Proceedings Of The
126th Annual Convention and Conference

Held In Ocean City, Maryland
June 16-22, 2018

Next Meeting To Be Held At
Ocean City, Maryland
June 15-21, 2019
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Seal of the
Maryland State Firemen’s Association

The Great Seal of Maryland was used by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association during its first two years (1893-1894.) The second logo of the M.S.F.A. was first used in 1895, and appeared on the Proceedings Book of the Association until 1904, (shown lower left.) In 1905, the logo was changed (shown lower right). In 2001 the logo (shown next page) was slightly altered to include the wording around the outside edge, was created and continues to be used as a sign of recognition by representatives of the M.S.F.A. while conducting the official business of the Association. The description of the logo was supplied by Past President Peter Paul Lochary and Mrs. Jeannie Hare (widow of Past President Herman B. Hare.)

MEANING OF THE LOGO

The **color red** represents life-red blood of the human being-the gift of God. The **hose** expresses effort-energy put forth by individuals to his/her job as water flows through the hose. **Tools of the trade - Axes** - force. **Ladders** - steps to success for firemen helping to provide better service to the community. **Nozzle** - used to dispense water-result of success applied by firemen. **Oak Leaves - White Oak** is the tree of the State of Maryland and shows strength. **Acorns** symbolize deeds of firemen that grow into accomplishments just as acorns grow into great oak trees. **Wreath** formed by oak leaves and acorns to symbolize valor and achievement. **Bow** to tie it all together to make a great organization.
Mark A. Bilger
President 2017-2018
Richard C. Blair
Hampstead VFC
President 2018-2019
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION 126TH ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE

MSFA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE LIST 2017-2018

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SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Michael Faust

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Shirley Copado

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Nancy L. Cox

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Nancy Scott

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Thomas W. Scott III

TREASURER
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ASSISTANT TREASURER
George A. “Fred” Cross Jr. PP

ASSISTANT TREASURER
Wylie L. Donaldson Jr.

ASSISTANT TREASURER
Robert W. Jacobs PP

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Mitch Vocke

ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Barbara “Bobbie” Aaron

CHIEF CHAPLAIN

CHIEF CHAPLAIN EMERITUS
Rev. J. Harvey Dixon

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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VICE CHAIRMAN: Douglas C. Alexander (19)
SEC/TRES: Jeffery H. Thompson (18)
TRUSTEE: Ben Kurtz (20)
TRUSTEE: Terry E. Thompson, PP (17)

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VICE CHAIRMAN: Richard Hemphill

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY
Michael W. Farlow, Esquire

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
Ashleigh Daughbach

OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN
CHAIRMAN: Richard K. Brooks, III

EXECUTIVE CONSULTANT
Daniel H. “Skip” Mahan, Jr.

MSFA BRANCH AND COMMITTEE LISTS
2017-2018

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Joe Antoszewski

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Attorney: Michael W. Farlow, Esq.
Douglas Guare
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

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Lee Lutz
Dennis Skinner
Barbara Steiner
William J. Wagner III
Liaison: Secretary’s Office

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Vice Chairman: Wayne Colburn
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Barbara Knippenburg
Dave Lewis PP
Beth Stone
Paul Sullivan Jr.
J. B. Tieder
Jaime Weber
MFRI Liaison:
DNR Liaison: Monte Mitchell
Governor’s Office Liaison:

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Kenneth Hyde, Sr.
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Darren Long (MFCA)
William Smith (MFCA)
Jeffery Thompson (MFCA)
Ronald Watkins (MFCA Alternate)
Skip Mahan (Coordinator of Strategic Planning)
SERGEANT-AT ARMS
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Vice Chairman: David Kyle
R. Dan Stallings
Harve Ed Woods

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C. Dan Carpenter, III - (Hall of Fame)
C. Dan Carpenter, III – (Marbery Gates/Colburn Cup)
Teresa Ann Crisman - (Fire Prevention)
Stephan D. Cox, PP - (Legislator of the Year)
Joseph Chornock - (Family Appreciation)
Eric Smothers - (EMS)
Michael A. LeCompte - (Smith Statement Safety)
Robert W. Jacobs, PP - (Robert Shimer Admin)
William B. Lay, Sr. - (FF of the Year)
Leon Fleming - (Zembower Training)
Roger Powell - (Edward L. Emkey Sr. Cadet Program)

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Vice Chairman: James Jarboe
Dale Budnick, Sr.
John O. Gatton, Sr.
Malcolm Helwig
Dave Keller III, PP
Roger Marks
William “Bill” Smith
James J. Snyder, Jr.
Jeff Thompson
Jeff Ringer

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- Baltimore (19)
Attorney: Michael J. Farlow, Esq.
Craig Harmon - Anne Arundel (18)
Eugene Cufman - Carroll/Howard (19)
Frank Underwood, PP - Prince George’s (20)
Tim Ganley - Frederick/Washington (20)
Darren Long - Montgomery (20)
John O. Gatton, Sr. - Cal/Chas/St Mary’s (19)
Peter Lott - Caroline/Kent/Q.A. (20)
David L. McQuay - Dorchester/Talbot (18)
Zachary Coyle - Cecil/Harford (19)
Richard DeVore - Allegany/Garrett (18)
Donald Ford - Som/Wic/Worc (18)

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Vice Chairman: Benjamin W. Kurtz (20)
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Charlie Abrecht
George “Fred” Cross, Jr., PP (19)
John T. Ferguson, III (19)
Timothy Jones
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Dave Keller, III, PP
William B. Lay, Sr. (18)
Richard Smith (18)

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Vice Chairman: Philip M. Hurlock, PP
C. Daniel Davis, Jr., PP
Joseph R. Robison, PP
Roger A. Steger, Sr., PP

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Vice Chairman: Richard L. Smith (18)
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Asst. Treasurer: Wylie Donaldson
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Herman “Buddy” Schweers
Luanne Schweers
Calvin Stack, Jr.
Charles Stewart
Joseph/Ruth Tolliver
Darlene Vocke
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Ron Siarnicki
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Wylie L. Donaldson, Jr.
William Hildebrand
Robert W. Jacobs, PP
Benjamin W. Kurtz
Dave Lewis PP
Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr., PP
Jackie Olson, PP
Johnie F. Roth, Jr., PP
Roger A. Steger, Sr., PP
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John Denver, PP
William J. Hawkins
Elaine Huttenloch
Roger Powell, PP
Paul H. Sterling, Jr., PP
Susan Proels
Frank Underwood, PP
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Co-Chairman: Jacqueline Olson, PP
Jim Brown

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Nancy Cox
John Denver, PP
Douglas Guare
Lynn Hawkins
Rick Hemphill
Elaine Huttenloch
Hugh Owens
Roger N. Powell, PP
John Proels
Richard A. Snader
Roger A. Steger, Sr., PP
Ronald E. Watkins
Laura Woods

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Co-Chairman: Roger A. Steger, Sr., PP
Co-Chairman: Dave Lewis, PP
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Jeff Thompson
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Jim Smith
Frank Underwood PP

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Co-Chairman: George “Fred” Cross, Jr., PP
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Rose Clark
Gloria Lewis
Sandy Jacobs
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Darlene Vocke
Mitch Vocke
Lisa Tona

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Co-Chairman: William Hildebrand
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Robbie Blackiston
Flo Collins
Teresa Ann Crisman
Mary Frances Crisman
William Faust
Bill Hildebrand

Chris May
Susan Proels
Frank J. Underwood, PP

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Mary Blacker
Richard Brooks
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Elaine Huttenloch
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Roger A. Steger, Sr., PP
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Joseph Ward (MFRI)

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Jimmie Rose
Jonathan M. Dayton
Joe Walters

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Cecil - Allen Ryan  
Charles - Duane K. Svites  
Dorchester - Calvin S. Stack, Jr.  
Frederick - Rusty Hahn  
Garrett - Tim Dayton  
Harford - Ben W. Kurtz  
Howard - Terry Thompson, PP  
Kent - Kristin McMenamin  
Montgomery - Juan Bofill  
Prince George - Charles Walker  
Queen Anne’s - Trish Hunter  
Somerset - Donald Lee Howard  
St. Mary’s - Shirley Copado  
Talbot - Richard Smith  
Washington - L. Jason Baer  
Worcester - Jeff McMahon  
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Victoria Cunningham  
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Sam Sauers  
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Brian Clements
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Joseph Larsen
Roger Marks
Jean Panarella
Sherrie Sauers
Barbara Steiner
John Sullivan (18)
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Robbie Murray
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Marlene Schaeffer
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Joe Toller
Ruth Toller
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JW Wathen
Bridget Weishaar

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Chairman Emeritus: Robert E. Collins
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Vice Chairman: Holy Trego (20)
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Corresponding Secretary: Edwin F. Thurston (18)
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Donald Ford
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Douglas Guare
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Kay Trego

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C. Oscar Baker, PP
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Bill Barnard
John Bender
Ken Bush
Gary Crampton
Tony Fleming
Dennis Gentzel
Michael Hill
John Hurley
Matt Kelleher
Robert Knippenburg, PP
Jamie McNeal
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M. Heather Miller
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Paul H. Sterling, Jr., PP
Ken Streb
W. Faron Taylor
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Terry E. Thompson, PP

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OSFM Liaison: Brian Geraci

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Allegany - John Shuhart
Anne Arundel - Wylie Donaldson, Jr.
Baltimore - Bernard Smith, PP
Calvert - George Anderson
Caroline - Russell Dukes
Carroll - Bob Cumberland, Jr., PP
Cecil - Joe Fisona
Charles - Charles Wills
Dorchester - Calvin C. Stack Jr.
Frederick - Clarence “Chip” Jewell
Garrett - Mike Phillipi
Harford - Bill Lay, Sr.
Howard - Carroll Roles
Kent - William Hildebrand
Montgomery - Marcine Goodloe
Prince George’s - Joseph R. Robison, PP
Queen Anne’s - Philip M. Hurlock, PP
Somerset - Donald Lee Howard
St Mary’s - C. Daniel Davis, PP
Talbot - Jim Towers
Washington - Ien D. Fishack, Sr.
Wicomico - Roger A. Steger, Sr., PP
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C. Daniel Davis, PP
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Pete Mellits
Tyler Patton
Johnie F. Roth, Jr., PP
Bernard Smith, PP
Justin Towles

LAMSFA Liaison: Carene Housenfluck

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Vice Chairman: Gene Worthington, PP
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Asst. Secretary: Nancy Cox
Treasurer: Ron Siarnicki
Budget Chairman: Stephan D. Cox, PP
Coordinator: Daniel “Skip” Mahan
Immediate Past President: Michael A. Davis

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Vice Chairman Philip M. Hurlock, PP (93-94)
Sec/Treasurer Robert Knippenburg, PP (98-99)
(All MSFA Past Presidents are members of this committee)

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Jon Black
Charles Brandt

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Co-Chairman: Tyler C. Patten-Editorial
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Volunteer Trumpet Liaison: Michael Dixon
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Gary McGinnis
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Sandi Lutz
Pete Pirringer
Franklin D. Roth
Brenda Sarmiento
MIEMSS Liaison: Jim Brown
OSFM Liaison: Bruce Bouch

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Central North - Kevin Dayhoff
Central South - Bob McHenry
Northeast - Eileen Edelin
Upper Shore - Kelly Renshaw
Lower Shore - Mmons K. Horner
South - Shirley Copado

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Johnie Roth, Jr., PP
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Gene Aaron
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Ralph Dull
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Steven King
Paul Mills
R. Wayne Powell
Marilyn Stadler
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Rodney Bowser
Michael Faust
Jacqueline Olson, PP
Herman “Buddy” Schweers

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EMS, Fire Prevention/Life Safety, Safety,
Recruitment/Retention & Training

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Director: Charles Simpson, Jr.

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Brian Clements
Jonathan Dayton
Keith Ferrier
Robin Shelton Hahn
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Pete Mellits
Clifton Odenhall
Colton Pounsberry
R. Wayne Powell
Margery Sayers
Chris St. John
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Jennifer Gheen
Susan Mott (19)
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W. Faron Taylor

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Special Liaison: Dr. James E. Milke

Special Liaison: Dwight Polk

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Vice Chairman: Flo Collins
Clark/Rosie Beall
Teresa Ann Criswell
Tom Diem
Brittany Hill
Michael Hill
Susan Hinton
Rhonda Hinch
Kathy Honeycutt
Chris Hyzer
Cynthia Wright-Johnson
Trey Kelso
Donald King
Amber Leizear
Susan Mott
Dan Mautz
Jackie Olson, PP
Marcia Roth
Dorothy Rue
James Seavey, Sr.
Richard Smith
Sherry Soper
Beth Stone
Donna Struntz
Marianne Warehime
Bridget Weishaar

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Alternate: David W. Lewis, PP

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Joseph Cooper
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Ralph Dull
Stacy Faust
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Donald Lee Howard
Michael A. LeCompte
Dave Lewis
Craig Moe

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Anne Arundel  David W. Lewis, PP
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Calvert       Courtney Woodward
Caroline      Kelly Schanken
Carroll       Jeannie Green
Cecil         Kerry A. Abrams
Charles       Danny Carpenter
Dorchester    Bobbie Aaron
Frederick     Nicky Burriss
Garrett       Sharon Paugh
Harford       Joseph Rutherford
Howard        Steve Fleming
Kent          Lee Myers
Montgomery    Linda Dowdy
Prince George’s Joan Robison
Queen Anne’s  Tracey Johnson
Somerset      Lisa Evans
St. Mary’s    Joseph A. Cooper
Talbot        Ken Bush
Washington    Skip Menzies
Wicomico      Michael W. Farlow, Esq.
Worcester     John Fisher

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Michael W. Farlow, Esq.

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Director: Leon Fleming

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Joseph Chornock
Kevin Copley
Shane Darwicd
Timothy F. Dayton
John Fisher

Donald Ford
Susan L. Grote
Robert King
Amber Leizear (18)
Rick Leizear
Dan Lubman
Gerald “JJ” Lynott, Jr. (19)
Bob McHenry (20)
Roger Marks
Tom Musgrove, Sr.
Chad Packard (18)
Jeana Panarella
Jim Pizzini
Kingsley Poole
Jeff Ringer
Charles Simpson, Jr. (20)
Barbara “Bobbie” Stevens (19)
Nicholas Thompson (18)
Scott Wood (19)

SAFETY Liaison: Janet Fisher

MIE MSS Liaison:

DNR/FORESTRY Liaison: Monte Mitchell
MFCA Liaison: Hugh Owens
MFRI Liaison: Larry Preston
MFRET C Liaison: Lynn Gilroy
MICRB Member: Diane May
MFSPQB Liaison: Donald Howard

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Angela Cowan
Victoria Cunningham
George Keithley
Steven M. King
Bobbi Stevens
Daniel J. Stevens
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Chairman: Stanley S. “Buddy” Sutton
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Steven Barry
Clark Beall
George W. Brown, Jr.
Larry Callison
Mark E. Davis
William Hildebrand
Tim Legore
Gary McGinnis
Ed Woods
SAFETY COMMITTEE
Chairman: Michael A. LeCompte (19)
Michael.lecompte@comcast.net
Vice Chairman: John Fisher (19)
Vice Chairman: Mario Melfa (Safety Program)
SHA Liaison: Patrick Rooney
EMS Committee Liaison:
Medical Director: Dr. Paula Rose, MD
Data Technical Support: Richard Snader
MIEMSS-EMS Liaison: Phillip Hurlock PP
Medical Director: Dr. Paula Rose M.D.
MFRI: Joe Ward
Bobbie Aaron
Gene Aaron
Jon Black
Lawrence D. Callison
Eddie Carman
Phillip R. Cooper
Mike Davis PP
Kathleen Donahoe
Mallory (Molly) Eckman
Robert Fears
Janet Fisher
Donald Ford
David C. Van Gasbeck
Robyn Hahn
Clarence “Chip” Jewell
Cynthia Wright-Johnson
Amber Leizear
Dan Lubman
Brian Montgomery
Richard Redmond
Barbara Steiner
Bobbi Stevens (18)
Daniel J. Stevens (18)
Raymond F. Stevens, Sr. (19)
Donna Struntz
Paul Sullivan, Jr.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Chairman: Ken Bush (20)
Vice Chairman: Roger A. Steger, Sr. PP
Jon Black
Brendan Burke
C. Dan Carpenter, III (19)
David Cohen

C. Daniel Davis, PP
William DuSold
Kenneth Gilroy
Vernon L. “Tim” Growden (20)
Donald Lee Howard (19)
Brian Montgomery
David Myers (20)
Allan Schaubler
James J. Snyder, Jr. (19)
Daniel J. Stevens
Edwin F. Thurston (19)
Michael White
Steven J. Wisner

Liaison: Constitution & By-Laws Committee

TRANSPORTATION BRANCH
Director: Mitch Vocke

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chairman: Thomas L. Flint, II (19)
Vice Chairman: William A. Frazier (19)
Vice Chairman: Frank Underwood, PP (18)
President’s Vehicle Liaison: Mitch Vocke
LAMSFA Liaison: Carol Flint

AREA COUNTY COORDINATORS
Alleghany - Ron Grabenstein
Anne Arundel A - Laura Woods
Anne Arundel B - Jacqueline M. Olson, PP
Baltimore West - Edward C. Schultz
Baltimore North - Robert J Schott
Baltimore East - William Pearson, Jr.
Baltimore South - Charles Deavers
Calvert - Randy Smith
Caroline - Mark Driscoll
Carroll - C. Daniel Green, Sr.
Cecil - Donald L Briscoe
Charles - Charles W. Wills
Dorchester - Ronnie Reynolds
Frederick - Thomas L. Flint, II
Garrett - Rodney W. Bowser (18)
Harford - Sharon Worthington
Howard - Terry Thompson, PP
Kent - Henrietta Maloney
Montgomery - Johnie F. Roth, Jr., PP
Prince George’s - Frank Underwood, PP
Prince George’s B - Ann McGill
Queen Anne’s - Mark Driscoll
Somerset - Van B Muir, Jr.
St. Mary’s - John O. Gatton Sr. (19)
Talbot - John Hanes
Washington - Graham Snow
Wicomico - Eric Taylor
Worcester - Roger A. Steger, Sr., PP

PRESIDENT’S VEHICLE COMMITTEE
Chairman: Stephan Cox, PP
Vice Chairman: Mitch Vocke
Michael Davis, PP.
David C. “Rusty” Leftwich

MARYLAND FIRE RESCUE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
President: Gene Worthington, PP
Vice President: Robert Ringle
Treasurer: Dennis Beard
Secretary: Sharon Owen
Jim Brown
Bill Barnard
Doyle E. Cox, PP
Teresa Crisman
John Davies
C. Daniel Davis, PP
John Denver, PP
Rod Devilbliss
Cathy Hedrick
Les Hedrick
John Hoglund
Nancy Hoglund
Carene Housenfluck
John Hurley
Dave Lewis, PP
John Maher
Rosa Maher
Peg Mooney
Tracy Mooney
Gayle Moreland
Rick Petry
Roger N. Powell, PP
Ed Sherlock
Robert Small
Richard Smith
Ron Stroble
Matt Tobia (Honorary)
Bridget Weishaar

LAMSFA Liaison: Joyce Thorne
LAMSFA Liaison: Betty Radisch
Special Liaison: Ronald J. Siarnicki
Special Liaison: Brian S. Geraci

APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, LIAISONS AND STATE AGENCIES

Adjutant General of Maryland - Maj. General Linda L. Singh
Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualification Board
Delegate: Donald Lee Howard
Alternate: Daniel J. Stevens
MD Fire-Rescue Education & Training Commission
Chairman: R. Michael Clemens (18)
Vice Chairman: Lynn D. Gilroy (18)
Administrator: Alexia Van Orden
Jennifer L. Aubert-Utz (19)
Kiona Black (20)
Robert Cumberland Jr. PP (19)
Geoffrey Donahue (17)
John E. Dulina (18)
Scott Graham (16)
John Jerome (19)
John Kisser (17)
Barbara Knippenburg (16)
Daniel J. Stevens (17)

MD Instructor Certification Review Board
Barbara A. Knippenburg - Member
Diane May - Alternate

911 Commission
Bryan C. Ebling
Caroline County Dept. of Emergency

M.F.R.I. University of Maryland
Director Steven T. Edwards

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
Executive Director: Chief Ronald Siarnicki
Board Member Robert W. Jacobs, PP

Maryland Joint Terrorism Task Force 4
FBI, Baltimore Field Office

Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC)
Executive Director: Dave Engel
FIRE/EMS Analyst:
Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Representative: H. Ed Woods
MD Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
Executive Director:
State Medical Director: Dr. Richard Alcorta, MD, FACEO
MD Emergency Medical Services System Representative: George “Fred” Cross, Jr. PP
SEMSAC Representative: Linda Dousa
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center
Vice President: Karen E. Doyle, M.B.A., M.S., R.N.
Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal
State Fire Marshal: Brian Geraci
Maryland DNR Forestry Service
State Fire Supervisor: Monte Mitchell
Maryland State Police
Superintendent: Colonel William M. Pallozzi
MD State Police Aviation Division - Captain Steven Konold

Maryland Emergency Management Agency
Executive Director: Russell Strickland
Maryland State Fire Prevention Commission
Chairman: C. Danny Davis
National Volunteer Fire Council
Delegate: James P. Seavey Sr.
Alternate: David W. Lewis PP
MSFA Foundation www.msfafoundation.org
Chairman: Terry Thompson PP
Vice Chairman: Joseph Robison PP
Secretary: Paul H. Sterling Jr. PP
Treasurer: Douglas Alexander
NFFF – Maryland Local Assistance State Team (LAST)
State Coordinator: Michael Pfaltzgraff
Volunteer Representatives:
Debbie Haydon
William Hildebrand
Roger A. Steger, Sr. PP
Beth Stone

Thanks to all MSFA Officers, Chairmen, and committee members for a most successful year.
The Officers and Committee Chairmen would like to thank all the Member Companies and Associates for their continued support to
the success of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Because of your efforts, we continue to be a successful organization.
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the success of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Because of your efforts, we continue to be a successful organization.
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The Officers and Committee Chairmen would like to thank all the Member Companies and Associates for their continued support to the success of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Because of your efforts, we continue to be a successful organization.
# Past Presidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. Roger McSherry</td>
<td>1893-94-95</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edwin J. Lawyer</td>
<td>1895-96</td>
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<td>William H. A. Hamilton</td>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td>Hagerstown</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Irving Mace</td>
<td>1897-98</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<td>John J. Stump</td>
<td>1898-99</td>
<td>Cumberland</td>
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<td>Philip E. Porter</td>
<td>1899-00</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Augustus Albert</td>
<td>1900-01</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>John H. Cunningham</td>
<td>1901-02-03</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lloyd T. MacGill Jr.</td>
<td>1903-04</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>William G. Rerbin</td>
<td>1904-05</td>
<td>Snow Hill</td>
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<td>John dep. Douw</td>
<td>1905-06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palmer Tennant</td>
<td>1906-07</td>
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<td>B. Z. Stanton</td>
<td>1907-08</td>
<td>Roland Park</td>
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<td>Peter C. McFarland</td>
<td>1908-09</td>
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<td>C. Walter Wright</td>
<td>1909-10</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<td>John B. Baker</td>
<td>1910-11</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
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<td>C. O’B. Diehm</td>
<td>1911-12-13</td>
<td>Sparrows Point</td>
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<td>Harry T. Levely</td>
<td>1913-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. F. Fairall</td>
<td>1914-15</td>
<td>Laurel</td>
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<td>F. G. Kelch</td>
<td>1915-16</td>
<td>Raspeburg</td>
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<td>Russell P. Smith</td>
<td>1916-17</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<td>J. H. Baumgartner</td>
<td>1917-18</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
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<td>Oscar D. Gilbert</td>
<td>1918-19</td>
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<td>Conrad J. Herpich</td>
<td>1919-20</td>
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<td>A. R. Lohner - (died in office)</td>
<td>1920-21</td>
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<td>William H. Collier</td>
<td>1921</td>
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<td>Charles W. Tucker</td>
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<td>James B. McAlpine</td>
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<td>R. W. Bell</td>
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<td>Leo M. Moore</td>
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<td>Thomas G. Basil</td>
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<td>John J. Fainter</td>
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<td>B. H. Ford</td>
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<td>James P. Reese</td>
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<td>Vincent A. Simmel</td>
<td>1929-30</td>
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<td>H. T. Wentz</td>
<td>1930-31</td>
<td>Lineboro</td>
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<tr>
<td>George W. Colburn Jr.</td>
<td>1931-32</td>
<td>Princess Anne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesse A. Fisher</td>
<td>1932-33</td>
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<td>Eugene J. C. Raney</td>
<td>1933-34</td>
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<td>Noble F. Rushe</td>
<td>1934-35</td>
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<td>Frank T. Shaffer</td>
<td>1935-36</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
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</table>
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

*J. Millard Tawes 1936-37 Crisfield
*B. Harrison Shipley 1937-38 Ellicott City
*Karl A. Young 1938-39 Mt. Rainier
*Percey S. T. Reinwall 1939-40 Easton
*John F. McNulty 1940-41 Linthicum Heights
*Roland B. Duke 1941-42 Leonardtown
*F. Lester Smith (died in office) 1942-43 Frederick
*Thomas Tozola 1943 North Beach
*Showard T. Culver 1943-44 Hebron
*Phil Ryan 1944-45 Mt. Rainier
*C. William Ecton 1945-46 Hagerstown
*W. Bartgis Storm 1946-47 Frederick
*Charles R Stallings Jr. 1947-48 Pikesville
*E. Landon Walston 1948-49 Easton
*Spencer J. H. Brown Sr. 1949-50 Sandy Spring
*G. Mitchell Boulden 1950-51 Elkton
*Cromwell C. Zembower 1951-52 La Vale
*B. Harrison Shipley Jr. 1952-53 Ellicott City
*William A. Chenoweth 1953-54 Pikesville
*John W. Smith 1954-55 West Annapolis
*Ted C. Gardner 1955-56 Riverdale Heights
*Philip H. Beard 1956-57 Walkersville
*James N. Jarman 1957-58 Ocean City
*Howard B. Springer 1958-59 Havre de Grace
*Ralph N. Small Jr. 1959-60 Boulevard Heights
*Jack V. Reckner 1960-61 Earleigh Heights
*Howard A. Keller 1961-62 Pikesville
*Leslie B. Thompson 1962-63 Damascus
*David B. Kirk 1963-64 Bowling Green
*Herman B. Hare 1964-65 Hampstead
*Raymond I. Atkins 1965-66 Berlin
*Joseph H. Kelly 1966-67 Benedict
*William A. Moore 1967-68 Frederick – United
*Peter Paul Lochary 1968-69 Bel Air
*Charles N. Ringer 1969-70 Hagerstown
*Gerald A. Glaubitz 1970-71 Morningside
*Thomas L. Reynolds 1971-72 Queen Anne’s-Hillsboro
*Richard H. Carter 1972-73 Glen Burnie
*Roy L. Wood 1973-74 Beltsville
*Edwin F. Preston 1974-75 Arbutus
*C. Edwin Turner Sr. 1975-76 Centerville
*Elmer E. Dunn Sr. 1976-77 Powhatan Beach
*Arthur Marvin Gibbons 1977-78 Hillandale
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tr>
<td>C. Oscar Baker</td>
<td>1978-79</td>
<td>Mt. Airy</td>
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<td>*Charles B. Burton</td>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>Landover Hills</td>
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<td>*Robert N. Dempsey</td>
<td>1980-81</td>
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<td>Thomas L. Tharp</td>
<td>1981-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Smith N. Statthem Jr.</td>
<td>1982-83</td>
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<td>*Charles W. Riley</td>
<td>1983-84</td>
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<td>*Robert J. Smith</td>
<td>1984-85</td>
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<td>Leonard Thurston King Sr.</td>
<td>1985-86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarence Daniel Carpenter Jr.</td>
<td>1986-87</td>
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<td>Robert P. Cumberland Jr.</td>
<td>1987-88</td>
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<td>*Robert H. Shimer</td>
<td>1988-89</td>
<td>Potomac-Westernport</td>
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<td>Joseph A. Robison</td>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>Laurel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas A. Mattingly Sr.</td>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>Leonardtown</td>
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<td>*William J. Fleshman</td>
<td>1992-93</td>
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<td>Philip M. Hurlock</td>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>Church Hill</td>
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<td>Richard L. Yinger</td>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>Citizens Truck</td>
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<td>George A. “Fred” Cross</td>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>Chestnut Ridge</td>
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<td>Stephan D. Cox</td>
<td>1996-97</td>
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<td>Charles Daniel Davis Jr.</td>
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<td>Robert E. Knippenburg</td>
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<td>Carl B. Edelin Jr.</td>
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<td>Roger A. Steger Sr.</td>
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<td>*Charles J. “Jenks” Mattingly III</td>
<td>2001-02</td>
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<td>Gene Worthington</td>
<td>2002-03</td>
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<td>Terry E. Thompson</td>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>Savage</td>
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<td>Robert W. Jacobs</td>
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<td>*Lee N. Sachs, Esq.</td>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>Pikesville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul R. “Bobby” Balta Jr.</td>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>Ridge</td>
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<td>Paul H. Sterling Jr.</td>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>Wheaton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank J. Underwood</td>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>Branchville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger N. Powell, Esq.</td>
<td>2009-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doyle E. Cox</td>
<td>2010-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>David W. Lewis</td>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
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<td>John Denver</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Olson</td>
<td>2013-14</td>
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<td>David Keller</td>
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<td>Citizens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnie Roth Jr.</td>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>Sandy Spring</td>
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<td>Michael Davis</td>
<td>2016-17</td>
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**PAST SECRETARIES**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>*William M. Crimmins</td>
<td>1893-1896</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<td>*John J. Stump, PP</td>
<td>1896-1898</td>
<td>Cumberland</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Charles V. Wantz</td>
<td>1898-1901</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
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</table>
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

*William M. Crimmins 1901-1903  Frederick
*Harry T. Levely, PP 1903-1905  Annapolis
*James Peearre Wantz 1905-1907  Westminster
*Harry I. Smith 1907-1909  Cumberland
*Joseph E. Hollar 1909-1911  Sparrows Point
*Edward Stevenson 1911-1913  Lonaconing
*Charles L. Davis 1913-1915  Westernport
*William Weagly 1915-1917  Westminster
*J. Hall Wright 1917-1919  Easton
*George R. Lindsay 1919-1921  Hagerstown
*Lawrence C. Cooney 1921-1923  Sparrows Point
*George R. Lindsay 1923-1939  Hagerstown
*Benjamin R. Benson II 1939-1940  Towson
*Ted C. Gardner, PP 1940-1953  Riverdale Heights
*Floyd B. Heimer 1953-1973  Branchville
*William B. Fox 1977-1979  Landover Hills
*William E. Denver 1979-1980  Elkton
Leonard T. King Sr., PP 1993-2008  Damascus
Jacqueline M. Olson PP 2009-2010  Ferndale
Joseph A. Cooper 2011-2012  Bay District
Doyle E. Cox, PP 2012-(now serv.)  Prince Frederick

PAST TREASURERS

*Hiram R. Heck 1893-1905  Frederick
*G. Walter Wright, PP 1905-1907  Cambridge
*John W. Brittingham 1907-1909  Salisbury
*Walter W. Wittig 1909-1911  Frostburg
*William B. Usilton Jr. 1911-1913  Chestertown
*Russell P. Smith 1913-1915  Cambridge
*Edward Stevenson 1915-1917  Lonaconing
*Peter B. Cain 1917-1919  Midland
*Frank C. Ort 1919-1921  Midland
*A. C. Fry 1921-1923  Frostburg
*Frank C. Ort 1923-1924  Midland
*W. B. Davis 1924-1927  Silver Spring
*Frank C. Ort 1927-1924  Midland
*Frank W. Truitt 1934-1939  Ocean City
*Elmer S. Knight 1939-1945  Frostburg
*William A. Wilson 1945-1975  Midland
*David E. Kirk, PP, Emeritus 1975-1990  Bowling Green
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

*Robert W. Saville 1990-2003 Bowling Green
John Shuhart 2003-2004 Barton
Gene Curfman 2004-2005 Union Bridge
Ronald J. Siarnicki 2005-now serving United Communities

PAST FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Robert W. Jacobs 1997-2002 Citizens Truck
*Paul Fabiszak 2002-2003 Hereford EMS
W. Mitchell “Mitch” Vocke 2012- (Now Serv.) Jarrettsville

PAST CHAPLAINS

*Seth Russell Downie, D.D. 1917-1927 Taneytown
*Russell P. Smith 1927-1929 Cambridge
*Conrad J. Herpich 1929-1932 Cumberland
*Rev. James W. Minter 1932-1968 Baltimore
*Rev. Lewis F. Cole 1968-1977 Bel Air VFC
*Pierce M. Damewood 1977-1998 Beltsville VFD
Rev. J. Harvey Dixon 1998-1999 Salisbury VFD

2000 the Office of Chief Chaplain was approved by the Membership

PAST CHIEF CHAPLAINS

Rev. J. Harvey Dixon 2000-2004 Salisbury VFD

PAST TRUSTEES

*W. H. A. Hamilton, PP 1906-1925 Hagerstown
*J. H. Cunningham, PP 1906-1913 Westminster
*Philip E. Porter, PP 1906-1918 Annapolis
*John J. Stump, PP 1906-1933 Cumberland
*John dep Douw, PP 1906-1909 Annapolis
*Palmer Tennant, PP 1907-1911 Hagerstown
*Lloyd T. MacGill, PP 1907-1908 Frederick
*Glenn H. Worthington 1907-1910 Frederick
*Peter C. McFarland, PP 1911-1925 Lonaconing
*John B. Baker, PP 1912-1917 Manchester
*F. G. Kelch, PP 1917-1919 Raspeburg
*Roy L. Morgan 1918-1942 Annapolis
*S. J. Kelly 1919-1922 Hyattsville
*William H. Collier, PP 1922-1932 Salisbury
*Robert Strobel 1925-1929 Hagerstown
*Harry L. Smith 1925-1943 Cumberland
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>A. Shepard Bayly</td>
<td>1926-1934</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<td>*Leo M. Moore, PP</td>
<td>1929-1946</td>
<td>Have de Grace</td>
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<td>B. Horace Ford, PP</td>
<td>1933-1937</td>
<td>Crisfield</td>
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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

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* 1992 Special Centennial Convention
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
126th ANNUAL CONVENTION & CONFERENCE PROGRAM
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

Saturday, June 16, 2018

1200 Convention and Conference Exhibit Office Open – Convention Center Lower Level
1200 Convention and Conference Show Office Open – Convention Center 2nd Floor Skybox
1330 Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission – Convention Center
1830 JOINT OFFICERS BANQUET - Clarion Hotel (By Invitation Only)

Sunday, June 17, 2018

0800 Exhibitor Registration – Convention Center Lower Level
0800 Registration Bag Stuffing – Convention Center, all materials need to be on site by 7:45 AM
0900-1700 Education, Training Seminars and Hands-On Training – Convention Center
0900-1130 Miss Fire Prevention Interviews – Governor’s Room and Board Room, Mezzanine Level
0930 Executive Committee Meeting – Convention Center Performing Arts Center
1000-1200 Convention Events Ticket Sales - Convention Center Ground Floor
1000-1200 MSFA Early Registration - Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom
1000-1200 LAMSFA Early Registration – Convention Center – Performing Arts Center
1030 SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – Convention Center Performing Arts Center
1100-1400 Fire and EMS Memorabilia Flea Market – Convention Center Performing Arts Center Lobby
1400 MISS FIRE PREVENTION CONTEST – Convention Center Performing Arts Center
1700 JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE – Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom

Monday, June 18, 2018

0700 Registration - Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom
0800 Convention Events Tickets Sales – Convention Center Ground Floor
0830-1700 Hands-On Training – Convention Center
0830 CALL TO ORDER – FIRST SESSION - Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom
0850 OPENING CEREMONIES
0900 Exhibits Open
0910 KEYNOTE SPEAKER PRESENTATION
  “Being Fair to Everyone; Why Inclusion & Diversity Are Important for You and Your Agency”
  Presented by: Juan R. Bonilla, Fire Chief, Donnelly Rural Fire Protection Director, Idaho National Volunteer Fire Council, Valley County Emergency Manager, Donnelly, Idaho
  This is not a required course – nor is it a lecture to tell you what you have been doing wrong. Inclusion and diversity are buzz words now. Everyone is told that his or her organization needs to be inclusive and diverse. But what is it really about. It’s really about being fair (and being nice).
0950 Recognition of MSFA Past Presidents Recognition of Guests and Organizations
1000 LADIES DISMISSAL
1000 Reading and acceptance of 2017 Convention and Conference Minutes
Monday, June 18, 2018

1045 Nomination of Officers and Location of Convention
Appointment of Election Judges and Tellers

1100 MEETING - LADIES AUXILIARY to the MSFA – Performing Arts Center

1200-1300 County Association Caucuses

1230 CALL TO ORDER – SECOND SESSION

Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission
Maryland Instructor’s Certification Board
Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board
Maryland Emergency Management Agency
Maryland Department of Homeland Security
Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division

1300 MAIN PROGRAM PRESENTATION:
“The Opioid Crisis: Understanding, Recognizing, and Safely Responding to an Overdose”

Presented by: Clay Stamp, Executive Director, Maryland’s Opioid Operational Command Center, Baltimore, Maryland

The country is grappling with a disturbing and devastating rise in heroin and opioid abuse that directly affects the lives of thousands of men, women, teens and children in our communities. The misuse of an addiction to opioids including prescription pain relievers, heroin, and synthetic opioids such as fentanyl is a serious national crisis that affects public health, as well as home and workplace. Do you know how opioids affect the end user? Is your workplace affected by employees using opioids? This program will look at the opioid crisis, review the Presentations seen by individuals that are under the influence of different drugs, and discuss first responder recognition, treatment, and concern when providing treatment.

