courses over the weekend:

- Teaching Scenario Based Hazmat (7 hours)
- Instructor Training for Flammable Gases (3 hours)
- Instructor Training for Ammonia (3 hours)



Scan the QR code to learn more and register or go to www.nvfc.org/hazmat/#Sites.

About the Program

NVFC HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Maynard FD was recently selected as one of 15 sites nationwide that will receive free training under the new Partners in Training (PIT) Crew program from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) and U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). The program aims to help first responders gain the knowledge and skills they need to train others in their communities on hazmat safety and response.

Just a short hop to Thruway Exit 31 and follow your GPS to 9500 Maynard Drive, Marcy, NY
Pre-register so they can get a food count. Saturday May 4th and Sunday May 5th.

NOTE: this is both hands on and classroom training!



Proposed OSHA Emergency Response Rule Overview ESIP WEBINAR SERIES

In February, OSHA published a proposed rule that will revise the 29 CFR 1910.156 "Fire Brigade" standard to make it a multi-discipline "Emergency Response" standard that would require fire departments, EMS agencies, and other rescue services to comply with a wide range of responder safety and health initiatives. In this presentation we will provide a general overview of what this proposed rule requires, we will discuss how you can evaluate its effect on your agency and how to provide your input during the current public comment period.

Tuesday April 23rd at 8PM

REGISTER AT THIS LINK: <https://mcneilandcompany.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=03596f243a9d922954ebaf15e&id=74bb327caa&e=781e9a2c81>

Plus:-----

2024 EVOC Train the Trainer Courses

Now Scheduled!

This course is intended to prepare a qualified instructor to provide high quality training to their agency membership in the safe operation of vehicles in response and non-response modes. We discuss the operation of emergency vehicles, personal vehicles and special vehicles when operating on behalf of their agency.

2024 Dates:

These times are all Eastern Standard Time

January 8th:

3:00pm **FIRE** 7:00pm **EMS**

April 8th:

3:00pm **EMS** 7:00pm **FIRE**

July 15th:

3:00pm **FIRE** 7:00pm **EMS**

October 7th:

3:00pm **EMS** 7:00pm **FIRE**

Topics include:

- Risk Management
- Intersection Safety
- Response Driving
- Defensive Driving
- Discussion regarding the hazards and challenges of vehicle operations.

We also prepare the instructor candidate in teaching how to perform a complete maintenance inspection and having students perform safe driving skills practice.

Pricing:

ESIP Insureds: Free

Non- ESIP Insured: \$200 per student

Register Here!



SCAN ME

For questions about this course or other Risk Management offerings:

Call: 1 800 822 3747 ext. 176

Email: RiskManagement@mcneilandcompany.com

2024 SEMINAR SERIES

"Searching –
The Offensive and Defensive"



With Lieutenant Mike Scotto, Fire Department City of New York

Searching tactics are primarily thought of as an offensive action – moving in, checking behind doors, in closets, and numerous other areas. As we search, our concerns are focused on the search. Defensive tactics involve our escape plans, which are needed as we complete our search, but more importantly under extreme or emergency conditions. To make these tactics work, we must always have our strategy front and center. Both sides of the coin are in play all the time. In this three-hour program, students will examine strategy and tactics to gain a more concise understanding of the training necessary for search.

REGISTRATION FEES:

\$35 – NYS AFC members • **\$50** – non-members (per person)

Pre-registration is encouraged. New – online group registration is available for fire departments!

REGISTER HERE:

https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001QZWPfjYZRP6tAYnVrgg36Z_YE6vp89dymWfQQD1d7q4ZRwVDdBndE8ByVmF5_856f_UrB-yGihYJigwEPzCbQfCVeEALHRXrk_M-dbDWBYRtKiko1vLice_oi1AFseMKfN01xTmCmiyzyMWWYur-39p1T1V2_yChO2C2F1_fJn94LviwwZ3Aag==&c=AmhECQ6uFruSlwrKRKspNlivj3NWEIzhZOrf3KrfnUls83Dp1Q1JdQ==&ch=AqMwftSnQqSSjoeldoQJ-cfc_GyhBFLqV23YaEp7HU-kr9WoEr9kSg==

7:00pm STARTING TIME

Fulton (Tuesday, September 10)

Otsego (Wednesday, September 25)

Rensselaer (Tuesday, October 29)



NYS AFC Hands on Series

FIRE BEHAVIOR ON THE INSIDE

- **Schenectady County – October 19-20**, East Glenville Fire District #3 REGISTRATION:

<https://www.nysfirechiefs.com/firebehavior>

FLASHOVER

- **Saratoga County – September 14-15**, Jonesville Fire District, REGISTRATION:

<https://www.nysfirechiefs.com/flashover>



VFIS TRAINING AND RESOURCE CATALOG 2023

<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>

VFIS TRAINING OFFICER USERS GUIDE

<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>

FF HEALTH AND SAFETY – TAKING CARE OF OUR MEMBERS!

*IN 2024 WE HAVE EXPERIENCED **22** FIRE FIGHTER LODD'S*

*According to FirefighterCloseCalls.com**

In 2023 we experienced 82 LODDs reported nationally.!

YOU NEVER KNOW!

- A Milwaukee firefighter was seriously burned in an early morning fire Sunday that damaged multiple homes, he sustained burns to 23 percent of their body, including third-degree burns. The chief said he has a long road of recovery, his gear was completely destroyed. At 5:05 a.m. a mayday was called by a firefighter who was cut off by heavy fire conditions, and another firefighter who saw the situation unfold. By 5:17 a.m., the firefighter was brought out the front attic window of the home by fire crews, officials said.
- Engineer Heath J. O'Shea, 44, of the Jacksonville, Florida fire department received EMS treatment from colleagues at Station 54 before being transported to a hospital. He died early Saturday morning.
- 22 year old Jacob Fuerte, a Los Angeles FD recruit killed on freeway while rendering aid at a collision.
- **N.Y. officer killed in shootout was dedicated volunteer firefighter, paramedic.** Onondaga County Sheriff's Lieutenant Michael Hoosock also served as a battalion chief for the Moyers Corners Fire Department and medic for Manlius Fire Department.
- Three Charlotte firefighters were injured during a house fire on April 18, upon arrival, firefighters observed fire showing from the house. Three minutes after arrival, a "mayday" call was transmitted, resulting in one firefighter being removed from the house with a total of three with non-life-threatening injuries.

**BUILDING & FIRE CODE ISSUES – WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT TO YOU?
SNAPSHOT WEEKLY FIRE FATALITY DATA AS REPORTED BY THE
MEDIA**

North Carolina Updating Fire Code Following Deadly 2023 Southpark Fire

It was one of the darkest days in Charlotte's history when a 5-alarm fire engulfed a SouthPark apartment complex under construction, trapping two workers inside. Ruben Holmes and Demonte Sherill lost their lives; the fire almost took more. "We almost lost eight to 10 firefighters that day when they called for 'Mayday' when they got trapped," said North Carolina State Fire Marshal Brian Taylor. "Luckily, they were able to get out due to their equipment and their training." Now, because of that destructive and deadly fire, changes are on the way. "What are we going to do?" Taylor said. "How can we make these buildings safer during construction? Because, we had the Raleigh fire and then, of course, we had the Charlotte fire." One change will require property owners to designate a Fire Prevention Program Manager for the site. That person will be responsible for maintaining a fire safety plan.

UNATTENDED COOKING LEADS TO UNINTENDED FIRES

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.

Residential sprinklers are a component of the plumbing system, with approximately 1 head per room. The purpose of residential sprinklers is to allow time for the occupants to escape. Residential sprinklers are designed for quick response and only one at the most two heads may be triggered. With residential sprinklers present, the civilian death rate is 89% LOWER. Residential sprinklers will assist responding firefighters to do their jobs and save firefighters lives also, especially since everyone is short staffed!!

CHIEFS NEED TO SPEAK UP: Our fire problem would not be as bad if there were residential sprinklers!!

HOME FIRE FATALITIES REPORTED BY THE MEDIA FROM THE US FIRE ADMINISTRATION	
Fire Deaths in 1&2 Family Dwellings in NYS	22
Last fire death 4/15/24 Madison, Madison Co. 65yo Male	
Fire Deaths in any type of Dwelling in NYS	45
Fire Deaths in 1&2 Family Dwellings Nationally	470
Top 3 States with the greatest 1&2 Family Deaths	#1 PA/40
	#2 TX/27
	#3 IL-NC/25
There has been a total of 0792 civilian home fire fatalities in 2024	
There were a total of 2127 residential fire fatalities reported in 2023 in the US media.	
Both the states of Maryland and California require sprinklers in residential dwellings	

LIVING WITH THE NEW GREEN TECHNOLOGY

FDNY Marshals Make First Ever Lithium-Ion Battery Violation Arrest At Brooklyn Storefront

A Brooklyn merchant wound up in fire marshals' handcuffs for improper storage of highly-flammable lithium-ion batteries inside his business — the first arrest of its kind ever reported in New York City, FDNY officials announced Monday. Tian Liang Liu, of the Electric Bicycle Shop at 1239 Flatbush Ave., was taken into custody on April 12 in a rare criminal action by the FDNY. Fire Commissioner Laura Kavanagh outlined the details of the arrest during a Monday press conference at the FDNY's MetroTech headquarters in Downtown Brooklyn. "The FDNY E-safety task force made up of the Bureau of Fire prevention, our Special Investigations Unit, and Fire Investigations conducted an inspection," Commissioner Kavanagh explained. "Fire marshals arrested Tian Liang Liu and brought him to the 70th Precinct to be charged."

KS Fire District Officials Planning for Panasonic EV Battery Plant

The Northwest Consolidated Fire District isn't sitting idly by with projected growth on the horizon. As Panasonic is planning an EV battery plant in De Soto, fire officials are ramping up services for new residents as well as incidents at the facility. Deputy Fire Chief Mike Baxter told reporters they're adding six new positions and building a fire station near the plant. Right now, there are 35 firefighters. The new fire station is on about 10 acres, just outside the land Panasonic is currently developing for the battery facility.

MA Firefighters See Jump in Lithium-Ion Battery Fires

Firefighters across Massachusetts are facing the “nearly impossible” task of extinguishing lithium-ion battery fires much more often, according to new state data showing that such blazes have spiked sharply in the past half-year. The state Department of Fire Service [created a checklist](#) last October for local departments to use to track the number of fires caused by lithium-ion batteries, which power large devices like electric vehicles and smaller items like

smartphones and e-cigarettes. So far, the form has helped 38 cities and towns identify 50 lithium-ion battery fires in the past six months, more than double the annual average detected by a national fire data reporting system. In the past, firefighters blamed the device for the fire and not the battery.

Fire in Truck Carrying Lithium-ion Batteries Leads to Evacuation in Columbus, OH

A truck fire involving lithium-ion batteries **led to a three-hour evacuation** in a section of Columbus Thursday morning. Smoke was showing from the trailer where 5,900 pounds of batteries were located. **Pressure was detected as well.** Firefighters ordered **everyone within a mile radius to leave** worried that the batteries could burn rapidly and explode. When a robot from the Columbus Fire Department's bomb squad opened the trailer doors, the oxygen ignited a fire which resulted in thick dark smoke billowing into the sky. Firefighters worked into the afternoon to extinguish the fire. There were no injuries.

HAPPENING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Speigletown Fire Department Monthly Breakfast

October through May we serve an all-you-can-eat country breakfast on the **2nd Sunday of the month**. Breakfast runs from 7:30 - 11:30 AM. Breakfast is \$10 per adult, \$5 per child, and children under 5 eat free; all proceeds benefit the fire department and support our drill activities.

LAUGH OUT LOUD

Think about it, ducks are capable of flying up 1,500 miles in a single day. But they still insist on waddling across the street.

&

I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made an appointment for next Tuesday!!

CLASSIFIED – FOR SALE – JOB OPENINGS

POSITION: STATION MANAGER Jonesville Fire District

EOE STATEMENT As an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer, The Jonesville Fire District actively seeks candidates who are female, minority, disabled and/or veterans and will not discriminate in its employment practices due to an applicant's race; color; creed; religion; sex (including pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions); sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; transgender status; age; national origin; marital status; citizenship; disability; criminal record; genetic information; predisposition or carrier status; status with respect to receiving public assistance; domestic violence victim status; status as a protected veteran; or any other characteristics protected under applicable law.

Job Summary:

The Station Manager is a full-time hourly position available for a professional and highly motivated person to oversee the performance of station keepers and perform and maintain fire district buildings, vehicles, apparatus, grounds, and equipment. Reporting to the District Administrator, the position requires good communication skills, the ability to manage several projects simultaneously, and flexibility with work hours when necessary.

This is a full time, 40 hour per week on site position. The salary for this position is between \$22.00/hr. and \$27.00/hr. and includes a comprehensive benefits package including health, vision, and dental insurance, and paid time off.

Supervisory Responsibilities:

- Daily oversight of district station keeper(s) (full-time, part-time and per diem)
- Creation of station keeper schedules/ approval of PTO requests

Key Duties/Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Performs work under the general direction of the District Administrator, as directed by the Board of Fire Commissioners

- Maintain Fire District buildings, vehicles, apparatus, grounds and equipment.
- Mowing, landscaping, trimming of bushes and trees
- Removal of snow and ice. Snow and ice removal may need to be done off hours in the event of a snowstorm. Salting as needed.
- Maintaining and repairing equipment
- Custodial type services including but not limited to: mopping, vacuuming, washing, scrubbing, cleaning windows, floor buffing, carpet cleaning, garbage removal
- Fire Apparatus and Equipment
 - o Clean, fuel, maintain, perform daily truck/equipment checks
 - o Perform minor apparatus/equipment repairs
- Upon request, participate in community outreach events, i.e., fire prevention
- All other duties as assigned by the Fire District Administrator, Board of fire Commissioners, and/or Fire Chief or his designee.
- Within six (6) months 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.
- Removal of snow and ice by plow, snow blower and shovel as needed. Snow and ice removal to be done off hours when three (3”) inches of snow has fallen or at the direction of the District Administrator or the Board of Fire Commissioners.
- Custodial type services including but not limited to: mopping, vacuuming, washing, scrubbing, cleaning windows, buffing, carpet cleaning, 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.

Required Skills/Attributes:

- Basic knowledge and abilities to perform general maintenance, and the ability to maintain and use hand and power tools.
- Basic computer skills are helpful.
- Preference given to an Active Interior Firefighter in a NYS Volunteer Fire Department
- Preference given to individual holding current Emergency Medical Technician – Basic (EMT-B) certification.
- Pass District physical, drug screen, and background check
- Able to lift objects weighing 70 lbs.
- Willingness to respond for facilities and maintenance emergencies and snow removal as needed.
- Must possess and maintain a valid NYS Driver’s license, with a good driving record.

Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter to the Commissioners of the Jonesville Fire District at kgraves@jonesvillefire.org or mmurphy@jonesvillefire.org For questions, please contact Ken Graves @ (518)376-1582 and leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

CAFDA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

2024 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, Fred Richards Commissioner Harmony Corners/Saratoga, Joyce Petkus Treasurer Greenfield/Saratoga, Ed Woehrle Commissioner Niskayuna #1/Schenectady and Mike Podolec Commissioner West Glenville/Schenectady

Secretary Lisa Diemer, Deputy Treasurer, Northumberland Fire District

Treasurer: Tony Hill

Sargent at Arms: Tom Wood, Commissioner, Northumberland Fire District

Chaplain: Fred Richards, Commissioner, Harmony Corners Fire District

Legal Council: Greg Serio, Safety Officer, Verdoy Fire District

The Capital Area Association represents any fire district that wishes to join CAFDA. Fire District Officials include Commissioners, Treasurers, and Deputy Treasurers. Secretaries and Chiefs are also invited to participate!

Please advise your secretaries that all correspondence should be mailed to:

CAFDA PO Box 242 East Schodack, NY 12063

[EMAIL TREASURER: TREASURER@CAFDA.NET](mailto:TREASURER@CAFDA.NET)

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

[EMAIL SECRETARY: SECRETARY@CAFDA.NET](mailto:SECRETARY@CAFDA.NET)

Long Way to Travel Zoom into the General Membership Meetings!

It's our desire that every member fire 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.

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.CAFDA.net

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!!

WELCOME ALLTEK ENERGY SYSTEMS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Business Partner Applications Available At: WWW.CAFDA.NET

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

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



The D'Amato Law Group LLP
Gregory Serio, Partner
111 Washington Ave Suite 600
Albany, NY 12210
518.426.3800
Email: gserio@dlgny.com
damatolawgroup.com

Young, Kelsey & Brown & Stroppoli, PC

General Practice Matters - Fire Service Attorneys
1881 Western Ave. Suite 140
Albany, N.Y. 12203
Mary Megyeri – Office Manager
mmegyeri@yfkblaw.com
518.456.6767

HANNIGAN LAW FIRM PLLC

388 Kenwood Avenue
Delmar, New York 12054
P: (518) 869-9911
F: (518) 869-9915
www.hannigan.pro
Fire/EMS –Municipal Law

Ducharme, Clark & Sovern, LLP

Jack Clark, Fire District Attorney
646 Plank Rd. Clifton Park, NY 12065
518-373-1482
Ducharmeclark.com

ARCHITECT/ ENGINEERS



Architecture/Engineering/Code Services
Melissa Smith
Senior Marketing Manager
518-439-8235
4 British American Blvd
Latham, NY 12110



Five Bugles Design



Mitchell Associates Architects

Wendel's award winning public safety design team

Wendel, Centerpointe Corporate Park, 375
Essay Road, Suite 200, Williamsville, NY 14221
716.688.0766
Amy Numrich, MBA
Digital Marketing & Events Specialist
anumrich@wendelcompanies.com



architects
+
engineers



Architects & Engineers
433 River Street, Suite 8002
Troy, NY 12180
518-765-5105
Dennis Ross, Practice Leader
www.H2M.com

C.T. Male Associates

Engineering, Surveying, Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Geology, D.P.C.