1330 Report of the State Fire Marshal’s Office

Maryland Fire/Rescue Institute
Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Report

1430-1700 EDUCATION AND TRAINING SEMINARS – Convention Center

1630 Exhibits Close – No entry into exhibits areas after 1615 hours

1800 BAG BINGO – Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom (Doors Open at 1700 hours)

1830 MONDAY NIGHT FAMILY EVENT AT JOLLY ROGER AMUSEMENT PARK
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
126th ANNUAL CONVENTION & CONFERENCE PROGRAM
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

0800  VOTING – Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom (Open for two hours)
0800-0845  LAMSFA Registration – Performing Arts Center
0800-1700  Hands-On-Training – Convention Center
0830  CALL TO ORDER – THIRD SESSION - Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom

AWARDS CEREMONY

Gladhill-Thompson Award
Colburn Cup Award
Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year Award
Hall of Fame Awards
Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award

0900  MEETING – LADIES AUXILIARY to the MSFA – Performing Arts Center
0900  Exhibits Open
0920  MAIN PROGRAM PRESENTATION

“Empower Your Department’s Safety Culture”
Presented by: Dr. Jennifer A. Taylor, PhD, MPH, CPPS Director, Center for Firefighter Injury, Research Trends (FIRST) Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Occupational Health Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

This university researcher of modern day firefighter safety knows how to prevent injury and death! Dr. Taylor studies the true cause of firefighter injuries and deaths and, after detailed research, provides recommendations to stop such losses. Drexel University and Dr. Taylor worked with fire departments in Maryland to build a true injury data system to assist in the reduction of firefighter injuries.

0940  AWARDS CEREMONY (Continued)

Josiah Hunt EMS Member of the Year Award
Edwin L. Emkey, Sr. Cadet Award
Past President C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award
Firefighter of the Year Award
Smith N. Stathem, Jr., P.P. Memorial Safety Award
Zembower Fire Service Training Award
John E. “Sunny” Rose Memorial Training Award
Scholarship Awards
Family Appreciation Award
Francis L. Brannigan Instructor of the Year Award

1200  Fire Prevention Awards and Silver Spring Award
Legislative Committee Update
SENATOR WILLIAM H. AMOSS MEMORIAL LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD
Report of the Election Judges
1200-1600  MACK FIRE TRUCK RALLY - Convention Center North Parking Lot next to the Sunset Room
1230-1700  EDUCATION AND TRAINING SEMINARS– Convention Center
1630  Exhibits Close
1800  JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS – Convention Center Performing Arts Center
1830  OCEAN CITY FOOLS BLOCK PARTY AT COWBOY COAST
       Philadelphia Avenue at 17th Street

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

0730  PRAYER BREAKFAST – Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom
0830-0900  LAMSFA Registration – Performing Arts Center
0900  CALL TO ORDER–FOURTH SESSION - Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom
0900  MEETING - LADIES AUXILIARY to the MSFA – Performing Arts Center
0900  Exhibits Open
       Reading of Communications and Announcements
       Reading and Presentation of Resolutions
       Introduction of the New Officers of the Ladies Auxiliary

0920  MAIN PROGRAM PRESENTATION
       “The Fuse 47 Building in College Park: Lessons Learned / Re-Learned”
       Presented by: William Corrigan, Fire Chief and Keith Lippincott, College Park
       Volunteer Fire Department College Park, Maryland
       On the morning of April 26, 2017, a 5-alarm fire burned along the top floors of
       the Fuse 47 Building in College Park. A six-story apartment building - two months
       from occupancy. This fire resulted in a direct fire loss if $51 million with even more
       extensive indirect losses, and major disruption to routine activities in the College
       Park area including the forced shut-down of the entire University of Maryland
       campus. Fire department operations represented the largest suppression effort
       in Prince George’s County history with the fire service remaining on the scene for
       seven days. This presentation will review some of the challenges and possible
       tactical decisions necessary to mitigate fires and other emergencies in this
       increasingly popular type of construction.

1000  Remarks by Past President
      Remarks by Newly Elected Officers
      Introduction and Installation of Executive Committee
      Installation of Assistant Officers
      Final Report of Convention Committee

1030  MAIN PROGRAM PRESENTATION (To be Determined)

1045  Unfinished Business and New Business
       $10,000. Raffle Drawing

1200  Exhibits Close – No entry after 1145hours

1300  MSFA PARADE – Downtown Ocean City, Baltimore Avenue, Line-up Inlet Parking Lot
       Special Note – Parade Route between 16th and 30th Street on Baltimore Avenue

1700  AWARDING OF PARADE PRIZES AND TROPHIES
       Convention Center Dockside Exhibit Hall
Thursday, June 21, 2018

0800  4th ANNUAL HAIR OF THE DALMATIAN 5K – Sponsored by the OCFOOLS –
Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Boardwalk & North Division Street at the
Firefighter Memorial

0900  Executive Committee Meeting – Convention Center Performing Arts Center

1300-1800  FAMILY DAY at FRONTIER TOWN WATER PARK – Berlin (Ticket Needed)

1900-2300  MSFA FAMILY NIGHT at BOARDWALK PIER – Unlimited Rides

Friday, June 22, 2018

0800  GOLF TOURNAMENT - Eagles Landing Golf Course
Line of Duty

Kevin W. Jenkins  
United Steam Fire Engine Co. 3  
Frederick County

Lt. Sander B. Cohen  
State Fire Marshal – Deputy Chief  
Rockville Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Montgomery County

Christopher C. Pryor  
La Vale Volunteer Fire Dept.  
 Allegany County

Memorial Tribute to Past President

Richard Yinger  
MSFA Past President - 1994-95  
Hoopers Island VFC

Leonard T. King  
MSFA Past President - 1985-86  
Damascus VFD

Clara Mae Buckmaster  
LAMSFA Past President - 2003-04  
North Beach VFD - Auxiliary
Special Memorial Tribute

James T. Riegel
Assistant Financial Secretary
North Point Edgemere VFD

Donald Knauer
Post Trustee
Madison Rescue Squad VFC

Joseph Bachtler
Instructor MD University Extension Service
Greenbelt VFD

Martha Neal
Bessie Marshall Chair
Kentland VFD Auxiliary
Singing of “I come to the Garden”

Thank you Chaplain Tom. Hi everyone, I’m Philip Turk, I’m Chaplain with the Ocean City Fire Department. If I could ask everyone to please turn off your cell phones and pagers. And please rise for the presentation of colors and remain standing.

Folks if you’re standing in the back you’re welcome to fill in the empty seats when the Sea of Blue is ended. Ladies and gentleman, I’m Chief Chaplain John Long your master of ceremonies for tonight’s memorial service. Welcome brothers and sisters, ladies and gentlemen, tonight we continue a long tradition of honoring those who have served our organizations and have departed this earth. Tonight we have 10 special tributes, 3 Line of Duty Deaths, 3 presidents, 2 officers, 1 committee chair, and 1 who was a leader in the Maryland Fire Service. We will also remember 367 members who departed this earth over the last year. Again, this year, each of you were given a candle as you entered the room. When your County is announced please stand and light your candle and let that light shine until the end of the memorial service. Please join me in prayer.

Almighty God, we praise your name for those we memorialize this evening. We thank you for their dedication, hard work, friendships and love. Tonight as we proceed with this memorial service we pray that will bring comfort and pride to those who have lost one of these. Just as when Jacob took his father’s body to the land of Canaan. We find this in Genesis 50:20 - beheld a great solemn memorial service. Guide us as we follow that tradition just as we are told in Ecclesiastics 7:2 - It is better to go to a house of mourning than to a house of feasting. For death is the destiny of every man. The living should take heart. Father we pray for the broken hearted here this evening comfort them in their grief. We pray that this memorial honors those we pay tribute to. Amen. Ladies and Gentleman please rise for the National Anthem sung by Kaitlyn Ahar.

You may be seated. Thank you Kaitlyn. At this time I like to invite President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association up for his welcome. President Mark Bilger.

President Mark Bilger - Good evening. On behalf of the officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association we appreciate you allowing us to be part of this program to honor and show tribute to the loved ones that you have lost. Thank you. And now a welcome from LAMSFA President Vivian Morgan-Boyd.
LAMSFA President Vivian Morgan-Boyd - Thank you. We are here to honor those that we’ve lost and we pray that you’ll find peace in your heart. And we welcome you to this humble ceremony. Thank you.

We now have a Scripture reading by Chaplain Charles Barnhart, Jr.

A reading from the prophet of Ecclesiastes the third chapter: For everything there is a time and a season for every activity under heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to uproot. A time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build up. A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones together. A time to embrace and a time to refrain from grieving. A time to search and the time to give up. A time to keep and a time to throw away. A time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak. A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace. What does the worker gain from his toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on all people. He has made everything beautiful in its time he has also set eternity in the hearts of all yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end. And this is the word of the Lord, Thanks be to God.

We’re now going to our special presentation portion of the program. Will the 10 families that will be honored tonight come up and receive special tributes.

Fire fighter Kevin Jenkins was born in Frederick Maryland on October 22, 1968. He died on October 19, 2013 from medical conditions that were attributed to his many years of fire service activity. He was married for 15 years to his loving wife Samantha Jenkins and also survived by his daughter Ashley. He was committed to the volunteer fire and rescue service as an active and life member of the United Steam Fire Engine Company #3. He joined United Fire Company in 1987 as an operational member serving as a sergeant, lieutenant and EMS director. He also served in administrative capacities and on several committees. Kevin was a true swapper and he never lost his volunteer spirit. Kevin’s enthusiasm to the fire and rescue service led him to pursue a position as a career firefighter. In 2000 he was hired by the Frederick County division of fire and rescue services as a career firefighter serving 12 years until his retirement on December 2, 2012. Most of his career he was stationed at the Independent Hose Company #1. At the end of his career he was stationed at the Green Valley Station 25. He was respected as a firefighter, an EMT and an apparatus driver. As an EMT he was compassionate and caring providing the highest level of care to his patients. While stationed at the Independent Hose Company he became a part of independent family. The company provided a support structure and conducted fundraising events to assist. During his extensive stays at home due to his illness volunteer members and career staff would often drive by his house to stop and see him, frequently bringing a piece of apparatus. Kevin was a friend, a friend to everyone. His easy personality and love for people was one of his best assets. He was fun loving and enjoyed a firehouse
joke or prank. His sly smile always indicated he was up to something. He loved the fire and rescue service he would not let his illness keep him down. Once he was able to progress back in health he would go right back to work at the fire station. His fought the hard battle but eventually the battle ended. Firefighter Jenkins’ retirement was determined to a line of duty medical retirement by the disability review Board of Frederick County. His subsequent death was a result of the medical conditions that led to his retirement. He was a loving husband and father and truly loved his family. He is survived by his loving wife Samantha and cherished daughter Ashley. He loved Frederick and is missed by his many relatives and friends. He was committed to the protection and service of our community at time need. He touched hundreds of people throughout the service as both volunteer and career member of the fire and rescue service. We are thankful and always remember his unselfish spirit and his devotion to the citizens of Frederick County.

Deputy Chief Sander Cohen, lived a life of service to others and his Rockville Community as a captain with the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and across the state of Maryland as a Deputy Chief State Fire Marshal. He was a kind, caring and compassionate person that never failed to help anyone in need as was evident on the night he was killed on December 8, 2017. He stopped to assist FBI supervisory Special Agent Carlos Wolf of the Washington field office who had been involved in a single vehicle collision on Interstate 270 in Montgomery County. Deputy Chief Sander Cohen was an eight year veteran with our agency and is the first member to be killed in the line of duty since the office of the state Fire Marshal was established 54 years ago. He graduated from Prince George’s County police Academy in 2009 and was assigned to the Southern regional office. During this time he was given a special assignment to assist Prince George’s County fire and EMS fire investigation unit. After that assignment he was assigned to the upper Eastern shore regional office for a short period of time prior to transferring to the Northeast regional office. Chief Cohen was an exemplary investigator and leader who took great pride in the law enforcement career and who devoted himself to protecting and serving the citizens of Maryland. He died a hero trying to help someone in need. His willingness to stop on a busy interstate to assist the stranger is indicative of the dedication and commitment he had to others. He is an example of the good in people and reflects the values of the Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office. Chief Cohen will be missed by all those who had the pleasure of knowing him and we will forever keep and his family in our thoughts and prayers. May the peace of the Lord continue to watch over the Cohen family, all of us here today and the great State of Maryland.

Chris, as we all knew him, joined the LaVale Volunteer fire department on May 14, 2002. He was the third generation of the Pryor family to join the department. Chris was instrumental in many aspects of the LaVale Volunteer Fire Department’s activities and functions. Since joining the Department in 2002 he held many different offices on both the operational and administrative sides of the department. He was Lieutenant,
Captain, Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief and in 2007 he held the office of Chief of the department. He was also Vice President and he has been head trustee from 2014 until the time of his passing. Chris was currently serving as Assistant Chief 2A and was the lead driver trainer. If you ask anyone, he was an excellent apparatus driver and pump operator. During his last 16 years he completed firefighter 1, firefighter 2, fire officer 1, instructor 1, swift water rescue technician, hazmat technician, EMT-B, pump operator and EVOC. He also participated in our Simlab training through MFRI. Over the years he had been been rewarded by the Chiefs and the members of the department many times. He was awarded Fireman of the Year in 2006, received the W Bruce Long and Roger Lancaster Award in 2007 and again in 2017 and the Chief’s award in 2016. For countless years he also received the award for being in the top 10 call runners. Chris took all of his responsibilities seriously striving to do the best possible job. His craftsmanship in building repairs or fabrication of brackets for apparatus were next to none. He took a lot of pride in the work he did. Chris was a huge asset to the LaVale Volunteer Fire Department and the entire fire service community in Allegheny County. Everyone will greatly miss his laugh that could be heard a mile away. His pride for the fire service and our department and his endless stories of his time in the fire service. His memory will be in our hearts and our lives forever. He leaves behind a great legacy for us to fulfill.

Richard L Yinger, 75, lived in Frederick Maryland until moving to Fishing Creek, Maryland in the mid-1990s. Born October 13, 1941 in Frederick Maryland and passed away at home Fishing Creek, Maryland on Sunday, July 2, 2017 with his loving family by his side. Richard graduated from Frederick High School in 1959. However he spent most of his time during his senior year chasing Christine. Richard was in the 12th grade as an AG student and only needed to complete English to graduate. Chris was a junior in the home economics class. Chris was selected by the teacher, along with two other students to bake cookies for the AG students. Chris baked chocolate chip cookies with nuts and they took them to the AG students. Richard ate all the cookies Chris baked, He never ate chocolate chip cookies with nuts again. Richard had too much time on his hands during 12th grade. Having completed requirements for graduation except English he would hang around in the hall outside Chris’s chemistry class. The teacher invited him into the class so he could be with her. Richard was extremely active and with the support of his family, wife Chris, daughters Belinda and Mary and son Rick he was successful in many ways. He retired from the City of Frederick Citizens Truck Company in 1997 with 29 years of dedicated service. He was also a member of the Junior Fire Company of Frederick. Richard was the owner of the Frame Rack, a custom framing and art business for 25 years. Richard and Chris both worked at the Frame Rack together those 25 years. In short lithographs of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial were framed and distributed to Past Presidents of the MSFA and Governmental Officials for presentations. He donated over 25 lithographs to the Bessie Marshall committee which raised thousands of dollars to aid disabled fire and EMS personnel. Richard was elected trustee to the Frederick County Volunteer Firemen’s
Richard served as President of the Dorchester County Volunteer Firemen’s Association and served as a member of its executive committee. He was also a member of numerous other companies throughout the State of Maryland. In 1994 Richard was elected president of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Richard was the first individual elected as president of the MSFA from Frederick County Maryland after 25 years following William Moore from United Fire Company. Richard was very diplomatic and professional when conducting business but he would play a practical joke on you if given a half a chance. Richard loved to play jokes when you least expected it you were the recipient of a zinger. He loved red vehicles and is Presidents vehicle was a red 1994 Chevy Caprice. Many stories have been shared about trips in the red rocket during MSFA events. Richard purchased the car after leaving office and stories continued about Richard in the car. He also had a red truck something, about red. At the time of his death his vehicle was even red. He was inducted into the MSFA Hall of Fame in 1995. He served on numerous committees within the MSFA. During an executive committee meeting he pointed out to Harry Hetz and Leonard King he was the chairman of all committees. Since that day in southern Maryland he’s been known as the chairman of all committees. For many years he served as the MSFA’s liaison to the Governor of Maryland. He insured Presidents following him received properly framed Governor Citations. He served on numerous committees and commissions within the County’s and State associations which included, Chairman County bylaws committee, appointed State of Maryland Fire Prevention Commission, Chair 17 State Circle advisory board of Dorchester County, Chair of the Governor’s committee for smoke alarms for deaf and hearing impaired, Maryland emergency medical services board, Shock Trauma board, Governor’s task force for alternative funding for the Volunteer Fire Service. Richard served as Co-chair on two separate occasions to the Maryland State Police helicopter replacement committee. He was awarded honorary member of the Maryland State police and was made an honorary State trooper. He also achieved the distinction of being the first to receive the honorary position of flight crew member of the aviation division of the Maryland State police and was presented a leather jacket. He remained active in the MSFA and the MSFA Past Presidents until time of his death. Richard was a loving husband and father, a caring grandfather. a dedicated fireman, talented craftsman, decisive leader and a sincere friend to everyone. He has touched each of us in his special way and made us better persons by knowing and working with him. His gentle guidance, persuading manner and attention to detail will be missed by all. He believed in people he knew how to get things done. Rest in peace my god friend.

Leonard T. King was knowledgeable, honest and true to his word. He was a beloved family man, a proud Marylander, and a firefighter to the core. Born April 21, 1942 in Clarksburg, Maryland, he was a son of the late Kenneth and Olivia King. He adored his wife Margaret Estelle King who passed in 2006 and was immeasurably proud of his three children Lisa Lewis of Charleston, West Virginia, Kelly King of Deale,
Maryland and Leonard T. King, Jr of Frederick, Maryland, his four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Upon graduation from Damascus High School he attended the University of Maryland in fire engineering curriculum before taking a job as a fire prevention officer with Montgomery County, Maryland. He received his associate of arts degree in fire science from Montgomery College. Leonard was an experienced firefighter, a skilled leader, opinionated to say the least and yet kind man. Leonard was a good friend. And like he did with so many, Leonard King left a profound impression. In every capacity where he served Leonard saw the inner strengths that came from collaboration, trust and dedication to service. He realized that no matter what patch you wore on your sleeve if you were true to the mission and purpose of the fire service, you were good with him. He was fair and honest, a man of great integrity and reason. He would stand his ground for what he believed, especially when we had controversial issues to address. And people listened to him. He was respected because in the end you knew he was always looking out for the greater good of the fire service. For more than 40 years Leonard was active with the Maryland fire service holding various positions including public information officer, fire investigator and inspector, training Lieutenant, line officer and Chief. He was the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association in 1985 to 1986, MSFA Assistant Secretary in 1981 to 1984, MSFA Secretary and Convention Committee Chairperson 1991 to 2000. Leonard served as president of the Maryland Fire Chief’s Association in 1990-1991, Maryland Fire Chiefs Association Treasurer from 1991-2010, and President of the Anne Arundel County Volunteer Firefighters Association in 1996-1997, and served on the Board of Directors of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation from 2003 to 2008. He was an active member of the Deale Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Anne Arundel County, Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Department in Frederick County, Damascus Volunteer Fire Company Montgomery County, and Upper Marlboro Volunteer Fire Department Prince George’s County and honorary member and honorary Fire Chief of many other volunteer fire departments. As a result, Leonard has the benefit of responding to nearly every incident imaginable, from a barn or a tractor fire in Damascus to a multifamily dwelling fire in Anne Arundel County. He experienced it all. Besides being involved with National and State level activities Leonard was just as comfortable spending time around a fire station, hanging out with fire service people and doing what he could be helpful. He was very friendly and a welcoming person, and would go out of his way to say hello. He always seemed genuinely interested in what was going on in your life, beyond just fire service. Leonard always had great stories to share about incidents and loved listening to others experiences. He would light up his pipe, sit around the engine bay and partake in the conversation at hand interjecting his opinions and life experiences to benefit the group and himself. More importantly, He learned valuable lessons from every incident and every interaction and shared with others. He also understood the value of our fire service traditions and he very much wanted others to know about them and share. He seemed to want to make sure the firefighters knew how and why things were done in the past because he knew those things whether it was a fire service tradition or an advancement, how
we operate linked the generations together and help move the fire service forward. For this he received many accolades and awards. Leonard’s appreciation for knowledge, experience and tradition was among the cornerstone for his efforts to establish National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in 1981. In partnership with Chief Marvin Givens, Leonard wanted to ensure that there will always be a single place for people to go to honor and remember our fallen firefighters. He understood how important such a memorial would be to the families and friends as well as countless others who simply wanted to pay their respects to the greatest sacrifice one can make, to lay down their life for another. Leonard possessed the compassion and kindness to recognize the fire service and our country needed that place. He was committed to saving the heritage of the American volunteer fire service just as much of saving his “King” cards; because he dedicated himself to preserving both. As we look to the future I think we should take a page from Leonard owner manual of life, share you knowledge, your experiences and your passions so that others will learn improve their own lives.

Clara Mae Stallings - Buckmaster, was born on February 24, 1937 in North Beach, Calvert County, Maryland. She was the daughter of Sadie and Wallace Stallings. She lived her entire life installing in North Beach. She married her love of her life James Buckmaster in June 1955. Together Clara Mae and Jimmy had six children. Jimmy was active in the North Beach fire department and Clara Mae joined the auxiliary in 1958. Clara Mae was a stay at home mom. She operated a small daycare in her home to supplement their income. Before the 9-1-1 emergency system was active in North Beach, Clara Mae dispatched the fire and ambulance calls from her home because the emergency phone line was connected to her home. Many times she was awakened in the middle of the night and activated the sirens from her home. She was the first control center for the area until radio communication became effective in 1974. In 1968, Jimmy became ill with heart related problems and in 1970 he died suddenly. His death was devastating to Clara Mae and her children. She was left a young widow with six small children to raise. In 1971 she became more involved with North Beach Auxiliary, participating in all the events and activities. She brought her young children along to help. In order to provide for her children she found employment with the Maryland state health department in Calvert County. She went back to school and obtained her GED. She served on every committee in the North Beach auxiliary and held every office including President. She was also a full-time sports Mom, she knew every ball field that was located in the state. Clara Mae was an active member of the ladies auxiliary of Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen’s Association. Her auxiliary was a charter member of the Association. She served in every office from Chaplain to President. She served as President in 1985 and 1986. She served on every committee, many of them as chairman. She was inducted into the LAMSFA Hall of Fame in 1992. Clara Mae was an active member of the ladies auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for many years. In 1994 after much encouragement of family and friends she agreed to run for office in the state auxiliary. She was elected to the office of color bearer and continued her climb up the chairs. Despite some serious health issues
during these 90 years she reached her goal of president in 2003 and 2004. She was inducted into the LAMSFA Hall of Fame in 2005. Clara Mae remained active in her children’s sports activities throughout their school years. She was very active member of the Stallings Williams American Legion Post 206 auxiliary for many years. She served as President of the Legion auxiliary. Clara Mae served as a North Beach town Council member for 8 years. She never lost sight of the needs of the fire and rescue service. She was a strong, outspoken advocate for them. Clara Mae was involved in many other community activities as well; she continued to give back to her community through her integrity and dedication. First and foremost Clara Mae was a devoted and loving mother. She devoted her life to volunteering and helping others. She was the first one to lend a hand no matter what the circumstances. Clara Mae’s second love was the fire service. During her life Clara Mae touched many lives. She was the most giving team is the person you would ever meet. When you met Clara Mae she would always leave you with something to remember her by, whether it was a phrase or piece of advice it stuck with you. God blessed us all with your friendship while you were here on this earth Clara Mae. You left us with many fond memories. The memory of a legend will live on forever.

Donald was born on January 13, 1933. He married Mary Joanne on August 7, 1955. He was the father of the late Kevin Mark Knauer. A member of the Boy Scouts in his youth, he was also a Sea Scout. Donald was elevated to Eagle Scout in 1950 and he attended the boy’s state in the same year. He was a graduate of Cambridge high school in 1951. Mr. Knauer later resumed his education earning an AA degree in business administration from the Chesapeake College in 1995. Mr. Knauer was an inspector for the Dorchester County Dairy Herd Association prior to entering the US Army in March 1953. In the Army he served as a teletype interceptor in the Army security agency. He was honorably discharged in March 1956. Mr. Knauer attended the air Tech Institute at Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics; he received FAA certification as an airframe and power plant mechanic. He became employed by capital airlines and later Allegheny Airlines at National Airport in Washington DC. He returned to the local area and worked in general aircraft maintenance becoming an authorized inspector for the FAA. He later worked as a machine shop supervisor at Airpax. Mr. Knauer was a dedicated volunteer fireman beginning in 1964. He became certified as one of the first emergency medical technicians in Dorchester County. He served as chaplain for the Cambridge rescue fire company. He was a past president of the Eastern shore Maryland Firemen’s Association and a past president and chaplain of the Delmarva Virginia volunteer Association. He was a former trustee of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association where he also served as chaplain. At various intervals Mr. Knauer was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, the Delmarva Firemen’s Association and the Eastern Shore of Maryland Firemen’s Association.

Jim Riegel was born on July 1, 1929 in Baltimore City where he lived until he met and married his wife Mary. After their wedding on November 24, 1948 the couple moved to
a small town known as Edgemere. There they would spend the rest of their lives. Jim
and Mary had four children, nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren. Jim retired
from the Bethlehem Steel Corporation and United States Navy Reserves. Jim’s true
passion was assisting his community through the fire department. Jim, who was also
known as Pappy and Abner, was a life member of the Northpoint Edgemere Volunteer
Fire Department. He joined the company in 1948 and served for 69 years. He was
still attending monthly meetings right up until the time of his passing. Jim served as
a lieutenant briefly before serving as chief, from 1952 in 1970, he then served as
assistant chief, 1972 through 1991. He also served on the board of governors from
1950 through 1990. Throughout this time of the fire service Chief Riegel received
the Fireman of the Year award from the VFW twice, a silver star, four unit citations,
an Amtrak ribbon along with several other acknowledgments. He was in the top 10
responders for over 50 years. He worked the carnival every year from 1948 until
2014 and he started the installation of officers in 1967. Jim was president of the
Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen's Association from 1965 the 1966, Vice President
from 1966 through 1967. He served as the loan fund chairman for over 40 years
and was named chairman emeritus in September. He was chairman of the Baltimore
County Volunteer Firemen’s Association, communications committee at one time, a
committee actively served on until his passing. He was also inducted into the Hall of
Fame in 2001. Jim was also active in the Maryland State Firemen’s Association where
he served on various committees including the Hall of Fame committee, the board
of review, a Sergeant at Arms committee and is an active member of the search and
rescue committee. He was inducted into the Maryland State Firemen’s Hall of Fame
in 2001. He was a life member of the Maryland Fire Chief’s Association and attended
the annual convention every year from 1948 through 2017. The Baltimore County Fire
Department named Jim an honorary Fire Chief on November 2, 2017.

Mary Martha Neal “Marty” was born in Washington DC on May 29th 1939 to Catherine
and Gerrard Gothard. Marty has one brother, Jerry and three sisters, Cathy, Theresa and
Joan. She grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland and attended Saint Bernadette’s School
and Holy Name Academy. Marty married Jim Neal on February the 20th 1967. She had
3 children, Bill wife Chris, Tom wife Donna and beloved daughter Martha Anne Cane
who preceded Marty in death, husband Jim. She has two stepsons, David and Mark.
Together they have 9 grandchildren; Michael, Tiffany, Brandon, Bobby, Adam, Matthew,
Markey Billy and Ben. They have 8 great grandchildren; Nathan, Bailey, Aiden, Avery,
Adrianna, Maggie, Tess and Will and one great- great grandchild; Egypt. Marty held
positions in the finance industry and with the Prince George’s County Police Department
before entering civil service in 1974, spending her entire 28 years in the Department
of Defense. She worked for the Navy, the Army, and the defense mapping agency.
She holds certifications as an acquisition professional and program management
and acquisition logistics. Marty received many awards including the Merritus
Civilian Service award. During her career she continued to pursue her education she
earned her Bachelor and Master’s Degrees from the University of Maryland and her
Doctorate from George Washington University. Marty joined the Kentland Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary in January 1963. She held each of the offices of the Kentland Auxiliary and served several terms as President. Her first position was an emergency chairman and her initiation into this position was the Cheverly train wreck that lasted for days. After being elected historian of the ladies auxiliary of the Prince George’s County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association she advanced through the chairs and was the 50th President in 1982-83. During her term of office the fire science student aide committee was initiated. She was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1985. The convention book was dedicated to her in 2001. Marty has been active in the Maryland State Firemen’s Association since 1964. She served in the office of color guard for 2 years. She has served on many committees including the Parliamentarian. Marty was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2015. She has chaired the Bessie Marshall Committee of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association from June 2015 through January 2018. The Kentland Volunteer Fire Department, Ladies Auxiliary of the Prince George’s County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and the ladies auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association would like to thank Marty Neal’s family for sharing her with us.

One of the most beloved members of Maryland fire services, an officer of the national fire service community Joseph R. “Joe” “Bach” Bachtler died April 28, 2018 at age 89. Joe worked for many years as a faculty member the fire service Extension program FSE at the University of Maryland College Park, and then later rejoined it’s successor agency the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute where he had served as Director of our State’s fire service training program in 1968,’69 and ’70. All who worked with Joe men and women alike were always honored to experience his gracious and courageous leadership, mentorship and friendship. Following many years with FSE he left in 1975 to join the newly established National Fire Prevention and Control Administration’s National Academy for fire prevention and control, better known today as USFA and NSFA. The federal fire program which were then located at 2400 M St. in NW. Washington DC. When the National Fire Academy relocated to Emmitsburg Frederick County in 1979 Joe returned to the University. Shortly after returning to MFRI, Joe was asked to head up operations at the agency’s lower Eastern shore regional training center in Salisbury which he did until his retirement. Joe possessed a unique quality; he brought out the best in everyone else. A hard worker he could be fun and funny and especially so when others most needed him in that role. Among his professional accomplishments was his collaboration in 1995 with the late Tom Brennan FDNY retired on the fifth edition of the fire chief’s handbook, first published in 1932 and now in its seventh edition. Joe also produced the second edition of the fire instructors training guide in 1988. He was predeceased by his wife of many years DeeDee and their daughter Jody and is survived by daughters Robin and Shawn. For a great many years wife DeeDee, did the ever popular cover holiday artwork for the FSE bulletin each December. A graduate of the Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Joe was a teacher and instructor extraordinaire who took great pride in developing others to regard such
duties as a very special calling. Joe had also spent time with the fire services in California and was regarded by many as the go to person for practically everything. Joe served his country with distinction in the United States Marine Corps. In recent years he had resided at Genesis healthcare in Salisbury. He had earlier been actively involved in the fire services on many levels to include his years with the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department in Prince George’s County. He was one of the first professors for the Montgomery College fire science program in Rockville. While Joe always maintained a love of family and his church life, he was also an avid midget car racer who spent many a day at Summit Point motorsports Park in Summit Point, West Virginia. He even led the building of a small chapel there and he once tried his hand at skydiving.

A quote that sustained Joe appeared on a wall poster that hung in his office showing a lone racecar zooming around an empty track with a caption that read Victory Is A Matter Of Staying Power. And here’s an example of his humor, as mentioned earlier Joe was editor of the long famous monthly Fire Service Extension bulletin. One in particular has always stood out as a shining example of things Joe would do to make sure others were paying attention. The front of the April 1st, 1971 edition there was a great April Fools’ Day photo spoof announcing an achievement in photography. The accompanying article credited Dr. Rellup Leglirpa with the breakthrough photography, viewing water moving inside the length of fire hose. The photo was actually a blurry shot that would have otherwise been tossed and oh by the way that authors name was actually April leg puller spell backwards. Inside another year’s April issue he included a list of new short courses that included how to pump 150-year-old fire apparatus as well as fire bucket brigade passing 1 and 2. Faculty and staff back then were indeed surprised when a number from around the state actually tried to sign up. Thank you Joe for learning us all real good.

We will now have a scripture reading from LAMSFA Vice Chaplain Sherri Stephen.

Psalm 23 - the Lord is my shepherd I shall want, He maketh me lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside still waters, He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for his namesake. Yay, though I walk the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

We will now have a reading of the poem written by Stacy Faust, The Last Call on Earth, The First Call in Heaven.

The alarm rings out, turn out gear is donned. All rushing about and engines climbed on. Then it’s off to the scene to do what they must, saving a life or building up trust of a small frightened child, the weak and the frail, they do what they know, they respond without fail. But life has its twists, its bumps and its turns. Life isn’t simple as everyone
learns. No one is better, each equals the other, everyone here is a sister or brother. But a life that is lost in the midst of a call brings new meaning to life to the great and the small. A last call on earth doesn’t mean it’s the end, there’s a first call in Heaven for those we call friend. And once the last call has been sounded out loud, a reverent hush falls over the crowd. And there in the quiet, inside of each soul comes the first call from Heaven, the ultimate goal.

We’ll now have a scripture reading by Chaplain Harry Hetz.

A reading from the book of Laminations, the third Chapter. I have been deprived of peace. I have forgotten what prosperity is. So I say my splendor is gone and all that I had hoped from the Lord. I remember my affliction and my wondering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope. Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness. I say to myself the Lord is my portion therefore I will wait upon him. The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, the one who seeks Him. It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. Here ends the reading.

We’ll now recognize our past members. Remember again when your County is called please stand with your candle lit and keep it lit until the end of the memorial service.


Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


**Calvert County** – Clara Mae Buckmaster, Jack T. Dorsey Sr., Richard D. Mister Sr., Charles A Norris.

**Caroline County** - Wayne M. Coulbourne, Frank M. Tull.


**Charles County** - Philip M. Hamrick, Gladys M. Harris, Deborah A. Higdon, John W. Saunders, Bernard F. Shymansky Sr., Mary Lee Smith, George W. Ryce, John H. Thomas, Mary K. Waugh, Francis M. Depuy, Alfred A. Gonzalez, Eugene A. Lanham, John Lohman Jr., John G Strobel.


**Garrett County** - Gary E. Fratz, Paul R. Smith, Harley D. Brenneman, Alice Jane Brenneman, Beulah L. Moon, Brendia C. Fazenbaker, Mable A. Clark, Gregory E.
Dishong, Robert G. Jay, Hazel J. Klotz, Bobby L. Stewart, John Coll, Harry Beeghly,


**Kent County** - Harvey H. Camp, Jeffrey D. Dwyer, Matthew Krumpinski, Jr., Caroline T. Pisapia, Ida Mae Woodall, Rose B. Beck, Virginia M. Clothier, F. Goldey Vansant, Sr., Elva L. Webb.


**Queen Anne’s County** - Jennie L. Spear, Charles “Buck” Ferrin.


**St. Mary’s County** - Kenneth D. Ayers, Alfred F. Montrose III , Thomas H. Dean, Jr., Charles E. Miedzinski, Sr., Margaret T. Purcell, William A. Guy, James F. Mattingly III,
As a time-honored tradition tonight we do the flag folding ceremony by the Harford County color guard and change in program the reading will be done by Chaplain Philip Turk.

The flag folding ceremony is a dramatic and uplifting way to honor the flag and our uniformed personnel. It represents the same religious principles on which our Country was originally founded. The portion of the flag denoting honor is in the canton of blue containing the stars representing the States of our veterans who served in uniform. The canton field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted when draped as a pall on a casket of a veteran who has served our Country in uniform. In the Armed Forces of the United States at the ceremony of retreat the flag is lowered, folded in a triangle and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nations honored dead. The next morning is brought out and at the ceremony of revelry, run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of the body. Tonight we will honor our personnel who wear a different uniform, a uniform of a person that defends our homeland every day. Tonight we will defer from the traditional reading and replace the words with a fire service perspective. We do not mean in any way to disrespect our veterans. We have chosen a series of words that best characterize the true identity of our American heroes. First fold word INITIATIVE, for those who are not afraid to train and dedicate themselves to the fire service and the protection of their communities. The second fold, HONOR which means which needs to be bestowed upon a group of individuals who remain consistent in service across the nation. Third fold, COURAGE to all those who place themselves in harm’s way each and every day to afford safety to both friends and strangers. Fourth fold, VALOR, and recognition of those who gave the
ultimate sacrifice carrying out their duties in the fire service. Fifth fold, **STRENGTH**, in heart, body and soul both inner and outer that is required to meet the challenges of the post 9-11 world. Sixth fold, **BRAVERY**, we are the breed that rushes into the eye of the storm while others seek safe refuge. Seventh fold, **PATIENCE**, a special fold with a distinct crisp line. A line of caring that spans from care of children, elderly and the injured in time of Crisis. Eighth fold, **APPRECIATION**, for firefighters who hold a special sense of the fragile nature of the human being. Each moment of service we are able to give to others is one that is cherished. We appreciate being able to help others with no desire to be recognized by those we serve. Ninth fold, **DEDICATION**, in our profession rather volunteer or career we’re all heralded as professionals. We all love this profession especially those of us who volunteer. Guess how many present here today service our citizens as both volunteer and career firefighter. Find this love of duty in any other profession. Tenth fold, **FAITH**, any firefighter who has seen life given or taken in the course of their duty has some taste of what faith truly is. Faith can be more than just religion, it can be a belief in what you do and of those you work with. Eleventh fold, **INGENUITY**, like the various Stars & Stripes on our great flag personnel in the fire service always find ways to make things work and have confidence in their ability to succeed in their mission. This is patterned after our ancestors who crafted our story of Freedom. Twelfth fold, **FAMILY**, the family is the binding fiber of our service. Be it relatives through bloodlines for our brothers in the fire service our group is truly one huge family dedicated to the community each other in good times and in bad. Thirteenth fold, **FREEDOM**, firefighters fall into the mold of our past for free will and personal freedom. Our creator is to prevail in times of crisis and situation which might threaten the public safety. The final tuck, as the red and white stripes are wrapped into the blue, as the light of day vanishes into the darkness of night remember our 13 folds of fire service: **TRADITION, INITIATIVE, HONOR, COURAGE, VALOR, STRENGTH BRAVERY, PATIENCE, APPRECIATION, DEDICATION, FAITH, INGENUITY, FAMILY** and **FREEDOM**. May we never forget those who have given their life in our public safety community. God be with you till we meet again.