Single Source Responsibility
for all your
Essential Facility Design Services



www.ctmale.com
50 Century Hill Drive, Latham, NY 12110 518.786.7400

n.lobosco@ctmale.com

INSURANCE



Specializing in insurance for Fire Districts and Departments
Dave Meager
31 Church Street Saratoga Springs, NY
518-584-5300x3243 dmeager@amsureins.com



John Caputo
Marketing Manager
One Blue Hill Plaza – 16th Floor
PO Box 1609
Pearl River, NY 10965
845.8855 X7011
Cell 631.601.5305
jcaputo@fdmny.com
VFBL/Workers' Comp Coverage

Haughey Insurance Agency

850 State Route 50
Burnt Hills, NY 12027
518-399-1583
www.haugheyagency.com



Bob Dignum
98B Troy Road
East Greenbush, NY 12061
518-479-2004
www.dignuminc.com
bob.dignum@nfp.com



Carla West, Territory Sales Mgr
800-822-3747 ext 138
cwest@mcneilandcompany.com

COMPUTER EQUIP &MGMT

White Wolf Computer, LLC * Leading the Pack



Managed Services
Cloud Hosted Solutions
Telephone Data Cabling
Backup Disaster Recovery
Web Design

266 Delaware Ave, Delmar NY WhiteWolfComputer.com
(318) 459-WOLF (9653) Support@WhiteWolfComputer.com

LOSAP MANAGEMENT



Service Award Programs (LOSAP)

Anthony Hill ahill@fireflyadmin.com
President (518) 687-1400 (office)
www.fireflyadmin.com (518) 937-6174 (cell)



UBS Financial Advisors

Ralph Lemme, CFP
8 Southwoods Blvd Suite 207
Albany, NY 12211
518.445.1667



Wealth Management

The LOSAP Group
518-432-5087
838-433-7304 cell
www.thelosapgroup.com,



Nicole Meeker
Manager of Business Development & Accts
518-394-7894
Cell 607-423-4811
www.penflexinc.com
nmeeker@penflexinc.com

FIRE EQ TESTING



Safety First Equipment Testing

99 Glass Lake Road
Averill Park, NY 12018
518-674-8363

www.safetyfirstfirehose.com

HOSE APPLIANCE & LADDER TESTING

SCBA COMPRESSOR SERVICE



BAUER
COMPRESSORS

Quality. Our DNA

Breathing Air Comp Maintenance
Air Quality Tests and Repairs
Chris Jeffreys
315-729-6071 Cell
315-699-4533 Office

HVAC AND PLUMBING



Alltek Energy Systems, Inc.

Construction-Fabrication-Power & Controls
Planning Service
24/7 Service
518-238-2600
Waterford, New York
www.alltekenery.com

WARNING LIGHT PACKAGES/REPAIRS BODY SHOP

AUTOSOLUTIONS

Vehicle Repair, Warning Packages, Body Shop

78 Freemans Bridge Road, Glenville
518-377-5555

Veteran Owned Business

INSURANCE continued



Fleury Risk Management
28 Corporate Drive, Suite 104
Clifton Park, NY 12065
518.478.6314

<https://www.fleuryrisk.com/nysgroup497>
VFBL Insurances Services



Pat Daglio

pdaglio@vfis.com

717.819.3072

DRYER VENT CLEANING



DRYER VENT WIZARD

JORDAN CATINO
8 NAPA COURT, SCHENECTADY, NY 12309
518-344-0664
SARATOGADRYERVENT.COM

FIRE APPARATUS



LARRY GATES
SERVICE AND PARTS MANAGER
EASTERN APPARATUS SALES

1 SUPER 50 WAY, BALLSTON LAKE, NY 12019

larry.vmfire@verizon.net
www.vm-fire.com

(518) 926-0451

FIRE STATION PEST CONTROL



518-300-4732
431 New Karner Rd Suite 170
Albany, NY 12205
<https://fox-pest.com/albany-ny>

FIRE COMPANY FUND RAISING



Lloyd Fox, Account Executive
34 Garner Road, Averill Park, NY 12018
lfox8@nycap.rr.com
518-810-7819
www.funddrive.com

FIRE DISTRICT CPA/AUDITS/FINANCIAL SERVICES



Zoriana M. Stawnychy
973.283.0024
zoriana@stawnychyfinancial.com
135 Kinnelon Road Suite 101
Kinnelon, NJ 07405
Serving fire districts in New York State



518-459-6700
10 British-American Blvd, Latham, NY 12110
www.bstco.com
Brendan Kennedy ext 356



Robert V. Gramuglia, CPA
1 Pine West Plaza Suite 107, Albany NY
12205
518.452.8055 or 518.859.5851cell
Email: rgramuglia@BGCPA.net



11 British American Blvd, Latham, NY 12110
518-785-0134
Queensbury Office 518-792-6595
<http://www.mmbaccounting.com>
Alan W. Clink, CPA aclink@mmb-co.com
Heather R. Lewis, CPA hlewis@mmb-co.com



Accounting, Consulting & IT Security
1581 Franklin Ave. Mineola, NY 11501
Kyle Brengel, Managing Partner
516-472-7345
kbrengel@gblny.com

BANKING



JOHN M. LESNIEWSKI
Assistant Vice President and
Senior Business Banking Officer
Fulton/Montgomery Markets
12 Fremont Street, Gloversville, NY 12078
P: 518.775-5205 | M: 518.848-0612
NMLS ID 915694
www.nbtbank.com



Ballston Spa National Bank
PO Box 70
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Deborah JR O'Connor
518.363.8119
Deborah.oconnor@bsnb.com



Don McCormack
425 Main Street Catskill, NY 12414
www.tbogc.com
518.943.2600 X2109
donaldm@tbogc.com
Specializing in Fire Service Financing



David Farstad, Municipal Banking Officer
652 Albany-Shaker Road, Albany NY
12211
P/F: 518-730-3120
M: 518-506-0075
farstadd@pioneerbanking.com

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.

YOU CAN BECOME AN INDIVIDUAL 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 CAFDA.NET website.

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

Download THE APPLICATION available on the home page at CAFDA.NET

MEMBERSHIP IN THE CAPITAL AREA FIRE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (CAFDA)

Would you like to join Capital Area Fire Districts Association along with 76 members in 10 counties? Individuals, fire district associations, fire protection districts and Village departments are all eligible for membership.

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

\$0 to \$200,000: \$50

\$200,001 to \$400,000: \$100

\$400,001 to \$600,000: \$200

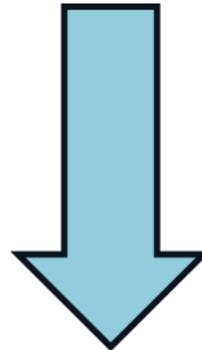
\$600,001 plus: \$300

Individuals \$50.00 or Other County or Regional Associations \$300 annually.

Business Partners: \$100.00 annual member fee

If You, Your Fire District or Department is not a Member of CAFDA You Can be?

Individuals can be members of CAFDA. The annual membership fee is \$50, which will provide you access to this Bulletin, attendance at meetings and social gatherings. Provides networking with other fire district officials and a source of the constant barrage of information related to today's fire service.



Membership and Renewal Form Below



Capital Area Association of Fire Districts

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Fire District Fire Protection District Village Fire Department EX-Officio Associate/Individual

Associate Regional Fire District Association

Name: _____

County: _____ Fire District: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Contact Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

IF FIRE DISTRICT OR ASSOCAIATION TWO POINTS OF CONTACT WILL SHARE INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Fire Company if Different: _____

FIRE DISTRICT OFFICERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO OUR EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

Name: _____ Email: _____

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;

Annual budgets up to and including \$200,000	\$50.00
Annual budgets more than \$200,001 up to including \$400,000	\$100.00
Annual budgets more than \$400,001 up to including \$600,000	\$200.00
Annual budgets more than \$600,000	\$300.00
Associate/ Individual membership fee (for individuals whose dist. is not a member)	\$50.00
Regional or County Fire District Association	\$300.00
Business Partners membership fee	\$100.00

Please submit payments to: Capital Area Fire Districts Association
CAFDA Treasurer
PO Box 242
East Schodack, NY 12063

Signature: _____

IF VOUCHER IS REQUIRED, PLEASE MAIL IT AND I WILL SIGN IT AND MAIL IT BACK

CAFDA UPCOMING TRAINING AND MEETING CALENDAR

The following calendar, while tentative, provides our members and participants some insight into the planned activities to be provided locally to our membership and other fire district participants for '23, '24 and '25. We hope you will join us on this journey to provide reasonably priced, quality training in a local setting for your convenience.

For General Membership meetings food is served 1 hour prior to the start time of the meeting, at 6pm, meetings begin promptly at 7PM

Capital Area Meetings/Seminars/Trainings/Conference Dates <small>(As of 1/3/2024 - Subject to Change)</small>				
Day/Date	Time	Type	Location	Notes
2024				
Thursday, April 25 - Saturday April 27, 2024	Per Schedule	CAFDA Conference	Fort William Henry Conference Center	Lake George
Thursday, May 9, 2024	7:00 PM	General Membership Mtg.	Clifton Park	
Thursday, June 13, 2024	7:00 PM	General Membership Mtg.	Clifton Park	
Thursday, July 11, 2024	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting	Clifton Park	
Friday, August 9, 2024	1:00 PM	Membership Activity	Saratoga Race Course	NYRA Day at the Races!
AUGUST	NO MEETING			
Thursday, September 12, 2024	7:00 PM	General Membership Mtg.	Clifton Park	
Thursday, October 10, 2024	7:00 PM	General Membership Mtg.	Clifton Park	Officers/Director Nominations
Saturday, November 2, 2024	8:00 AM	Fall Workshop	Verdoy	
Thursday, November 14, 2024	7:00 PM	General Membership Mtg.	Clifton Park	Officer/Director Elections
DECEMBER	NO MEETING			
2025				
Saturday, January 4, 2025	9:00 AM	General Membership Mtg.	Clifton Park	Organizational/Morning Meeting

**APRIL 25TH, 26TH AND 27TH – 2024 SPRING CONFERENCE
ANNOUNCEMENT**

2024 CAFDA CONFERENCE

Welcome to the **1st Annual CAFDA Conference!**

We are excited to be able to offer you this LOCAL training opportunity right here in the beautiful Lake George area!

Should you have any questions, please contact Secretary@CAFDA.net



CONFERENCE DETAILS

1st Annual CAFDA Conference
Thursday, April 25 - Saturday, April 27, 2024
Fort William Henry Hotel & Conference Center
48 Canada Street, Lake George, NY

OVERNIGHT ACCOMODATION RESERVATION INFORMATION

Room reservations are the responsibility of the Attendee*

Telephone Reservations only at 800-234-0267 or (Local) 518-668-3081

Group Code: CAFDA Conference

Rates: \$139 Deluxe, \$159 Premium/Basic Grand

*If tax exempt, documentation (i.e. ST-129) must be presented at time of check-in

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 25, 2024	8:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
	9:00 am - 10:30 am	PESH vs. NFPA, Part 1
	10:45 am - 12:15 pm	Purchasing, Procurement & Piggybacking - OSC Legal
	12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch & Conference Welcome
	1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Conflicts of Interest - OSC Legal
	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Commissioners vs. Chiefs – Yes, We Really Can Work Together! Part 1 - Dave Denniston
Friday, April 26, 2024	8:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
	8:30 am - 10:30 am	Commissioners vs. Chiefs – Yes, We Really Can Work Together! Part 2 - Dave Denniston
	10:45 am - 12:15 pm	PESH vs. NFPA, Part 2
	12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch & Conference Welcome
	1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Office of General Services - Purchasing
	3:00 - 5:00 pm	Vendor Show
Saturday, April 27, 2024	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Five Alarm Reception
	8:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
	8:30 - 10:00 am	Vendor Show
	10:15 am - 12:15 am	Exploring Staffing Options
	12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch with the Experts!
	2:00 pm	Conference Farewell

Conference Registration Fees:

CAFDA Members: \$75 per day per attendee (includes continental breakfast/buffet lunch) – **OR** – **\$150 for full (3 day) conference.**

Non-Members: \$95 per day per attendee (includes continental breakfast/buffet lunch) – **OR** – **\$200 for full (3 day) conference.**

Guest of Conference Attendee: \$25 per day for meals for guest of attendee (includes continental breakfast/buffet lunch) - **OR** - **\$50 for full conference.**

REGISTRATION

CAFDA Conference Attendee Registration Form

Please complete & return this form with your check made payable to:

CAFDA
P.O. Box 242
East Schodack, NY 12063

OR pay by credit card at: <https://cafda.net/event-registration/>

For payment inquiries, please contact Treasurer@cafda.net



Conference Attendee

Name/Title: _____

Fire Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Are you or your organization a member of CAFDA? YES NO

Attendee Conference Registration (Check One):

- One Day Registration:** CAFDA Member **\$75** Non-Member **\$95**
I will be attending (Choose one): Thursday Friday Saturday
(includes continental breakfast & lunch, Friday Night Welcome Reception if attending Friday)
- Two Day Registration:** CAFDA Member **\$150** Non-Member **\$190**
I will be attending (Choose two): Thursday Friday Saturday
(includes continental breakfast & lunch x 2 days, Friday Night Welcome Reception if attending Friday)
- Full Conference Registration:** CAFDA Member **\$150** Non-Member **\$200**
Thursday 4/25 – Saturday 4/27/2024 (includes continental breakfast & lunch x 3 days, Friday Night Welcome Reception)

Guest Meal Registration, if applicable (Check One):

Guest Name: _____

- \$25 One Day Meals:** I will be attending (Choose one): Thursday Friday Saturday
(includes continental breakfast & lunch, Friday Night Welcome Reception if attending Friday)
- \$50 Two Day Meals:** I will be attending (Choose two): Thursday Friday Saturday
(includes continental breakfast & lunch x 2 days, Friday Night Welcome Reception if attending Friday)
- \$50 Three Day Meals:** Thursday 4/25 – Saturday 4/27/2024
(includes continental breakfast & lunch x 3 days, Friday Night Welcome Reception)

OSHA INFORMATION SUPPLEMENT

Federal Legislation Introduced Mandating a Phased In Approach

A BILL

To amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to clarify the process that the Secretary shall use in promulgating and implementing regulations containing more than five individual directives and govern fire or emergency services.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Emergency Response Standard Implementation Reform Act of 2024.”

SEC. 2. PHASED IN IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDS WITH FIVE OR MORE DIRECTIVES GOVERNING FIRE OR EMERGENCY SERVICES.

Section 655(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. § 655) is amended –

(1) By designating paragraph (5) as subparagraph (5)(A);

(2) By inserting, in paragraph (5), after subparagraph (A), as so designated, the following:

“(B) In promulgating any standards amending five or more sections of a regulation governing fire or emergency services, the Secretary shall utilize a phased-in implementation of such standards, based on prioritization schedule of such sections issued by the Secretary, under which the effective date of each successive section of a regulation shall not take effect until at least 180 days after the effective date that such previous standard took effect. Further, and in furtherance of the above, the Secretary shall conduct an assessment of the systems and resources in place at federal, state and local government levels, including funding programs, to determine the level of preparedness of subject agencies to comply with any such promulgations, and shall base the prioritization schedule provided for herein upon the finding of such assessment.”

Hopefully this will be passed quickly by the House and the Senate, but the speed of legislation in Washington lately will make a snail blush!



ESIP Emergency Services Insurance Program

We have received several requests for a 30,000-foot view of what would be required for an AHJ to comply with the proposed 1910.156 standard. We've put together a FAQs & Fact Sheet that helps break down all of the information into bite-sized chunks. While this list is not comprehensive, it is our best understanding of what would be required under the standard if adopted, as written, today.

DOWNLOAD HERE: https://www.afdsny.org/docs/OSHA_1910.156_Fact_Sheet.pdf

FASNY Urges Members to Take Action!

April, 2024

Dear FASNY Member,

I wanted to provide you with an update regarding the proposed rulemaking by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) impacting the fire service. While a primary concern of the fire service is always firefighter health and safety, many aspects of this proposed rule would put additional stress on both volunteer and career departments to comply. Worse, in some case it would be impossible to achieve compliance.

FASNY has been very active in responding to this rulemaking. In addition to working with other fire service associations, we have filed preliminary comments with OSHA. We have also reached out to our Federal representatives and are scheduled to meet with several of them at the end of the month. Due to our efforts with other organizations, OSHA has granted an extension to the comment period until June 21. **It is imperative** that your department review the proposed rule and file a comment as to how it would affect them. Comments can be filed at: <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/OSHA-2007-0073/document>

Our goal is to make this rulemaking effective but achievable. If departments cannot meet this new standard then it is just words on paper. If this is the case, it could wind up reducing firefighter health and safety and cause many current members of the fire service to leave.