Please stand for *Amazing Grace* and remain standing for taps and the benediction.

Father, thank you for the men and women whom we have remembered here tonight. Thank you for their dedication across the years, thank you for some it has been a lifetime of service to their community. Lord, as we close our memorial service we remember all who grieve. Extend your loving care to them, give them your comfort and your peace. Walk with them through those sad moments. As bygone memories return ease their sorrow and lift their spirits. Lord, dismiss us with your presence, be with all who place them self in harm’s way to protect life, property and our Nation’s way of life. These and all things we ask in the Holy name. Amen.

Please be seated and remain seated until dismissed.
President Mark Bilger – Good morning everyone, Vice President Blair, Vice President Faust, Officers, members of the Executive Committee, LAMSFA officers and members, clergy, honored guests, State partners, delegates and alternates. I hereby call to order the 126th annual convention and conference of The Maryland State Firemen’s Association. As my first official duty I would like to welcome you to this event. And now it is with great honor to introduce a very special guest and friend of the Maryland fire rescue and first responder community, Governor Hogan was inaugurated in January 21st, 2015 and has been committed to the volunteer fire and emergency services since taking office. He has always been there when we needed him and most of all listened to us when we had issues or concerns that affected the volunteer fire and rescue EMS service in our great state. Since taking office in 2015 Governor Hogan has focused on creating new jobs, making Maryland a better place to live, work and raise a family. His first year in office was the most successful in total job creation of private sector growth in the last 15 years. Governor Hogan has made record investments in education, transportation and enacted landmark environmental initiatives and criminal justice reforms. He serves as chairman of the Chesapeake Executive Council, sits on the Executive Committee of the National Governors Association. A great supporter and a caring individual and a great friend. Ladies and gentleman please join me in welcoming the 62nd Governor of the State of Maryland the honorable Governor Larry Hogan Jr.

Governor Hogan – Well good morning. Good morning. Wow good morning, thank you very much. What a warm welcome. I want to thank you so much. It’s great to be here with you. Mark thank you for that kind introduction. I also want to thank Ladies Auxiliary President Vivian Boyd who gave me this beautiful pin to put on this morning. She said the ladies really like this one. But I want to thank you both for ah for all the great work that you do. It’s an honor to be able to join you for the 126th annual Maryland State Firemen’s convention. And it’s also an honor to support you in the mission to serve, promote, advocate for and represent the interests of Maryland Fire and Rescue and Emergency Services. I also want to congratulate all of the recipients of the awards today and just say that Maryland’s fire and emergency services professionals and volunteers both do an outstanding job in protecting the people of our state and I want to thank every single one of you for what you do every single day. You have given me tremendous support and I am so honored today that the Maryland State Fire Chiefs Association has officially endorsed me for Governor, so thank you very much for that. And I truly can’t thank them or you enough for everything you have done for us the last four years. I’ve had your back and you’ve had mine and I look forward to working with
all of you another four years. As Governor I’ve been moved countless times witnessing the selflessness of our first responders. The outstanding men and women including all of you today are at your best and your goodness and your compassion shines brightest when others are in need. Time and time again, we’ve called on you and every single time you answer the call with no regard for your own personal safety. When others run from danger, you run toward it. You truly are heroes walking among us. And all of our first responders, both volunteer and professional, deserve our enduring appreciation and support. This year we were proud to provide an additional $200,000.00 increase in funding to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and contributed additional monies to the Widows and Orphans Fund. We enacted legislation in increase the amount that active volunteer fire and rescue and emergency medical services personnel can exempt from their state income tax, we increased that by 40%. We’re also working hard to ensure that you have the tools that you need to protect our communities. Our firefighters and EMTs are often the first to arrive on the scene of an opioid overdose. Last March we became the first state in the Nation to declare a State of Emergency in response to this heroin, opioid and fentanyl crisis and we have increased funding to reimburse locals for life saving naloxone and set up local opioid intervention teams to coordinate resources and funding in every jurisdiction. We were proud to enact the hometown heroes act which enables law enforcement, fire and rescue and emergency services personnel to exempt up to $15,000.00 of retirement income from their state taxes. This year we have successfully pushed through legislation to increase the reach of this initiative and I pledge that we will keep fighting until we exempt 100% of your retirement income. This is not only good economic policy for Maryland, but it’s the right thing to do for our brave first responders who put themselves in harm’s way to protect the rest of us. Ladies and gentlemen thank you again for inviting me to be with you again today and thank you all for all of the work that you do every single day. I will continue to be a tireless advocate who will be standing up and fighting for you each and every day. So thank you, God bless you and God bless the great state of Maryland.

President Mark Bilger – Governor Hogan thank you for those wonderful comments and most of all your support for the volunteer emergency services here in the state of Maryland. I would like to present you with one of our convention delegate bags and mugs. We also have a special certificate of recognition for you and a resolution. Governor Hogan we’re not done yet. For all you have done to support this association we have a special presentation. I would like to call Chairman of our Hall of Fame Committee Danny Carpenter to the podium for his announcement.

Hall of Fame Committee Chair Danny Carpenter – Thank you Mr. President, good morning officers, past presidents, delegates and guests. It gives me great pride to announce a special inductee into the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame for 2018, Maryland State Governor Larry Hogan. Governor Hogan has been very supportive of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association over the past several years. He has also supported the MSFA Board of Trustee’s budget for the Widows and Orphans
Relief fund. At this time I would like to ask Vice President of the Hall of Fame Ben Kurtz to present him with some credentials and Hall of fame member Tim Jones to present him with his hat and lapel pin. Alright and I have his official certificates.

President Mark Bilger – Governor we have one more piece of business to attend to with your help. Please join me at the podium. Standing in front of the ballroom is the Westminster Minstrel band. A little history of the band includes in 1893 Westminster minstrel band was formed. 1916 many members of the band went into the Maryland National Guard under the heading of the First Regimental Band of Maryland national guard and were sent to the Mexican border. In 1918 the band went to France in WW I. After the war those returning members and those who remained behind reformed the band into the Westminster band. In 1950 the tan uniforms were changed to the green and gold. It was then the band reorganized under the current name of the Westminster Municipal band. The color guard was added in 1961 and is now the trademark of crowds. Today the band members are all from Maryland, I’m sorry from all over the Maryland and surrounding states. Band members range from age 14 to 90; participating in over 30 concerts and parades annually. Most importantly, the Westminster Municipal band was a participant in the MSFA first parade in Fredrick in 1893 and has participated in the State Firemen’s Association in Ocean City since 1957. This year marks their 125th anniversary of existence and if you could assist me Governor Hogan we would like to present to the band a commemorative flag celebrating their years of existence. I would ask the band president Ray and the original honor guard member Barry to come forward to receive these gifts.

Governor Hogan – Hold on guys. A real quick. I also while we present them the flag I have an official Governors citation signed today by me, the Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State to the Westminster Municipal Band in recognition and grateful tribute to applaud them in their 125th anniversary. So thank you, God bless you guys.

Safety committee Chairman, Michael LeCompte – I can’t talk like Governor Hogan so I’m not even going to try that. On behalf of our brother and sister firefighters here in Ocean City and on behalf of the safety committee of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association I want to welcome all of you again in our beautiful town. Without all of you, I say it every year, this convention would not be here. It’s an awful lot of planning that goes into it, an awful lot of people put their heart and soul into it and again if you all didn’t show up at this beautiful town of ours it wouldn’t happen, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Regarding safety, look at your surroundings. You know what has been going on in the United States almost every week and I encourage all of you to know how to get out of here if you have to for any reason. Our President out here, President Trump has put a test border wall in the middle of our highway. With that said, don’t try to go over it, don’t try to go under it, use our crosswalks it’s a seven million dollar infrastructure they have tested out here on Coastal Highway and we still see people try to go under it or go over it and that’s not the purpose of it. So again
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respect our crosswalks hopefully you won’t get hit by a car. Line of duty deaths, we preach it, we monitor it one the safety part of the association and I’m sorry to say but since we met last year we have had 4 line of duty deaths here in the state of Maryland. It’s unacceptable. I would love to come up here, if I’m here next year and say to all of you we’ve had zero, but four is entirely too many. I was going to read their names but I don’t want anyone to get upset because it’s, it shouldn’t be happening. With that said, most of our line of duty deaths and I can quote you statistics, it’s up to 59% are attributed to heart attacks. My people come up to me including the safety committee members and we’ll meet and we talk. If there is anything you can do for yourself, and I know yesterday was father’s day, If there is anything you can do for your brothers and sisters in the fire service and the people that look at you and respect you, go get a physical examination. I’m a good example. I had a melanoma on my back. I went for an annual fire department physical at 10th street and I said do you mind looking at my back, my wife keeps complaining about something. And low and behold I had a melanoma in the center of my back. When I went to have surgery two days later the doctor said to me had we not caught it in less than six months you would be outta here. There’s men and women including some of our past presidents that have told me these numerous stories about how a physical examination saved their life. So please if you, you brothers are driving a half a million dollar fire truck that they depend on in your local town here in Maryland. Go get a physical examination from someone who can preach this, it saved my life. Do it for your loved ones, do it for your brothers and sisters. Post-traumatic stress disorder. I’m sorry to say, but it is going up and for the past three years post-traumatic stress disorder and the ultimate is the suicide is dramatically rising. We need your help. With that said the best thing you could do on that is to be a good listener. When something triggers in your mind, just like when we are at a fire and something doesn’t look right, the puff of smoke. That puff of smoke is the person who looks at you wrong that you’re used to looking at or says I it’s just that something’s bothering me at home or what I’ve seen dramatically at the scene of an incident I need help is what he’s saying or she’s saying. With that said be a good listener, go get help. Whether it be from Reverend John Long at the top all the way down in all twenty three counties and the city of Baltimore. Go to somebody, send them to somebody, the proper person and hopefully we can reduce this because it’s going up and not down. With that said, I’m not going to, we’re going to be back up but I thank all of you for being in our town that we love and thank you for being brother and sister firefighters and EMTs. God bless you.

Reverend John Long – Good morning. Great day to be in Ocean City. Please join me in prayer. All mighty, all powerful God as we gather today for the 126th annual convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and ladies auxiliary to the Maryland Firemen’s Association. Father we thank you for the leadership of President Mark Bilger and President Vivian Morgan Boyd. Father we thank you for the officers who served this association, the committee chairs, the committee members, the firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, administrative staff and auxiliary members who make
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this state a much safer place. Father we also thank you for the support of our elected officials as they reach out to us and we support them for our benefits. Father we thank you for the convention committee for all the hard work they have done and put this convention together. Father we thank you for our families, for their support and their dedication to us as we reach out and serve those in need. Father we continue to ask you to look over this convention, be with us, watch over us, give us wisdom and knowledge and the business of this association and let us enjoy the fellowship of each other. We ask this all in your name. Amen.

Richard Brooks – Past presidents take your positions of honor. Ladies and gentlemen it gives me great honor and pleasure to introduce to you President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Mark A. Bilger escorted by his wife Nancy and President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association President Vivian Boyd and her husband Ron.

Richard Brooks – Please be seated so you can enjoy the arrival of the pipe band.

President Mark Bilger – it is with great honor to introduce the combined colors from the fire service across Maryland. Please rise.

Richard Brooks – Ladies and gentlemen please remain standing as our President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Vivian Boyd comes to the podium to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Madam President.

LAMSFA President Vivian Boyd – I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. And to the Republic for which it stands. One nation, under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

Richard Brooks – Our National Anthem will be sung by Miss Kaitlyn Ahar.

President Mark Bilger – Lets have a round of applause one last time for the pipes and drums. Please be seated. It’s a great pleasure for me to introduce to you Mr. Chip Jewell for a special presentation. Oh, change of program. Westminster band please retire and thank you for your service. Okay let’s give the Westminster band a round of applause. Once again, Mr. Chip Jewell for a special presentation.

Chip Jewell – Chip’s Firehouse Logbook, June 2018, The “King” of the Convention

In almost every June since 1893, the Maryland State Firemen’s Association has met for an annual meeting and convention. Though the convention has been held in various cities throughout Maryland, for over half a century, Ocean City has hosted the event. Our convention has grown in size, quality and variety in no small part to past Convention Chairman, Past President and Secretary Emeritus, the late Leonard King.

My first recollections of a convention chairman was Ralph Small as he announced the
President Small served as the convention chairman from 1977 to 1990. Past President Marvin Gibbons of Hillandale took over from Chairman Small in 1990. Due to his untimely death later that year, President Tom Mattingly appointed Past President Leonard King as the chairman of the convention committee, a position that he held until he was recognized as Chairman Emeritus in 2008.

I have known Leonard King nearly my entire fire service career, especially during my tenure in the early 1970s working for the Montgomery County Department of Fire/Rescue Services. He was a career lieutenant with Montgomery County and a part of a triumvirate of fire service leaders from Damascus Volunteer Fire Department. The three past presidents that did so much for Maryland State Firemen’s Association were “Mister Buck” Gladhill, truly the patriarch of Damascus and Past President Chief Leslie B. Thompson who was definitely large and in charge as he towered over the convention and Past President Leonard King. These three men were lifelong friends dedicated to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

Leonard King took the convention personal, trying new ideas and making changes to enhance the experience. He put his heart and soul into the event each year. He looked at ways to make the convention more meaningful. The crab feast became a family picnic until further changes in the convention center eliminated the bay front area under the building. Even then, an indoor “picnic” was tried but eventually eliminated. The prayer breakfast became a Wednesday morning staple in both food and personal enrichment. Changes to the convention hall provided impetus to change and expand the convention.

Chairman King recognized the possibilities of the first expansion of the convention hall. He provided rooms to include educational seminars and sessions on Sunday and throughout the week to provide attendees an opportunity to add to their knowledge and even enable credit hours for EMTs and instructors. Fire and Life Safety initiatives and community outreach programs were added to take the fire service outside the traditional box of fire prevention and expand into the multi-discipline service of today. Chairman King had a vision of an expanded convention that ultimately became known as the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention & Conference. Working closely with the leadership of Town of Ocean City, the June convention grew to a nationally recognized event attracting more vendors and top notch speakers. With an expanded exhibit hall, increased apparatus displays that even allowed extension of ladders and booms filled the exhibit area. Dealers and manufacturers made extra efforts to attend the MSFA Convention that soon became an East Coast show for more than Maryland firefighters. Convention sponsors had the availability of “sky box” areas that were directly aligned with the convention floor and over looked the primary exhibit area. A new center for the arts provides a separate and distinct location for the Ladies Auxiliary of the MSFA and additional meeting space.
Leonard worked to have the convention continue to become more family friendly by forming partnerships with Jolly Roger Amusements and providing fireworks and movies on the beach. The convention has recruited excellent national and even world-renowned speakers and programs to enhance the fire service educational experience. Practical evolutions were developed to provide the younger members of our fire service encouragement to attend. For the past ten years, present Convention Committee Chairman Chief Ron Siarnicki has built on the convention foundation of Past President King and continues to expand practical training and family events.

Under Leonard’s leadership, working with Michael Gibbons, the golf tournament was started in memory of Past President Marvin Gibbons in 1992 and others including past presidents Fred Cross and Robert Jacobs, assisted with more activities for all members of the family, such as the bingo and Hubcaps dances.

The convention parade continues to draw companies and units from throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Though the parade route had to change to a more northern parade route above 15th St., the pageantry and pride of the fire service becomes a very public event. Over the last few years, a return of more uniformed marching units adds to the professional demeanor and tradition of our volunteer companies.

The convention continues to evolve, and Leonard was able to face the adversities such a construction at the convention center and traffic from the air show. The continued expansion projects will serve to allow the convention more flexibility and potential. Who could possibly have imagined when Mayor Harry Kelly and Mayor Fish Powell met with the MSFA leadership over 50 years ago to propose building a convention center, the MSFA Convention and Conference would become one of the foremost fire service events in the country?

The foresight of our leadership, and in particular Past President Leonard King, has allowed the MSFA Convention and Conference to meet the needs of the modern fire service while providing a variety of activities for all members of the family. Past President Leonard King took the reins of the MSFA Convention and led our traditional annual meeting into the 21st century. His vision, dedication and commitment as chairman of the MSFA Annual Convention provided the foundation of leadership needed to evolve into the MSFA Convention and Conference we know today. Rest in Peace, Leonard. Thank you for your wisdom and hard work on behalf of the Maryland fire service. As we welcome everyone to the 2018 MSFA Convention and Conference, look above the rising aerials as we all know Leonard is looking down. God Bless You Leonard. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention and Conference will always be your legacy.

President Mark Bilger – Thank you Chip. At this time I would recognize Kaitlyn for her singing of the National Anthem. Please give her a round of applause. Kaitlyn I have a convention mug for you and one of our bags.
Now it gives me great honor to introduce a friend to all of us, Mayor Meehan.

Mayor Meehan – Good morning everybody, Wow, it’s so great to see everybody here and to be able to be here with your today. It is an honor to kick off the official kickoff of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association convention. One hundred and twenty-six years for any organization to continue to exist and to meet is an unbelievable accomplishment in 2018 and I congratulate you for that and I thank you for entertaining us for 51 consecutive years and coming to Ocean City to hold this very important convention. It is very important to the town of Ocean City. I know I tell you every year and I mean it sincerely I’m a product of the 1960s here in Ocean City and I truly remember when the Maryland State Firemen’s Association came to town. That was the official kickoff to the summer season. Yes, the town has grown and we have some other events and we do some other things. We enjoy a lot of new visitors, but I still feel and I think the town of Ocean City still feels that the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is the official kickoff to the summer season in Ocean City, and on behalf of the mayor and city council and all of our residents I welcome you to our community. I want to thank the steering committee for all of the hard work that they have done to put together this convention and all the activities. Those things take time and I think that the tribute that has just been to Leonard certainly illustrates how important planning is and how important it was for him and others to work help this convention evolve. To include the families and make it so this organization and their families could come together here for this week in Ocean City, and it’s truly a compliment to Leonard and this association on being able to accomplish that. In this day and age we’re finding volunteers and serving your community is more difficult than ever and a lot of that has to do with just the busy schedules families have today, two parents working, all the challenges we face in 2018. And to be able to recognize that and continue to put together a program and an organization that attracts people to become volunteers is I think you all deserve a great deal of credit for being able to do that. I know how important your service is to each and every one of your individual communities. And I know it because I know how important it is to the town of Ocean City. The Ocean City Volunteer fire department has been a mainstay of our community for a hundred plus years. And it continues to serve our residents and in all honesty I don’t know what we would do without them. I hope that you all enjoy your week while you’re here. First I want to thank you for bringing the sunshine, A weekend ago we had seven and a half inches of rain, this weekend the sun came out and the skies were blue and everything was great, so I’m gonna give you all the credit. I know Jim Mathias is going to come up and try to take all the credit for that, I’m giving it to you right now. I hope you all enjoyed the air show, it was a big weekend in Ocean City, not only had you arrived but it seems like everybody else arrived too. But the air show has become a signature event and I hope you guys will enjoy it because not only is it entertaining but it’s also, in my opinion, a very patriotic event. And when the Thunderbirds hit the sky and they start to sing God Bless America, maybe it’s just me but I still get chills and I still think how great this Country is and how fortunate we are to live here in the United States of America. I
know Mike talked about some of the new things in Ocean City, you might have noticed the new fence up along Coastal Highway, well public safety is our number one priority and certainly that is a priority of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and we think that is going to help us with pedestrian safety and again that’s the goal and we all have already seen that working and hopefully that will continue. You know our goal every year is that every single person arrives in Ocean City safely, they are safe while they are here and they return home safely. That includes the future leaders of America, aka all the high school students that are out there this week, and if you see any strays out there that are from your community that look lost, take them home with you it’s okay, perfectly fine with us. But we want you to enjoy your time in Ocean City, enjoy the boardwalk and the activities that this organization has put together at Jolly Roger, Frontier Town. I’m looking forward to the parade on Wednesday. An annual event that I think just again emphasizes the importance of this convention to our community and to your organization. So on behalf of all of the citizens again I want to thank you for being here. God bless you and enjoy your week here in Ocean City. Thank you. Now before I leave I do have a couple of presentations. I’d like to ask President Mark Bilger to come up please. Mark, on behalf of the town of Ocean City and all of our citizens I want to present you with a key to the town of Ocean City. These conventions don’t just happen and your leadership throughout the last year for your organization I know has played a vital role to your success to the organization’s success and on behalf of all of our citizens in Ocean City I want to present you with this key and thank you for your commitment to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Thank you

Mark Bilger – Thank you Mr. Mayor

Mayor Meehan – And I would also like to invite the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Auxiliary please come out. Oh I love it, Vivian on behalf of Mayor and City Council and all the citizens of Ocean City again, as I stated to Mark, I want to thank you for your commitment to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Ladies Auxiliary for your past year as President. For your leadership and all that you have given to this organization we truly respect you and honor you with this key to the town of Ocean City.

President Mark Bilger – Mr. Mayor we have for one of our convention bags, our convention mug and I’d like to present you with a wooden fire engine bank that we had made this year as my gift to you.

Mayor Meehan – Thank you all again. Thank you for the gifts, the remembrances if you have ever been in my office at city hall as I know Mark has these mugs are displayed all of them prominently on the window sill in my office, very proudly in my office at city hall. Enjoy your week. I’ll see you all at the parade on Wednesday. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – Now I would like to introduce Senator Jim Mathias to the podium for his remarks.
Senator Jim Mathias – And the sun will shine on parade day! Let me hear ya MSFA come on now! How about ladies auxiliary MSFA come on now B and B. President Bilger, President Boyd! God Bless ya. I know I am home where I want to be in Ocean City when it is Firemen’s parade and convention week. Let me hear ya from all around the great State of Maryland. Come on now. May God bless you and I just want to say thank you. I see my chief Roger Steger right here and I have to take a moment and ask for quiet prayer for Leonard King and all who have gone before us. God grant eternal rest to all that have made the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the ladies auxiliary the fantastic organization and advocacy group they are. We ask that you take Leonard into your arms and comfort him. And we thank him for his service and on a personal note, dear Lord, for every trinket they ever made Leonard put it in my bag. I think, I was home the other day, I have one of those great scrubbing bubbles things right there on my sink with MSFA and I know Leonard gave it to me. But first of all I want to thank you as I’ve said to you before here all God gives us in this world is time, we don’t know how much or how long but you have made the choice to give yours back to your fellow man. For all that you train for we say thank you. And in this very unpredictable world, whether it’s Great Mills, the shooting in Lexington Park Rescue Squad or Ellicott City when what starts out as a heavy rain and because it becomes a torrent right down Main St., I know one thing you’re there to answer the call to duty. I say thank you and God bless you. You can count on me. Let me hear it MSFA and the ladies auxiliary. And look around this building and the Mayor was here, he was a city council president and I was a city councilman and Fish Powell who has been a leader in the fire service was the Mayor and when we wanted to expand this building we know where we went and that was the MSFA up on State Circle. You stepped up and walked with us and you will see the plaques around this building. Every time we needed you, you have been there for us. And I want you to know that I, and I want to invite you to my office, when I was proudly given that had made fire truck by Mr. Steele Saturday night at the banquet I went back and Mrs. Wood and her husband who is always up in the gallery before I was given that fire truck I went to sit back there and after I assured you all that the sun would shine on parade day and it will shine on parade day. She came back and she had a very worried look on her face and I said uh oh what’s wrong, she said you will be back in January won’t you? There is a little thing in Maryland called the election and I know that so many of you got that little black book whether you in live in Worcester, Somerset or Wicomico County. You got great friends and family in the State Firemen’s and ladies auxiliary association that live here. So I said I will be back in January and I’m gonna ask you to help me with that little black book. Call all around and help me back there. Because in 2016 and James bldg. my door is always open for you. Always open for you. Hometown heroes, income tax subtraction, the many issues that face us every day while you’re out answering the call to duty. We’re there to lift our firefighting families up as we go forward. Mr. Steele’s fire truck will be prominently on display probably by the end of next week when I get up to Annapolis. This time of year we’re back here. But when you all come to see me as my family, it will be right there. May God bless ya. Have a great week and by the way Chief Siarnicki.
did a little briefing about the convention and I was told and give yourself a round of applause in a moment we are the only firefighters convention in the United States of America now that is one week long. Come on now, help me out, one week long! I’d like to tell you the sun’s gonna shine every day, I can only guarantee you on Wednesday, but the reason why we’re one week long is because of you and because of how much A; we love you and it’s a family affair. Not only are you here as advocates for the fire service you’re here as advocates for the strongest unit in mankind and that’s family. And when you look around and you see the children out on the parade route, you go to the amusement parks or the boardwalk and you see the laughter of the children because they are the next generation of firefighters in the great State of Maryland. God bless ya, we love ya and I’ll see ya on parade day. Let me hear ya! And 125th, happy 125th to the Westminster band. I better get me some training, you better get me one of those fall belts Chief.

President Mark Bilger – Senator, thank you for those words. Thank you for the sunshine. Thank you for the dedication and support you’ve shown as a volunteer and to the citizens of Maryland. I would like to present you with one of our mugs and official convention bag.

Senator Mathias – I know you know this isn’t official till you fill it with beer down at the bar. God bless ya. Here’s to ya, clink. Great 2018 convention. God bless.

President Mark Bilger – Colonel Janeen L Birkhead joins us today representing Major General Linda Singh Maryland Adjunct General. Colonel Birkhead has a long and distinguished military career. Recently she assumed command of the Maryland Army National Guard. Like many of us she wears more than one hat. Not only as a decorated veteran, a wife and mother, she also in her civilian capacity serves as senior advisor in the office of the special trustee of American Indians at the US Department of the Interior. She hails from the Eastern Shore and we are happy to have her with us today. Colonel Birkhead.

Colonel Janeen Birkhead – Hi, Good morning. Good morning everyone and of course it’s sun shining today the Firemen’s association is here. That’s a fact. So I bring greetings from the Adjutant General of Maryland, General Linda Singh and the soldiers and airman and civilians of the Maryland Military Department. I, like you, understand the importance of service. That’s why I’m honored to be with you here today to address your members of the association. Thank you President Bilger and for your leadership of the MSFA and President Vivian Boyd for the ladies auxiliary, you’ve done a fantastic job. As 2018 marks the associations 126th anniversary I congratulate you on your hard work and your accomplishments. Job well done. The Maryland Military Department is pleased to partner with the association to administer the Amos fund and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund. We share a commitment to public safety. Us at the Maryland National Guard, civilians, airman and the Maryland Military Department. You have many of those people that serve the National Guard that also serve in your ranks
as firefighters and EMTs, so that is why we understand the importance of what you do. We are extremely proud of all of our first responders no matter what their role is. You all demonstrate what it means selfless service every day when you get that call and we know it. The State, the community and the Nation thanks you for all you do. On behalf of Major General Linda Singh I say thank you and I wish you much success during your convention today and during the rest of the week. I hope you get some fun in and some relaxing time in Ocean City. You all deserve it because you know you will be back on the job next week. Thank you very much and have a great day.

President Mark Bilger – Thank you Colonel. We have a special recognition for the Maryland Military Department. I have for you an official mug and convention bag with all the materials from our convention. I also would like you to know that the Colonel is Brigadier General Select so congratulate her on that. And again we thank you for your service.

I would now like to introduce the out of State guests: Richard Barello President Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association, 1st Vice President Bill Betz, 2nd Vice President Jay Jones, Elmer Steele Past President and Secretary, Warner Jones Past President and Executive Director, Steve Austin Past President and out of State coordinator, Andy Hall President Delaware State Firemen’s Association, Steve Derry Vice President Delaware State Firemen’s Association; Pennsylvania: Deanna Force President, Central director, past president; West Virginia State Firemen’s Association: John Hall President, Gerald Markum Sergeant; Cumberland Valley: Hobie Howl President, 1st Vice President Allen Baldwin. Please give them all a round of applause and thank you for being here.

Caucus sessions – Howard County – room 205
Harford/ Cecil Association – room 204
Southern Maryland Association – room 217
Baltimore County Association – room mezzanine room 201
Eastern Shore Association – room 201
Prince George’s County Association – mezzanine 204
Carroll County Association – room 203

All caucus meetings will be held between 12:00 and 1:00. The rooms and times were based on history and County associations that requested them. Any questions contact Bill Hildebrand. Thank you

Now I will introduce the key note speaker. Being fair to everyone. Why inclusion and diversity are important for you and your agencies presented by Juan Bonilla Fire Chief Donnelly Rural Fire Protection District, Director Idaho National Volunteer Fire Council, Valley County Emergency Manager Donnelly, Idaho.

Fire Chief Bonilla – Okay I’m not going to stand behind the podium because you won’t see me. I’m Juan Bonilla I come from Idaho. I’ve been 22 years in the service, 12 years
as Chief there. I do want to say a couple of things, I have been to Maryland a few times. I was in PG last year and did this particular one along with a retention and recruitment, work with the recruiters there. I’ve had the opportunity to work with the recruiters in PG a few times now and I also help with NVFC recruitment and retention as well. So first of all I’d like to thank the MSFA for having me here. This is probably the biggest venue I’ve had to speak at so I’m a little nervous so be patient with me. So as I move on, forward, I’d like to thank and I want to recognize all the veterans in the house, so if you could stand up so you can be recognized. Thank you for your service. I’ve been on the east coast a lot to. I’m a veteran mariner South Carolina. I was a missile tech for four and a half years so. I appreciate that. Alright, so moving forward I do want to recognize a few people who have gotten me to this point with being fair to everyone. I’ve been doing this presentation for about 6 years. When I came to PG Mrs. Nova John was telling me that I was stiff as a board and I was so professional that I was almost scary me being up there. So I’m going to be a little loose today with you so. Moving forward. I will tell you though, working with the PG people Mrs. Kate and Mrs. Nova, you guys got it down. You guys need to ask these guys questions about recruitment and retention. They know exactly what they are doing. They are using the being fair to everyone model and working with the volunteer work force solutions Lexie Coleson is here from IFCA. She’s gonna be here today, you need to ask her some questions about recruitment and retention, the being fair to everyone model, inclusion, diversity. Why? Because she has been sitting as chair for that group, the council for future volunteer firefighters has really evolved over the last five years with this particular lecture. So if you’ve seen this lecture before, it isn’t the same today, it’s different. It’s different because I’m not using statistical data today. I’m not going to bring up the percentages of what my department make up is because we don’t do that anymore. We don’t need to. So we’re going to move forward. Pretty much the slides are to keep me on track so I can get everything out in the open and I try not to forget anything. Little hope for advancement is the last key words on that particular slide. What I mean by that is, this is about the fire service. We take traditional value to heart. Traditions are important. But if we use the late Elbert Usinis’ definitions of traditions and their importance in the fire service there’s a time when traditions have to, some of those traditions have to sit on the shelf, so that we can move forward in a positive light. Get that refraction of light and move forward for our agencies, for our associations. It all starts with leadership. This is where the change is. I used to sit up here and promote and advocate specifically with the key element being inclusion. I was forgetting one key component in the entire process and that was leadership. Leadership is key, it’s the function that allows for everything else in your agency. I’m a Chief. Yep. Been Chief for twelve years. I’m a unique Chief because I hold no keys, I hold no doors. In my department we are specifically run by the membership. I’m just the same voice as everyone else. I don’t hold anything more other than I get paid and I have bugles on my crest. That’s it. A membership driven organization, allowing for inclusion. It took a while to get my leadership and my senior members to understand that, what that was. Being a sub mariner Captain David Markay, turned a ship around USS Phoenix, same analogy with
the leadership model. We don’t sit at the top of an apex, we sit at the bottom of the funnel so we can gather information and move forward. So we can take what the boots on the ground need so they can move forward. We do that every day right now in leadership. On the fire ground, on the EMS ground, but when we come back to the office we reverse it. We’re back at the top. WE need to make sure that we always stay in that funnel formation and allow for leadership to move forward and gain based on what your membership needs. So we need to walk the talk. That was pretty tough for a few of my guys, I lost five guys doing this as soon as I became Chief twelve years ago. They didn’t understand the hierarchy changing and reversing. But we needed to do something just because like everywhere else in the country we weren’t getting the people through the door, we weren’t retaining em. And we realized as we looked through all of those applications for the last five years and there would be a stack of them that weren’t there. And why weren’t they there? Some of them sure, because they just couldn’t handle it, couldn’t understand the commitment, just moved on. Ninety percent of them were there because of bad leadership. It started right here, the guy who’s sitting in front of you today. I’m gonna give you a little story. One time I had twenty-five volunteers at one time in my department. We were in a big boom, we were the biggest growing county in the country. Twenty-five volunteers. What did I tell my senior staff? I don’t want to know any of them until after the first six months because ninety percent of them are going to leave. Chief doesn’t want to know them why stay? I was at fault so I had to change something, I had to move something. I went back to my military upbringing, let’s change the leadership model. Let’s make it more inclusive. Let’s make it more inviting for people to want to participate. Let’s not be thankful, let’s not them be thankful that we are letting them on, let’s be thankful that they are here. Let’s show them that we appreciate them every single day. Very true statement by Mr. Roosevelt. Being fair can allow you will be in the right ninety percent of the time. What we are looking at is, and leadership is huge with that because we tend to as leaders forget why we are actually there. And our motto now in our department over the last twelve years since I took over is we’re a combination department and this is specific to, we’re not as the career guys only, we’re there as a support function for the volunteers so they don’t have to go to every run. So if they are busy after a run and can’t help us re stow, we gotcha. They don’t want to do a hundred mile transfer, cause they don’t have time, cause the nearest biggest hospital is one hundred miles away from us, we gotcha. We are there as their support function, not the other way around. One other thing we did to was we looked at our membership association. Our membership association was too divided into career and volunteer. We got rid of that as soon as I became Chief. Everybody is a member of the association. Whether you’re career, whether you’re volunteer, whether you’re the governing board, whether you’re Chief. Everybody has the same voice. I’m just the fire Chief. That’s my leadership model. I handle budget, I handle policy, I handle disciplinary. But here’s the thing, since we changed to this model over the last twelve years I can count on three fingers how many times I actually had to do disciplinary because with this model of allowing everyone to be included, everybody has a say, by the time it funnels down to me,
usually I just get a report—hey we had an issue on so and so’s shift and we took care of it Chief. Based on the policies and ideas that everybody portrayed from the membership for me to push forward to our governing board. It’s their policies, their guidelines, because it’s a membership driven organization it allows for inclusion. Moving forward. So when we look at organizational success I can say very proudly within the Donnelly Fire District we’re extremely happy. We have organizational success with this model. And maybe it doesn’t work for everyone. Maybe some of you are like, Ah what is this guy really talking about? I’m talking about after twelve years I look at my guys and we have our staff meeting, we just had a meeting last week. We are going to actually invite, we’re actually inviting the Prince George recruitment team to come to our department. They are coming in July. We are also inviting law enforcement solutions to come. And during the whole conversation with my staff it was we’re sort of afraid they’re coming. And it wasn’t because they would see what we were doing wrong, it’s because when we talk about the leadership inclusion, diversity, being fair and recruitment efforts, it was we don’t know how to answer, we’re afraid of some of the questions they are going to ask because that is not in our preveu to think that way about what is inclusion, what is diversity to us. And the answer was when I asked my Chief what was going on with that conversation, it was that’s just how we run everyday Chief. We don’t know what that is. And it’s funny because I have all different demographic age in my department. It’s not just one particular demographic saying that. All of them. Cause that’s what we’ve been conditioned to, that’s what we’ve been learned to to move forward. We look at individuals based on attributes, skills and experiences, we don’t look at anything else. That’s our definition of diversity. Looking at those individuals based on attributes, skills and experience encompassed around them and how they operate in a team dynamic. That’s diversity to us. So it doesn’t matter what you look like, who you are, how old you are. Can you do the job or the task at hand? You’re on the team. That’s how we operate. And what’s funny is the next generation before us they already think that way. I look at this being fair to everyone presentation and a lot of my next generation individuals that are on my department and in my family are like this is going to be an obsolete presentation. Because this is specifically for people that are old like me, so that we can prepare for succession planning for the next generations to come. So we as leaders, we need to push forward, and look for how do we achieve those simple things? Because most leaders, most Chiefs, most people that are sitting here like me we have a, but for attitude. Which is a negative because we are looking at what’s happening to us and our office verses what the department needs and what does the membership need on the ground? What do they need? They need to be yes than lifestyle individuals. That’s what we need to be, that’s what I have become in the last twelve years. In the last three years working with PG and working with Volunteer work force solutions, big time, has changed my premise on how I need to be a leader and how I need to grow. I contribute all of the stuff in the last three years based on those dealings and finding and working with those groups and better understanding being fair to everyone. It’s simple, four words, being fair to everyone. What does it do? It allows your community to understand you more, you’re
ambassadors all of a sudden. You’re promoting and advocating your marketing, you’re branding yourself because of what you included within your department. Your makeup, being fair to everyone, starting with leadership, moving on to inclusionary tactics and inclusionary practices. Making it an everyday process that we work through. That’s what it is. Inclusivity. Another key factor. And guess what happens when you become good leaders and move forward and allow your people, and empower them and you enrich them and you use them for everything they are trained to. You include them in every aspect, every facet of the department based on what they can do as individuals. But still bring that individualism to the team dynamic and make it work. It automatically creates diversity. You can have everybody the same age, same demographic type but because they bring different attributes, skills and experience sets to the table, guess what automatic diversity. You don’t have to pick and choose people to be in there, they just automatically plug themselves because they want to get different skill sets, different experiences so they can accomplish the task side. They can accomplish the service you want to provide. It’s as simplistic as that. So as we go through, and I look through and I see everything that happens is, you know, I talk about the, you know I have five people who left, three of them came back when they realized what we were doing and they wanted to participate. But I sorta created this monster of recruitment. I don’t have a recruitment and retention issue at Donnelly because of the leadership model and the inclusion model, the diverse model that we have created, the retention model we have created, I have people who are, most of my, most of my recruits they’ll go instead of the three to five there about seven to nine in my department. I have people who have been there up and over thirty-five years. I have two women I bring them up a lot. They’re seventy-two years old, they still fight fire, they still go in buildings, they still go on roofs, and how is that, because they bring different attributes, skills and experience. Because I’m not looking at who they are, what they look like, I look at can they do the task based on their attributes, skills and experiences. I allow them to be included. They have the best times and one of them her names Barb Pile, her idea of a hike in the mountains is a sixty mile hike in two days. She’s pretty tough. I’m here today because of her. She’s the reason I became Chief. She saw something in me way back when that was going to change our culture and move us forward and help us with our problems with recruitment and retention and build a better department. I didn’t see it then, I was just a young guy. She saw something so I’m here because of her too. She’s tough, she’s still on every day. She’s been retired for three years but she’s at the station more than I am. That’s how dedicated she is. So when we are looking at being diverse should be have to take into account, yes there is this slide up here that shows all the different groups, setting and characteristics, but I’ll tell you I don’t like being here characterized. Am I characterizing my state, No, what they do is they look at me based on what I’ve been able to accomplish on my state. I’ve sat at one of the highest positions in their state just under the President of our Chief’s Association. I sit as NVFC Director, those are all just titles and stuff, but its stuff people weren’t looking at me based on what I’ve been able to accomplish on my attributes, skills and experience sets. I feel comfortable that I’m not being judged or being put in a position based on what I look
like and my ethnicity. And that is how it should be. That’s being diverse. So we look around, getting back to leadership, you know I’m not here to say and make you guys better leaders. My job, with this presentation, and what I’m looking forward to is giving you little things to think about. Looking at yourself. Going back to your stations and understanding that maybe you as a leader or potential leader, cause you are all potential leaders here. I know a few of you here that I’ve talked to time and time again and you’ll know who you are, I tell you, you should be Chief already. You should be Chief right now. You’re a bigger Chief than me. There’s things you can accomplish, because they are already seeing the light, they are seeing the movement, they understand succession planning, they understand inclusion. Inclusion is huge. Leadership is bigger. Leadership was the key element I’d been missing over the last five years of this presentation. I was hitting all of the facts and all of the ground work people, the boots on the ground. But that doesn’t matter if we can’t get leadership to change their mindset and move forward in and understand the same concepts. Promote it and advocate for it. I do that at my department, so much so, that I’m just one of the guys. One of the guys so much that, I broke my back last year wrecking a fire truck, yeah they let the Chief drive and he wrecked the fire truck on the way home. Broke my back, I finally got signed off, so when I arose at the station and there is training, it doesn’t matter if you’re the Chief or not you still gotta go suit up. So I go suit up and I go down there, this happened last week and I’m with the guys and there all excited to see the Chief suit up, one guy was like I haven’t seen Chief in turn out in you know a year. I haven’t seen him with a pack on in a year. So they are doing time trials to get this little baby mannequin out of a burning building. And I’m sitting there with my firefighter and she’s like okay Chief I have really good times the last two weeks don’t screw up my ranking here. I want to get that dinner. And I’m like okay, sorry you got the luck of the draw, you got the Chief tonight. So, what do I do? Well I think I’m seventeen again and I run into the building and I come out and I fall over and I’m lying on the ground, training officer looks at me and goes we killed the Chief. And I’m like what was my time? About midnight though my arm was done. I can barely make a fist today still. But it was good, it was good getting out there. I’m still a working Chief, I still do shifts. I’m just one of the guys. What I’m portraying is is I usually don’t wear a suit, I usually don’t wear a tie, I only wear class A’s when I absolutely have to, I usually wear my t-shirt or a polo with some khakis, my boots to work, I don’t like to have all the fancy stuff on. What if I have to go on a run, I’m still a working Chief. My favorite thing though is chucks, I wear converse all the time, if I could wear them at work I would. I’m just an average guy, I just happen to be Chief of a department. I’m just the leader, I try not to be the boss. I try to let my guys be who they are. When we train them all the way to that first recruit at the top of the funnel, they get a voice the first day. They get to understand that they get a voice first day. We want to hear what they have, because they are on the department and they are a recruit guess what because we need their attributes, skills and experiences that they have already to make us a better team dynamic. That’s how we pick them. That’s how we move forward. And then we show them how inclusive we are. We show them how they can be a team person but still bring their individual selves to that team.
Because we realize that picking and choosing just because of demographic type, that wasn’t making us diverse. Because it they all have the same attributes, skills and experiences it didn’t allow for what we wanted. It was the same people thinking the same way. So we got rid of that out of our mindset. It’s just like my Assistant Chief said- We don’t think that way. The next generations don’t think that way. Why? Because that’s how we raised them. We raised them not think that way. They don’t understand what inclusion and diversity is because that’s how they operate every single day. So, when those we want to keep, we have failed. What does that mean? I did it by looking at how many people over the last ten years of when I started at the department they were no longer in the department. I’m looking at them and realizing that ninety percent of them left because of mainly bad leadership, and it started with the Chief, me. Not putting the right ambassador for your department during their training, during their evolution of becoming a candidate to a recruit. Not fitting the right people together. It was huge trying to figure out how we were going to do that. How we were going to make that work. We lost some good people, they are on other departments, or they’re great in the community and we’re like how did we lose that person? This person, look at what he’s doing for the community, look at what she’s doing for the community. She could have been doing that for us, He could have been doing that for us. But because we were horrible we let them fall through the cracks because we were looking for specific types of individuals or they didn’t fit the mold or we didn’t let them be individuals, we didn’t give them enough self-worth, they didn’t stay. This is a big one.