We will continue our efforts, but we need your help. The only way the rule that is finally adopted will benefit the fire service is if we all provide input now.

Fraternally,

Edward Tase Jr.

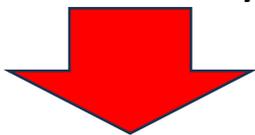
President

LINK TO FILE COMMENT HERE: <https://firefightersassociationofthestateofnewyork.cmail19.com/t/y-l-xutuhiy-ikjuyhjliy-i/>

--The heart of the proposed regulation is here: [Section 1910.156, Emergency Response \(osha.gov\)](https://www.osha-slc.gov/section-1910.156-emergency-response)

SIGN THE PETITION, GET YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO SIGN THE PETITION

The purpose of the petition is to gain a seat at the table for a negotiated Standard, please sign the petition, get each of your Board members to sign and each of your members and your member's family members, the goal is more than 10,000 signatures.



<https://www.change.org/p/call-to-action-osha-1910-156> :LINK TO THE PETITION AT CHANGE.ORG:

[NOTICE: Once you sign the petition the Change.org site directs you to their website asking for donations, the donations do not benefit this petition, it benefits the Change.org platform and you could be fooled into donating each month read carefully!!!]

Meeting with NYS-DOL/PESH

Dave Denniston Writes: We had a great meeting with PESH at the end of last week. They are willing to work with us, but admit that their hands are tied some. The NY PESH Officials have stated we have to get in front of OSHA and get a seat at the table. They could not stress enough that the head of OSHA needs to know our names and concerns.

I have also been contacted by one of our congressional friends that said they are behind us, but we have to get in front of OSHA and a seat at the table. They fear legal options are our only other remedy. NVFC is looking at that angle now.

I have attached my comment to OSHA that will be submitted today. **Along with this one we are going to have an online petition with a goal of 50K signatures.** More details to follow. **SEE DAVE'S LETTER AT THIS LINK**

:<https://cafda.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/OSHA-1910.156-REQUEST-FOR-ACTION-1.docx>

Lee and I will be doing a more detailed bulleted dive of the specifics of 29CFR 1910.156 on Thursday night at 7 PM. The good news, as of this morning Zoom has us up to 1000 log in capacity. Over half of that is registered now, but let's fill it up. Most webinars have a about 60% hit ratio. These OHSA ones have been exceeding that hit ratio which is awesome. Please share the registration link with your email lists and organizations. There is also a link for one more geared to Ohio in a couple weeks.

This is being run as a ESIP webinar on **Thursday 4/4 at 7pm**. Here is the registration link, **PLEASE SHARE:**

https://archcapgroup.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9GtqnblySa-WTKil-F5Sqw

Tom Miller and I are doing a similar webinar on **Wednesday Dec. 10th for the Ohio State Firefighters**. All are welcome to that one if the date is better. That one is a little more geared to a state where the volunteers are not "employees" but the main message is the same.

Register for OHIO Webinar Here: https://archcapgroup.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ae-TdGcUR3SDQJzuEaG_aQ

We cannot stress enough, our message is not that we oppose changes, and that in fact the fire service needs to embrace this and make serious changes in how we do business for firefighter safety. This has been our message

since day 1, and some continue to ignore it. We need change and we need to do better for our people. What we do want is a seat at the table and some simple tweaks in the logistics of how this should be delivered, so it is in fact usable and will save lives and reduce injuries. WE CAN DO BETTER! There are still folks out there claiming we are trying to kill this thing. That could not be further from the truth, and we need to make sure that message is heard loud and clear.

OSHA IS EXTENDING THE PERIOD FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS BY 45 DAYS (Until June 21st) TO ALLOW STAKEHOLDERS INTERESTED IN THE NPRM ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE ADDITIONAL TIME TO REVIEW THE NPRM AND COLLECT INFORMATION AND DATA NECESSARY FOR COMMENT.

WRITTEN COMMENTS: You may submit comments and attachments, identified by Docket No. OSHA–2007–0073, electronically at www.regulations.gov, which is the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Follow the online instructions for making electronic submissions. The Federal e-Rulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov is the only way to submit comments on this NPRM. Instructions: All submissions must include the agency’s name and the docket number for this rulemaking (Docket No. OSHA–2007–0073). All comments, including any personal information you provide, are placed in the public docket without change and may be made available online at www.regulations.gov.

Some Facts About the NFPA Standards Adopted as Part of The OSHA Emergency Response Standard

7 Page analysis of the NFPA Standards Included in the Proposed Emergency Response Standard

- [NFPA 1910/2024 \(263 page document\)](#)

Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Refurbishment, Testing and Retirement of In-Service Emergency Vehicles and Marine Firefighting Vessels.

- This standard defines the minimum requirements for establishing inspection, maintenance, refurbishment, retirement and testing program for in-service emergency vehicles and marine firefighting vessels.
- This standard shall provide minimum requirements for marine firefighting vessels.
- This standard also identifies the minimum job performance requirements (JPRs) for emergency vehicle technicians.
- The purpose of this standard is to specify the minimum requirements for the construction of new marine firefighting vessels or for the conversions of existing vessels to become marine firefighting vessels and...
- To specify the minimum JPRs for service as an emergency vehicle technician.
- 106 additional reference standards
- This standard establishes a check list of items to be checked and maintained by the personnel placed in charge of said equipment.

- [NFPA1001 \(35 page document\)](#)

Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications

This standard identified the minimum job performance requirements for FF 1 & FF 2 professional qualifications. [references 9 additional standards]

List of skills needed in Chapter 4 also refer to Table C.1 *Overview of JPRs for Fire Fighters*.

- AHJ shall have written policies and procedures in compliance with the standard and distributed to all, with instructions on execution.
- *Prior to entering training to meet the requirements of Chapters 4 & 5 of this standard the candidate shall meet the following requirements:*
- *Minimum educational requirements established by the AHJ*
- *Age requirements established by the AHJ*
- *Medical requirements of NFPA 1582 (106 page document) (this standard clearly references a career FF setting, job duties and performance)*

- [NFPA1407 \(23 page document\)](#)

Standard for Training Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews

This standard specifies the basic training procedures for fire service personnel to conduct firefighter rapid intervention operations as specified in 1710 and 1720. [references at least 7 additional NFPA standards, in part.]

- Program shall be developed for all suppression personnel
- Written policies which shall address entry level requirements for crew members, training objectives, basic skills, equipment and training evolutions contained in the standard.
- Comprehensive training program
- Requirements for instructors
- Training shall be documented

- All RIC leaders shall be minimal Fire Officer 1
- AHJ shall have written policies and procedures in compliance with the standard and distributed to all, with instructions on execution.
- [NFPA 1002 \(30 page document\)](#)

Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications

- Outlines requisite skills and knowledge
- References in part 16 other NFPA standards.
- AHJ shall have written policies and procedures in compliance with the standard and distributed to all, with instructions on execution.
- **While not specifically stated, is it the intent that this standard applies to volunteer fire Drivers, it is not stated in the Scope nor in the Explanatory Material.**
- [NFPA 1021 \(41 page document\)](#)

Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications

- References 10 other NFPA Standards in part.
- 17 Pages of requirements
- Requisite skills and knowledge for Fire Officer 1 through Fire Officer 4
- **While not specifically stated, is it the intent that this standard applies to volunteer fire Officers, it is not stated in the Scope nor in the Explanatory Material.**
- [NFPA 1140 \(124 page document\)](#)

Standard for Wildland Fire Protection

Purpose is to specify the minimum requirements for fire protection and emergency services infrastructure in wildland, rural and suburban areas; wildland fire management practices and policies; methods of assessing wildland fire ignition hazards and job performance requirements for wildland fire positions.

- 44 pages of requirements
- 30 referenced NFPA publications in part, plus 12 ASTM standards in part, plus others.
- **While not specifically stated, is it the intent that this standard applies to volunteer fire fighters who *occasional* respond to wildland fires, it is not stated in the Scope nor in the Explanatory Material.**
- [NFPA 1006 \(171 page document\)](#)

Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications

- This standard references in part 10 additional NFPA Standards.
- The Scope of this Standard identifies the minimum job performance requirements for technical rescue personnel. The intent is to ensure that individuals serving as technical rescue personnel are qualified.
- There are 92 pages of requirements including several specialty rescue scenarios.
- **While not specifically stated, is it the intent that this standard applies to volunteer fire fighters who *occasional* respond to Technical Rescues, it is not stated in the Scope nor in the Explanatory Material. Would those occasional volunteers have to be trained to the entire standard or to a portion of the standard?**
- [NFPA 1005 \(28 page document\)](#)

Standard for Professional Qualifications for Marine Fire Fighting for Land Based Fire Fighters

- The purpose is to specify the minimum job performance requirements for Land-Based Fire Fighters operating at marine fire-fighting incidents.
- There are an additional 7 NFPA standards reference in part.
- There are 11 pages of requisite skills.
- To meet the requirements for Marine Fire Fighter, the Fire Fighter II shall meet the JPRs in Sections 4.1 through 4.5 of this standard and the requirements defined in Chapter 5 of NFPA 1001 or Chapters 5 & 6 of NFPA 1081
- **While not specifically stated, is it the intent that this standard applies to volunteer fire fighters who *occasional* respond to Marine Fires, it is not stated in the Scope nor in the Explanatory Material. Would those occasional volunteers have to be trained to the entire standard or to a portion of the standard?**
- [NFPA 1951 \(68 page document\)](#)

Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents

Scope: minimum design, performance, testing and certification requirements for technical rescue protective ensembles for use by emergency services personnel during technical rescue incidents.

Shall also specify the minimum requirements for various elements of the technical rescue protective ensembles, including garments, helmets, gloves, footwear and eye and face protection.

This standard shall apply to the design, manufacturing, testing and certification of new technical rescue protective ensembles and new ensemble elements. i.e. for the manufacturer of such equipment.

Deals with: certification, inspection and testing, annual verification of product compliance, manufacturers' QA program.

- References 44 other technical documents.

The job of the AHJ is to perform a risk assessment to identify the hazards present and to determine the suitability of protective ensembles specified by this standard.

The AHJ would need to create a matrix and document the evaluation of such equipment.

- [NFPA 1952 \(76 page document\)](#)

Standard on Surface Water Operations Protective Clothing and Equipment

Scope: Shall specify the minimum design, performance, testing and certification requirement for protective clothing and equipment items, including full body suits, helmets, gloves, footwear and personal flotation devices designed to provide limited protection from physical, environmental, thermal and certain common chemical and biological hazards for emergency services personnel during surface water operations.

Purpose: to **establish minimum levels of protection** for emergency services personnel assigned to or involved in surface water and rescue operations or other surface water incident operations.

- References 38 additional technical standards

Mostly for the manufacturer of such equipment, **the job of the AHJ is to perform a risk assessment to identify the hazards present and to determine the suitability of protective ensembles specified by this standard. The AHJ would need to create a matrix and document the evaluation of such equipment.**

- [FPA 1953 \(59 page document\)](#)

Standard on Protective Ensembles for Contaminated Water Diving

Basically, this standard shall specify requirements for protective clothing and protective equipment used during operations in contaminated water dive operations. The purpose of this standard shall be to establish minimum levels of protection for emergency service personnel assigned to or involved in performing search and rescue activities in and below the surface of contaminated water. This standard shall apply to the design, manufacture, and certification of new contaminated water dive operations protective clothing and equipment.

This standard applies to the manufacture of such equipment and not to the persons, using the equipment or the operations related to the equipment.

- References 33 additional technical standards
- [NFPA 1971 \(198 page document\)](#)

Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Firefighting and Proximity Firefighting

This standard shall specify the minimum design, performance, testing and certification requirements for structural fire fighting protective ensembles and ensemble elements that include coats, trousers, coveralls, helmets, gloves, footwear, and interface components.

The purpose of this standard shall be to establish minimum levels of protection for fire fighting personnel assigned to fire department operations including but not limited to structural firefighting, proximity firefighting, rescue, emergency medical and other emergency first responder functions.

In Chapter 8, 8.1.12 there are **procedures to be followed** for Washing And Drying Procedures For Garment, Gloves And Glove Pouches.

*This standard applies to the manufacture of such equipment and not to the persons, using the equipment or the operations related to the equipment, except for **Chapter 8** which includes procedures for washing and drying protective equipment.*

- 74 additional reference technical documents.
- [NFPA 1977 \(118 page document\)](#)

Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting and Urban Interface Fire Fighting

This standard shall specify the minimum design, performance, testing and certification requirements for items of wildland firefighting and urban interface fire fighting protective clothing and equipment, including protective garments, helmets, gloves, footwear, goggles and protective chain saw protectors; and for load-carrying equipment.

This standard shall establish minimum standards for the equipment used by wildland and urban interface firefighters and does not apply to the personnel themselves or the operations of said firefighters.

- 45 additional referenced technical standards.
- [NFPA 1981 \(81 page document\)](#)

Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Emergency Services

This standard shall apply to all open-circuit SCBA and combination SCBA/SARs used by emergency services organizations for respiratory protection of its personnel during firefighting, rescue, hazardous materials, terrorist incident, and similar operations where products of combustion, oxygen deficiencies, particulates, toxic products or other IDLH atmospheres exist or could exist at the incident scene.

This standard establishes minimum standards for the design, performance, testing and certification of new SCBA and SCBA/SARs and for the replacement parts, components and accessories for these respirators.

- 22 additional referenced technical standards

[NFPA 1982 \(70 page document\)](#)

Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems

This standard shall specify minimum requirements for the design, performance, testing and certification for all personal alert safety systems (PASS) for emergency services personnel.

Shall apply to the design, performance, testing and certification of PASS or RF PASS devices certified to an earlier edition of this standard that incorporate replacement parts, components and or software to be certified to this edition of the standard. PASS should be worn on protective clothing or protective equipment, or as an integrated part of another item of protective clothing or protective equipment and used whenever the member is involved in fire suppression or similar activities, regardless of whether SCBA is worn.

Note that NFPA 1500 requires that each person involved in rescue, firefighting or other hazardous duties be provided with and use a PASS.

This standard applies to the manufacturer of PASS devices.

- 18 additional referenced technical standards.
- [NFPA 1984 \(39 page document\)](#)

Standard on Respirators for Wildland Firefighting Operations and Wildland Urban interface Operations

This standard shall specify the minimum design, performance, testing and certification requirement for respirators to provide protection from inhalation hazards for personnel conditioning wildland firefighting and or wildland urban interface operations.

This standard shall apply to the design, manufacturer, testing and certification of new wildland firefighting or wildland urban interface operations respirators.

This standard does not mandate the use nor prescribe the use of approved respirators for use by firefighting personnel.

- 12 additional referenced technical standards
- [NFPA 1986 \(70 page document\)](#)

Standard on Respiratory Protection Equipment for Tactical and Technical Operations

This standard shall specify the minimum requirements for the design, performance, testing and certification of (1) new compressed breathing air open-circuit self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and compressed breathing air combination open-circuit self-contained breathing apparatus and supplied air respirator (SCBA/SAR) and (2) replacement parts, components and accessories for those respirators.

This standard does NOT deal with the used of such respirators by emergency personnel.

- 17 additional referenced technical standards
- [NFPA 1987 \(98 page document\)](#)

Standard on Combination Unit Respirator Systems for Tactical and Technical Operations

- 71 additional referenced technical standards

This standard shall specify the minimum requirements for the design, performance, testing and certification of new combination unit respirator (CUR) systems and for the replacement parts, components and accessories for such respirators.

This standard is for the design and manufacture standard for such respirators NOT with the use by personnel.

- [NFPA 1990 \(152 page document\)](#)

Standard for Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials and CBRN Operations

- 59 additional reference technical standards

This standard shall specify the minimum design, performance, testing, documentation, and certification requirements for the following PPE which is used by emergencies and CBRN terrorism incidents:

1. Vapor protective ensembles and ensemble elements for hazardous materials emergencies and CBRN terrorism incidents.
2. Liquid splash-protective ensembles and ensemble elements for hazardous materials emergencies.
3. Hazmat/CBRD protective ensembles and ensemble elements for hazardous materials emergencies and CBRN terrorism incidents.

The purpose of this standard shall be to establish a minimum level of protection for emergency responders during hazardous materials emergencies and CBRN terrorism incidents.

The standard deals with the equipment not the operations by personnel.

- [NFPA 1999 \(94 page document\)](#)

Standard on Protective Clothing and Ensembles for Emergency Medical Operations

- 60 additional referenced technical standards

The purpose of the this standard shall be to establish a minimum level of protection from contact with blood and body fluid-borne pathogens for personnel performing patient care during emergency medical operations.

Shall specify the minimum design, performance, testing, documentation and certification requirements for new single-use and new multiple-use emergency medical operations protective clothing, including garments, helmets, gloves, footwear and face protection devices used by emergency medical responders prior to arrival at medical care facilities during emergency medical operations and used by health care workers providing medical and supportive care.

The Standard deals with the equipment not the operations by personnel.