The next generations are asking these questions about inclusion. They’re asking how that works, they’re asking about leadership. How many of you are on recruiter retention committees when you have that applicant and you’re looking and they already have they’re twenty-five years old and they’ve already had twenty jobs. In the past we were like this guy isn’t loyal, we’ll throw him away. Alright. So I asked my son about that. He’s twenty-two years old, what does that mean, why do you guys go through so many jobs? It’s ridiculous. And he said Dad, if they’re not good leaders why do I need to work for them? It’s not about money to us. So much so he just quit a great job with insurance, benefits, retirement, to a job that didn’t have any of those things. And I said son you know what you’re doing? He said, Leadership was horrible, they couldn’t even get me scheduled correctly. All the benefits in the world isn’t going to make me happy in my work place. This other place is great, the bosses are awesome, the leadership is awesome, and yep I make a little bit less, I don’t get benefits but I’m a lot happier. That’s the next generation. And why is that, cause that’s how we raised them. I was raised you stick at a job, you stick at a career whether it’s horrible leadership or not till you retire. You just keep your head down and go to work. We didn’t raise our kids that way. So they ask this question, and they only not ask do you have it in your policies, they ask how you practice it every day. When they ask us that we say we’re like you, cause you don’t even think about it cause that’s just how we operate. There’s no practicing, it’s just how it is, just how we work every single day. So, I’ll leave you with this. Leadership is the key element. If you’re a Chief, officer or a supervisor who think you hold all the keys and control all your subordinates below you, you’re wrong, you
don’t control anything, and you don’t hold any keys or doors. The membership does. You’re there just to guide them through those doors and make sure they have everything, the tools the money, funding mechanisms whatever to accomplish the task they have been assigned. Inclusion is also very important. It’s the number two one. You have to be inclusive. Just those two key elements right there can create a good diverse setting. And because you’re going to have a good diverse setting, retention is inevitable. You’ll have it and what I hear every time I go to all over the country bringing up retention and recruitment and inclusion and diversity discussions. It always comes back to we can get recruits we just can’t retain them. Maybe it’s because we’re not doing the first the two due diligences to leadership and inclusion. Because that will allow for and grow retention. And guess what, now you have a bunch of people who are on your department excited about being there. Marketing for you and being your ambassadors. You don’t need a recruitment program. We’re out of a job as a recruitment person. Because everybody else in the department is doing it for you. So I’m going to leave you with a challenge. I always do this with every one of my lecture series. And the challenge is this – Ask yourself do I bring my full self to the station? My ideas? My personality? My opinions? My uniqueness? My background? Sitting here today if you can’t answer those as positively then your station you need to work on leadership and inclusion. Those are the key questions you should be asking yourself every single day. If you can’t do that at your department then you need to make some changes. You need to be the catalyst to do that. Again I want to thank the MSFA for having me here. I’m actually gonna have this afternoon a more detailed description of what being fair to everyone is. Cause this is pretty simplistic but we’re really gonna break it down. You’re gonna get more insight of what my department make up is, and how we’ve come over the last twelve years to where we’re at today. And again, it’s just four little words. Being fair to everyone. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – Thank you Chief. We appreciate taking time out of your schedule to be with us today. We have a convention mug for you and a bag we also have a challenge coin that President Boyd and I made up this year that I would like to present to you. Again let’s give him a round of applause. At this time President Boyd you and your ladies can go and attend your meetings. Thank you for attending our opening ceremonies as always it’s nice to have pretty women in the audience. One announcement Council of Academies meeting at one o’clock has been moved to mezzanine room 201. Again Council for Academies meeting at one o’clock has been moved to mezzanine 201.

As the ladies are leaving I would like to introduce the credentials chair Rick Hemphill.

Credentials Chairman Rick Hemphill – Thank you Mr. President. The registration of companies and individuals having appeared and registered at this convention as of 1000 am this date: 25 past presidents, 226 companies in good standing. Each past president is eligible to cast 1 vote, each registered company is eligible to cast five
votes times 226 registered companies to exercise their privilege to vote for a total of 1,130 eligible company votes the total votes eligible to be cast will we 1,155. Thank you Mr. President.


At this time I would like to bring to the podium President of Pennsylvania State Firemen’s Association Diana Force for a presentation.

**President Diana Force** – Thank you Mark. On behalf of the state of Pennsylvania I have enjoyed my time so far in Maryland. Thank you very much for your warm welcome. It was great to be a part of the banquet on Saturday night. Always interesting to see what other people are doing and how they do things. I would like to give this gift to the President of the Maryland association on behalf of us here from Pennsylvania. Thank you.

**President Bilger** – Vice President Blair, Vice President Faust, Chairman Simpson, members of the Executive Committee, Committee Chairs, Officers and Members of the LAMSFA, Clergy, and Guests. Thank all of you for supporting the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association by attending our annual convention and conference. To all of you who served as a chair or who served on a committee this past year, thank you for your dedication and support. You are the sole reason this great association had a very successful year.
I want to thank all of the companies for their kind invitations. No matter where I traveled, I was always welcomed with open arms.

I would like to take a couple of minutes to provide you with some information.

Item #1 Thanks to work of the special committee we now have a new Executive Director, Kathleen (Kate) Tomanelli, if she would join me on stage. Three years ago, then President, Johnie Roth, took some bold steps to lay out a future plan of action that was intended to strengthen and solidify a solid future for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Through the efforts of a strategic plan, he set into motion a series of transitional steps that I have been able to carry on throughout my entire year as President of the MSFA. I would like to thank him for his efforts back then and share with you the outcome of three years of a very hard and strategic effort designed for the betterment of our organization. As a result of that strategic plan, and the committee established to support those initiatives, the MSFA brought on-board an individual that would forge the way for our first ever full-time Executive Director. Executive Director Skip Mahan would you join me on stage. Skip Mahan served in a variety of positions over that time period, starting as our Strategic Plan Coordinator, then MSFA Executive Consultant and finally part-time Executive Director. Skip has helped shepherd this transition with professionalism, dedication of service and a personal commitment to make the MSFA a better organization. I would like to personally thank him for serving in those roles and bringing us to this point where we are today. Just last week the Executive Director Search Committee finalized the work I charged them with and provided to me a recommendation of the person I have hired as our full-time contractual Executive Director. They had 69 applications that they had to go through and consider. This individual chosen brings to the MSFA both volunteer fire department experience and business practice knowledge. She served as a corporate manager in the retail industry while serving as a volunteer member in New York and in Maryland. She has a great deal of experience in Volunteer Recruitment and Retention and has a strong background in budget, management and organizational set up. During her interview session she stated, “That the person hired for this job needs to understand that they are not about changing the MSFA, but enhancing their programs”. She understands that we all must work together to adapt to the ever changing environment we live in and must bring the fire/rescue service in the state that it needs to be. I think her most compelling response during that interview was: “I truly do understand where the older generation is, and I look and I think that I understand where the younger or next generation wants to go, we as a team must go full steam ahead to get this organization to the next level utilizing both along the way”. Again ladies and gentlemen, I would like to present to you, Kathleen (Kate) Tomanelli, our new MSFA Executive Director. Please join me in congratulating her.

At this time I would like to make a presentation to Skip for his service to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the Volunteer Emergency Responders of Maryland.
Thank you again for all of your hard work. And Skips not going anywhere. He’s advised that he will continue working with the SAFER oversight committee to ensure we get through the audit process and all the paperwork submitted come September. Thank you again and congratulations Kate, I look forward to working with you.

At this time I would like to call on Vice President Rick Blair for his report.

1st Vice President Rick Blair – Morning. President Bilger, 2nd Vice President Faust, officers, members of this great association, my fellow delegates and alternates, clergy, distinguished guests. You can find my report on pages 33 and 35 of the convention book. I would like to start off by thanking the Western Enterprise Fire Company, the Clear Spring Volunteer Fire Company and Clear Spring Ambulance Service, the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association. Member companies I further continue support President Bilger, 2nd Vice President Faust, thank you for your support this past year to me and the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I would like to take this time to recognize and especially thank Rick Hemphill, Jim Seavey Sr., for all of the help and guidance over this past year also. I also give my thanks to all the Maryland, well all the 2017 State Firemen’s Associations Executive Board, officers and committee chairs and members for their dedication and support they have shown me for this past year. In closing I would like each one of you to keep the Executive member Jimmy Seavey and his family in your thoughts and prayers while Jim is recovering from a medical condition and thank you for coming today. Before you leave the convention hall please, and I’m saying please, go downstairs and support the vendors that come here every year. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – Thank you Vice President Blair. It was a pleasure working with you. At this time I would like to introduce 2nd Vice President Michael Faust.

2nd Vice President Michael Faust – I don’t think I need this step but I will step up on it anyway. Welcome everybody and thank you for joining us in Ocean City. My report is found on page 35 in the convention book.

First I’d like to take a minute and thank my family for their support over the last year. A special thank you to my wife Stacey for being my co-pilot on a lot of trips. Having her with me has been a real blessing. I’d also like to thank my home company- the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company and our Auxiliary for their support. It truly, it really helps having a lot of great people behind you. I also like to thank the past presidents that have guided me this year and I hope that they will continue to do so as I move through the offices of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. A special thank you to Past Presidents Fred Cross and Doyle Cox for riding with me to several functions and to Past President Jackie Olson for helping with setting up a couple of fundraisers. Past President Steve Cox and Assistant Secretary Nancy Cox I’d like to thank them for always being there when I need advice or just someone to talk to. I’d like to thank President Bilger and first Vice President Rick Blair
for all they have done for this Association this past year. I also appreciate all the work done by the other officers of the MSFA as well as those chairing and serving on the various committees. I am truly amazed at all of the work that goes on into making this association as successful as it is and as successful as it will be in the future. I believe I am missing some stuff here, I apologize. I’d also like to thank the partners that we work with throughout the various organizations and work with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. We work with these agencies and I don’t believe the average Maryland citizen understands what goes on behind the scenes. It is important work that we all do and is important work that we must do for our state, our communities, and our families. I look forward to continuing to work with this great association for many years to come.

On a personal note we have lost several members that did a lot of great work at the state level and even more that provided services at the local level. Their hard work and efforts were not in vain as the rest of us will continue to keep the progress moving in a positive direction.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the fabulous ladies that make up the LAMSFA. It has been a great experience working with them this year and I will do all I can to maintain and grow this relationship. Thank you to all the members of this great Association and especially to those that help make this convention happen. There is an awful lot that goes on behind the scenes and they deserve to be recognized. A quick special note of thanks to Executive Committee member Kent Whalen. He represents Kent, Queen Anne’s and Caroline Counties and decided to step down this year. I would like to introduce you to Robbie Blackiston he’s just to the left of the stage, for stepping up and taking that responsibility on. To start with the committee as the committee vice chair this year. Again, thank you all again for allowing me to serve as your second Vice President and I look forward to serving as your first Vice President if elected. Thanks and have a wonderful day.

President Mark Bilger – Thank you Vice President Faust and again it has been an honor working with you. At this time I would like to introduce the Secretary Past President Doyle Cox.

Secretary Past President Doyle Cox – Thank you Mr. President. It’s a pleasure to be here and welcome again to Ocean City. Real quick, they’re hollering back stage to hurry up. But anyway. My report iss on page 37. If you get a chance read it. Nothing else to say. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I would like to introduce Treasurer Ron Siarnicki.

Treasurer Ron Siarnicki – Thank you Mr. President. Well hello everybody, welcome to Ocean City. I know you’ve heard that from a bunch of people including the Mayor. I’ve got a very quick treasure’s report. I am happy to say that our financial revue done
by the accounting firm of Fike, Connor and Associates has been completed. It was presented to the Executive Committee yesterday, no findings what so ever so we’re rolling along very well with our financial aspects. I have to thank the entire financial team. They work all year long to make sure that our fiscal affairs are in order and that we address any concerns or issues relative to the long term financial aspects of this association. There is a formal report, it’s in the program book on page I think 39, but I’m just glad to see everybody and say hello. I’m going to take a second and say as far as the convention, switch hats here real quick. I’m glad to see all of you here for that. We have what we think about 14,000 people in Ocean City this week involved in the fire service in some way. That includes members, family and friends. The Mayor, of course, is very happy when we bring 14,000 people to the beach. We did compete with the air show yesterday and Saturday but we put some pieces in place to help address the parking which is always a big concern. I’m not going to be able to do much with traffic control but that’s just part of a resort town. Be cognoscente of the fences that have been put up on Coastal Highway. There are some sections that have them and some that don’t. The concern is as the kids shoot across the highway if there’s a fence they’re not going to get across and you as a driver are going to be okay but when that changes and there is none you need to get in that habit of being cautious. I had that happen to me driving the fire trucks in, two kids at the 90th Street Bridge, they were texting, heads down in their phones, walked right off the curb, right into traffic and were missed by just inches. And they looked at us like it was our fault. But anyway, that’s another story. Hands on training is going well in Snow Hill and all of our educational conferences and sessions are going on. We’re being told that we’re close to 1,000 students registered this year which is a great piece for educational training. And I want to thank the entire convention committee. These people have been working for two days to bring this conference and convention to you. All this work is done by Maryland Volunteers. That’s the way it’s supposed to be. Thank you for your time today.

President Mark Bilger – at this time I would like to introduce Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke. He’s going to talk to us about the big raffle.

Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke – Good morning everyone, my report begins on page 39 which is also included in the financial team report. I would like to report that all member companies, associate members and all sustaining members have paid their 2018 dues with just one exception. That’s the International Association of Arson Investigators and I have talked to Fire Marshal Geraci he will be contacting them so they can get their dues paid for shortly. I would like to thank my assistant financial secretary Bobbie Aaron for all her hard work in maintaining the inventory of the MSFA assets. I would also like to thank the rest of the financial team for all of their assistance and their support throughout the year. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – Mitch and his committee come every year to Ocean City and never get to see the convention or the beach. Thank you again for all your hard work
and dedication, at this time I would like to introduce to you Chaplain John Long for his remarks.

Chaplain John Long – My report’s on page 41 of the convention book. Folks if you did not have a member recognized last night at the memorial service I can’t read minds. If you have a member pass please submit them. Look at MSFA website and there is a memorial page on there and if you don’t see your member listed that means I don’t have their name and I can’t recognize them. So as soon as you get home, look at it and if you don’t see your member on there who died this year or last year get it in to me right away. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – Now I bring forward the Chairman of the Trustees C Danny Carpenter.

Chairman Carpenter – Thank you Mr. President, Officers, past Presidents, delegates and guests of the 126th annual convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This year the trustees report is in the book, but I’d like to highlight a few things. This year the trustees paid benefits to 31 widows, 2 dependent children, we had 2 dependent children in college education and we had 3 line of duty injuries that we paid and unfortunately had 1 line of duty death. So please keep the family of Christopher Charles Pryor in your thoughts and prayers. This past year the trustees were able to increase the benefits for the widows from $750.00 to $800.00 dollars, for dependent children from $650.00 to $700.00 dollars Line of duty death benefits remain the same at $11,000.00 dollars, line of duty injuries from $600.00, $750.00 dollars to $800.00 and the dependent child’s education to $6000.00 dollars. Please visit the MSFA website and look under Board of Trustees all the information is there, the forms, everything you need to fill out for a claim. People if you don’t fill out for the claim and get the paperwork to the trustees we cannot act on this. This is one of the problems that the Trustees have, and the trustees care about this stuff and we’ve contacted people but they still, the fire department has to make the initial filling out these claims, this paperwork and get it to one of the Trustees, so please do that. And lastly I’d like to thank Trustee Vice Chairman Doug Alexander, Secretary Jeff Thompson, Trustee Ben Kurtz and Terry Thompson Past President for all their help and support. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I would like to introduce Executive Director Skip Mahan for his report and comments.

Executive Director Skip Mahan – Thank you Mr President. My report has been filed electronically, it’s in your program book, and however I’m not going to bother to read the whole thing. But I do want to bring up something of importance to the companies that signed in there and that’s for those that are applying for scholarship awards or college credit awards, the winter and spring semester 2018 semester application period will start July 1st through August 1st so make sure that you get your paperwork into Tyler Patton and we will see what we can do for you. Back under President Roth’s
term he had a leadership conference where we all came together, the Executive Committee and the Officers came together and went away and decided what we could do better for the MSFA and the 30,000 some firefighters and 350 some fire stations throughout the state of Maryland. We came up with 14 items that we really thought that we needed to look at and what we did was we took those items and prioritized them. And what we found is that we had 50 almost 60 committees reporting on these weekends at the Executive Committee Meetings and those meetings went on forever. So President Roth asked if I would take over this position and get it started. I said yes, I would get it started, it’s been almost 4 years now but what I did was I looked at the incident command structure which we’re all familiar with within the fire service and I put those committees into certain categories known as operations, planning, logistics and administration. And what I did was appoint a chairman and a branch manager over each of those 5 sections. And our meetings now we’re have changed to a day meeting instead of 2 days and nights and it’s been a lot more efficient and the other information that needs to go back and forth between the committees is being done because the branch managers are responsible for making sure that if the safety committee, if you will, has anything that the training committee needs to know, that’s where it goes. We’ve also been able to produce quite a few scholarships through the SAFER grant and send people to some good training throughout the last 3 years because of SAFER. SAFER will end this coming September unless we decide to ask for an extension, but we have put out a lot of money for educational processes. I’d like to just recognize several committees, just by name that have really done a great job throughout the last 2-3 years. That’s the Safety Committee, Training Committee, Recruiting, Retention, Legislative Committee and budget they are just, just done a wonderful job for the MSFA. Finance Committee, Cancer Committee, Ways and Means Committee, and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Committee which you’ll have a report right after me. I’ve worked for 3 different Presidents and 3 different Executive Chairs over this term and I just can’t thank those individuals enough. President Roth and Executive Chair Jim Seavey, President Davis and his Executive Chair Doug Simpkins, and President Bilger and his Executive Chair Charlie Simpson. They’ve been very, they’ve been outstanding and cooperative and have made a real team effort to make this better. I’m humbled to have had this opportunity and I appreciate being able to serve this great association and thank the entire membership for your kindness and support throughout the year but I feel very confident that Kate will continue this process on and enhance it throughout the next year to come. Have a great convention and thank you very much.

**President Mark Bilger** – I’m being heckled by the past Presidents. Thank you. At this time I would like to bring the chairman of the VCAF committee up for his report.

**Chairman Joe Antoszewski** – Good morning. You will find the VCAF report on pages 99 and 100 in the program book. Short synopses: The Volunteer Company Assistance Trust Fund Committee continues to simplify the loan and grant application process. During fiscal year 2018 focusing on the goals and benefits provided by the fund
the committee met 4 times during the year to receive approve and process 13 loan applications totaling $6,756,159, and 6 grant applications totaling $618,237.62. The committee obtained MSFA Executive Committee and Maryland Board of Public Works approval for these loans and grants which guaranteed the companies funds for the company’s projects. Also in your packet that you received, there’s an MSFA volunteer questionnaire your answers will help President Blair and Executive Committee set priorities and goals. I want everyone to please pay attention to 1Hits VCAF loan program has been successful the last several years loaning $18,000,000.00 to member companies at 1% interest. Right now the fund is depleted and will be limited to lending by the ability of the program. It will be several years until the fund builds itself back up. Should the MSFA request the legislature to add more funds so the VCAF program can continue making more loans available and it says yes or no? The committee encourages everyone to check yes because it’s a vital avenue for companies to purchase apparatus and to improve their facilities. So in closing I would like to thank my committee, a very dedicated group of individuals that work very hard and this last year the total value of loans and grants totaled $7,374,396.62. Thank you and have a great convention.

President Mark Bilger – Chairman of Constitution and Bylaws

Constitution and Bylaws committee Chair – Good morning. We have one amendment proposed to the Constitution and Bylaws to be voted on. Question number 1 deals with committees. Article 5 remove from section 1 the sentence planning committee at least 5 member all to be appointed annually. That sentence will be stricken from the Bylaws and replaced with the following – Strategic planning steering committee standing members are the immediate past chair of the Executive Committee, President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Executive Committee Chairman, Vice Chairman, second Vice Chairman, the Treasurer, the budget Chairman, Secretary, the immediate Past President, and a non-voting Ex officio member the Executive Director. In connection with that the second half would amend article K committee duties section 16. Remove the planning committee shall in conjunction with the President and the Executive Committee develop short range goals and plans of the Association. Replace that with a new section 16 The Strategic Planning Steering Committee shall develop short and long range goals and plans of the Association. On behalf of the Executive Committee and the Officers we urge passage of this proposed amendment. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – At this time Past President Dave Lewis National Volunteer Fire Council

Past President Dave Lewis – Thank you Mr. President it’s certainly an honor to stand here before you today as one of the two Maryland Representatives, Maryland Directors to the National Volunteer Fire Academy. I do this with a little bit of sadness as I had a strong void this morning, Normally I’m standing here next to my friend, my partner, my ally, Jimmy Seavey. I ask that you think of Jimmy as he continues to heal through
his illness, cause I know he would more than anything to be standing here beside me today as we give the report to you for your National Volunteer Fire Council. So please think of Jimmy and we hope the best for him as he continues to work it out. Certainly bring you greetings from our Chairman Kevin Quinn and the entire staff of the National Volunteer Fire Council which represents the voice of the volunteers across the United States. Representing all 50 states we have 49 representatives in the council the only reason Hawaii is not represented is because there is not a Hawaii State Firemen’s Association, but there are volunteers in all 50 states. I certainly was delighted to see my friend and fellow director Juan Benia here today to give you his talk and he will be presenting again this afternoon in the training session as well as tomorrow in some of the cancer initiatives that we are working for. I’ve certainly had an opportunity such as Juan to go to other state conferences and build presentations and we do that regularly through the National Volunteer Fire Council so that you kinda know who we are and what we do for you on a day to day basis. Let me just talk about some of those initiatives. The very strong one, The Health and Safety Initiative- one of the key areas that we do, recognizing that as safety committee chairman Michael Cox talked this morning, health and safety is a serious concern. We need to be concerned with getting those physicals, taking care of our physical fitness as well as our mental fitness. Certainly cancer and suicide are some of the leading killers now of fire service across the country and we’re doing a lot of lead initiatives through the National Volunteer Fire Council in both of those areas. Jimmy fights for us on a regular basis. Having the right to volunteer having gone through some of those turmoil’s personally he leads us. We also work hard with the FEMA and the folks with the grant assistance programs making sure, we just did last year, to make sure that those programs were reauthorized and we continue to fight for the money, we continue to fight for the priorities, we continue to look out for the volunteers that get, that look hard for the AFG, the SAFER, the fire prevention safety programs for grant funding to meet their needs. We also do a lot with training enhancements. Both on our online training portals as well as conference presentations such as you saw this morning with Director Benia. So I’ll make the final pitch as Jimmy and I do every year – WE would encourage you to sign up as an individual member of the National Volunteer Fire Council. What’s that give to you? It certainly helps you support the cause we depend on grants, corporate sponsorship and individual memberships to fund the activities of the Association and allows you access to some of the members only training efforts and some of the other program benefits that we have. Our $10,000.00 accidental death and disability membership policy, so for $15.00 you can become an individual membership of the National Volunteer Fire Council. And right now, at least probably for the next 3 months, until our MSFA SAFER runs out, MSFA will pick up half of that tab. I personally signed up every member of my fire company to become a member of the National Volunteer Fire Council cause I believe in that. State wide we’re only about 600 members, I’d like to see us grow stronger. I put up that challenge. So Alyssa Darrow from our NVFC staff is down at the NVFC booth that we share with MSFA recruitment and retention and I’d ask that you go down and talk to Alyssa and sign up there and if there is anything that
Jimmy and I can do for you behalf on a National level, with some of these National programs, speaking for the volunteers, speaking for the volunteers of Maryland please give us a call. Thank you Mr. President.

President Mark Bilger – At this time are there any other standing committees or special committees that need to report? Hearing none we’ll go into election of officers. I recognize President Dale Hill from the Washington County Volunteer Firemen’s Association.

President Washington County Firemen’s Association Dale Hill – Good morning. Thank you Mr. President, officers of the association, delegates, alternates and guests in attendance at our convention. My name is Dale Hill and I am the President of the Washington County Volunteer Fireman and Rescue Association and past President of the Funkstown Volunteer Fire Company. I am humbled and with great pride to be able to stand before this great association today to enter the name of Richard C Blair for the nomination as President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. At this time I would like to introduce Rick, his wife Roslyn, and his son Edwin and his family, Rick’s service career encompasses over 43 years of active service. Beginning in 1974 when he joined the Clear Spring Volunteer Fire Company and the Clear Spring Ambulance Club. He has held the positions of Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, President, Vice President, Director, Board member, and either chair or member of numerous committees. Rick also now serves as a station captain with the Western Enterprise Fire Company located in Hagerstown. Rick has served and still serves with many local, county, and State organizations, such as being the current treasures of the Washington County Volunteer Fire and rescue Association and has done an outstanding job while serving the past two years as a First and Second Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Rick has had the honor of being inducted into the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame and has received the Leslie B Thompson Memorial Award from the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association. With all of Rick’s duties over the past two years he has also traveled all across the State attending many events of our member companies. With his presence at meetings, banquets, conventions, celebrations and memorial services. During the last 2 years Rick has traveled more than 24,000 miles across the State of Maryland. Wherever Rick has gone or whatever function that he has attended he always listened to the issues and concerns of their members. Everything Rick has been involved with in his career has been for the benefit of the fire-rescue and EMS services for our State or for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. He has a true commitment and dedication to the safety of our responders and to a decrease in the loss of life and property to the citizens of the State of Maryland. He has spent countless hours over the years lobbying for first responders with regards to benefits and incentives and for the safety of responders on the local level and in Annapolis. Rick has been very instrumental in assisting with past legislation that increased the income tax subtraction amounts to benefit all members. Certainly with his past history and commitment to the fire, rescue and EMS community it is only with certainty that this
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will continue as he serves as President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Rick is a person that certainly exemplifies the commitment, knowledge, experience, integrity and devotion to serve as the next President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I have watched Rick devote countless hours and effort to do whatever it takes to complete an assignment or to get the job done. Nothing is too big of a task to take on and go after. If it will benefit our members and our member companies. Ladies and gentlemen it is truly an honor and a privilege to stand before you today to put forth the nomination of my good friend and associate who I have learned many things from Mr. Richard C Blair for the office of President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I would like to introduce Anna Dobbins from Western Enterprise Fire Company for the second to the motion.

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President Mark Bilger – Are there any other nominations for, Oh ok, strike up the band let’s get going. Any other nominations for the office of President? Any other nominations for the office of President? I need a motion to close nominations. Past President Johnie Roth made the motion, seconded by Past President Roger Powell to close nominations for President. At this time I call to the podium Past President Steve Cox. Oh we need to vote on the motion. All those in favor say Aye, all those opposed. Thank you very much.

Past President Steve Cox – Thank you Mr. President. Good morning. My name is Stephan Cox and I am an honorary member of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company. On behalf of the officers and members of the Fire Company I’d like to nominate our Past President, Michael Faust for the office of First Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Mike is a life member of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company with over 30 years of service. He has held both suppression and administrative offices and is a fourth generation firefighter. Within the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, he has served on numerous committees including: Recruitment and Retention, Safety Co-Chair, Marketing, SAFR Grant, and Executive Committee. He held the Office of Assistant Financial Secretary and most recently Second Vice President. Mike has travelled throughout State attending Association meetings and functions learning the needs of our members. He has participated in MSFA functions and committee meetings to help strengthen our Association. It is an honor and privilege for me to
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nominate Michael Faust for the Office of First Vice President of this great Association.


Strike up the band!

President Mark Bilger – Are there any other nominations for the office of First Vice President? Are there any other nominations for the office of First Vice President? Motion made by Ron Watkins seconded by Doug Simpkins nominations be closed. All in favor say Aye, all opposed nay. At this time I’d like to bring committee member Tim Dayton to the podium.

Tim Dayton – Thank You Mr. President. Past President Knippenburg would you please join me? Okay. Good morning - Officers, Delegates and members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. My name is Tim Dayton, Fire Chief of the Potomac Fire Co in Allegany County along with being a member of your Executive Committee. Today it is my honor as well as PP Robert Knippenburg, to stand before you and offer the nomination of Richard “Dick” Devore for the office of 2nd Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I have known Dick for 30+ years and have served with him on numerous boards and committees throughout those years. Dick has not only serviced his community as a Fire Chief for many years but he is currently serving as their president. Dick has also served the Allegany Garrett Fire and Rescue Association as their President for 2 terms, having just finished his second term earlier
this month. Dick has also been a member of the Maryland State Firemen’s Assoc. VCAF Committee representing the two far western counties. Dick’s service to the fire service of this great State does not only lie in his hours as a volunteer but in his hours, and sometime long days, as the Director of Public Safety for Allegany County. Having his skills and leadership as a director will be nothing but a plus for this Association. I am quite confident that his leadership skills and commitment to the Volunteers will help to serve us all. I know that he has a passion to help preserve the members that we have through educating the fire service of the health and mental issues we all face each and every day. I know he believes as many of us do, we must watch and protect each other. And this is something that must happen each and every day we are out protecting the citizen of this State. With his passion and the help of each one of us, we can make a huge difference in the way that we take care of our own. Dick has engaged a few of the younger firefighters in our area to become part of the Allegany Garrett Assoc. This has been a big plus for our Assoc. in many ways. I know that he wants to continue this at the state level. The youth are our future and we must do everything we can to educate and protect them so they can take over and move us forward. These young men and women are the future of the fire service and we must give them the tools and knowledge to continue and to do their job safely. I not only consider Dick a very close friend but I consider him a true brother in this great family we call the Fire Service of Maryland. I have no doubt that he will service the fire service of Maryland with pride and honor and move this Association forward over the next few years. With his passion for the health and safety of the fire service and his daily leadership skills along with his 30+ years as a volunteer firefighter and officer we could not ask for a better person to lead this great organization into the future. Ladies and Gentlemen I humbly request your support once again, as well as your vote for the next 2nd Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association my great friend and brother Richard “Dick” Devore.

Now I would like to ask Past President Robert Knippenburg to come forward to second this nomination along with reading a list of others that have pledged their support in this nomination. Thank you and have a great convention, Past President Knippenburg.

Past President Knippenburg – Good morning, it’s a pleasure to be here. Robert Knippenburg Midland Fire Company, placing my second for nomination of Richard DeVore for second Vice President MSFA. I’d like the following individuals to please come forward and join us on stage.

- Doyle Cox PP and Secretary MSFA
- Steven Cox PP
- Fred Cross PP
- Robert Cumberland PP
- Michael Davis PP
- John Denver PP
- Carl B Edelin Jr. PP
- Phillip Hurlock PP
- Bobby Jacobs PP
- David Keller III PP
- David Lewis PP
- Tom Mattingly PP
- Jackie Olson PP
- Roger Powell PP
- Joe Robison PP
- Johnie Roth Jr. PP
- Roger Steger Sr. PP
- Paul Sterling Jr. PP
- Terry Thompson PP
- Gene Worthington PP
- Frank Underwood PP
- Danny Davis PP
- Charlie Simpson Chairman of the Executive Committee
- Chuck Walker Executive

**President Mark Bilger** – Let’s hear it for the band! Are there any other nominations for the office of second Vice President? Are there any other nominations for office of second Vice President? Motion made by Past President Carl Edelin and seconded by Past President Roger Powell. At this time I call Past President Danny Vote. All in favor aye, all opposed nay. Now I bring Past President Danny Davis to the podium.

**Past President Danny Davis** – I know I’m between you guys and lunch so I’ll keep this short and sweet. President Bilger, Officers, Delegates, and guests it is a great pleasure for me to place in nomination Doyle E. Cox for the office of Secretary Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Doyle certainly needs no introduction as he has faithfully served as President of this Association. He currently serves as Secretary. Doyle is a friend who I believe is very capable to serve as Secretary. I am asking you to join with me in supporting and electing Doyle Cox for the office of Secretary Maryland Firemen’s Association. John this is being a pain in the ankle.

**Assistant Secretary Shirley Copado** – Good Morning ladies and gentleman my name
is Shirley Copado and I would like to second the nomination for Doyle Cox for Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Doyle took this office in 2012 and I took Assistant in 2012 so I’ve been with him all the way and he has done one fantastic job.

President Mark Bilger – Are there any other nominations for office of Secretary? Are there any other nominations for office of Secretary? Motion made by Danny Davis and seconded by Roger Powell. All those in favor, all opposed. I bring to the podium Chief Ron Siarnicki.

Chief Ron Siarnicki – Wow. Hello again. It gives me great pleasure to put forward the nomination of Mitch Vocke for MSFA Financial Secretary. So to all of the Officers, Past Presidents, delegates and alternates of the 126th Convention and Conference, it is an honor to stand before you this morning and submit the name of Mitch Vocke from the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company for the position of Financial Secretary for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Mitch has been serving in this position for over 6 years and he and I are on a two year rotational cycle for serving in our positions collectively. And of course it’s kinda entertaining cause each year he nominates me and I nominate him and we just go round and round. It is a requirement that we do run, and I guess sometimes offer our services to do this job. Sometimes we deserve a little praise for that but that’s okay. Mitch has held many leadership and managerial positions within his individual company, his county association and within the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. In all of those roles, he has demonstrated excellent qualities to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the position he served as. Since the formation of the MSFA Finance Team, Mitch has taken a very active role in carrying out the fiduciary responsibilities entrusted to him and has been a valuable asset to our team. I have personally been very pleased to have been a member of that same team and to have the opportunity to work with Mitch on various financial matters of this organization. We talk weekly, we make sure things are taken care of, trying to make sure your finances are in proper order and that everything is taken care of as best we possibly can. Having said all of this, I ask that you lend you support to Mitch and re-elect him to the position of Financial Secretary for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Thank you.

Past President Steve Cox – Good morning again, my name is Stephan Cox and I am honored to second the nomination of Mitch Vocke for the Office of Financial Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Chief Vocke has held numerous Offices within the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire including Fire Chief over his forty plus years. He has served as the MSFA’s Financial Secretary for the last six years. This is kinda the triple crown of Committee Chair, Budget Committee Chair and the Financial Secretary and none of us are young fillys. Anyhow. That’s right, run the distance. As Financial Secretary, Mitch has worked as part of the Financial Team along with the Treasurer and Budget Chair to ensure MSFA’s financial stability. It is an honor and privilege for me to stand and second the nomination of my good friend Mitch Vocke for the Office of Financial Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Thank you.
President Mark Bilger – Do I hear any other nominations for the office of Financial Secretary? Any other nominations for the office of Financial Secretary? Motion by Ron Watkins second by Past President Johnie Roth all in favor of the motion say aye, all opposed. Thank you very much. I now bring to the podium Chief Jay Olson for his comments

Chief Olson – Good morning my name is Jay Olson I'm the Chief at Ferndale Fire Company. Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company takes great pride in submitting the name of Reverend John F Long Jr. for the office of Chief Chaplain to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. John has held this office since being elected in 2005 and has performed the duties associated with the office to the best of his abilities. As a certified pump operator John is dedicated to staffing our station every Thursday night and Friday during the day. It is with great pride that the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company nominates Reverend John F Long Jr. to the office of Chief Chaplain. I’d like to introduce retired Battalion Chief Joe Angeloff. Chief Angeloff – Ah Joe Angeloff Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company. We consider it a pleasure and a privilege to second the nomination.

President Mark Bilger – Do we have any other nominations for the office of Chaplain? Any other nominations for the office of Chaplain? Make a motion that they be closed by Ron Watkins, seconded Past President Johnie Roth. All in favor say aye, all opposed. Thank you very much. I now bring to the podium the most distinguished Past President Phillip Hurlock.

Past President Phillip Hurlock – Good morning. Officers, Past Presidents, members and distinguished guests of the 126th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I stand before you this morning to nominate Jeff Thompson of the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company for the office of Trustee of this great Association. Jeff Thompson is truly what the Maryland fire, EMS and rescue service is all about. Over the many years of his distinguished and outstanding career he has demonstrated his leadership skills in every capacities within this Association as well as having direct contact with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Throughout his career in the volunteer service Jeff has served with distinction and has set an example of reliability, honesty and integrity which are qualities that are so needed in our society today. Whatever the task or responsibility is needed to complete, you can depend on getting 100% from Jeff. His values, determination, leadership, commitment and dedication are outstanding trademarks of Jeff and have given him the recognition that he truly deserves and earns. The Board of Trustees over the past several years have taken a pro-active position in the handling of claims and working with the families of our deceased or injured emergency services personnel. In providing them with benefits in an efficient manor this goal has been achieved under the leadership of Chairman Dan Carpenter with the support and assistance of Vice Chairman Doug Alexander and trustees Ben Kurtz and Terry Thompson and also secretary/treasurer
Jeff Thompson’s cooperation is extremely critical and important to the operation of this association. Jeff Thompson will be completing his 5 years as Trustee, out of 3 of these years he has served as secretary/treasurer and I would ask for your support and vote in electing him to another 5 year term. Thank you. Good Morning. Bill Hildebrand a member of the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company and Chairman of the MSFA MEMA Fire Service Personnel Group. It is my honor and pleasure to second the nomination of a young man who I’ve had the pleasure to watch develop in the fire service, Jeff Thompson, for Trustee. The following also join me in seconding his nomination: Past Presidents: Bob Cumberland, Joe Robison, Gene Worthington, Steve Cox, Terry Thompson, Paul Sterling, Roger Steger, Frank Underwood, Doyle Cox, David Keller, Johnie Roth, Roger Powell. Also President Mark Bilger, First Vice President Rick Blair, Second Vice President Mike Faust. Treasurer Ron Siarnicki, Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke, Trustees C “Danny” Carpenter, Doug Alexander, Ben Kurtz, Executive Committee members: Tim Dayton, Rick Hemphill, Richard Smith, the Eastern Shore Association and the Kent/Queen Anne Volunteer Firemen’s Association.

President Mark Bilger – Are there any other nominations for the office of trustee? Are there any other nominations for the office of trustee? Motion to close nominations made by Ron Watkins Past President Johnie Roth all in favor, all opposed. At this time we need to vote on where to hold the 2023 Convention Chief Roger Steger.

Chief Roger Steger – I was taking bids before I came up here and the only one I came up with was Berlin as the coolest little town in America. So they said they don’t have enough room for the convention so okay. On behalf of the town of Ocean City Maryland City Council and Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company I would like to make a motion to hold the 2023 Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association in Ocean City Maryland. Thank you. We need a second Johnie Roth.

President Mark Bilger – Any other recommendations for a location of the Convention? Hearing none all in favor say aye, all opposed. Thank you very much. At this time we’re gonna read the judges for the election: Dale Hill for Richard Blair, Steve Cox, Robert Blackiston, and William Faust III; for Dick DeVore we have Tim Dayton and Jonathan Dayton. Doyle Cox. For Mitch Vocke, Rusty Leftwich and Harry Tracey. For Jeff Thompson it’s gonna be Edward Josiah and Donald Hodges. Yes sir? Past President Roger Powell Pikesville makes the motion second by Ron Watkins from Damascus. All in favor? All opposed? Richard Brooks at this time.

Richard Brooks – Thank you. Good morning everyone. An announcement to you from the Saint Florian 911 Masonic Lodge Freemasons Organization of America, they are providing the Maryland Masons safety ID program in room 211. This program is designed to securely identify your child in case they are ever lost or missing. This is a free program that is tied to the Maryland chip child identification program and the National center for Missing and Exploited Children and Amber Alert. If you would like to participate please stop in and see what the program is all about. Another service
provided by the MSFA and our Volunteer Fire Service members they’re right next to the safe kids program in room 211.

**President Mark Bilger** – General announcements: Tonight we have from 1430 to 1700 education and training seminars in convention center, 1800 hours, bag bingo convention center Bayfront ballroom doors open at 1700 or five o'clock. Tonight starting at six thirty Monday night family event at the Jolly Rogers Amusement Park and voting starts tomorrow morning at eight o'clock. Don’t forget to go downstairs and visit the exhibitors while you’re here. They help pay for your convention. At this time I recognize Reverend Charles Barnhart.

**Reverend Barnhart** – Please rise for the benediction. Let us be in an attitude of prayer. Gracious God we give you thanks the morning activities here and bringing us together again to convention here in Ocean City. We ask you to be with those who are nominated for offices, and we ask your blessing to be upon those who are serving now to make our association strong in this great state. And now may the blessings of all mighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever more. Amen.

**President Mark Bilger** – At this time I declare the first session closed. We will report back at twelve forty-five. Enjoy your lunch.
President Mark Bilger: I call to order Session 2 of the 126th Annual Conference and Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. At this time I call PP Terry Thompson for the MEMA report.

Past President Terry Thompson—Executive Director Strickland who is in another meeting. MEMA is the agency of the State with the primary responsibility and authority of emergency preparedness policy, coordination, hazard mitigation and incident response. This include supporting local governments as requested and coordinating assistance with other State agencies and Federal agencies. In order to meet our responsibilities and provide efficient coordination the agency organized into four major sections under the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director. They are the Chief of Staff and the regional programs, the administration, operation, risk reduction and strategies. Two of our priorities are consequence management and disaster risk reduction. The past few months, the spring and now going into the summer have been very busy for a number of different reasons. We had a recruit event on Wednesday April 25th and as a precautionary measure FEMA evacuated our headquarters after the results of an environmental inspection of the building. MEMA remained out of the building for over three weeks and worked through our MOU system and partners to continue our mission seamlessly at back up facilities. I’d like to thank Harford County and County Executive Glassman for allowing us to be there. On May 15th to the 19th Washington, Fredrick County received significant rainfall over the course of approximately a week causing flooding and significant damage to residents, businesses and infrastructure. Governor Hogan recently submitted a major disaster declaration request there. He also has recently received a small business authority declaration on May 27th again for Howard County, Ellicott City, Baltimore County and the City of Baltimore were among the other areas that received significant rainfall and had flash flooding. Again Ellicott City was seriously impacted along with the Catonsville area and Baltimore County and the western areas of Baltimore City. Local disaster recovery centers were stood up and supported by the State. Damage assessments and validation continue and we anticipate a Federal resource being requested shortly. MEMA was actively coordinating recovery for both flooding events through the one step recovery operations group. Recently the SRO held a multi-jurisdictional workshop with the areas that were affected, which was very successful.

New and upcoming things. One is a complex coordinated terrorist act grant. MEMA was awarded over two million dollars in grant funding to prepare for complex coordinated terrorist attacks. They will conduct preparedness planning, training and exercise activities using these funds. We recently hired a program manager to oversee
that project. As his mitigation assistants we’re anticipating some opportunities for the local jurisdictions to apply to MEMA for some funds that we hope will become available for the jurisdictions to develop risk reduction and mitigation projects. They will begin applying for those grants this fall and winter. The new thing is Know Your Zone Hurricane Evacuation and Outreach Planning. MEMA along with local emergency managers and the US Army Corp of Engineers have recently completed a hurricane evacuation study across the State. As part of its study, evacuation zone maps were drawn. The Know Your Zone campaign goal is for all Marylanders who live, work or vacation in or near an evacuation zone they know which one they are close to. That way evacuation will be more efficient if and when an official order is given. We developed an application and a website for residents that they can plug in your address and check to see what evacuation zone they’re in. I’d like to thank the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for their partnership for the past year and thank you and I hope you have a good conference and convention.

**President Mark Bilger** – Thank you Past President Thompson. On behalf of the Officers and members of the MSFA we have a special recognition for your agency as well as a gift bag and a mug. Next we have Chris Robertson from the Department of Natural Resources.

**Chris Robertson** – President Bilger, Officers, Past Presidents, delegates, members and guests. I bring greetings on behalf of the State Fire Supervisor. Monte Mitchell was unable to make it today, he’s attending the Northeast Forest Fire Supervisors meeting this week in Illinois. I’m glad to be with you this afternoon to give you an update on the activities of the Maryland Forest Service. During 2017 the Maryland Forest Service responded to 107 wildfires that burned over 2175 acres. This included four large wildfires greater than 100 acres. Leading causes of wildfires in Maryland continue to be debris burning and arson. Also in 2017 the agency and partners conducted 56 prescribed burns for hazardous fuel reduction on 1495 acres. So far for 2018 the agency responded to 72 wildfires burning 350 acres. Maryland continued to support the mobilization of resources nationally. Last year the agency dispatched two type six wildland fire engines. They were on assignment in Montana from July through September rotating a total of six engine crews. Also mobilized were twenty two person type two initial attack fire crews on incidents in California, Colorado and South Dakota. Fifteen additional individual single resources assisted on incidents in Montana, Oregon, West Virginia, Utah and Wyoming. Maryland Forest Service trained and red carded over 100 personnel for deployment in 2017. The 2017 Volunteer Assistance grants were awarded to 45 Volunteer fire departments in 17 Counties. Grant reimbursement payments of $90,843.00 were issued to 43 departments that completed their approved grant projects. All projects included a minimum of 50/50 match. The total project cost in 2017 was $200,038.00. Six additional fire departments received fire rakes and bladder bags for their brush units. The 2018 Volunteer Fire Assistance grant application period is currently open and accepting applications. Maximum grant award is $3000.00 with $6000.00 in qualifying expenses. Applications are available online or by contacting the fire staff and we also have some down at our booth downstairs. Application deadline is July 16th. Gran awards will be announced by the end of September.
fire companies are encouraged to apply. The DoD Federal Fire Property program and Federal Excess Property Programs continue to support equipment needs to the fire departments Statewide. In 2017 the program processed 126 transfer orders and acquired nearly $2,000,000.00 in equipment for the State of Maryland. All property is acquired at no cost to the agency for use by the Maryland Forest Service and Volunteer Fire Departments. Equipment acquisitions include items such as two and a half ton trucks, pickups, vans, SUVs, UTVs, dump trucks, generators, office furniture and many other miscellaneous items. Departments can submit a google request form to request equipment if it is interested in acquiring. The agency is an aging fleet but is making investments into improving our wildfire suppression equipment. The fiscal year 18 fleet replacement includes 4 type six engines and 2 type 7 engines and 4 pickup trucks. The new brush units are being placed in service in Allegheny, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Garrett and Wicomico Counties. Additionally 2 new John Deere 650K fire dozers are expected to be delivered in July to replace the aging equipment in the eastern and southern regions. Our workforce is experiencing a number of retirements and the trend is expected to continue over the next several years. Fortunately, the department is receiving approval to fill the positions. For the fire staff Randy Camp was recently promoted as the Fire Manager for the western portion of the State. Forrest Rangers have also been recently filled in the Carol, Charles and Montgomery Counties. In early June, for the first time, Maryland hosted the Mid-Atlantic Quality Fire Training Academy at Garrett College in McHenry. This was the 11th Academy sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Fire Compact in the U.S Forest Service. The academy provided 14 quality fire training courses to 180 students during the week, to refresh and enhance qualifications of firefighters in attendance. Finally I would like to say thank you to the leadership of the Presidents, Officers and the member of companies of the MSFA that work with the Maryland Forest Service on a regular basis. You, as volunteers, are essential to helping us with our mission on wildfire suppression and prevention. Please stop by our booth and see the ways that our agency can assist your department. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – On behalf of the MSFA we have a bag for you and a mug. Now I would like to introduce Alex Cardella from MCAC.

Alex Cardella – Afternoon everyone. My name is Alex Cardella. I’m an intelligence analyst for the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center. Just wanted to thank President Bilger, members of the Executive Board and members of the MSFA for allowing me to speak today. So, as I mentioned I’m the intelligence analyst for fire and EMS for the State. The Maryland Coordination Analysis Center is basically a Federal task force of State, Local and Federal law enforcement and homeland security professionals and our job is to make sure that you all have the homeland security and terrorism information that you need to do your jobs and to do them safely. You’ll hear tomorrow there’s more of a push for fire and EMS to get involved in active assailant response, so we recognize that you all are being asked to take on more and more responsibilities in this realm. So part of my job is to make sure that you have the information that you need to make informed decisions when responding to those types of incidents. I’ll keep it really brief here, but the one, I’ll make a couple quick plugs for some programs that we have going on. We have the fusion liaison
officer program, it’s an 8 hour training block where we bring in members of the Federal
Bureau of Investigations, Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Department of Homeland
Security and some other experts to kind of give you an understanding of the terrorism
environment looks like now. To give you an understanding of how terrorism cases are
investigated and to give you some information on suspicious activities that we would
like you to report to us. You drive down the highways in Maryland, you see the sign
“See something, say something 1-800-492-TIPS” that’s our office. So if there’s any
interest in those programs please feel free to reach out to me. President Bilger has my
information as does Past President Lewis. Thank you for your time.

President Mark Bilger – Thank you Alex. Again on behalf of the officers and members
of the MSFA we have a convention bag and mug for you. It’s with great pleasure that
I stand before you to introduce Mr. Clay Stamp. Mr. Stamp is the Senior Emergency
Management Advisor to Governor Larry Hogan and the chair of the Governor’s
Emergency Management Advisory Council. Mr. Stamp currently serves as the
Executive Director of the opioid operation command center working with emergency
management system to effectively and efficiently coordinate statewide efforts in
combating the heroin and opioid crisis in Maryland. Mr. Stamp is also the Director
of Talbot County Department of Emergency Services and has extensive experience
working in disasters including the World Trade Center attacks, Hurricane Katrina and
the civil unrest in Baltimore City. Clay came up through the ranks at Ocean City as a
young paramedic/firefighter, he became first Emergency Management Director and
eventually Director of Emergency Services where he shepherded the development
of many cutting-edge services. Additionally Clay is one of us. A Maryland volunteer,
Maryland’s best. He began as a cadet with the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company
and during his service as a firefighter he supported the work of the MSFA by serving
on the EMS committee. He is currently a life member of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire
Company, and an honorary member of the Oxford Fire Department in Talbot County.
Mr. Clay Stamp.

Clay Stamp – Good afternoon, how’s everybody today? Good, good. Certainly my
privilege to be here today because truly I am one of you. I’m a member of the volunteer
fire service family in Maryland. I’m very proud of it. So the presentation I’m gonna give
to you today is a difficult presentation. It’s a presentation that you know we need to
take seriously and certainly the Governor of Maryland has taken it seriously. For those
of you who know me, I’m the longest serving Emergency Manager in the State of
Maryland. I’m in my hometown of Ocean City, Maryland right now and so I’ve had a
great career learning to be a student of the National Response framework. The
Governor, when he ran for office, he toured the State of Maryland from all the way out
in Western Maryland, Southern Maryland, the Eastern Shore and what he heard from
everybody is you’ve got to do something about this crisis. It’s ripping families apart
and is killing Marylanders. And so you know he got involved in the process to try to
combat this opioid crisis. All right, let me get my slides together here. So first thing I
want to talk about is the impact of this crisis. We all know that way too many people
are dying. Okay, so we are saying somewhere between 42 and 45 people a day that
are dying in the United States of America. About 6 a day in Maryland and you know, I've been involved now for 16 months working for the Governor to attack this crisis. But 16 months in, I get up in the morning and I pinch myself and I asked myself a question that I'll ask you to consider...... How can 64,000 Americans die in the United States of America in 2016 and we as a Nation aren't standing at the tallest building shouting from the top of our lungs that we've got to do something about this? Sixty-four thousand people in 2016 and we're gonna probably see seventy thousand in 2017 when those numbers are finally released. So what, so what's killing these individuals? So you've heard the story. Largely this was a prescriber based crisis initially, pharma created a fifth vital sign- blood pressure, pulse, respirations, temperature and pain score. They launched a multi-million dollar marketing campaign to get that well entrenched and made it part of the regulatory framework to make sure we address pain and they marketed a drug that they said was not addictive. But it was addictive. And if you look at the data and it's hard to see from where you are today, you'll see that in 2012 the crisis began to escalate. People began getting hooked on prescribed opioids such as oxycodone, OxyContin. As you look at this slide you see that increasing in 2015 into 2016. Something happened in Maryland last year that's interesting. This crisis is evolving. It's evolving from a prescriber based epidemic or crisis to an illicit based drug epidemic or crisis. So you'll see a slide in a moment but you'll see that the physicians are now not prescribing as many opioids, which is good. We've seen about a 14% reduction in the number of prescribed opioids being written but you'll see also, if something happened to 2016 and if you could see this, if you could see these lines clearer, and I apologize that you can't, you'll see that the number of individuals that were dying from prescribed opioids began to decrease. That's a good thing. That's means we are making a difference. The prescribers are listening to us. We're getting the message out there. Fewer people are dying from prescribed opioids. The second thing you'll see is that heroin is decreasing. Deaths related to heroin are decreasing. What you also would see is deaths related to cocaine are increasing in conjunction with over 70% of our deaths last year were from illicit fentanyl. This is a thin synthetic chemical that is largely made internationally from China and is shipped into the United States of America 2 ways. One direct through our US Mail service, through transactions on the Internet in the dark web and secondly through an unholy relationship with the Mexican cartel who are using traditional heroin routes and flooding this poison into our streets. So you'll see in this slide that we are getting, making headway with the prescribers and we've instituted processes by which we're encouraging physicians to prescribe fewer opioids and to look at alternatives because of the addictive nature. Now there are 2 caveats that we talk to physicians about that we need to keep front and center with them. We don't want the pendulum to swing too far the other way and have individuals that truly have pain that can't get pain medicine and secondly we don't want people that are managing their addiction through prescribed opioids to be cut off and thrown into the most dangerous illicit drug market that's out there right now. We want to try to get them into treatment. So this slide depicts the difference between heroin in 2015/16. You'll see we made some headway on the heroin side, but you'll see on the
other slide how fentanyl is blown up. And these are the fatalities by jurisdiction in Maryland. You’ll see the metro core down in Southern Maryland been largely impacted by the fatalities with fentanyl, but in general all of Maryland is being affected. The other thing that we deal with that we watch very closely are non-fatal overdoses and I’m preaching to the choir talking to you because you’re answering the 911 calls. You’re exhausted, going out there time and time and time and time again to resuscitate individuals from non-fatal overdoses. And I know it’s a challenge. So we had over 18,000 non-fatal overdoses last year in our forty-five different emergency departments across Maryland. We know there’s a higher propensity for these to re-overdose so we have instituted programs in our ER’s across Maryland, working with the Hospital Associations and came up with standard discharge protocols with include hooking them up with peer recovery coaches, discharging with naloxone and trying to have a hand a warm handoff the treatment for those that are interested. But understand, somebody with substance abuse disorder in general will relapse 5 times before they actually start making progress. So you’re gonna see those individuals again and again, but we, it’s very important that we institute these programs because these individuals are more, again, they have a higher propensity to re-overdose. So what are we doing about it? So, in Maryland where we’ve embraced the National response framework, you all know about that, a part of the National response framework is the incident command system. What does that mean? That means we have attached this opioid operational command center to MEMA because MEMA is one of the only organizations in Maryland that reaches across stovepipes of State Government, facilitates a high degree of coordination for crisis. That’s first. Second, it provides a neutral springboard for creative ideas from the private sector and others that can help us attack this crisis. We had 4 overarching goals and those 4 overarching goals are in essence to try to reduce the number of deaths and overdoses across Maryland. And we have. We have a 3-pronged strategy we’re using which is incredibly important. It’s important that we try to expand treatment, recovery, capacity. We know that the United States of America has not prioritized treatment for mental health and frankly healthy people have substance abuse disorder. As much as I would like to flip a switch and turn it on and have crisis response, impatient, outpatient, recovery, housing, you don’t flip a switch. And to those individuals that are being personally affected by this, it’s never gonna be fast enough, but I will tell you that we are making progress. Across the State we’ve changed rules and regulations for Medicaid that allows the lifting of a cap of 16 beds for residential treatment to as many as you can open and operate. And I could run down a list of things that are positive moves, but once again, it takes some time. We were moving quickly to expand treatment and recovery service for those in need. The second issue that we have to really keep in mind is enforcement. The difference between now and several years in the past during the crack epidemic, which we don’t want to repeat failed policies of the past, is we don’t need to take individuals that have substance abuse disorder and put them in jail and give them a criminal record so that when they come out they can’t get a job. We need to get them into treatment. We’ve convinced our law enforcement agencies through law enforcement assisted diversion
to try to get those individuals into treatment. And there’s a program, such as the one in Baltimore, called the lead program and several others around Maryland that we try to expand those programs across Maryland. But make no mistake, that the dealing of these poisons in our streets is a supply and demand business. It’s about the money. They don’t care about the people that are dying. It’s important that we use every effort that we can to coordinate, to try to disrupt and disorganize drug trafficking organizations that are flooding our streets. We need to get behind our law enforcement community, intelligence community and help them stem the tide, but listen to that work, stem the tide because the reality is the only way out of this is to interrupt the demand. Because the United States of America is a consumer nation, one thing we’re good at is we consume. We always meet demand in the Country, whether it’s good or bad, and if we want to get true success in this while we treat those that need treatment and we stem the tide through enforcement. Once we take the demand away, supply will disappear. And that’s why we need to get into our schools and regain momentum that we lost when we gave up the fight and said that “Just Say No” didn’t work. The DARE program didn’t work, the war on drugs didn’t work. We stopped teaching our children. Largely we stopped teaching our children about the dangers of drugs and it took a law in Maryland to be passed and the Governor signed it to reinstitute drug education from the third through the twelfth grade. They are our future. We have to draw a circle around our children and say you can’t have our kids. That’s the true answer of how we’re going to combat this. The Governor signed a declaration declaring a state of emergency. He did that to get everyone’s attention, to say this is a priority and I want all efforts toward it. He created this opioid operational command center, its committee, its emergency operations center. I don’t need to explain to you what that means because you all know what that means. It’s really critically important that we take real-time information we share that back and forth with our health officers and our emergency managers in the counties, in Baltimore City, across Maryland, who have established local coordinating bodies. These are our partners, these opioid operational, these opioid intervention teams are in each County. What I will say to you is the Governor told the health officers and the emergency managers to lead this effort and to pull that coordinated body together in each community. If you’re not at the table you need to engage them when you go home. Engage them, hold them accountable. We give them funding to try to make a difference in this crisis. This is just a makeup of who attends these meetings. I know it’s hard to see and I apologize for that. It really is hard to see up there isn’t it? So one of our tactics is called the **Swap and Shock**. The first thing we need to do is find out what’s working across Maryland and share it. And that is the first thing we did. We have programs that are working in Anne Arundel County with safe stations. People could come in at any time if they need help. We’ve launched art competitions in certain areas of Maryland and we’re using drug money, drug seizure money to give children scholarships for college. We have, we have all kinds of programs here that we need to share with other jurisdictions and we are, and other jurisdictions are adopting them. There’s some statewide initiatives that we’re behind and some of them include instituting this process in the hospital emergency
departments I talked about that same process in our correctional centers across Maryland and our clinicians offices across Maryland, We’ve instituted a recovery program in Montgomery County as a pilot to provide recovery services to high school kids that are suffering with addiction so they can continue to go to school and get their diploma while they are recovering. So what does this mean for the volunteer fire service? Look, you all are a big family. I’m a part of your family. In 1972, a long time ago, I came to a fork in a road. I can go left or I could go right and I chose the left road and I’m standing here in front of you today. I haven’t, believe me, I’ve made mistakes, but I stand here before you because I said when I left here and went to work for the Governor I was interviewed by the local paper and they wanted to know a little bit about my past. I said yeah, I was raised by wolves at the firehouse, and I didn’t let the pause go as long as I am today, but I let a little pause go by then said, they were giants of men. They taught me as a year old boy to shake a hand of a man and look in their eyes and to mean what you say and say what you mean and when you do something, do it right. Why is that important that I tell you about the fork in the road? A lot of my friends took the other road. They didn’t fare so well. Why am I talking about the fork in the road? Every one of us, especially children, have an innate desire to belong to something. We’re struggling as a volunteer fire service of Maryland and across the country to get members. Get your cadet programs up and running and get them the road so they can chose that fork. Because I can tell you what’s on the other road. There are gangs out there that will take our children and make them, make them feel like they belong. They’ll give them colors, they’ll give them tattoos, they’ll give them money and they’ll hijack their lives. You are in a position to make a difference, you did for me, let’s do it for the future. Look there’s four core principles I talked about if you want to talk about how to solve this crisis. Number one, there’s awful stigma associated with this, this is a socially divisive crisis. People have very strong feelings about how we should do, how we should handle or what we should do and what we should not do. But one thing I’ve done this whole year is I’ve met with the people that have been affected, had contacted the Governor, and I’ve listened to individuals. I’ve listened to siblings and one of the threads that I hear is please don’t let my loved one become a number. We have to keep a face on this, these are human beings. Human beings who have fallen into a trap and they need help. Families that don’t know what to do, they need people to wrap around them and engage them. We need to provide help for people that need help. We need to have empathy. Which one of us haven’t had challenges in our life? We need to focus our energy in this crisis more than any other crisis. We have to get behind prevention, enforcement and expanding treatment, recovery. You need all three. We need to use data wisely. We need to measure what works and what doesn’t work and finally we need to establish expectations. We didn’t get into this overnight and we’re not going to get off it overnight. But you know what? There’s probably no more important crisis facing the United States of America right now than this drug crisis. Some of the most creative and artistic individuals in the United States of America are more prone to addiction. And we have poisons coming from an international source flooding our streets and killing them. If we don’t deal with it aggressively and assertively right now,
President Mark Bilger – On behalf of the officers and members we have an official mug for you and a bag. Mr. Clay Stamp. At this time we have Mr. Lyn Gilroy to give report on MFRITECH.

Mr. Lyn Gilroy – Afternoon ladies and gentleman. President Bilger, Vice Presidents Blair and Faust, honored guests, delegates. On behalf of the Secretary of Higher Education, James D Filter Jr. and our new Chairman, John Jerome, I bring your greetings. Over the last year the Maryland Fire Rescue Education and Training Commission has met numerous time to discuss issues that have affected the fire service training needs of this great State. The Commission continues to monitor the funding to implement the Charles W. Riley scholarship program. We are happy to announce that we have 120 applicants for the 2017/2018 award year. However there are only 33 that have completed all the necessary requirements and were awarded almost $99,000.00. We encourage you to take back to your membership, to advise your members to go on to the Maryland Higher Education website for the application and the rules for the Riley Scholarship program. We need to emphasize strongly the need to complete all the forms in a timely fashion so your folks would take the benefit of this program. We are still planning meetings with the Secretary of Higher Education to develop a more meaningful dialogue of the roles and responsibilities of the commission. We have several new members and we are in the midst of redevelopment of our committees and our goals and objectives and our work groups in accordance with the statute and its intent. Each year the commission prepares a yearly report that is mandated to be submitted to the Secretary of Higher Education and the Governor. Over the last few years we have been unable to provide each department with a copy of that report due to budget constraints. We are trying to work to better that communication to you, but in the meantime you can find that report on the Maryland Higher Education Commission website for your viewing and reading pleasure. In closing we look forward to working with President Blair and the other officers in the MSFA in the coming year. We wish President Bilger well as he finishes the term of his office and we wish all of you success in the balance of your convention. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – At this time we are bringing to the podium Chief Mike Robinson. Report from the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualification Board.

Chief Mike Robinson – Thank you Mr. President. President Bilger, Officers and members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association as the chair of the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualification Board I am happy to present before this body our annual report. In the year 2017 we were very honored to present our 150,000th certification. That’s 150,000 certifications we have issued since our inception which was 1986 some 32 years ago. As we continue now in our 32nd year we are honored to
continue the work that the State of Maryland Fire Service unanimously directed us to begin 32 years ago. We now have issued a total of 154,000 certifications in areas from telecommunicator to fire officer to fire investigator to firefighter to hazardous materials technician. A total of over 25 certifications both coming from the NFPA professional qualifications standards as well as several Maryland standards which this year we have expanded into EMS officer. The board continues to work and the board is successful only due to the efforts of many of you. I’d like to ask now that any of our alternates or representatives who are in the audience please stand for recognition. Stand if you’re and alternative representative. Okay, this is how we operate every county, every major jurisdiction is afforded one alternate, one representative. We come together as we did about an hour ago for our annual meeting and I’d like to acknowledge this year our Vice Chair Mr. R. Keith Fairfax of the Bay District Volunteer Fire Company who has retired as the Vice Chair and he served since our very first meeting in Annapolis in 1986. So let’s acknowledge Keith Fairfax for his many years of service to the board. I’d also like to honor this year’s recipient of our highest award given to the individual who makes the greatest impact to the board and that was Assistant Director of MFRI Larry Preston. I’d like to acknowledge Larry for his award. I’d like to say that the board continues to work on your behalf. We’re not finished in our mission. We continue to move forward. We’re going to be bringing forth some initiatives in the next year which will probably have an announcement for you at next year’s convention and check with your local representatives and alternates to keep up with what we’re doing. I’d like to acknowledge the representation that the Maryland State Firemen’s Association brings to the board and the board’s Executive Committee is made up of the MSFA, the Professional Firefighters of Maryland, IFF, the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute, the Training Commission, Maryland Fire Rescue Education Training Commission, Maryland Council of Fire Academies, The office of the State Fire Marshal and the Maryland Fire Chiefs. So all the major entities within the fire service in Maryland are represented along with your County Representatives. We work together to develop consensus. Certification is all about the individual being recognized for their achievement and the most important thing is this is still a voluntary system and Maryland is probably the only certification system in the Country that remains voluntary. That means you can be certified or not be certified. It’s not mandated by any State entity. And because of that we believe we’ve been successful. We’ve taken off in most jurisdictions. Most bylaws of volunteer fire companies have been changed over the years to reflect our certification requirements and again that’s all be voluntary. Our real tribute is to each of you that sits out there that makes our system work. And my final thing I’d like to call upon President Bilger and give him an official copy of our annual report. And finally, it you have never been certified, stop by our booth downstairs. We’re co-located with MFRI and if you’ve ever attended the MFRI courses, even if long in the past you’re probably eligible for certification at some level. So we encourage you to take advantage of this and show your professionalism and participate in your system, the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications board. So I’ll be presenting this to the President and I thank you all for your continued support.
President Mark Bilger – Thank you again Chief. Now we have with us the State Fire Marshal Brian Geraci.

State Fire Marshal Brian Geraci – Thank you Mr. President. Good afternoon everyone. You hear me speak every now and then about our various successes amongst our many failures and if you let me indulge me just for a little bit this morning, this afternoon before I give my presentation. I want to tell you about a little success story we had here in Salisbury. At the end of May we had a fire in a single-family home occupied by a family with two small young men. The two brothers were in the house in their bedrooms at the time when they heard a smoke alarm go off in their house. They exited the bedroom, saw smoke in the hallway, thought it was, and might have been Grandma’s cooking but unfortunately they found that there was a fire in the living room. So immediately they dropped down to their knees to crawl out of the house. They exited the house and did not go back inside. They were tempted to go back inside but went around and tried to alert the other family members. The other family members were alerted as well and also all everybody escaped unharmed. I was able to put the fire our and call the fire department. They learned that in their education at school, their fire prevention during fire prevention week or during fire prevention classes. That’s where they learned to do that. As so that’s a great success story for us and it tells you just how much it is important to continue to get that fire prevention message out there to our younger folks, to our seniors and our folks with disabilities. So if I could get Ja’ir and Jack to come up here we have some presentations for your gentlemen for the outstanding job that you did.

President Mark Bilger – We would also like to present to you official bags of the Convention for the service that you did to our family and the community.

State Fire Marshal Brian Geraci – Outstanding job huh? I’m telling you, it pays, I keep, you know we need to get out in the community more. We need to do that because we have these success stories. That’s why we go out there and do it. I bring you greetings from Governor Larry Hogan, Lieutenant Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and Colonel William Pallozzi, Superintendent of the Maryland State Police. On behalf of the entire staff of the Office of the State Fire Marshal, I want to congratulate your Association Presidents, Mark Bilger and Vivian Boyd. Your terms of office have been extremely productive and your service to your members is one your entire Association should be very proud of. As most of you know our agency suffered its first line of duty death since the agency was established 54 years ago. Deputy Chief Sander Cohen, Regional Commander for our Northeast Region and a Captain with the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department was a kind, caring and compassionate person that never failed to help anyone in need as was evident on the night he was killed. On December 8, 2017 when he stopped to assist a motorist who had been involved in a single vehicle collision on Interstate 270 in Montgomery County, that individual was FBI Supervisory Special Agent Carlos Wolff. Chief Cohen was an exemplary investigator and leader who took great pride in his law enforcement career and looked after the folks under his
command he devoted himself to protecting and serving the citizens of Maryland. He
died a hero trying to help someone in need. His willingness to stop on a busy interstate
to assist a stranger is indicative of the dedication and commitment he had to others.
He is an example of the good in people and reflects the values of the Maryland State
Fire Marshal’s Office. I would like to thank everyone who has reached out and assisted
our agency during this time and ask that you continue to keep Sander and the Cohen
family in your thoughts and prayers.