- [ANSI 107 High-Visibility Safety Apparel](#)

- Performance requirements of high-visibility safety apparel, or HVSA, help with providing visibility to the user under any light conditions by day or night. This is particularly crucial for hazardous conditions, as well as any situation where threats can be presented. The performance requirements include color, retroreflection, the recommended configuration of the materials, and more. Please note that ANSI/ISEA 107-2020's specifications may be applied to many occupational HVSA, but it is not for firefighter turnout gear.
- The updated ANSI/ISEA 107-2020 standard includes changes vs. the 2015 edition such as:
 - Removing the criteria for high-visibility accessories in favor of continuing to emphasize the configurations and design requirements that contribute to the Type-Performance Class designation.
 - Adding accommodating scenarios since garments can become soiled easily because of the work environment. This edition includes specific criteria for a single-use disposable coverall, which complies with the requisite minimum material amounts and color requirements imposed on all compliant HVSA, and emphasizes that the associated material integrity requirements are only applicable to single-use disposable coveralls, for which unique marking is applied.
 - Updates to the tests methods in an effort to align more closely with other material integrity tests and to recognize current versions used for evaluating the materials.
 - Introducing the concept of measuring the overall nighttime luminance of a garment by including optional language that allows a manufacturer to test a garment according to ASTM E1501.

In Total that is more than 1838 pages of additional document pages not including the thousands of pages of referenced documents within the NFPA Standards which the emergency response services would be legally liable for.

OSHA's Proposed Emergency Response Standard Presents Challenges to Fire Departments

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is proposing an extensive new safety and health standard, titled "Emergency Response," to replace the existing "Fire Brigades Standard." The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the "Emergency Response Standard" was [published in the Federal Register](#) on February 5, with the public comment period open until May 6.

This proposed updated standard would issue hundreds of new requirements that may be very burdensome, and in many cases impossible, for volunteer fire departments to comply with. The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) encourages volunteer departments and associations to [submit comments](#) on this proposed rule and request a public hearing so OSHA can have the best possible understanding of how this proposed rule would impact volunteer departments. We also encourage you to send a letter to OSHA requesting a 90-day extension to the public comment period on this proposed rule.

Additionally, please [fill out this survey](#) to assist the NVFC in collecting department data as we formulate our own comments on the proposed rule.

To assist you in developing your comments and public comment period extension letters, the NVFC has put has assembled [this comment guide](#). This guide provides guidance on:

- Where to find the text of the proposed standard
- Where and how to submit your comments on the proposed standard
- How to evaluate if your department is covered by the proposed standard
- How to develop your comments
- What part of the proposed standard will impact volunteer departments the most

The NVFC's comment guide also links you to a map of states with OSHA plans, a template for your comment extension letter, and webinars to further assist you in understanding whether or how the proposed rule would impact your department.

The NVFC recently hosted a Roundtable Talk on this issue, which you can watch [here](#). View some of the questions and answers resulting from the live discussion [here](#).

The NVFC has also put together [this outline of the proposed standard](#) to further highlight important language and provide additional context to the comment guide.

SBA Submits Request for Extension

The SBA Office of Advocacy has just submitted to regulations.gov recommending that OSHA extend the comment period for its **proposed Emergency Response rule** by ninety days and plan for a post comment hearing on the rule.

****Paperwork Nightmare? OSHA Inks Emergency Response Proposal That Piles It On!**

JJ Keller Compliance Network

[EDITOR'S NOTE: REMEMBER THAT JJ KELLER MAKES A LIVING OFF OF TRAINING FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS, THIS CHANGE WILL PROVIDE MORE BUSINESS OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME FOR THEM!]

If you like paperwork, you'll "love" the upcoming Emergency Response proposed rule. According to the fine print, OSHA proposes to toss out three paperwork burdens. Yet, it will tack on over 25 new ones! While the proposal is not in the *Federal Register* yet, you can read the unofficial version on OSHA's website. Be sure to peek at the "Proposed Information Collection Requirements" starting on page 544.

NEWS UPDATE: The ["Emergency Response Standard" proposed rule](#) appeared in the February 5, 2024, *Federal Register*, on pages 7774 to 8023 of the pdf version. The "Proposed Information Collection Requirements" section of the preamble to the proposal begins on page 7999 in the third column. OSHA seeks comments on the proposed rule by May 6, 2024, for [Docket No. OSHA-2007-0073](#). The agency also says it will schedule an informal public hearing on the proposal if requested during the comment period, and, if such a hearing is requested, further notification will be announced in the *Federal Register*.

On December 18, the Office of Management and Budget gave OSHA the green light to publish the proposal in the *Federal Register*. Days later, OSHA issued a news release announcing that the proposal would appear in the *Federal Register* in January. At the same time, the agency posted a pre-publication version of the proposed rule on its ["Emergency Response Rulemaking"](#) webpage.

Stakeholders will have 90 days to comment in [Docket No. OSHA-2007-0073](#), when the proposal appears in the *Federal Register*.

SCOPE OF PROPOSED 29 CFR 1910.156

"Emergency responders are critical workers in all of our communities, and they deserve protections that keep up with today's industry practices," said OSHA head Doug Parker. "We are proposing much-needed updates that will expand protections for emergency workers and bring our standards closer to common industry procedures."

The proposal, if finalized, would modernize [1910.156](#), Fire Brigades. The standard would be renamed "Emergency Response" and expand coverage to emergency responders, such as:

- Firefighters,
- Emergency medical service providers, and
- Technical search and rescue workers.

The new 1910.156 would not apply to:

- Employers performing disaster site cleanup or recovery duties following natural disasters;
- Activities covered by [1910.120](#), Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER); or
- Activities covered by [1910.146](#), Permit-Required Confined Spaces.

The scope of OSHA's standard would:

- Be expanded to include a range of hazards that emergency responders encounter,
- Align the standard with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) National Response Framework, and
- Modernize the standard to bring it in line with consensus standards issued by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

For more background, please see our earlier article, "[OSHA's Responder Proposal May Pop Up by End of January](#)," dated November 17, 2023.

OTHER REGULATIONS IMPACTED

In addition, the proposal pulls other regulations into the fold:

- [1910.6](#), Incorporation by Reference;
- [1910.120](#), Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response;
- [1910.134](#), Respiratory Protection;
- [1910.155](#), Scope, Application and Definitions Applicable to This Subpart;
- [1910.157](#), Portable Fire Extinguishers;
- [1910.158](#), Standpipe and Hose Systems; and
- [1910.159](#), Automatic Sprinkler Systems.

PAPERWORK BURDENS

Despite concerns raised years ago by small business about the cost and time commitments of the *draft* standard, the latest proposal would remove three but add over 25 new "information collection requirements." Specifically, OSHA proposes to eliminate existing language under:

- [1910.156\(b\)\(1\)](#) that requires employers to develop and maintain an organizational statement;
- [1910.156\(b\)\(2\)](#) that requires employers to obtain a physician's certificate of certain employees' fitness to participate in fire brigade emergency activities; and
- [1910.156\(c\)\(4\)](#) that requires the employer to inform fire brigade members about special hazards to which they may be exposed during fire/emergencies.

In place of these information requirements, OSHA's proposed rule builds in collections for:

Category:	Paperwork:
Emergency/risk planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A facility vulnerability assessment• A written emergency response program• An annual evaluation of the emergency response program

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping previous versions of emergency response programs • A written comprehensive risk management plan • Identifying the location of each fire hose valve
Vehicle procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and procedures for operating certain vehicles • Policies and procedures if responders cannot be seat belted in a vehicle • A procedure for vehicle operator training
Incident planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-incident plans for locations within the facility • Pre-incident plans for the facilities where incidents may occur • Pre-incident plans for each facility subject to EPA 40 CFR 355 within the primary response area • A comprehensive and ongoing size-up of an incident scene • A risk assessment for an incident scene • An incident action plan • Established, marked, and communicated control zones • Standard operating procedures for emergency events • Post-incident analyses
Medical/health records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum medical requirements for team members and responders • Keeping confidential records for each team member and responder related to duty restrictions, work illnesses and injuries, and exposures • A medical evaluation program • A record of each responder's exposure to combustion products • Behavioral health and wellness resources • A health and fitness program
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team members and responders to report safety and health concerns • Posting your procedures for reporting safety and health concerns • A hazard assessment for personal protective equipment selection

OSHA estimates that the proposed paperwork burdens will: **[EDITOR'S NOTE: IT IS GENERALLY FELT THAT THIS IS A SERIOUS UNDERESTIMATE, BUT REAL NUMBERS NEED TO BE DEVELOPED, REASON MORE TIME BEYOND THE 90 DAY COMMENT PERIOD IS NEEDED.]**

- Impact 22,551 entities,
- Take 3,896,719 hours in total each year to complete, and
- Cost a total of \$106,502,463 annually.

That averages to 173 hours and \$4,723 per year for each entity.