It is my distinct privilege to present to you the report from the Office of the State
Fire Marshal. The Maryland Fire Incident Reporting System is an extremely valuable
resource to collect data and can be used in determining what actions are needed
to prevent fires in the future and to provide this valuable data to our local and state
elected officials. On time reporting continues to be a struggle for some departments.
We are asking that all departments have their reports to our agency by the 10th of each
month for the proceeding month’s responses as required by law. Please ensure that all
reports are complete and free of any errors prior to submission. During calendar year
2017 the total number of fires reported in the state was 15,028 a 13.5% decrease from
2016 of those 6,560 were structure fires, 186 civilian fire injuries were reported which
is a 25% increase over the 149 injuries as reported in 2016, 174 fire service injuries
were reported in 2017 while involved in firefighting activities & three firefighter line of
duty deaths occurred in 2017 two as the result of a medical emergency and one as the
result of a vehicle collision. The estimated total of property fire dollar loss for the state
was $153,421,529. In 2017, the State of Maryland saw the number of fire deaths
increase by 4.4 percent when compared to 2016. The total number of fire deaths for
2017 was 71 which, as indicated above, represented an increase in the 68 fire deaths
suffered in 2016. Nine fatal residential structure fires occurred where smoke alarms
were known to have functioned at the time of the incident; however, 15 lives were still
lost. 10 lives were lost in eight fires where smoke alarms were either not present or
non-functioning. 20 fatal fires were reported where operational status or presence of
smoke alarms were unknown, within these 20 fires we lost 26 lives. It should be noted
that again in 2017 we saw over 100 individuals that were saved due to residential
sprinklers, and over 200 saved due to smoke alarm activations.

During 2017, residential fire fatalities accounted for over 84 percent of all fire fatalities.
Over 26 percent of the fire death victims (19), involved adults age 70 and older. This
is an increase when compared to 2016 when 16 percent (11) victims perished. Four
fatal fires occurred with victims aged 90 or older in 2017, including a 106 year old
man. Twelve victims under the age of 18 died in fires in 2017, accounting for eighteen
percent of fire deaths, the same as in 2016. Baltimore City reported 30 fire deaths in
2017 which represented an almost 88 percent increase to 16 fire deaths reported in
2016. Baltimore County experienced 12 fire deaths compared to 6 in 2016. Prince
George’s County reported 8 fire deaths in 2017 a decrease from 11 fire deaths in
2016. Additionally, Montgomery and Charles Counties experienced 4 fire deaths; Anne
Arundel and Washington Counties experienced 3 fire deaths; Carroll and Queen Anne’s
Counties had 2 fire deaths each; and Howard, St. Mary’s and Somerset Counties
had 1 fire death each. Sadly, the five-year average for fire deaths in Maryland has
slightly increased to 67 per year. Although better than 1975 — 1988 when fire deaths remained over 100 each year, we still have a tremendous amount of work to do in our efforts to reduce fire deaths across the state. In 2017, there was also an increase in the total number of multi-fatality fires which accounted for 16.7 percent of the 54 total fires for the year. During 2016, the percentage of multi-fatality fires was at 12.5 percent of the total fires for that year. The months of March, August & November 2017 resulted in two multi-fatality fires for each of the three months, resulting in 15 of the total multi-deaths. Even though January only had one multi-fatality fire reported, it claimed the lives 6 children in one incident.

In 2017, similar to multi-fires, the number of multi-deaths in fatal fires increased in comparison to the prior year to 26 deaths or 36.6% of the 71 total deaths reported for the year. Multi-deaths in fatal fires in 2016 were recorded at 19 deaths or 27.9% of the 68 total deaths and in 2015 were recorded at 24 deaths or 37.5% of the 64 total deaths. One other staggering number that came to light last year is that 7 individuals were killed by fire being used as a weapon. We must continue to be vigilant in all that we do even on the fire ground. You can view the entire 2017 fire fatality report on our blog site. Hoarding continues to present hazards which can result in catastrophic fire related events that jeopardize the safety of all concerned including, but not limited to occupant(s) and emergency responders. The Office of the State Fire Marshal continues to educate the public regarding the dangers of hoarding. Thirteen deaths resulted from eleven hoarding related fires which is almost 25 percent of the total fires reported for the entire year representing an increase in comparison to previous years. The following is a report summarization of fire related deaths that were complicated by conditions of hoarding in the reporting year of 2017. An undetermined dwelling fire claimed the lives of three innocent children. Including the complications caused by hoarding, it was also reported that the dwelling had no working smoke alarms present at the time of the fire. An undetermined living space fire with the reported presence of non-working smoke alarms resulted in the demise of a 36 year old female, but remarkably three other adults were able to safely escape the blaze. A residential kitchen fire caused by an electrical failure of a coffee maker claimed the life of a 34 year old female, and working smoke alarms were reported present at the time of the incident. The OSFM extends congratulations to each fire department and local jurisdiction that suffered no fire deaths or experienced decreases in the number of fire deaths last year. Twelve counties experienced no fire fatalities in 2017, these include: Allegany, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Kent, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester. Talbot and Caroline Counties have experienced only one fire death in the last 5 years. Of as always, the OSFM followed this year’s session of the Maryland General Assembly. The MSFA is to be commended for their leadership, diligence and continued support in working with the OSFM and other members of the Maryland Fire Service. The MSFA Legislative Committee Chairman Stephan Cox and his entire committee continue to be vigilant on key issues, share information on important topics, and communicate with key legislators. Their dedication to the MSFA membership to ensure that all of the volunteers across this state remain safe and recognized in Annapolis is to be commended.
This year Senate Bill 728 sponsored by Senator King of Montgomery County eliminated the sale of battery only smoke alarms that are not a 10 year sealed battery unit with a hush button feature. This bill which was signed by Governor Hogan will take effect on October 1 of this year. Battery only smoke alarms that had to be installed within homes as of January 1 of this year must be a 10 year sealed battery unit with a hush button feature. These alarms are required on every level of the home and outside of each sleeping area. Hard wire smoke alarms that have a battery backup do not have to meet the 10 year sealed battery requirement. As State Fire Marshal, I wholeheartedly appreciate the partnerships our agencies share with local and State governments, as well as private industry. These partnerships help us secure resources, disseminate information, provides training and allow us to be more effective at accomplishing our tasks in the pursuit of fire and life safety. Our partnership with the Capital Region Fire Sprinkler Association a chapter of the National Fire Sprinkler Association has provided training for fire inspectors across the state for the last several years and we thank them for this continued successful program.

Over many years the public-private partnership with PEPCO and Delmarva Power has enabled the distribution of well over 25,000 smoke alarms. Statewide initiatives advocating the installation, maintenance, and testing of 10 year sealed battery smoke alarms coupled with developing and practicing home fire escape plans to include closing doors at night and while escaping a fire continue to help communities reduce fire deaths and injuries. We are starting to see a difference this year with 10 year smoke alarms being installed. As a reminder, please take part in the Community Risk Reduction Weekends offered each year for fire departments across the state to enter into their respective communities and offer installations of 10 year smoke alarms and provide fire and life safety information.

On Saturday, March 25th the Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar, was held at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute in College Park. Over 60 motivated personnel attended the outstanding event and were provided timely and topical information. The event included topics regarding Safety for Seniors and Hoarding prevention and advocacy. We also had the pleasure of meeting Flash Max to learn new strategies for teaching prevention. A side-by-side burn was also conducted to give us a look at the importance of residential fire sprinklers. Please remember at this year’s event, a special residential fire sprinkler helmet from Alert-All was introduced, purchase of this item remains available which includes a 25% discount for all MSFA members, using discount code MSFA25.

The next Statewide Community Risk Reduction Weekend is scheduled for October 20-21, 2018. I ask that all Maryland fire departments use this opportunity to check and/or install lifesaving 10 year sealed battery smoke alarms in the homes of the citizens they serve and have sworn to protect from the effects of fire. The Community Risk Reduction weekends for 2019 are May 18-19 and October 19—20. The Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference celebrated its 58th year Anniversary on September 26, 2017. Originally, billed as the Governor’s Fire Prevention Conference began in August of 1959 when then Governor Tawes saw the need for a Statewide Conference on
Fire Prevention. Fifty-eight years later the Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference remains one of the foremost conferences of its kind in the nation. The Public Fire Safety Educator of the Year Award was officially renamed in 2017 as the John C. Spiker Sr., Life Safety Educator of the Year Award. Presented by John Spiker Jr., Kimberly Smith of the Riviera Beach Volunteer Fire Department, Anne Arundel County where John was an active member received the first renamed Award. She has shown a true dedication to public fire safety education and is an asset to both her department and the citizens of Maryland. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 25, 2018 for yet another well prepared conference. Please go on the FABSCOM.ORG website and fill out your application to attend this well rounded conference designed for you and your peers. One of my top priorities as State Fire Marshal is to ensure the safety and well being of my employees. In 2017 the Agency had seen its first steps towards better health, mainly in cancer prevention. Our first round of pickup trucks were ordered, the pickup truck will provide the needed separation between the “good stuff and the bad stuff”, we are taking cancer causing hazards of fire investigations out of the passenger compartments of our vehicles. We have one on display at our booth in the main hall this year, please take a moment to check it out. We also purchased 5 sets of personal protective ensembles. With the gracious assistance of FABSCOM, we were able to apply and receive close to $20,000 in grant funds from Firehouse Subs. This grant money is being used to support our Agencies health and wellness agenda. We have purchased new helmets and hardhats for our investigators and inspectors as well as 10 new 4 gas meters which can be monitored off site. Thank you FABSCOM and Firehouse Subs for your continued support of our mission and the citizens of Maryland.

In 2017, the Bomb Squad unit accepted delivery of a 26’ Proline Center Console boat. The boat was purchased with grant funds received from FEMA and is to complement our Underwater Hazardous Devices Team. The new vessel expands the team’s ability to provide a quicker and safer response to any part of the State in the event the team is deployed. To boost a little moral throughout the Agency, in 2017 we unveiled the new State Fire Marshal, Maryland Registration Plates. The plates are open to all current and retired employees of the Agency.

Near and dear to the heart of Chief Deputy Der is helping those Marylanders in need. In December 2017, our Agency partnered with State Farm Insurance to adopt a family. Through this partnership the OSFM adopted the Pittman Family after they were displaced from their home on Dawn Court in Salisbury due to a fire which was determined to be Arson. The family was beginning to prepare for the Christmas Season when this fire occurred and they lost all of their personal possessions as a result of the fire. The single mother and two children were devastated by this event of which they had no control over. The fire investigation determined that someone had unlawfully entered the home, ransacked the interior, stole property and set the house on fire to conceal the crime. Members of the OSFM went shopping and delivered Holiday cheer to the family. Items given include a Christmas Tree with decorations, Television and DVD player, laptop computer, a platform hitch for Ms. Pittman’s vehicle which will enable her to transport her disabled son’s wheelchair as well as fire safety items.
including 10 year smoke alarms and a portable fire extinguisher. Also in conjunction with these efforts a Christmas Eve dinner was delivered. We continue to keep the Pittman Family in our prayers.

As in years past the OSFM experienced a few staffing changes in 2017, Deputy Sander Cohen was promoted to Deputy Chief of the Northeast Regional Office. In May, we announced the appointment of Chief Deputy Gregory Der, a retired officer with the Howard County Police Department, since his appointment Chief Deputy Der has been an incredible asset to this Agency. Unfortunately, he could not be here today as he is in a multi-week training class in Alabama. We also welcomed DSFM Brandon Beall and Fire Safety Inspector Edward Goodrich, both currently assigned to the Western Regional Office, and Fire Safety Inspector Millette, assigned to our Southern Regional Office. Please join us in supporting their success as they serve the citizens of Maryland. Additionally, we had several retirements. DSFM Timothy Warner, Administrative Officer Alyson Turner, both with 24 years of dedicated service and Fire Protection Engineer Dan Hoag, after six years of service. We wish them great success in their future endeavors.

In addition to these we also saw Captain MSFA our own Bruce Bouch move on to do his great work at the Federal level working for the US Fire Administration at the National Fire Academy. Bruce is greatly missed and you can ask anyone who helped write this report if you do not believe me. In 2017, we also lost Accelerant Detection K9Charlie. K-9 Charlie and his partner Deputy Chief John Nelson worked about 500 fire scenes during Charlie’s 8 years of active service. Charlie was 11 years old when he passed. We and John’s family miss Charlie and appreciate all the work he provided to ensure the safety of all Marylanders and communities throughout the United States.

OSFM staff members continue to perform at high levels in 2017, the OSFM conducted 974 investigations of which 708 were fire related and 211 were explosive related. A total of 78 criminal cases were closed by arrest with a 118 individuals being arrested. The agency wide arson case closure rate was 29% which is well above the national average. This level of performance is outstanding in light of increased training, fire and life safety education assignments and the lack of full staffing. A total of 12,343 fire and life safety inspections were completed during 2017. OSFM Fire Protection Engineers reviewed 1,379 construction and fire protection system plans. The dedication of our personnel is evident by these numbers. It is through an Agency-wide commitment to fire and life safety that we work for the citizens and with the Maryland Fire Service, to accomplish the mission of protecting life and property from fire and explosions.

Following the apartment explosion in late August of 2016 in Montgomery County, a necessary ability for OSFM to rapidly deploy resources to large scale incidents Statewide became apparent. In January 2017 we established the Major Incident Response Team (MIRT). The MIRT is divided into 3 teams, each team consist of certified fire investigators, bomb technicians, a fire protection engineer, K9 and command staff. The team is available to any jurisdiction who determines the need for assistance in any capacity. In 2017 the MIRT responded to five incidents. In March we responded to two requests, the first in Howard County for a large single family dwelling fire; the second in Montgomery County for a fatal house explosion. In June the team was activated for a large commercial structure fire in Frederick County, in August for
a fatal house explosion in Carroll County and in September for a large warehouse fire in Baltimore City.

As I do each year I am again asking each of you to place more emphasis on Fire and Injury Prevention. We need to continue to take every opportunity to prevent the 911 call and to inform our communities about fire and injury prevention. Take the time now and when you go back home from the convention to network with other departments, the MSFA Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee, NFPA and MD Life Safety.org and get those fire and injury prevention messages out into your community each and every day. Take any and all opportunities to interact with the public, not just during Fire Prevention Week. Provide fire safety information to folks in your community that are attending your fundraising events that many of you hold throughout the year. When you do have a fire incident, make it a point to get back to that area as soon as possible to talk to the people that were impacted by the event. Make sure your personnel are checking to see if smoke alarms are present on each and every response to homes within your community. Promote the 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms, escape plans, to get out and stay out and to close the doors while sleeping and when evacuating during an active fire incident and immediately call 911. Also work with neighboring departments and the American Red Cross to establish teams to install smoke alarms in homes located in your community and conduct fire safety reviews. As you can see from the American Red Cross fire risk map the dark red areas is where we need to focus our efforts in Baltimore City, our Western Counties and several counties on the Eastern Shore. Focus on those populations that continue be impacted by fire, the very young, our elderly and those who have disabilities all of which are factors that prevent a timely escape from a fire. Go to schools, day care facilities, senior centers, county fairs, Christmas tree lots and other locations where folks from your community will be located. Do not wait for them to call you, reach out and ask to visit and share the information and knowledge you have on preventing fires and injuries. It takes very little time, but the information you will share goes a long way in the end to saving lives.

The OSFM blog site continues to be updated for your use. The site contains news and information. Fatality and burn injury reports can be completed securely online, local jurisdictions can also share smoke alarm saves, fire sprinkler saves, and our customers can request fire safety inspections and submit Arson Tips.

I would now like to introduce Deputy Chief State Fire Marshal, Caryn McMahon as she will announce the Regional Deputy State Fire Marshals of the Year. (Presentations Begin for Deputy of the Year). Ladies and gentlemen, I would ask you now to join me in honoring our Regional Deputy State Fire Marshals of the Year for 2017: Deputy State Fire Marshals

Carl Witmer — Western Region
Dexter Hodges - Upper Eastern Shore Region
Kirby Travers — Lower Eastern Shore Region
Brandon Shepperd — Southern Region
and Matthew Wrenn — Bomb Squad
Each of these individuals represents their peers with great devotion and distinction. Each has gone above and beyond the call of duty. They come to work every day, looking forward to the challenge of making Maryland a safer place to live, work, play and raise a family. It is important to note, that each of these Deputies have aspired to this level with the strong support of their supervisors, the administrative staff, and their fellow Fire Safety Inspectors, Fire Protection Engineers and Deputy State Fire Marshals. As always, the job of the DSFM of the Year selection committee is extremely difficult and this year was definitely no exception. I want to thank all of the members that served with me on this committee. The letters of nomination were filled with examples of exemplary duty and customer service deserving of much more than this award provides. To each of you, I sincerely thank you for your service and devotion to duty. Let’s give them a hand! (Deputies remain on stage for presentation) I now have the great pleasure of introducing to you the 2017, James C. Robertson Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year. During 2017, this DSFM excelled in their responsibilities involving the fire marshal profession. This deputy established himself as a thorough and consummate professional with a great deal of confidence in their ability. This deputy has consistently demonstrated them self as a motivated and reliable employee who is always ready to offer support to his peers and always represents the Office of the State Fire Marshal in a positive manner. This highly respected investigator has excelled in each and every aspect of their career and is a model employee for our agency. This deputy was cited for their many achievements in 2017, such as; 3.25 fire investigations per month and established a 30% arson case closure rate when the national average is 18%. He is lauded for performing extra work to successful close cases and in providing critical assistance in helping to close multiple additional cases being investigated by his peers. He works countless hours networking with allied law enforcement agencies and additional resources. He has successfully completed the minimum law enforcement and fire investigation training but has not stopped there. He has excelled in obtaining additional training and improving his professional development. He has focused on cell phone diagnosis and analysis which has greatly assisted other investigators. It is my honor to present the James C. Robertson Award recognizing the Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year for 2017 to, Deputy State Fire Marshal Brandon Shepperd of the Southern Region. Applause-(Present Citation and certificate) (State Fire Marshal Geraci concludes the report)

In Closing, all members of the OSFM will continue to perform their public safety mission with dedication and pride. With challenges come more opportunities, we are always seeking potential opportunities to better perform our mission and with your support, continually move both our Agency and more importantly the Maryland Fire Service forward. As an organization, the entire staff of the OSFM has a clear picture of its mission. OSFM staff members look forward to working closely with MSFA President Rick Blair and LAMSFA President Marcia Roth and their leadership teams. We wish them great success and know they will achieve their goals established during their terms in office. Please continue to make fire and injury prevention the most important service that your department provides in your community and reinforce that message with your members each and every day. Thank you for all of your support, dedication
and devotion in keeping Maryland fire safe. Enjoy the rest of the convention and please have a safe trip on your return home. May the peace of the lord continue to watch over the Cohen family all of Sanders friends, our OSFM family, Of MSFA Firemen’s Convention 2018, the Maryland Fire Service and the Great State of, Maryland. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – Thank you Fires Marshal Geraci. We have for you today a certificate of special recognition, a mug and a bag. I would like to introduce the Executive Director of MRFI Chief Michael Cox, the Assistant Director Larry Preston, for their report.

Chief Michael Cox – Thank you President Bilger. Welcome everyone. First and foremost congratulations on your 126th convention. It’s a tremendous feat. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association is an organization that is steeped in history and tradition as well as become a tremendous leader in the fire service. President Bilger Vice Presidents Blair and Faust, officers, delegates and members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, it has been a true honor to work with the various committees and members of the MSFA this year to provide state of the art emergency services training programs to the EMS, fires and rescue agencies in our great State. This year we were able to provide a vast array of diverse programs to help our first responders prepare themselves to mitigate the numerous incidents they are faced with day in and day out. This year we were able to train more than 34,000 emergency responders here in the State of Maryland. That equated to 1756 emergency services programs and more than 829,000 instructional hours. Our programs by discipline consisted of about 7900 students in our fire programs, 6500 students in our EMS programs another 1100 students in our advanced life support programs, 2800 students in our rescue program, 4900 students in our management programs, more than 1700 personnel were in our hazardous materials programs and more than 3000 students attended company drills, 1200 attended different executive seminars and more than 3000 students participated in the simulations center. Here at MFRI I would like to thank the members of MSFA for their hard work and unwavering commitment to improving the Maryland fire service as well as the outstanding services they provide to the visitors and residents of our state. On one additional note, I do want to offer special thanks to Steve Cox, Johnie Roth and Richard Smith. These gentlemen’s work on the legislative committee was unwavering and a tremendous asset to the other fire and EMS organizations in the state. I look forward to our continued success making the Maryland EMS, Fire and Rescue services the best that they can be. And with that I would like to ask President Bilger to come on out. We have a little plaque and gift here for you is is presented to Mark A Bilger President in recognition of your successful term as President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Your dedication to the Maryland Fire and Rescue services along with your experience and professionalism has been very much appreciated. On behalf of the men and women in the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute I wish your continued success. Congratulations.

President Mark Bilger – Chief we have for you an official convention mug and bag and a certificate of recognition for the support and help MFRI provides every day. At this
Time I’d like to call to the podium the Acting Director MICRB Pat Marlette.

Director Pat Marlette – President Bilger, officers and members of the MSFA on behalf of the MICRB, we have a real quick report. We want to let you know that as of April 18th we had 768 state emergency services instructors, 23 instructor trainers and 266 evaluators. The next meeting of the MICRB is going to be on July 11th and at that time the process begins for the review and readoption of the instructor standard. For those of you that are instructors, we would strongly encourage you to participate in that process. For those of you that have instructors as part of your member companies please, please instruct them or ask them to participate in the process of review. There are going to be some substantive changes or at least substantive in the eyes of the instructors because of the way that the standard is written. The recertification process and for those in particular that are going to be re-entering the process because of failure to recertify on there, there will be some changes so I strongly suggest that the instructors take the time to be part of the process. Our full report has been submitted and is part of the proceedings. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I would like to call to the podium Co Acting Executive Director Pat Gainer and Dr Richard Alcorta for their presentation.

Dr. Alcorta – Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. It is our pleasure to be here before you today and we are delighted to have an opportunity to provide and award to somebody that has served the MSFA so dedicatedly and diligently. Fred Cross if you would be kind enough to step up here please. Fred Cross, President, Past President 1995-96, has been an advocate for the MSFA for basically most of his adult life. He has had an opportunity to serve as a representative on the EMS board where has not been a timid soul. He has spoken out on behalf of the MSFA and the volunteers across the State of Maryland in a consistent and fervent way supporting the initiatives and concerns representing the volunteers. Fred has stepped down voluntarily due to medical conditions but he is here today to receive an award from the EMS board. The EMS board basically states this is a certificate of appreciation for George A. “Fred” Cross, Jr. for years of dedicated service to the State of Maryland’s Emergency Medical Services Board. The commitment with which you have served has made a difference in the level of delivery of emergency medical services in the State of Maryland. So please give him a round of applause for his dedicated service. I’m going to be heading next door for those of you that want to listen to some great signs and symptoms I’ll be doing my presentation. I’ll turn it over to Pat.

Pat Gainer- Good afternoon everyone. It’s nice to be here today. Thanks for having us. First off I want to thank President Mark Bilger and congratulate him on a successful year. It’s been a true pleasure working with him over the past year and we look forward to continuing our work with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association moving forward. I’m gonna go through some slides. I’m going to go over a few of the highlights of the past year 2017/2018 then talk about areas we’re going to be focused on for the upcoming year moving forward. But first, before I get into that I wanted to give everybody an update on where we stand with the National Registry testing for our basic providers. You’ll remember that we began National Registry testing in 2014 to
Maryland BLS providers. The initial results from National Registry testing were below, far below, what we had anticipated and below the National average. So the EMS board convened a committee to work on this issue. Partnering with the members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, MFRI and others to address concerns to find out what the problem is and to address the problems. At that time we determined that there were a sufficient number of testing sites for providers who just thought they were not well prepared to the course as they could have been, and there were some confusion about the Maryland protocols and National registry practices that we needed to clear up. MIEMSS had paid for the National Registry testing for basic providers for both the first test and if the providers fail the first test, for the second test. Since we instituted National Registry testing in 2014 we’ve spent $351,070.00 this is as of last week, So we’ve invested a significant amount of money to help Maryland move to the National standard and to have all of our providers tested to meet this standard. Well, how are we doing? We continue to do really well, if you look on the left hand side you’ll see that our initial pass rates back in 2014/2015 were well below the National average for EMT and EMR – 56% pass rate for EMT and 51% for EMR. Well currently our EMT pass rate is 79% and our EMR pass rate is 89%. A true tribute to all the work that these providers have put into this, The educational programs, the MSFA and all the partners tried to address the problems that we had, Maryland has now reclaimed its rightful place as a leader in the Nation and we have a lot to be proud of. We had started our state wide communication system upgrade. You’ve been hearing about this for a few years and it took us awhile to get the money to do this, to pull together the request proposal, it’s very technical, it took us a long time to get that together, But the upgrade is going to move the statewide medical communications system from analog to digital and we’re going to integrate with the PAAP 100 megahertz system. We finally got approval from the Board of Public Works this past May and the next stage is, the entity that won the contract began surveying all the communication towers in Maryland as well as the hospitals, to see exactly what work needed to be down and work out a time line. We anticipate it’s going to take about 2 years to finish this project and we are looking forward to getting that. Last year we transitioned to an electronic image trend licensing and certification to help move our licensing and certification process into the present as opposed to having it entirely paper based. We still accept paper applications submitted on paper, but a lot of the processes now are electronic. Applications, change of address, extension requests can all be done electronically and it’s proven to be a very good system. We’ve had some bugs, we pulled together a statewide steering committee and they’ve been working over the past year to iron out those bugs. We have made some good progress. We’re having enhancements in July and September. The July enhancements will allow for quicker processing and it will allow instructor training administrators to upload multiple training records all at one time instead of one at a time, And the August/September update is going to allow providers to more efficiently track their records, We’ve also been working on upgrading EMEDS to the new ELITE platform, This is the image trend platform and it allows us to go to an entirely new data standard meeting the National three point data system standards. The upgrade, the cost of the upgrade is being born by MIEMSS; it’s no cost at all to the jurisdictions to do this. You can see from the map that as of last Friday we have 11 jurisdictions that have gone live with ELITE and moved to the new platform, 6 more
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have confirmed their start date and their start dates are this summer and the first part of September. Another 6 jurisdictions have started the process to begin the upgrade. We’ve had meetings to set up a schedule with them and in 1 County we are still in the process of setting the initial kickoff meeting and then they are ready to move forward with that. Something we’ve been working on a lot, very diligently at MIEMSS is integrating EMEDS with CRISP. And CRISP is the health Information exchange for Maryland, The Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients, or CRISP, is quite a mouthful. It’s a way to share patient information electronically among doctor offices, hospitals, laboratories and what we want to do is to integrate EMEDS into that so eventually once we are able to do that, providers in the field will be able to access patient records while they’re treating the patient. And they can see the past hospitalizations, the meds the test results, the patients have had and the patient’s past history. It could help EMS provide better, more effective care. We had a good pilot, a successful pilot in Prince George’s County and we have some early adopting counties that are moving with this integration, we will keep you posted on this. I just want to say a few words about the heroin and opioid crisis. Clay gave a great talk and we have partnered with Clay and with the opioid operational command center to try to ease the burden on EMS providers that deal with these calls every day. As everyone knows there’s been an incredible increase in the number of responses that EMS has had to deal with for suspected overdoses and that places a burden on the EMS jurisdiction. One of the burdens it has placed on the jurisdictions is financial because we are finding that many opioid cases, it used to be about 1 year ago was about 19-20%, now it’s 26%. When 911 is called to treat them they will be resuscitated essentially, they will receive naloxone, but then the patient will refuse transport to a hospital or to a stabilization center. That’s a double burden for EMS. Not only do they have to respond and provide the service as they provide lifesaving care to the patient, but EMS cannot bill to recover the cost of naloxone. And we worked with Clay and his folks because that burden should not be borne by the jurisdictions. Through the opioid operational command center we were able to get a $200,000.00 grant that we turned around to the jurisdictions to help them cover the cost of naloxone to ease that financial burden. We are also in the midst of commencing a naloxone leave behind program and this is partnering with the Maryland Department of Health and Behavioral Administration. We have 8 Counties that are participating in this, Frederick, Allegheny, Montgomery, Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, St. Mary’s, Washington and Howard, and this is how it operates. When EMS responds to an OD and administers naloxone they will leave behind another dose of naloxone with the patient’s family in case the patient should need it at another time. Again, the naloxone is being provided at no cost to the jurisdictions. And this is a little bit of a pilot program, we’ll see how it works in these 8 jurisdictions and whether or not other jurisdictions would be interested in joining as we move forward. Beginning on July 1st, MIEMSS is obligated by law to submit information to the HIDTA and what these folks are trying to do is identify in real time where overdoses are occurring so they can marshal responses to deal with the crisis in that geographic area. We will be turning over to these folks date and time information, the overdose, approximate address of where the overdose occurred, whether naloxone was applied and whether or not the incident was fatal or not fatal. And finally Baltimore City has opened up its stabilization center. It’s up and running. The stabilization center
will deal not only with opioid patients but also with alcohol patients as well, so we’ll see how that works. One area we’ve focused a lot of attention on this year and it’s gonna be big next year is reimbursement. I mentioned before that EMS is not reimbursed in times when naloxone is administered and the patient is not transported to an ED. Well EMS is not reimbursed unless the patient is transported and most of those transports go to a hospital ED. These reimbursement practices grow out of Medicare which only allows EMS to be paid if the patient is transported to a hospital, So what has happened is Medicaid has picked that up and a lot of private insurance companies have picked that up as well. We think that’s not fair. We think that also puts EMS in a tough situation trying to deal with what’s happening in the hospital. Hospital ED’s are high cost environments to treat patients particularly if the patient can be treated in other settings like urgent care centers. I don’t need to tell EMS about ED overcrowding and long wait times. Maryland has the worst wait time in the ED of any other state in the Nation. EMS waits a long time to offload their patients and that backs up the entire EMS system. It affects the ability of EMS to respond to 911 calls. So we have been focusing on this because EMS needs to be reimbursed for what they are doing and at the same time EMS is moving toward developing new models of care delivery, where not every patient has to go to the ED. And I’m just going to very quickly mention the 3 that we are focusing on. The first is Mobile Integrated Health. MIH focuses on frequent flyers, those folks who 911 system frequently, over use of the 911 system particularly when they don’t have emergency conditions, if they have chronic conditions that should be cared for in other environments. EMS partners with other types of Health Care Providers like nurses and physicians to provide resources and to provide care in the patient’s home and connect the patient with resources in their community. The overall goal is to reduce the volume of 911 calls for these frequent flyers and to improve the patient’s care. We have 7 MIH programs in Maryland; Queen Anne was the first, then Montgomery County, Prince George’s, Wicomico, Charles, Baltimore City and Frederick County. And these programs have tremendous potential in trying to better meet the patient for these frequent flyers who are again burdening the 911 system of Maryland. Another new model of care delivery we are focusing on is Alternative Destinations. And this would be when a 911 patient with a low acuity condition can be treated at an environment other than an ED, such as an urgent care center. Now instituting this would require changes to the Maryland Medical protocols and those changes would be coming in a couple of years. But we are paving the way for EMS to be reimbursed once those changes are made. And again the patient would be eligible for these types of transports would be low acuity patients. The priority threes. And finally we’re looking at treat and refer/treat without transport. This is where EMS responds to a 911 call and provides care in the patient’s home or other location without further transporting them to an ED or even an alternative destination. This is another model that we think has tremendous potential and still allows EMS to provide care to the patient in the patient’s home in a more cost efficient way. So we’ve been encouraged on this path to find these new models in healthcare and reimbursement for them by a bill that was considered in the legislature this past year and that bill is requiring MIEMSS to work with the Maryland Health Care Commission to develop a plan to get Medicaid to reimburse EMS for new models of healthcare delivery. We are to identify a process for obtaining Medicare reimbursement. In order to do that you have to approach the Federal Government and
work things out the Feds and then finally regarding private Insurance we are supposed to be working with them to study the issue and make recommendations as to how they could begin to reimburse EMS for those types of transports. We have pulled together the group, we have a steering committee of State agencies that are looking at this. We had a meeting last week with all the players in the State to advise them of what we’re doing and where we’d like to go. We’re going to be working through the summer and fall and we have to turn in our report, our findings to the Legislature by January 1st. So it’s a tremendous amount of work, but we feel the need to get this done and we are very motivated and I’m sure we will get there. And just a few words about HOT issues for the next year. First of all I will say we are, as you know, we have been looking for an Executive Director and I feel very confident that this time next year standing up here will be a new Executive Director. We have some candidates that are very promising and we are hoping to do interviews in the late summer and fall. So fingers crossed we will have a new Executive Director for MIEMSS. And I’m sure, as most of you have heard Dr. Alcorta is going to be retiring in October, at the end of October. And another loss for the system and for our agency, but we are working to identify a successor to Dr. Alcorta. Ideally we will get someone to contract before Dr. Alcorta leaves and once Dr. Alcorta retires that person would just move into the position; we’re going to continue to work on the heroin and opioid overdose initiative integration with CRISP, the Elite, the communication upgrade and the reimbursement of EMS for new health care delivery. We’re also keeping an eye on changes to the Maryland health care system at large that impact on EMS. There are some hospitals that are converting from acute care hospitals to freestanding medical facilities. And those conversions can affect communities and can affect EMS. Because EMS will no longer have the hospital, that hospital as a receiving one for a patient who needs something more than emergency care, if a patient needs to have an operation or hospitalization they have to be transferred somewhere else. So we review the applications for hospitals that want to make that conversion and we assess the impact that it’s going to have on EMS. We make a recommendation to the EMS board about what that impact is and then the EMS board reports those finding to the Healthcare Commission and the Healthcare Commission has the ultimate say in whether or not that goes forward. But we wanted to make sure that the Commission look into account the impact of such a conversion on EMS and the emergency care system. And that, that’s pretty much it for our HOT issues that we can pursue at this point. Thank you again to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. We so value the partnership we have and we look forward to working with everyone moving forward. Thank you.

**President Mark Bilger** – Thank you again for the presentation. We have a certificate of recognition, a conference bag and a mug. Now I would like to introduce Christie Snedecker, Director of Care Management and Clinical Operations R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center.

**Director Christie Snedecker** – Good afternoon. My pleasure to be here on behalf of the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and to provide you with our quality report. I gave you two slides at once; they didn’t tell me how to move backwards. There we go. So the data that I’m gonna provide you is data for the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center through quarter three of our fiscal year that ends June 30th. And
so our annual report that we provide will be coming out in August and will have our fiscal year data. So in these slides the blue bars represent the last fiscal year and the red bars represent this fiscal year through quarter three to March. So you can see our volumes are holding steady per volume for total encounters. We’re down about 164 patient visits through the end of March but steadily increasing as the weather has gotten better and our volumes have increased. Our critical care resuscitation unit patient admissions are steady as well as our long rescue unity occupancy rate with is above 85%. Lost inter hospital transfers is an important metric for us and you can see on the graph on the left, the gray bars represent our loss in our hospital transfers which are nicely declining throughout the year as well as our capacity alert status which is the red line on that graph which we monitor closely to ensure that the trauma centers front door remains open 100% of the time. We only had one incidence of going on total bypass for the trauma center this year. In accordance with our helipad refurbishment project which we were on bypass for maybe 60 minutes and then opened our doors again. Our inter hospital transfer volume, the other two graphs on this page, represent trauma and non-trauma in our hospital, with the red and the blue fiscal year 17 to 18. As well as our air/scene versus air/inter hospital transport study across both fiscal years as well. Monitoring our length of stay and our patient through put is always in the front of our minds, as we know that we are the primary adult resource center for the State. It’s important for us to be able to accept patients 365 days out of the year, but it’s also critically important of how we move patients through our hospital and their actual length of stay. So you can see the gray line is our actual length of stay budget and we’re just about .36 over budget.  Working very hard on establishing the route of care for our patients and moving them to the next level as it’s deemed medically necessary. Both our volumes and clinic volumes have decreased a little bit over the year, but I assure you, rapidly increasing as we moved into our last quarter of this fiscal year. As the hyperbaric referral Center for the State of Maryland, this page represents our hyperbaric chamber dive hours where for this fiscal year we’re running a little bit above budget by 54 hours and on the two smaller pie charts you’ll see the case type in hours where we see emergent patients coming in for their treatment as well as taking our inpatients down to the chamber and accepting out patient volume, which is the majority of our volume in past fiscal years. Our Shock Trauma Go Team has been requested 12 times so far this fiscal year, we’ve had 3 deployments of the anesthesia Go Team that gets called to the scene to help support those that are there to make sure treat the patient gets the care that they deserve at the scene as well as during transport to the most appropriate facility. As comparable to fiscal year 17 we had 7 Go Team deployments and this year we’ve had 3 so far. Organ and tissue donation is a strong program within R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. This data through calendar year 2018 shows us at being at 83% donation rate, which is above our goal of 75%. We have meaningful donation discussions with our patients and their family. And you can see on the slide a picture of our physician Chief Dr. Tom Scalia and our senior Vice President of Nursing and Operations Karen Doyle. They had the pleasure of signing roses that were then donated to the 2018 Donate Life Rose Bowl parade float to reflect our commitment to the donation of life. We continue to have a very robust global Trauma outreach program. This slide depicts where we have had our most recent observation program attendees. Most recently to date, we have 2 visiting us
from Greece. It’s a very robust program. They get to come in and see our trauma care and take it back to their Country and use it to develop their own. The Center for injury prevention and policy is also another very robust program. Fiscal year to date we’ve had over 258 events, touching over 12,000 attendees. Some of the programs could be for teens or adults for trauma prevention. Our trauma survivor’s network is extremely robust inside our hospital during the initial phases of a patient’s medical course throughout their recovery. Supporting minds of the future and partnering with the committee on trauma for the “Stop the Bleed” campaign a truly magnificent program and commitment that we’ve had to date. Violence prevention programs also continue to be paramount as we’ve seen violence rise within the city of Baltimore, and the need for prevention and our EMS outreach and education activities also continue to be on the forefront of our minds. Without those where would we be without your help and support. Sorry I’m getting attacked by this fly up here. I don’t know if you can see it, but really just coming at me. So pardon me for all the swatting. Prehospital education activities that we do provide. We have observation programs within the trauma center. We provide tours; we also have a very advanced airway course that we provide to EMS providers. In the past two years we have implemented simulation into that program, so simulation training, didactic training has really made that course popular. We still continue to provide our evening broadcasts as well as outreach activities; most notably for this week our orthopedic trauma convention; Shock Trauma Go team lectures that we provide for this convention. I do want to thank everyone for their attendance and support of our Annual Shock Trauma Gala that we had this past April. Again, we go to celebrate our team’s collaboration and partnership that we know is the root of our trauma center and care delivery in the State of Maryland. So that night was a feature of 2 patient cases where we could showcase all the work from prehospital dispatch to next level of care for those patients as they moved through the trauma center. It was a lovely evening. It was wonderful to see many of you there and we look forward to our next event, next April 13th so mark your calendars. Thank you and have a great rest of your week.

President Mark Bilger - Thank you. Again we have a certificate of recognition, a bag and a mug for you. Some quick announcements; Again until 1700 hours they have education training seminars going. Four-thirty the exhibits will close. Six o’clock bag bingo Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom doors open at five o’clock. Six-thirty will be family night at Jolly Rogers, if you haven’t got your tickets there’s still some time to do that. Also all judges and tellers must report tomorrow because we’ll be voting on a Constitution Bylaw change. Also please take time to visit the exhibitors who help pay for your convention. This time I like to call Assistant Chaplain Harry Hetz for the benediction.

Chaplain Harry Hetz- Let us rise as we are able. Gracious God, as we bring this session to a close, Father we thank you for your blessings over us. We thank you for your guidance and your wisdom, and giving us understanding. Father dismiss us as we recess, refresh us with a night of rest and fellowship. Bring us back tomorrow with new energy to deal with the business of this Association. Be with those that need a
touch of your healing hand. Let your mercies and graces go out. Reach out to those that are grieving, Father, and we just ask that your comforting be with them. Surround them and bring them a measure of your peace. Dismiss us now. Watch over our going out. Watch over our coming in. Watch over all that place themselves in harm’s way. Protect our lives and our communities and our way of life. For all these things we thank you. Amen.

President Mark Bilger - Again, voting will be from 8 AM till 10 tomorrow. Don’t forget to visit the vendors downstairs and at this point we’re recessed until eight thirty tomorrow morning.
President Mark Bilger – Good morning everyone; Welcome to the third session of the 126th Annual Conference Convention of Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Please find your seats. I’d like to bring to the podium Harry Hetz.

Chaplain Harry Hetz – Good morning, Grace, mercy and peace be with you. Let us stand as we are able. Our Lord and our God as we continue to discuss the business of this convention Father we thank you for your mercy, your blessings and your grace over us. We thank you for the night of refreshment and the night of fellowship and gathering together as we have. And now Lord, as we look to the day ahead we just ask for your divine guidance and to be with us. We ask that you would bless those that are receiving awards today, that it would be a special day for them and that you would continue to watch over our fire and emergency services that serve our Country, our State, our Counties and our communities. Father be with all who place themselves in harm’s way. Lord, we lift up those that you a touch of your healing hand. We’ve had several reports and we just ask for you mercy and your grace over them to bring health and strength and restoration back to their lives. Comfort all who grieve, be with them and grant them your mercy. And for all these things we thank you. Amen

President Mark Bilger- Now I’d like to bring to the podium Chairman of our Safety Committee Michael LeCompte for an important message.

Chairman Michael LeCompte – Good morning everybody. Thank you for coming back to our beautiful town. Thank you, thank you. Without all of you I keep saying it, we wouldn’t be having this beautiful convention. Thank you so much for coming to see us in Ocean City. Now that said I’m not going to mention a lot about safety, but we had a couple serious fires here in the County yesterday. Three of them to be exact, well really eight at Sussex. My point of telling you that is I kept thinking about hydration. One up, but two of them were three hour events. One of them was a six hour event. With that said I have some of the Chiefs ask me what the best thing they can do is. Obviously rotate people, but hydrate. For every 20 minutes we’re exposed to the elements outside, be it really cold or really hot, because of being wrapped up with its cold, bottles of water, they should go with us just like the booster tanks of our fire trucks. Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate. If you don’t you start the onset of potassium deficiencies with your physiology and you start out with problems with having a heart attack. So again, what’s the best thing you can do? Drink water in every 20 minutes you should be downing a glass of water. We’ve got a phenomenal speaker this morning from Drexel University in Philadelphia on safety so I’m not going to mention a whole lot about it. The Maryland State Police are really ramping up on places of assembly
when it deals with this active shooter program. It’s gotten worse as we know. With that said, don’t be afraid to contact your local barrack that’s in your area of response and ask them for help. They’ve got three assigned people. First Lieutenant Keith, out of their training division is overseeing it, but they will come to your fire department and they will offer this training in your training room and outside if they do a practical for absolutely no money. And they love to do it and they’ve actually been charged by the superintendent of the State Police to get this done for all first responders. So with that said, utilize the State Police or your local County or bring them both in because if something happens it’s going to be everybody. With that said, thank you again for being here. You’re going to enjoy this speaker. Our first keynote speaker this morning is Dr. Taylor. She’s phenomenal. So thank you and God bless you.

President Mark Bilger – Some announcements. There are a set of keys found for a dark Ford SUV MD tag 4DC4715. Wednesday the May program presentation at 10:30 am will be by Corporal Travis Nelson Liaison Officer Maryland State Police Maryland Emergency Management Agency and by Randy Linthicum EMT-P Director of Emergency Operations Maryland Institute Emergency Medical Services. Joint installation will be conducted tonight at six o’clock in the Performing Arts Center. OC Fools block party at Cowboy Coast tonight at 6:30. Prayer breakfast will be tomorrow 7:30. Parade will be one o’clock rain or shine. The 4th Annual Hair of the Dalmatian 5K sponsored by the OC Fools will be Thursday. Executive Committee meeting 9AM at the Performing Arts Center. On Thursday family day at Frontier Town be be one o’clock Thursday. MSFA family night boardwalk pier will be Thursday at 7PM and Friday morning eight o’clock golf tournament Eagle Landing. Some of these will have to buy tickets for others to show up. At this time it gives me great pleasure to introduce the Chief of the Damascus Volunteer Fire Company Darren Long for a presentation.

Chief Darren Long – Before we get to the Gladhill Award I had a couple of things. On behalf of the Damascus Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary I’d like to say, first I’d like to Thank Chief Chip Jewel for the outstanding job he did yesterday. On behalf of our three icons at Damascus – Leonard B Gladhill, Chief Thompson, Chief Leonard King. I feel he really put a lot into that. It was outstanding. Next I’d like to thank the leadership of the MSFA for the honor of Chief Leonard King this week. Greatly deserved. Next I’d like to call Richard Smith, last year’s recipient to the stage. Next, I’d like to call President Mark Bilger to the stage, he’s got the name of the recipient of the Gladhill-Thompson Award 2018.

President Mark Bilger - Thank you Chief. This year’s recipient is Mr. Craig Harmon Anne Arundel County, Odenton.

Craig Harmon – I’d like to thank the MSFA for this award. It is quite the privilege and surprise. I’d like to thank my parent company, Odenton, for supporting me over the years. Great friends and mentors such as Wiley, helping me along and got me involved in the Association. Thank you.
President Mark Bilger – At this time I would like to bring Trustee Doug Alexander to the podium to present the Colburn Cup.

Trustee Doug Alexander – How’s everybody doing this morning? Glad to hear that. We’re here this morning to present the Colburn Cup. The Colburn Cup is named in honor of Past President George W. Colburn Jr. Dr. Colburn served as the MSFA President in 1931 to 1932 and also served on many committees of the Association and was Chairman of the Executive Committee from 1930 to 1931. At the 40th Annual Convention in Frostburg in 1932 the Colburn silver cup was presented to the MSFA by retiring Dr. Colburn. The award was to be presented in the line of succession from year to year to an individual in our organization for an outstanding act of heroism or for some outstanding act for the good of the Association. The qualifications and awards are to be made by the Board of Trustees who shall act as the judges. This cup is to be presented at the annual convention of the MSFA. The Princess Anne Fire Company, which was the home company of Past President Colburn, houses the original Colburn Cup since its retirement in 1958. They now provide the Colburn Cup each year which the recipient keeps. We have with us today the President of the Princess Anne Fire Department here and he has brought with him the Colburn Cup for presentation. The winner of this year’s Colburn Cup is firefighter Ryan Glenn of the Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Department. If he’s in the house I’d like for him to come to the stage. While Ryan’s coming to the stage I’d like to read you a portion of the nomination letter if I may. On the morning of April 9th 2018 as he was on his way home to the Eastern Shore from his work shift in Howard County he helped to save another life. He was driving across the eastbound span of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and noticed the traffic had come to a standstill. Assuming that there was a motor vehicle crash he got out of his truck and began to walk toward the incident to hopefully to render aid if needed. As he approached he noticed a crowd of people a safe distance away from a gentleman who was on the railing of the bridge threatening suicide. He took over the role of primary communicator with the man and began talking to him and introduced himself. An off-duty Capital Police Officer and an off-duty Montgomery County Firefighter were also there to assist. They slowly and gently moved toward the man, while Ryan continued to talk to him. Ryan told him that there were a lot of people who care about him and let’s not do this, let’s come down and talk about it. He also told the gentleman he cared for him as well, as the three rescuers got within a few feet Ryan said “just take my hand and let’s get you down.” The distraught man looked at the water then back at Ryan and went over the railing of the bridge to a cross member I beam of the bridge. The distraught man was hanging on by the grips of his finger-tips, feet dangling over the water and at this point all three rescuers reached over and above over the railing and pulled him back to the safety of the bridge. The man was then transported to the hospital for care. I’d like to present to you our Colburn Cup winner for this year, Ryan Glenn.

President Mark Bilger – I would like to bring forth Past President Bob Jacobs, Past
President Phil Hurlock, and Past President Danny Davis for the Shimer award.


Past President Phillip Hurlock – Morning, Thank you Past President Jacobs. At the request of the Shimer family and with the endorsement of the officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association an award was established to personally recognize the many years of faithful and dedicated service that was provided by Past President Robert Shimer to the fire, rescue and emergency medical services in the State of Maryland. This prestigious award will recognize an individual for their achievements activities and administrative positions that they’ve held within their community, their County and the State. The time requirement for this award was not to restrict it just to this past year, but could have included accomplishments as prior years as well. The intention of the award is to honor Past President Shimer’s reported 37 years of continuous service to the State of Maryland for the many different roles and responsibilities he held in his career. This award is a tribute to him and for the deserved recognition that he earned as a member of the emergency services in the State of Maryland. His passion for the emergency services touched every one of us and his presence is surely missed. At this time I’d like to turn over the podium to Past President Danny Davis to announce this year’s recipient for the Robert Shimer Award.

Past President Danny Davis – Thank you Phil. It is my pleasure to present the 2018 Shimer Award to a person who has done a lot for this Association, still does a lot for this Association- Wylie Donaldson.

Wylie Donaldson – Thank you all very much and thank my home company Odenton. It was a big surprise and I’m going back to get the picture taken if I can carry the weight.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I’ like to call Chairman of the Trustees – C. Danny Carpenter to the podium for Hall of Fame.

Chairman Carpenter – Thank you Mr. President. Good morning. Officers, Past
Presidents, delegates and guests. The Hall of Fame Committee report is printed in the convention program book without the inductees. At this time I’d like to call the Hall of Fame Committee out to help and recognize Vice Chairman Ben Kurtz, member emeritus D. Oscar Baker, Past President Charles Albrecht, Past President George A. “Fred” Cross, Past President John T. Ferguson III, David R. Keller III, Past President Timothy C. Jones, William B. Lay Sr., and Richard Smith. This year the committee received 33 nominations for the Hall of Fame. We can only induct 10 nominations each year. If your nominee did not get selected this year, please resubmit their name before April the 15th, 2019 next year. It gives me great pride to announce the new inductees into the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame for 2018. When your name is called would you please come up on the stage or if the individual is not in the audience will somebody from their station come up to accept the award for them. First inductee John Byrne, Joppa Magnolia Volunteer Fire Company. The second nominee Joseph “Joe” Chornock, Germantown Volunteer Fire Department. The third inductee Timothy C. Jones from Rockville Volunteer Fire Department. The fourth inductee Lee A. Lutz Glendale Fire Association. The fifth inductee R. Wayne Powell the Valiant Hose Company Incorporated. The sixth inductee, Douglas R. Simpkins Jr. Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department. Seventh inductee Charles J. Simpson Jr. Pleasant Valley Volunteer Fire Company. Eighth inductee Robert L. “Bob” Rose, Odenton Volunteer Fire Company. Ninth inductee Jeffrey H. Thompson, Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company. Tenth inductee Julian”Jay” Tucker, Marlboro Volunteer Fire Company. Each year the Hall of Fame Committee can induct three special inductees that are not members of any volunteer fire company. Yesterday we inducted Governor Larry Hogan special inductee. Today we would like Joseph J. Journey Jr. Regional Vice President VFIS, I’m sorry if I messed that name up. And the third is Chris May from Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service. Gentlemen if you would go down the step, straight out the door to the right, the first room, have an official photograph. A big hand for all the recipients. The Hall of Fame Committee is also responsible for the Marbury F. Gates Service Cup Award. This award is awarded to an individual that has at least 50 years continuous and faithful years of service to the organization within the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This year the committee received 45 nominations for a total of 2,449 years of service. Each individual will receive a Governor Citation, MSFA plaque and the first year nominated of any sequential years nominated they’ll just receive MSFA certificate. When I call your name would the individual please come up front and line up front of the stage here or somebody from the company come up to receive the award for that person. The first nominee is James “Jimbo”Magruder Sr. from Gaithersburg Washington Grove Volunteer Fire Company with 50 years of service. William B Phelps Odenton Volunteer Fire Company 75 years of service. Wilbert H. Lewis Jr. Odenton Volunteer Fire Company with 56 years of service. George Earl Newton, Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad 51 years of service. Ronnie D. Willitt, Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad 51 years of service. William “Bill” Lay Sr. Joppa Magnolia Volunteer Fire Company 52 years of service. Allen Brauer Sr. Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company 54 years of service. David Kline Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire

President Eric Barnard - Good morning. Yes, it’s morning. On behalf of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department who we are celebrating our 123 correction 100, almost 100 years of service, 97. We are honored to remember a past charter member, Marbery
F. Gates who served our department for 75 years until the time of his death in 1993. This award is named in his honor. On behalf of the officers and members of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department we wish to thank all member companies who have nominated somebody for this award. The distinguished group before us represents 2399 years of active service to a volunteer Fire, Rescue, EMS company in the state of Maryland. To be nominated you must have 50 years of service. National Volunteer Fire Council has done a lot of research. How do we recruit new members into the Fire and Rescue service and how do we maintain those that we’ve trained and invested so much money in? And before you are people who have done at least, at least 50 years. Today the National Volunteer Fire Council hopes to have 3-4 years of active service from new members. Without these men before us who gave over 50 years we would not be here today. I think they all deserve a standing round of ovation. Unfortunately from the distinguished group there can only be one. One that received the trophy tonight to take home to their company to have for a year. We could honor each and every one of them, they are all, all highly qualified for the award. But this year the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department, with the assistance and grateful appreciation of the Hall of Fame Committee would like to announce the winner of the 2018 Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award to Branchville member Frank Underwood. So the nomination. We the members of the Branchville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad would like to nominate Frank J. Underwood for the Marbery F. Gates Service Award. Frank has been a member of the volunteer service in Prince George’s County for 51 years. He joined the Allentown Road Department in 1967 and the Branchville Volunteer Fire Company in 1992. He has been awarded life membership at both Allentown Road and Branchville and has been recognized numerous times for his tireless and outstanding service to both companies. While a member at Allentown Road he held the offices of Captain, Director, Treasurer and President as well as serving in the department as an active member for years. Looking for a firehouse closer to his home in College Park, Frank joined Branchville where he continues his active membership. Shortly after joining Branchville he was elected as Treasurer an office he still holds to this day. He is an integral part of the day to day operations of Branchville, making sure the station is always stocked with supplies and that the lawn is always mowed. While recovering from heart surgery and under strict doctors’ orders not to drive, Frank even rode his John Deere mower to the station to make sure the grass was taken care of. And yes, he did get caught by his family and the firehouse family was there to send him home. In 2001, Frank was elected as President of the Prince George’s County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and has been well known for traveling around the County stopping at firehouses to check on how things are going. Throughout his years as President he attended many open houses, banquets and meetings often with his daughter Jennifer, then Miss. Fire Prevention for the Association, as his sidekick. They traveled to the County riding in parades, handing our kisses, the chocolate kind, and enjoying talking to people throughout the County. Frank has always said the fire service is a family and he is so proud to show off and support that family every chance he gets. Frank was elected to Prince George’s Fire Commission in and remained at the
fire Commission until his appointment as Lieutenant Colonel for the Volunteer Services Command with is a Deputy Fire Chief level position for the Prince George’s County Fire and EMS Department in. While holding these positions, Frank’s always made sure that the fire houses throughout the County had supplies they needed and that any concerns they had were heard by the appropriate parties. From climbing on a hood to check a leak to attending meetings, Frank made sure that both volunteer and career members alike were taken care of. In 2008 Branchville Volunteer Fire Company was proud to support Frank as he was elected and installed as the 117th President of this Maryland State Firemen’s Association. For much of his presidency he attended the legislative hearings in Annapolis to fight for funding for the new helicopters for Maryland State Troopers Aviation division. Helicopters which now play an integral role in transporting victims of accidents throughout the State of Maryland. As a result of his overwhelming support for MSP aviation division he was honored as an honorary State Trooper and flight medic. No, he can’t pull you over. Throughout his 51 years Frank has served on many committees as a delegate to both PG County and the MSFA. The committees he has served on included, but not limited to- 17 State Circle, Legislative, Historical and Archives, Convention, Public Address, Marketing, Out of State, Public Relations and Transportation. Frank was inducted in the PG Hall of Fame in 96 and the MSFA Hall of Fame in 2004. He has served the Branchville Volunteer Fire Company, Allentown Roads Fire Department, Prince George’s Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and the MSFA with dedication, commitment and selflessness. His leadership has made it different to many people time and time again. Therefore, it’s with great pride and pleasure that the members of the Branchville Volunteer Fire Company nominate Frank J. Underwood for the Marbery F. Gates Service Award. And we are so proud to award it to him today. We’ve also awarded him a Governor Citation on behalf of the Governor and again Frank, many of us, probably everybody in here knows him. Congratulations.

Past President Danny Davis – All right. Would everybody go straight through the double doors back there to the back and first room on the right to get your picture taken and we thank the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and President Erick Barnard. At this time I’d like to call out Doyle Cox or the Past President to make some presentations for 90 years of service.

Past President Doyle Cox – Thank you Danny. Good morning. A couple years ago we started to recognize any individual that had at least 90 years of service. I’m sorry, thank you, 90 years in age and most of them have considerable amount of years of service. And these individuals are still active so please you know let’s get this program going on further because we have several individuals that are in their golden years. First person I’d like to recognize would be Glenn Burbaker 101 years of age 54 years of service. If they would come down, come down please if you’re here or somebody from their company would come in and receive this certificate. Eugene Foster Urbana Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad 93 years of age 44 years of service. Dorothy Moss Brunswick Volunteer Ambulance Company and Rescue Squad Auxiliary 92 years of
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age 57 years of service. William Phelps Odenton Volunteer Fire Department 92 years of age 75 years of service. Nelly Fowler Hooper’s Island Volunteer Fire Company 90 years of age 50 years of service. Ruth Gosnell Winfield Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary 91 years of age 26 years of service. Ruth Bennett Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary 90 years of age, 54 years of service. And the last one we have is Ruth Buckingham Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary 95 years of age, 54 years of service. Ladies and gentlemen give these people a round of applause. I know most of them are not here but the recognition is there and let’s utilize it. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger – And now bring to the podium Past President Steve Cox, the Executive member Richard Smith for the Legislator of the Year Award.

Past President Steve Cox - Thank you Mr. President. This year the Legislative Committee focused on the following issues. Number one to secure an increase in the State appropriations and the Widows and Orphans Fund for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Number two to provide additional benefits to the Maryland State tax subtraction modification. Number three to support any legislation that was beneficial to Maryland’s fire, rescue and emergency services. Number four to oppose legislation not in the best interest of Maryland’s fire, rescue and emergency services. With the help of General Singh we were able to secure a $200,000.00 increase in the appropriations and a $25,000.00 increase for Widows and Orphans Fund. MSFA supported legislation to continue increases to the income tax subtraction modification through graduated increase each year up to $9,000.00 deduction. Copy of the complete report is in your program book on pages 65-73. I would like to encourage you to please take a look at that. One special note is we submitted Richard Smith’s name to be considered for the Sprinkler Advocate of the Years by the American Sprinkler Association, and I’m extremely pleased to announce that he has been selected as this year’s winner. He will be presented the award during a ceremony at the National Harbor in September. Please join with me in congratulating Richard. The Senator Amos Legislator of the Year award is presented to an individual or individuals who have helped in the legislative process. The award is sponsored by the Harford Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association. Present on stage to make the presentations are President Donnie Bristow and Past President Robyn Shelton-Hahn. We will be having actually will be making two presentations to individuals who were extremely instrumental in ensuring our budget funding requests were successful. At this time I’d like to turn the podium over to President Bristow and Hahn to make those presentations.

Past President Robyn Shelton-Hahn - It is my honor today to represent the Harford/ Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association and all of our members. At this time I would ask you all to please stand and be recognized. Harford/ Cecil members I know you’re there. I can you see, yes all right. The Senator William H. Amos Memorial Legislative Award, the first one is presented to Delegate Maggie McIntosh in recognition of an
individual’s contribution and determination in promoting the betterment of Maryland Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical services through successful legislation and the legislative process. It is sponsored by the Harford/Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association presented this day signed Donald L. Bristow President. I’d ask Jimmy Malone to please come forward and receive these awards. The second presentation reads the same. It is presented to Senator Edward J. Casemyer.

Thank you for that warm response. First of all ladies and gentlemen Chairman Maggie McIntosh could not be here with us today. She is in early voting has taken place and I can tell you no one loves the fire service more than Maggie and I feel very, very confident she will be the Chairman of the Appropriations come next year. Also Senator Edward Casemyer, who I had the honor and privilege of being my Senator, serving with him in the House of Delegates for 20 years. After 32 years of service in the Maryland General Assembly is retiring and he asked me also to be here to accept this award and all you have to do is look at all the renovations done at the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department and the brand new station at Elk Ridge in Howard County to see how much Senator Edward Casemyer loves the fire service. So on behalf of both of them thank you very much for giving me this honor. Thank you.

President Mark Bilger - At this time I call to the podium Chairman of the Safety Committee Michael LeCompte to introduce our keynote speaker.

Chairman Michael LeCompte – Thanks Mr. President. Welcome again everybody. Hey this speaker tonight, today is phenomenal. I guess I’m a little prejudiced on safety but she goes all over the entire United States and speaks about firefighter safety. She recently moved down to Ocean City on a part time basis from Drexel University. But her name is Dr. Jennifer Taylor. She’s a Professor of environmental and occupational health at Drexel University School of Public Health in Philadelphia. She received her doctorate in health policy and management from here in Baltimore from the John Hopkins University and is an expert, I love that word, on injury prevention. For more than a decade Dr. Taylor has worked with the United States fire or fires service. She also works regularly with the National Organizations of the International Fire Chiefs Association, the International Fire Council and there’s many, many more. All of them we’re involved in. Dr. Taylor founded and is director of the Center of Firefighter Injury and Research and Safety Trends which the acronym is FIRST, you’ll start hearing the word FIRST. Again the Center for Firefighter Injury and Research Trends at Drexel for the entire United States. Dr. Taylor’s awards from FEMA on the assistance of firefighters through grants has developed in the fire service models for integrated injury data systems, policies support for the entire United States on National databases. The focus of survey that measures how safety climate is predicted in injury assessment and risk and just last September was the first FEMA supported award to look at stress and violence against our first responders in the United States in the EMS side, on the fire response. Perfect for us, a native of a native Philadelphia, Dr. Taylor recently moved.
here to the Eastern Shore as a matter of fact, here in our beautiful town and because she moved here for one reason I said, why’d you move to Ocean City Maryland she said because she loves our Maryland State flag. So without further ado let’s give Dr. Taylor a warm Maryland welcome.

**Dr. Taylor** – Good morning. Thanks for being here and thanks for having me. I actually live in Berlin right across from the Assateague National Seashore, so if you wanted to know where the ponies are give me a call. So I’m at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Since we’re in Maryland I think most of you know where that is but just in case you don’t know that’s a picture of it. We’re famous for this thing, that thing, that thing, this guy, a really old fire department and these guys. I’ve, I know, I’m sorry Ravens fans but I waited 50 years for this moment and I think it might only have one year to do it so. So I want to talk with you just for a couple of minutes. Before I throw up some data and I want to have this disclaimer that some of the things I talk about might piss you off. Are the kids out of the room? Okay, okay. Thanks. So things that will change your culture may fly in the face of tradition. So I first want to just tell you a little bit about myself. I have a very strange relationship with food. No I’m not a vegan or pescetarian or one of those low-carb gals because I love donuts too much. But when I eat celery or sunflower seeds I have a strange reaction and under just the right conditions of intense physical exercise I go into complete and total anaphylactic shock. My throat closes up, I can’t breathe, my skin turns a lovely shade of purple and my face swells to about 3 times its actual size. And when I have this reaction I become paralyzed and I can’t talk to you and within a hundred and twenty minutes of this reaction if I don’t get IV Benadryl or an EpiPen or something I will die. Now it’s really important when I’m lying on the floor of a supermarket paralyzed and I can’t talk to you that the EMS responders from the fire department who come for me know exactly what to do. And that’s happened to me twice that I’ve had my life saved by a fire department. It’s a small department west of you, you might know it, it’s Baltimore City. And unlike, right, they got lucky, but unlike the people who ever received the awards here and who their names are and received your accolades I have no idea who those guys are who saved my life. They’re the unsung heroes. And so when I’m having anaphylaxis, that’s a true emergency right and you’re on it, you’re pumped up and ready to come get me, but if I become a homeless woman lying on the sidewalk, dirty, disheveled, clearly not connected to services and you’re coming for the third time this week for my alcohol-induced fall, you might start to react differently to her. You might stare to use some gallows humor to cope with the fact that this is the third time this week you’ve come for this woman. You might say something disparaging to your partner. But over time when this is the call that you receive every day, the calls like I dropped the remote, I’ve got boogers stuck in my nose, these are real things fire departments have told me and this person needs me to get them out of bed and put them back in bed. Those calls are going to start to accumulate in your psyche. It’s going to create a reaction in you called emotional exhaustion. It’s a measureable attribute for your work and its part of a larger phenomenon called burnout. I study burnout for a living, among other things and I can
tell you that in the United States Fire Service we’ve got a burnout problem. We’ve asked firefighters thinking about their work on a fire run versus and EMS run to respond to questions about burnout. What side of the work do you think is driving them crazy? It’s EMS. Now you can tell me that because you’re doing that work and I can tell you that because I’ve been listening to you for ten years, but our stories aren’t enough. When we go to City Council or our Town Governments to ask for resources we have to have data to add to the stories and I have that data. I’ve got a lot of it. I’m gonna throw up some slides here to show you what it looks like. Now you might say, well you I signed up to put wet stuff on the red stuff so I don’t really care about EMS, but EMS is 60-90% of any fire department’s work these days. And it’s getting worse. On any given year as far back in the data as I can go, the number of calls for EMS responses in this Country has increased by 20% a year. We’re not ready for this. The fire service isn’t ready for this. We don’t have the personnel for this, we don’t have staffing for this, and we don’t even have all the equipment we need for this. We certainly don’t have policies for this. There are actually no National Standards for how many paramedics or EMTs we should have. For 100,000 population there are 4 fireplugs, there are 4 fire stations. We’ve got a lot of work to do here. Now some people say well what we should do is just educate the public about what a true emergency is. So when you educate the public about what is true emergency is what are they going to do? They’re going to keep calling. So we have to make sure you have the resources and skills to respond to that increasing demand for the community. That might take this the phases of community medicine, Para medicine, social work, public health skills and that’s going to cry for some more money. For those of you who are paid, we have to increase the salary of those people so that they can respond to that increasing demands that has huge impacts on their burnout. And you know for some people who you respond to an EMS run you’re all that they have. We’re on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, this is a rural community where I live. There are people who have no health insurance, there are people who have very little. They put together money to see a doctor if they can’t you’re it, and you do a great job. I know how great of a job you do, but we need to get you resources to continue to be able to do that job for the community. Now you may say, well we don’t want to do EMS or you know let’s educate. But the problem is we put out a shingle that says you call, we haul. You get it. So we’ve got to be able to respond and we need the resources to do so, but you can’t do it on the back of the workers. In Philadelphia, where the first center is, we do a thousand EMS calls a day in Philadelphia, with 200 paramedics and 40 ALS ambulances, half of which are in service at any time. We are doing EMS in Philadelphia on the back of the paramedics and EMTs. We have to make standards to make sure we have appropriate staffing. Now you can make argument for those resources by saying this is what we need to protect our workers, keep them healthy and safe and uninjured and unexposed, but, I submit to you, in the spirit of things that fly in the face of tradition that argument hasn’t been working very well. And what we need to do is amplify EMS and our mission and add to it our part of that mission is to ensure quality and safe patient care and that’s how the resources are going to come to us. If we say patient safety matters, give us the
resources to do X, Y and Z and we will deliver safe and quality patient care. Now I know that’s not fair. People should care about you and your safety. But however we can get those resources so that we can adequately respond to the community and to people like me, the more resource will be the happier will be and the less burnout will be. So let’s go back to the fire ground for a moment. You guys are always saying Doc you know we’re concerned about our cancer, we’re concerned about heart disease and I say great, let’s help you with that. But then you say, but don’t play with my shift. We want you to solve our heart disease, but we don’t want you to look at our diet. We want you to solve our heart disease but we don’t want you to look at our sleep patterns or our fatigue. So what I say to you is for all of those things to be on the table, all those variables have to be on the table. We have to start to look at these things because they matter. So Bill Hamlet, Chief of Washington Missouri, outside of St. Louis has a 5 station volunteer department and he’s done things that fly in the face of tradition. He’s a banker in his day job, his paid job, and he took that knowledge and he went to the city Council and asked them for one cent of their sales tax and he got it right into the operating budget of the department and every year they get about one and a half to two million dollars from that sales tax. Sound good? Flies in the face of tradition though, right? John Durr is the safety Chief of Portland Oregon of a career fire department and station 6 is in his department. Those members are fried, their house is downtown. It’s where all the young homeless people come. They’re all part of that opioid epidemic you’re heard about yesterday and those people in 6 are fried. Their burnout levels are through the roof. I have the data. And so you know what Chief Dare did? He rotated those crews from 6 to 14 which is on the perimeter of the City in a kind of suburban area very different call types and he sent those crews for a vaca in 14’s shift rotation. Now you might say, don’t change our shift. I bid at that, I bid at 6’s, that’s where I want to be. This doesn’t change your bid, it just gives you a little break and it also gives the guys from 14 a chance to see what’s going on at 6 and what you’re dealing with. But this flies in the face of tradition of resting workers so that they can return to work. In research there’s a lot of folks flying in the face of tradition as well, Dan Matrikoski and Steve Kerber at NISUL who are looking a modern fire behavior ventilation lightweight materials they’re not trying to piss you off, they’re trying to figure out what are the modern hazards that you’re dealing with and how can they bring science to help answer those questions. Chuck Sizeler at Harvard is looking at sleep and fatigue, but he has to look at your shifts. And the locals won’t work with him because they don’t want to look at their shifts, but you have to. Everything has to be on the table. You have to be able to look at exposures that are causing cancer. If you want the answer you have to look at how we’re getting cancer. You have to look at diet in order to understand heart disease and you have to look at the organizational culture in which you work in order to understand that there are different ways to do things. But you can’t say, well we’re not going to do that Jen because we haze our young. That’s how we bring people into the fire service. So I want to talk to you today about the new toxin. What are the toxins that you deal with as firefighters? Smoke? What’s in smoke? Particulate matter, benzene, toluene, radiation hazards on your job? Hepatitis problems on your job?
Exposure to HIV? These are the traditional toxins for which we’ve given you gear and we have protocols. But there’s another toxin the fire service hasn’t been paying attention to and that’s the one I work on. The new toxin in the fire service is us. People can create a lot of toxicity and how we look at this is by looking at the safety climate of the fire service. We can measure levels of toxicity. Some fire departments have a really sweet deal going on. Some don’t and so we look at it because you said we should. In 2004 the National Life Safety Summit was held and 16 initiatives emerged. The first one is this, define and advocate the need for a cultural change within the fire service relating to safety. Incorporating leadership, management, supervision and personal accountability. But how do we measure that? We have to have a tool. We developed that tool at the FIRST center for you. Initiative number four says all firefighters must be empowered to stop unsafe practices and the authors were saying how did we get here? How did the culture policies and practices of the fires service lead people to do the wrong thing and how do we stop this? How does the organizational environment get created so that all members feel like they can speak up? Gordon Graham said that at the point of hire, people are highly motivated and highly charged to do good things and then what happens? They get exposed day in and day out to unsafe practices and violations of department policy. Chief Daniels went on to say the folks that come into the fires service don’t come in completely horrible, we make them the way they are. He went on to say that a culture that doesn’t allow people to speak up when they see something is going on, something bad and tragic is going to happen. It’s not a matter of what, it’s a matter of when. These are your thought thinkers talking about culture change. So organizational safety culture is very easy. It’s a shared pattern of assumptions that the fire service has made as you’ve solved your safety issues that you’ve considered good enough to teach the rookies. Another way that you might say this is the way we’ve always done it, there is no need to wear SCBA during overhaul because all the bad stuff is gone. That’s our tradition. A way a firefighter said it to me once is the way we contaminate minds. So a rookie on first assignment in your station is going to acclimatize to the prevailing culture that’s there around safety. If you go out when the tones go off and you go out of the bay and you’re not wearing your seat belt what do you think that rookies gonna do? Yeah, he’s not gonna wear a seat belt because you want to be accepted, you want to be part of the team, you want to get the good shift, you want people to give you a good job. So safety climate is just how we measure your safety culture. It’s a snapshot. It’s done very quickly in 5-10 minutes. I can get a firefighters read and the crew in which he works what they think about the safety climate in their organization and it’s about this shared, what the shared group thinks and what the perception think of the rank and file about the safety policies procedures and practices in your organization and what’s rewarded and supported. Do you wash your turnouts when you come back from a job? If that’s what’s rewarded and supported that’s what you’re going to do and guess what? That’s going to reduce your cancer exposure, right? But if it’s, you know, we don’t have the money for that or we don’t, we don’t care about that, then you’re just gonna throw it on the floor and wear it on the next run. So here’s how this works and I’m going to start backwards. So
the fire service has prioritized initiative number seven is do something about near misses injuries in line of duty deaths. These are called safety outcomes but I was just having a conversation backstage how many of your departments have one station? I did a study of 132 fire departments. All different types, 30% of them had zero injuries in the last year. So to look at the relationship between safety climate and your injuries can be difficult if you’re a small department or you’re a good department that doesn’t have a lot of injuries. So we move upstream. We start to look at organizational outcomes, burnout, emotional exhaustion, engagements, feeling dedicated and absorbed in work, job satisfaction, which is the morale of the department. These things actually predict whether injuries happen. Let’s go a bit more upstream. The next dimension are your safety behaviors. If you’re wearing a hood when you’re going into a burning building and you’re wearing it right – that is a behavior that you engage because somebody has told you and trained you that that’s gonna protect you from a facial burn and a $10,000.00 plastic surgery. You my say to one of those rookies who’s got tunnel vision on their first fire, hey watch out this is what’s going down with the structure. That’s citizenship. These behaviors lead to either positive or negative organizational outcomes or safety outcomes. Let’s go to the very beginning. Your safety climate, the policies, procedures and practices around safety that you put in place and you reward and support will be up taken by the membership and will be observable in their safety behaviors. The 2 most important dimensions of safety climate – our management’s commitment to safety that is your white shirts, your leadership and the supervisor support for safety that is your company officer at the station. Those are the two most important things that drive safety climate in the fire service and this is a causal pathway. It’s not just based on my science but the science of over 100 different industries and 200 studies. This is knowledge. This is what we know. This is theory. So the safety climate is good, the safety behaviors and citizenship will be there. People will be more satisfied on the job and they will have lower injuries, but wait, there’s a little bit more. You’re really concerned about suicide and some of the precursors to that are anxiety, depression, PTSD and these can lead to suicidal ideation, attempts or completions. The organizational culture around safety can contribute to that. But then, of course, we’re also concerned about these exposures if the department doesn’t give up. I have to be careful, right the children are out? If the department doesn’t give a damn about the safety climate how adherent are you going to be with those safety behaviors of wearing your gear? And then 40 years later when you get cancer we could have stopped that. So, but safety climate is where it starts if you want to really engage in prevention you will engage in safety climate and understanding what your organization is doing to convey to the members that you care about their safety and health and I’m going to show you the data on that. So here’s my takeaway. Humans are the new toxin in the fire service. We need to pay attention to it. When the safety culture is bad, which we’ve created, it leads to stress exposure and injury. It can be changed from negative to positive because we create it. And when we create a positive culture we get healthy workers. Does this make sense? Anyone? Okay, thank you all. Right, so we developed a tool for the fire service. FEMA R&D grants paid to develop
this tool for you. It goes right next to your haligan. One hundred and thirty-two fire departments were randomly selected to participate in this study. We did not select our friends. Each of the 10 FEMA regions was a strata and we randomly selected 132 departments from the 30,000 on the USFA census. Seven career, 6 volunteer for every FEMA region. Over 750 fire stations participated and over 10,000 firefighters. This is the largest FEMA funded sample of firefighters to date. And these two domains emerged. Management commitment to safety, leadership policies emphasize punishment rather than safety. People who make policy decisions in this department see eye to eye with rank and file on safety. Our apparatus is fixed and returned to service in a timely manner, and supervisor support, my direct supervisor puts a high emphasis on safety training. I have competent, a confidence in my company officer to keep me safe. So these things are specific to the fire service and in 132 departments on a scale from zero to a hundred. A hundred being the most positive safety climate the average was 76 out of a hundred. No too bad, but the range was telling. There is a department in this sample that is 57 out of 100. And there’s a department in this sample that is 92 out of a hundred. Where do you want your fire department to be? When we look at management commitment and supervisor support there’s a 10 point difference and we see this across the Country. Supervisor support is always ranked more highly than management commitment to safety across the Country. Organizational outcomes when we look at job satisfaction, the average was 79 out of 100 when we get to 80 we’re feeling good. We’re feeling like maintenance, keep doing what you’re doing. You’re doing some good things. But the range of job satisfaction, there was a department that was 62 out of 100 and there was a department that was 96 out of 100 on job satisfaction. Where do you want your department to be? We validated this tool because you have to be sure when you use a tool that is actually is measuring what it says it’s going to measure. For every 10 points you department can increase its safety climate score measured through focus you should expect to see. So let’s say we’re going from a 60 to a 70, you should expect to see a 4-9% reduction in your injury rate, a 1-3 point reduction in your burnouts, a 7-9 point increase in morale and job satisfaction, a 2-4 point increase in engagement dedication and absorption at work and a 3-5 point increase in safety compliance. I want to show you what a real fire department’s data looks like. I have anonymized this data to protect the innocent. Their overall score was a 75 out of a 100 for safety climate, but when you look at their management commitments and supervisor support you will see that their supervisor support is 81 out of 100 but their management commitment to safety as viewed by the rank and file was 68 out of 100. So we look at the gaps between these two measurements and we want everybody to be as close to 100 as possible. So this department has some work to do from a leadership perspective. We can also look underneath at graphs of how the country has done. The highest department has 93 the lowest department has a 56. Where is your department in this data? We can look at the safety climate score by station, we can see variation within departments. This department, the highest score was at four with the 79, the lowest was at 12 with the 70. So not too bad, less than a 10 point difference between the highest and the lowest station. Let’s
go further. We’re gonna look at job satisfaction, excuse me, 81 that was the score for this department overall. That’s in the maintenance range, but when you look at their station 5’s has a 90 and 6’s has a 75. Administration and training also has a 75. You can never keep those guys happy right? So what’s happening at 6’s that 5’s could possibly help with? Is there something about the supervision at that station? Does something about the location or the business at that station? Why is there this disparity in job satisfaction in this department? This is burnout. Burnout when the score is high is bad, so you want it to be in the green. When it’s above average on this slide it’s red and when we ask this question on the survey we asked thinking about your work on an EMS run which is on the left and thinking about your work on a fire run. Tell us about burnout. And so what’s driving burnout in the fire in this fire department EMS or fire? The red one? EMS? So this fire department could tell us that, but now they have data at the station level that can tell us overall what the burnout rate in the department is. What is it on EMS and what stations are the most affected. Maybe what Chief Dare did in Portland might be something that this department wants to think about. Giving people a little vaca at a less busy station for a while without them losing their bid. Okay, so here’s the spread. Engagements the department average was 75, I think I can’t see so what’s, what’s driving engagement in this fire department? Green is good, red is bad. Green is above average engagement, red is below. What’s driving the engagement? Right, the fire side of the work. These are the same people doing the work, it’s just that they’re thinking about those types of the work. So we can actually see on the fire side there’s a pretty narrow spread but on the EMS side there’s a 15 point difference from the house that has the lowest score to the house that has the highest score. But nobody in this department is as high as the fires side on EMS. EMS is driving it, these are data that we can use to advocate for resources. Okay, we’re ready to review. When you’re safety climate goes up, what happens to your injury rate? Goes down, right. When your safety climate goes up, what happens to your engagement with work? When your safety climate goes up what happens to burnouts, being emotionally exhausted? Absolutely great! And so when your safety climate goes up, last one, job satisfaction, morale what happens? Right. This is how it works. You’re safety climate can set in motion all these organizational outcomes that are predictors of safety outcomes like injuries and exposures and contributes to the psychological load that you’re carrying in the fire service. And why? Because we reward ad support safety behaviors and we set up policies, procedures and practices and we hold them up as values that protect our workers. We create safety culture when it’s great, we have less stress, less exposure and less injury. When we change it from negative to positive, because we create it, we can create healthy and safe workers, The FIRST center at Drexel University is there for you to help on this. We are working with 500 fire departments in the United States, assessing for free their safety climate and training them on how to use this data to advocate and to plan interventions that they can then re-measure to see how they’ve changed or if their climate is really good how to keep it in the sweet spot because there are departments that are absolutely doing great. The FIRST center website has information about all the projects we do including our most
recent one, looking at stress and violence to fire based EMS responders. The first time FEMA has ever supported looking at the EMS side of fire. We have a fire fellowship program where we train the next generation of fire service researchers so that they continue to be there to work with you on your priorities that you’ve identified and all of our publications are here. You can download them for free for a table talk or a monthly training you can download them as many times as you want. They’re made available to you for free. So I want to thank you for having me here today. I want to thank Mike LeCompte and the Safety Committee for thinking enough about what we’re doing at the FIRST center to be able to share it at such an esteemed conference as this. I will be around today, so please feel free to stop me and ask me questions. Don’t be afraid of scientists, we are your allies in all of this and don’t say to me, Jen you know we all have ADHD we can’t pay attention. I call BS because firefighters know a hell of a lot about chemistry, physics, math, engineering, mechanics, health conditions and people. So do I. Together we can rock this on your safety and health. Thank you very much and enjoy the rest of your conference.