KEY TO REMEMBER

OSHA proposes to remove three but add over 25 paperwork burdens amounting to 173 hours per year per entity. The move is part of an upcoming Emergency Response proposal.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: NATIONAL STUDIES HAVE PREVIOUSLY FOUND THAT THE ONE THING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS DON'T HAVE IS TIME. IS THIS NEW IMPOSITION BEING DONE ON PURPOSE TO SATISFY UNION ACTIONS TO CRIPPLE THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE? IF THEY WOULD BE PATIENT THE IAFF WILL GRADUALLY MAKE IN ROADS AS THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE CONTINUES TO ERODE. REMEMBER THE IAFF PROVIDES CONTRIBUTIONS TO A SLEW OF POLITICIANS THROUGH THEIR CAMPAIGN PACS, VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE VERY LITTLE CAMPAIGN FUNDING.]

Formal Comment Submitted by CAFDA on Your Behalf!

<https://cafda.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Extension-Request-from-CAFDA.docx>

Posted to the CAFDA.net website.

Where To Go To Upload A Formal Comment To The Proposed Emergency Response Standard

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/02/05/2023-28203/emergency-response-standard?utm_campaign=subscription+mailing+list&utm_medium=email&utm_source=federalregister.gov

OSHA Takes Action To Limit Emergency Responder Injuries And Fatalities

Michael Fraley – Fire Rescue One

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently announced plans to update the outdated and scope-limited Fire Brigades Standard, 29 CFR 1910.156. The proposed new standard will be titled “Emergency Response” and aims to include emergency responders, including fire departments, EMS agencies, and technical search and rescue teams. It will also govern responders who work other jobs in commercial or industrial settings but are activated as part of a Workplace Emergency Response Team when an incident occurs in the facility.

This article is a brief overview of many of the standards mentioned in the proposed rule and is not meant to be an exhaustive analysis of each section. The highlighted segments are included to portray the variety of areas the rule would cover and the significant work that may be required of some services to comply.

This article also will not explore the details of who is legally obligated to comply with OSHA standards. This varies from state to state and is complicated by a variety of factors. It should also be noted that in some circumstances, volunteer agencies may be covered by OSHA standards. Regardless of whether OSHA has legal authority over a particular state or service, there is an argument that they set a standard that could be indirectly applied to everyone. This may be particularly true after an incident has occurred and no other standard exists.

The general purpose of the proposed rule is to reduce emergency response team member injuries and fatalities. The NPRM document begins with an impressive section of statistics highlighting the dangers emergency responders face and the need for standards to reduce the impact of these injuries and deaths. The rule is specific to protecting responders and does not directly apply to medical care, outcomes or safety as they relate to patients.

SOME OF THE SPECIFIC SECTIONS OF THE PROPOSED STANDARD INCLUDE:

- **Emergency response plan (ERP).** Agencies *will be required* to have a written program to ensure they are prepared to respond to, and operate safely in, the emergency and non-emergency situations that are likely to occur in their primary response area. The ERP is intended to provide for the occupational safety and health of team members and encompass all aspects of emergency response, many of which are outlined below.
- **Vulnerability assessment of hazards.** Agencies *must assess* their primary response area *to identify the types calls they may respond to*. Resources in the plan must be matched to these hazards and the plan should identify mutual aid resources to be called when the agency cannot mitigate a particular hazard.
- **ERP tiers, types and levels.** The agency must identify the various tiers, types and levels of responders covered by the ERP. *Several sections of the proposed standard require the agency to identify training, evaluation, qualifications, duties and capabilities of responders based on these terms*. One size does not fit all.
- **Team involvement with the plan.** The Emergency Response Plan should be developed, implemented, reviewed and updated with involvement from team members. OSHA identifies that front-line responders have valuable insight into the work process particularly as it relates to safety.
- **Medical and physical requirements.** The proposed standard specifies that ***responders will be required to meet medical and physical requirements based on their type and level of service***. This section is extensive and pays particular attention to cardiovascular health.
- **Behavioral health and wellness resources.** Agencies *would be required* to offer team members services that include diagnostic assessment, short-term counseling, crisis intervention and referral to additional resources. Records arising from any use of these resources must be kept confidential.

- **Health and fitness program.** Team members should have access to health and fitness programs that help them maintain fitness for duty and to prevent work-related illness.
- **Training program.** *A comprehensive training program must be in place* to include initial and ongoing training as well as *skills checks* at appropriate intervals. All training and assessments will be based on tiers, types and levels of providers employed. The program must detail instructor qualifications, member evaluation methods, and assurances that team members will not be tasked with duties until they demonstrate the skills and abilities to safely complete them.
- **Facility safety.** OSHA understands that fire and EMS responders spend significant time in stations between calls and requires that these facilities also be safe. The section details the need to provide adequate spaces to decontaminate, maintain and store PPE and other equipment separate from living quarters. It also lists requirements for fire alarms, sprinkler systems, carbon monoxide detectors and equipment to prevent vehicle exhaust from entering sleeping and living areas. And yes, they even set standards for fire pole safety.
- **Personal protective equipment (PPE).** Significant attention is paid to the provision of PPE to responders as well as training, testing, maintenance, cleaning and disposal of the supplies and equipment.
- **Vehicle safety.** Highlighting the high numbers of fire and EMS responders injured and killed in vehicle crashes, OSHA proposes broad-reaching standards related to maintenance, inspection and testing of vehicles. The standards also outline important benchmarks in training and operation of vehicles, and the policies that should be in place to cover both. OSHA even settles the debate about the proper name of a legendary fire prevention character when it highlights the need for procedures to ensure the safety of occupants that are not able to be belted in a seat. OSHA notes that mascots such as *Smokey Bear* may not be able to be seat belted in when riding on a vehicle in a parade! (Note they did not call him Smokey the Bear?)
- **Incident Management System.** To align with the National Response Framework, OSHA will expect Emergency Response Plans to contain language about implementation, training and use of the Incident Management System. An emphasis is placed on provider safety monitoring and reporting during incidents.
- **Respiratory protection.** Training, equipment and policies related to responder respiratory protection have long been a major area of concern for OSHA and the proposed Emergency Response standard will continue that emphasis.
- **Communication.** Language in the proposed rule encourages reliable communication between dispatch centers and responders including monitoring of on-scene radio transmissions to maintain safety and respond to any on-scene responder emergencies. The rule also calls for interoperability between mutual aid resources.

TWO OPPORTUNITIES

EMS agencies and fire departments have two important opportunities right now.

- Review the proposed standard, whether OSHA rules directly apply to you or not, and provide comments to help shape the document into something that will improve safe practices in our industry.
- Review your department's current responder safety program and take steps to build the program so it will meet or even exceed the standard that this rule will bring.

Tailboard Talk: The OSHA Fire Brigade Standard from Fire Engineering

https://www.fireengineering.com/podcasts/tailboard-talk-the-osha-fire-brigade-standard/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=fe_daily_newsletter&utm_campaign=2024-02-26

OSHA Proposes Major Changes to Regulations for the Fire Service

Insight from Curt Varone

<https://www.firelawblog.com/2024/02/15/osha-unveils-major-changes-it-proposes-for-the-fire-service/>

OSHA'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE STANDARD UPDATE THREATENS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

National Vol Fire Council

On December 21, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced that it will issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to modernize the agency's "Fire Brigades" standard. This standard was first published and last updated in 1980.

This proposed updated standard would issue several new requirements that would be very burdensome, and in many cases impossible, for volunteer fire departments to comply with. Specifically, there would be prohibitively restrictive standards on physical exams, the purchase of new equipment, and the formation of emergency plans that exceed the staffing capabilities of many volunteer departments.

The proposed updated standard was published in the Federal Register on February 5, and public comments are being accepted until May 6. The National Volunteer Fire Council will be filing comments on this proposed rule and encourages members of the volunteer fire service community to submit their own comments and request a public hearing on this proposed standard.

Access the text of this rule and instructions on how to file comments [here](#). Additionally, OSHA Region 1 Training Institute Education Center recently conducted a [webinar](#) providing an overview of what's in the standard and some of the impacts it would have on volunteers.

We all know that whatever a bunch of bureaucrats in Washington put on paper will make all the difference in the world, this is the same federal government that told us everything was safe after the Twin Towers fell.

LINK TO THE PROPOSED OSHA STANDARD, NO FLUFF:

<https://cafda.net/proposed-changes-to-the-osha-standard-comment-period-opens-february-5th/>

Here are the links for the resources as Dave promised:

1. [Webinar: Emergency Response Rule | Oshaedne](#)
2. [OSHA's NEW Proposed Rule 1910.156 Emergency Response rule on Vimeo](#)
3. [Microsoft PowerPoint - 1910.156 Webinar 1-31-2024 draft 2.pptx \(oshaedne.com\)](#)

OSHA PROPOSED UPDATE TO THE BRIGADE STANDARD COMPLETE TEXT: <https://cafda.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ER-NPRM-Unofficial-WORD-VERSION.docx>

LINK TO MY SYNOPSIS OF THE PROPOSED UPDATE: <https://cafda.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/SYNOPSIS-OF-THE-PROPOSED-UPDATED-OSHA-FIRE-BRIGADE-STANDARD-1.docx>