President Mark Bilger- Thank your doctor. On behalf of the officers and members of the MSFA I have for you a convention mug and a bag. Mr. Jim Brown please come forward. The officers, members of the MSFA on behalf of all your hard work and dedication would like to present your team with certificates of special recognition for all you do for the MSFA for these many years. Thank you very much. Next Chairman of our EMS Committee Eric Smothers.

Chairman Eric Smothers – Good morning. This is my first time being up here as EMS Chairman and these are some of our committee members, our EMS committee members up here on stage. This award is for EMS providers. It’s known as the Joshua A. Hunt Award. It’s considered the highest award conferred on a member of the Maryland medical services community. Nominees must have a least 5 years of service as an EMT or higher in a MSFA member company. The winner selected by our EMS subcommittee. Last year’s winner, if she’s here was Elizabeth Larimore from Odenton Volunteer Fire Department. I’m not sure she’s here but if someone from Odenton wants to come up and receive her plaque. So this year’s certificates or nominees for the award was: Georgia Pharaoh from Tacoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Ronald Kefauver from Middletown Volunteer Fire Department, Sakurito Burito from Wheaton Volunteer Rescue Squad. The winner this year is a member of the Darlington Volunteer Fire Department, Fire Company. And our winner this year is Sherry Sowers. So Sherry if you’re here? Just a little bit about what Darlington wrote. Is proud to submit life member Sherry Sowers to your association for consideration to receive the Joshua Hunt EMS person Award. Sherry has served the Darlington Fire Company with over 34 years of active service. In addition to her service with the Darlington Volunteer Fire Company she has also served with the Fallston Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Company from 1976 through 1978 and the Abington Fire Company from 1978-1984. So Sherry congratulations.
President Mark Bilger—Past President Roger Powell in the audience? Past President Roger Powell. Final and last call. Okay. I would like to introduce the President of Mt. Airy Mr. Dan Keola for a presentation.

Dan Keola – Good morning everyone. It’s not every day you get to sit down with a veteran of 78 years from the fire service. This past week I had that opportunity when I visited Oscar at his apartment in Mt. Airy. We talked about all sorts of things, and about the fire service and what this award meant to him. He told me that when he joined the fire department in 1941 and how things were so much different. From riding on the back step of open cab fire engines to the old-school gear and breathing apparatus. He told me about how when he joined up the fire company a man by the name of Lindsay Browning was like a mentor to him and how important mentors are to the new members coming up through the fire service today. I asked him what he missed about the fire service and hanging around the station and his answer was simple. The camaraderie he said. Hanging around talking to the fellows and the young ladies and just seeing what’s going on on a day to day basis. When I asked him next what throughout his years is his proudest moments were in the fire service, yeah so he came had four things come right to mind. It was very simple—purchasing the carnival grounds back in the day 46 acres for $13,000.00. Purchasing the first closed cab engine and the first ambulance in 1953. First company in Carroll County to have radios and Oscars been inducted into 4 different Hall of Fames. The Carroll county Hall of Fame, Maryland State Hall of Fame, the town of Mt. Airy Hall of Fame and his proudest moment of being inducted into the State senior citizen Hall of Fame. Finally I asked him what advice he had for all the new rookies that are up here today. He said, told me to tell them, sit back and listen, keep your eyes and years open, never stop learning, continue to train trying to make yourself better and hang onto volunteerism because it’s the hard work of the volunteers of what is, of how we’ve gotten here today. We are very fortunate this year to have 9 outstanding nominees for the C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year. If the nominees are in attendance please come up on stage when your name is called. Zachary M. Bach, Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department. Drew Wilson, Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Department. Glanton Lange Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Department. Nicholas Forsdeak Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Department. Noah C. Day, Northeast Volunteer Fire Department. William “Teddy” Shrink, Wheaton Volunteer Rescue Squad. Mitchell Owen, Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. Brandi Bolden, Odenton Volunteer Fire Department. Travis Brandon Merritt, Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. This time I’ll paraphrase the letter from the nomination from the company that nominated the winner. This nominee joined the Northeast Fire Company on April 20th, 2016. His first year as a rookie member he enrolled and successfully passed EMT-B, firefighter 1 and hazardous materials operations along with several other segment classes at the School of Technology. Since that time has successfully completed firefighter 2, instructor 1, rescue tech, truck company ops, and incident command safety officer insight ops. He is consistently maintained honor roll status in high school all the while working a part time job. He has also participated in 100% of our inner department
training classes and is often the first one to volunteer for company activities such as fire prevention, clean up, fire and medical standby details, setting up our banquet hall for events and other miscellaneous details. As if training classes weren’t enough to consider, he has also been the top 10 or top 5% of top responders for both fire and EMS division for the company. His positive attitude with his peers and superior officers is infectious as he goes about his task or assignments. He will graduate with honors this June from Northeast High School. Our nominee discovered a suspicious situation on the way to the fire station one day and reported it immediately which progressed to an investigation by law enforcement for a dangerous meth lab. He was recognized by being alert and participating safety there in this incident. Our nominee was honored on November 10, 2017 at the annual Cecil County First Responders Appreciation Dinner. Nominee was submitted by the officers and members of the Northeast Volunteer Fire Company. On behalf of the officers and members of the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Company the winner of the C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award for 2018 is Noah C. Day from the Northeast Volunteer Fire Company in Cecil County. At this point Oscar Baker is here with us today about to celebrate his 96th birthday this Sunday and would like to take a minute to say a few words.

C. Oscar Baker – That’s enough. Don’t overdo it. You’re making my head swell. Great to be back again this year ladies and gentlemen. Was yelled into whether I’d be here this year or not but here I am. I don’t know why but I’ll take it as long as I can get it. I’m not going to bore you like I did last year. Two important things I want to bring out this year. One is that 40 years ago I was sworn in as President of this great organization, 40 years, 1979. The other thing I wanted to tell you about, I got all three of my sons here this year. The oldest one, when you have a child seventy years old you know you’re old yourself, oldest son Glenn he lives in Easton right up the road not too far away, the middle born Jerry is 67, 67 and he lives in Mt. Airy, he has all the work to do to take care of me cause the other two don’t. And the youngest boy Dennis, Sacramento California. He and his wife is out here in the audience for the first time. So this boy that won this thing I just told him he’s real busy the last year or so, so keep up this work and keep volunteering as much as you can. Volunteers the name of the game folks. Hope to see you next year. Thanks a lot for the hospitality.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I’d like to call to the podium Past President Roger Steger, Past President Phillip Hurlock for a special presentation to Past President Oscar Baker.

Past President Phil Hurlock – Thank you President Bilger. We also have a presentation that’s very special. The comment has already been made about Mr. Baker. On behalf of the Past President organization I would like to have all the Past Presidents that are currently in attendance if they would also stand up for recognition to Mr. Baker. The comment has already been made, 40 years ago Mr. C. Oscar Baker led this great organization and we’d like to recognize him as part of the Past Presidents with a small
token of our appreciation. Thank you Sir.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I’d like to call Past President Roger Powell for the Emkey Award.

Past President Roger Powell – Good morning everyone. I am here to present the Ed Emkey Award for the best cadet program or juniors program. When I initiated this award it was after going through the chairs and realizing that the lifeblood of the volunteer fire service is the junior or cadet programs that so many companies throughout the state operate. When you see the enthusiasm and zeal of these young people, how they enjoy being part of a group, how they enjoy the training and learning and look forward to growing up to the point where they will be able to become regular members of the company, this is where recruiting really begins and recruits from the cadet and juniors programs don’t, don’t just leave and they actually increase the number of percentage of volunteers that stay in the company for more than 5 years. So it’s very important to the volunteer emergency services in Maryland to perpetuate the junior and cadet programs. This award was named for Ed Emkey who ran the cadet program at English Consul for I can’t even tell you how many years. He travelled with his juniors all of the the State of Maryland in parades and that’s another thing that juniors enjoy is actually being able to be out in public in their uniforms so that everyone can see them and they can interact. It’s wonderful. Last year Arcadia won the junior and cadet award, the Emkey award and if there’s somebody here from Arcadia to come up and pick up your permanent trophy please, anybody? Excuse me, we have a new name we have mergers now but the trophy says Arcadia. The award includes $500.00 and a big trophy on which the name is inscribed. The company keeps it for a year and returns it and next year they’ll get their permanent trophy. So this year’s cadet program that won the trophy is Williamsport.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I would like to introduce Mr. Bill Lake Chairman of the Firefighter of the year committee.

Chairman Bill Lake – Good morning. I first like to introduce the members of the committee. My name is Bill Lake Chairman, Jim Yarbo who is Vice Chairman, Dale Budnick Sr., John Gatton, Johnathon Helwig, Dave Keller III, Roger Marks, Bill Smith, Jim Schneider, Jeff Thompson and Jeff Brenner. This year we had 9 nominations for the Firefighter of the Year which is the committee thinks very poor for the State. Every fire company has a firefighter of the year so next year submit those people to be recognized by this association. I’d like to read the nominees and if they’re in the audience would they please come up? Richard Kaiser, Middletown Volunteer Fire Company. Anthony Simonetta, Odenton Volunteer Fire Company. Tyler McCure, Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. John Duress, Wheaton Volunteer Fire Company. Daniel Boothal, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Company. Scott Dayof, Winfield Community Volunteer. Sean Day, Northeast . Christopher Bell Leonardtown and David Zents, Emmitsburg. This person that we’re acknowledging this year, In the year 2017 he completed 551
President Mark Bilger – Bring to the podium Chairman Safety Committee Michael LeCompte for the Past Presidents Smith Stathem Award.

Chairman Michael LeCompte – On behalf of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Safety Committee we have and award that’s given out every year. It’s called the Smith N. Stathem, Jr. who is a Past President Safety Award. We have nominations from all over the State. We have five people this year that were nominated for it. The first one has, he’s a career firefighter who was with the Valiant Fire Department in Emmitsburg Maryland which is in Frederick County. He started at age 18 promoting safety. They have done integration in Emmitsburg with the EMS and fire side and he has taken charge of that to make sure that the integration involves a huge amount of safety and his department wrote up a beautiful resume about what he had done. Joshua Brotherton of the Valiant hose company in Emmitsburg, Maryland in recognition of your nomination to the Smith N Stathem, Jr. memorial safety award for your excellence as a firefighter in EMS and the field of safety. It’s presented today’s date by myself as Chairman and sir he was from Reading. It’s well deserved. The next nominee has been nominated twice from our beautiful area of the state Southern Maryland in St. Mary’s County. Mr. Francis J. Raley. Francis is a member of the Ridge Fire Department and again in recognition of receiving the 2017 award which by the way he receded before the Smiths Strathem Memorial Award of Excellence and firefighter safety and EMS safety. Mr. Raley. Thank you sir, by the way the committee I need to recognize these fellows. This is just part of our huge safety committee. But we try to have references and representation from the entire state of Maryland. We meet 5, 6, 7 times a year. By the way we’re meeting on Thursday morning right now after the executive committee meeting at 11 o’clock in the AM in the Performing Arts Center. We welcome all of you, anyone who wants to be on the safety committee interested, again we’re trying to get all 23 counties represented. Come see me or member of the safety committee and we would be honored to have you. We’re really trying to disseminate information throughout the state on what we’re doing and addressing current issues. I will not waste your time, I promise. The next, the next nomination has already received the award not once but twice and for the third time I’m so honored to give this award. This man doesn’t stop when it comes to firefighter safety and his name is Philip R. Cooper. Phil is from St. Mary’s County, retired deputy Sheriff. He has been instrumental in everything including what recently happened with God Bless, with the school shooting so Phil has been an integral part of not only safety in the Ridge Fire Department but with the entire culture of safety in St.
Mary’s County. So with no further ado I’d like to introduce Mr. Phil Cooper the recipient of the award not once, not twice but nominated three years in a row. This is kind of special back in the 80’s Fire Chief at Rockville Volunteer Fire Department where I was the station Lieutenant at Station 33 called me and said you’re going to get a live-in. His name is Michael LeCompte and he’s a safety guy. He’s been talking since the mid 80’s to me and hasn’t stopped. The Ocean City FireDepartment would like to put Mike LeCompte in for this very prestigious award. I would like to recognize and congratulate Michael A. LeCompte. It was a serious surprise that this morning God was gonna have it so you know, just so you know this the members that serve on the safety committee cannot get dismissed out of an award for obvious reasons. So to get some of us that got nominated are really integral in the part of safety. It was a real surprise to us that people thought enough of us to nominate us even though we can’t get it. So we can never get the real reward as we’re all in that committee which is good. So anyway this next fella I’ve known him since I was up in Rockville working and I listened to him at the County meetings and I’ve never heard a bad word about this man. He’s not only involved in culture of safety in his department but he’s involved its culture of safety on the entire D.C. Twelve years in Montgomery County and Takoma Park Fire Department throughout 2017 I’m gonna be specific for time Chief Jarboe was busy promoting safety and fire and injury prevention whether at the station and the community of Takoma Park or elsewhere throughout the metropolitan area of Maryland. He did all this with his sincere dedication and enthusiasm and commitment to the word safety. Chief Jarboe has put together a book which I just showed you on the activities that he has been involved in and what he does proactively with their children, especially in Montgomery County. It is my pleasure to nominate and by the way, his current Fire Chief we just said a nice thing about me, thank you there Chief Musgrove. Tom Musgrove nominated and I cannot pick a better person for this award Chief D. Jarboe.

Chief Jarboe - I just want to thank them for this prestigious award and also to Michael LeCompte and the safety committee and Chief Musgrove and also congratulate the nominees up here. But I also like to say that if you look out in the audience and a lot of them have left, if you look around there’s no reason I’m sure out of 351 fire departments out in this state and all the , I think Michael mentioned the other day, the 350 fire departments represent like 90,000 volunteer fire and EMS people and I can’t imagine that if you look around, the fire chief’s, the leaders, the President, Board of Directors that I’m sure there’s many out there in the audience and the fire stations that should be up here. And I’m really honored to receive this award. We don’t do a very, very, very close person to me said- we don’t do the job of volunteering, volunteering for awards but if it happens it happens. When a person gets an award, everyone up here go to to award the same thing with me. Yes it says my name on it but is also says the name of your fire department to be proud of. And I think we all need to look at that when it comes to safety. Remember heart attacks is the number one so if you have a physical fitness not a physical, well physical fitness but also getting your physical you need to get it. Then reference to crashes and at the the fire ground we must be aware
Chairman LeCompte – At this time we’ll be presenting the training award. I have the honor to represent the chairman of the training committee on stage with me is Miss Peggy Zembower LAMSFA Past President. The Zembower fire safety training award was established in 1976 by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Zembower in memory of his late parents Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell Zembower of LaVale and it was accepted by the executive committee. Cromwell M. Zembower is the Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, a member of the training committee for many years. Our fire service training award is based on the average number of formal training hours per active member of Fire Rescue training completed in the fiscal year prior to the award. The original award was based solely on the formal training offered by MFRI, however in ‘95 the award was based on formal training offered by any recognized training agency. The award has a large trophy and then a smaller trophy that the individual gets, so the large trophy will be given to the winner this year they’ll bring it back and receive a smaller trophy next year. At this time I would ask a representative from the New Market District Volunteer Fire Company to come up for the 2016 trophy. This year the first runner-up in 2017 for the Zembower training award is United Steam Fire Engine Company #3. So someone come forward please. Second runner-up for 2017 Zembower training award is Graceham Volunteer Fire Company. If somebody could come forward please from Graceham, Thank you. Third runner-up for 2017 Independent Hose Company #1. If a representative could come forward. And the winner of this year’s award is the New Market District Volunteer Fire Department.

President Mark Bilger - At this time I would like to introduce Past President Dave Lewis for the “Sunny” Rose Award.

Past President Dave Lewis - Thank You President Bilger. I’m David Lewis president of the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company and I’m joined on stage by Bob Rose and Bill Rose brothers of “Sunny” Rose and we’re certainly honored to be here tonight to be presenting a training award in “Sunny’s” honor and remembrance. The Odenton Volunteer Fire Company has a strong heritage and excellence to our community and that’s based on the training that we provide. As heritage has been institutionalized by each of our Chiefs we’re represented today by Chief Emeritus Wylie Donaldson in the audience, Chief Paul Gunshaw, Chief Chuck Rogers is here and each Chief that has been in charge of our company has kept on that strong excellence in training there, but certainly one individual was instrumental in continuing that heritage. He was never a chief officer but certainly instrumental to us and that was our good friend and brother “Sunny” Rose. We lost “Sunny” just a few years ago but the company wanted to continue the legacy that he started by sponsoring an award in his name. This is the third year that we’ve had the honor to present this award to an individual from the state Maryland State Firemen’s Association who also has dedicated many hours of training.
just as “Sunny” did. Hold on I got pages of notes here. “Sunny” joined the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company in 1963 and was an active member all the way up to his death in 2015. He served in many positions including Line Officer, board member, and many, many other committees, but his true passion was for fire and his fire service career was for Fire, EMS and rescue training. Starting as a field instructor for the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute in 1977 and over 38 years as a field instructor he taught many countless of hours across the state of Maryland and on many days can be found at one point in the state only to be found in the evening in another portion of the state. It’s certainly our honor to have sponsored this award in “Sunny’s” name and we’re proud to present this award today and it may sound like a repeat for as far as the award that you heard earlier for the firefighter of the Year. Our award this year for this “Sunny” Rose Memorial Award goes to Anthony Simonetta from the Onley Volunteer Fire Company. We’re certainly proud to keep that keep the trophy home but certainly look to recognize additional honorees and awardees as the years go on. Anthony joined our company in November 2015 and has never stopped learning or contributing to our company. He began his excessive training at firefighter 1, EMT, EVOC, confined space just-just a few to mention. He also, as you as you heard in the earlier nomination and award, completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Emergency Management and Homeland Security and is now working on his master’s degree. In 2017 as we’re honoring Simonetta for this award, he completed 551 hours of training and it’s certainly our honor and Chief as you heard earlier Simonetta cannot be here he’s currently in the recruit academy for Anne Arundel County. Chief Paul Gunshaw is here to receive the award on behalf of firefighter Simonetta. One parting thing, “Sunny”, when he 20 was ill went in one of the last statements that he made to brother Bob was that I can only hope that something that I’ve taught somebody will help them save a life. Remember that as you do your training. God bless you” Sunny” and we’re glad to recognize you with this award and congratulations to Anthony Simonetta.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I called chairman Dale Fishack for the scholarship awards

Chairman Fishack- Good morning. It gives me pleasure to announce this year’s scholarship recipients but before I do that I always like to recognize those supporting partners who help give us the funds to make the scholarships available each year. From the Maryland Committee on Trauma, Jim Brown, from Shock Trauma Tara Carlson and Christie Sinector, Delmarva Power Linda Berth. Without these folks support we would not be able to give the amount of funds that we do each year. I would now like to ask my committee to come out and join me as we get ready to do the presentations. We have six recipients this year. The first is Jonathan Dayton. Jonathan is attending the Frostburg State University, he’s a member of the Potomac Volunteer Fire Company in Western Port Maryland. He is supported by the Maryland Committee on Trauma. The second student is supported this year is Samuel Friedman. Samuel is attending UMBC and he is a member of the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Company in Owings Mills.
Our next recipient is Stacey Holden. Stacey is attending UMUC and is a Maryland as a member of the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company in Jarrettsville Maryland. The next recipient is Ryan Huber. Ryan is attending UMBC and is a member of the West Friendship Volunteer Fire Department. Next is John Russo. John also is attending UMBC and is a member of the Wheaton Volunteer Rescue Squad. And our final recipient for this year is Nathan Sarasitis. Nathan is attending UMBC and is a member of the Lineboro Volunteer Fire Department. Congratulations to all the recipients this year. Thank you to our supporting partners for making this possible.

President Mark Bilger – At this time I would like to introduce Joe Charnock for family appreciation Awards.

Joe Charnock- It has been my honor to have served as the recruitment and retention chairman for the State of Maryland for the last seven years. The recruitment and retention committee feels very strongly about succession planning and over the last six months we have worked to put into place a new chairman of recruitment and retention, and I would like to introduce you to Joseph Larsen Sr. He will be the new recruitment and retention Chairman.

Chairman Joseph Larson - Thank you very much. So the recruitment and retention Committee Awards a family recognition award. It’s also to honor the family and believe me the family also serves along with the member. So this year our recipient is from the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department. The member joined in March of 2000 and actually married into the fire service. He met his wife and his wife was already a member of Arbutus and their family a member of the Arbutus Fire Department and the auxiliary. So I remember, the recipient quickly became active qualifying his firefighter and emergency responder and served as vice president of the company. The recipient of the family appreciation is Steven Gower and family would you please come forward.

President Mark Bilger -At this time I like to bring the Executive Director Chief Michael Cox to the podium and Chief Mike Robinson for the Frances L Brannigan Instructor of the Year.

Director Michael Cox - Thank You President Bilger. Good morning everybody. Chief Robinson and I are honored to be here today to present the Francis L Brannigan Instructor of the Year award. This award is a joint venture between the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute and the Maryland Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board. It’s given to recognize individuals who have demonstrated outstanding instructional abilities, accomplishments and selfless contributions in the emergency services fields. This year’s recipient is an educator, history of education has started long before her formal recognition as an emergency services instructor. While growing up as part of a well-respected fire service family she served for five years as a fire prevention queen representing the Brentwood and Brandywine Volunteer Fire Departments in Prince George’s County. She continued to serve through the MSFA on state at the state level as
a runner-up for State Miss. Fire Prevention, where she took advantage of opportunities to educate the public with regard to fire prevention concepts. This recipient was the first hired at the Fire Rescue Institute in June of 2007. As an instructional designer, her public school teaching background as well as her devotion to and experience within the Fire Service made her a perfect fit for contributing to and developing programs that would be presented to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Services. One of her major accomplishments at MFRI, was the completion of a year-long project where she researched and analyzed the use of my Brady lab program that is now a required component of the current EMT curriculum. This program is proven to help to push the success rate of our students to where it is today and she was also instrumental in the development of the current instructor 1 and instructor 2 programs. Our recipient holds a master’s degree in education which has allowed her to qualify a through the MICRB as one of the state’s relatively few certified instructor trainers. Her educational journey continues as she’s recently been accepted into a PHD program in higher education for changing populations through the Notre Dame University of Maryland where she wants to make the difference in how we educate our first responders and the next women in the fire service. She has written and presented several PDI programs which are unique to the theme and methodology and in the past year she has delivered 15 of these programs and an additional 13 during the previous year within every MFRI region and several career academies throughout the state. She was also recently recognized with regard to her research and presentations on the general learning styles with an invitation to be a featured speaker at the national professional development symposium to be held at the National Fire Academy this month. She serves currently as a training coordinator for the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services training academy and she serves as a member of the MSFA state training committee, secretary of the Council of academies and recently received the Gubernatorial appointment to serve as a member of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Education training commission. Outside the classroom she serves as a member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department and as part of the Cancer Network for firefighters. Her impact and influence with hundreds of instructors throughout in the name of student success and achievement will be passed on to students throughout the state for many years to come. And it is with our honor and great pleasure that we present the Francis L. Brannigan instructor of the Year award to Miss. Amber Lazier.

**Amber Lazier** - They told me I had to stand up and say thank you and it’s a pleasure. They say I like to talk I just like to talk to instructors but thank you again.

**President Mark Bilger** - At this time I’d like to bring to the podium the chairman of our Fire Prevention Life Safety Committee LAMSFA Past President Teresa Ann Chrisman and the ambassadors and members of her committee.

**LAMSFA Past President Teresa Ann Chrisman** - Well hello everybody. That’s right hey is there any other ambassadors here come on up. So I have a little presentation for you
all. You know my world wind travels that I have been doing for this state I got to go to Vegas wouldn’t say much about Vegas I never saw the strip. It’s all hotel room but then I went to Anniston, Alabama before that, let me tell you something I never want to go back. I can tell you this I will never complain about the beds at Emmitsburg ever again because those beds at Aniston I think came from the Civil War. So let me start by a little presentation. First off I’d like to introduce our ambassadors for this year. I am Ashley Navourchec, I’m the Junior Miss Frederick County Fire Prevention. I’m Kerry McHenry on Montgomery County’s Miss Fire Prevention. I’m Joslyn Furman I’m Junior Miss Fire Prevention. I’m Sierra Hawkins I’m the Maryland Fire Chiefs Miss. Fire Prevention, MSFA first runner-up from Frederick County. Hi my name is Alison Little and I am the MSFA Miss Fire Prevention. If you all were here Sunday you would have seen a lot more kids we had a great presentation and we greatly appreciate everybody that’s doing these efforts. So if I could start my slide show, slide show. Something. Okay they’re busy. You can find our lovely report in the convention book its a couple pages long it also has several things in there that we’ve done for you all, and if you go to the MSFA’s website under fire prevention you would clearly see all the things that we’ve been doing for you all. The committee, we’ve had several meetings this past year we’ve done a lot of different things, we’ve worked out so much to ensure that you all have those places to go. So our meetings were conducted at Prince George’s County in the Cranford Graves Fire Service building. In July we went to Abington Fire Department. Lakeshore we ended up having to cancel that due to the funeral for Past President Leonard King who was very supportive of our committee. Our committee is also supported the MSFA and MFRI. The Maryland Fire weekend in College Park of the University of Maryland and in March we went to United Communities Volunteer Fire Department and there we were graciously given crab cakes for lunch. That was a good thing. So if you go to the website you’ll see that we’ve had several tip sheets produced. They have the burn safety for children and adults, carbon monoxide, Christmas tree safety, close the door safety, hoarding safety, fire escape plans, holiday safety, pet safety, senior safety, smoke alarms in the Maryland laws so you can clearly understand what we’re doing, space heater safety, sprinkler safety, the State fire statewide community Risk Reduction weekends and we also have turkey fryers on there. Turkey fryers is a big thing for a lot of people. We also include winter safety. We try to change them and add the messages as we go on so we really want everybody to see what’s happening. We are always committed to you guys so whatever we can do to help and support your stuff we would likely to help you too. We do have several things that we are allowed to take around the state that give great importance and if you go outside to the main part of the convention center you’ll see the thermal temperature gauge that’s inside of a car. Yesterday the highest the temperature got was 161 inside and it was 82 degrees outside so that clearly shows you the technology of these cars are keeping the air really tight in a car and it’s not allowing. So that’s our biggest message there. We have three in the State, one in the region for Prince George’s in Southern Maryland, we have one in Baltimore and then we have one and MIEMSS has one and then we’re gonna try to get one for the Western Area to be housed out of the hospital up there. So
we really have the two. We’d also like to thank Fire Marshal Geraci for all your support, your commitment to this committee. We greatly appreciate your efforts. We try to stand there for you when you need us and we really, as you said yesterday, it was hurting when stuff happened for you guys. Our committee is always committed to you and we’re committed to whatever you need legally and if we have to go to a bar I’m there for you. So we just really want to be there for you as much as possible, for your team our committee is a big committee in a sense we’re all around the state, we try to look for new people so if you’re interested please let us know we would really like to get more people on this because it is an overall action. It always, I always say it takes one conversation to spark an idea to spark that person to realize what they need to do to make their communities safer so please I can’t say thank you enough to everybody in their support and we just want to make sure that you all have the resources and tools. So going back to NFPA in Las Vegas. I was able attend this year for the state and wemet with United States Fire Administration NFPA and Vision 2020. In the last couple of months. So from this I’d like to go through some of the things that they brought us. So the NFPA is really trying to advance some things for us, for Community Risk Reduction, they’re taking on the tasks, they’ve written codes, they’ve increased the resources, they have a tool site there which is free of charge. Everything that I’m talking to you today is free of charge to all the departments you do not need a subscription to the NFPA, you do not need anything to help you buy anything. They’re not gonna push you to buy anything and they really want this message to get out there as much as possible. Their public education site, if you go on to their section you’ll see this area then you’ll see the resource manuals and tools all these things listed and I know it’s kind of hard we will put this on the website for everybody. But all these are things that they’ve created along with everybody else to make sure that they have messages. This year’s fire prevention program has been announced as “Look Listen and Learn”, it’s really important to understand that this is the message this year. Our message will be up there October 7th through the 13th. They changed this up. They have a new character that they’ve introduced and this is all the things that they’ve given us and about a week and a half from now they will be updating the whole website. You can kind of see what they’re doing now for the action items but they have all these resources and tools that you’ll be able to download for free. You can purchase the kit which is all in color and that stuff will be up made available but really the good thing is all this stuff is free. This is what they have on here you’ll see the different aspects from there and then you’ll be able to go through the resources and pull what you need. They do have it broken down to different tools and stuff and then the campaign was “Look Listen and Learn”, be aware fire can happen anywhere works to educate about three basics of, but essential steps to, reduce the likelihood of having a fire and how to escape safely in an event of one. The look for places that fire could start look for those hidden hazards around your home listen you want to listen for your smoke alarms and learn always having two way out so that’s the messages that they’re going to be doing. They’ve created cartoons and interactive items that you can actually download those also and you can put them on your websites and they also have made gifs and tiffs so
that you can actually put them if you have an electronic sign board you can download all that stuff too. So once that portal is available we will convert that to our site so that you will easily be able to go to their links without any issues. So moving on division 2020, myself and Jim Resnick we actually attended the last symposium in Reston, Virginia and they have introduced new things for us. Also if you think vision 2020 we spoke about that before they’ve been a great resource for community risk reduction. They’ve had the grants and the tools and they have us for that we have a site that you can go to you can download you can go to these places if you ever want to create something. They have a materials generator so if you’re thinking about making a bookmark or a door hanger they have it English and Spanish and they’ve actually integrated a whole bunch of different resources into that. Also just to give you an idea there are so many cultural changes happening where I live I’m dealing with Serbian, Afghanistan and Iraqi refugees. So when I’m dealing with them they all can’t be in the same room because of issues so three times a month I will go to a certain location in the county and I will actually help them. They’ve created information in their language that has helped us and we told them that we’re seeing this so they took that step and allowed us so if you have that type of issue going on for you there’s a great resource that can help you. Another great thing that they’ve included is through IFSTA. You can go online a training you get credits they are trying to figure out how you can take those credits back to a university in your own area for us. The University of Maryland or if you go to Towson or any of those things it’s good class credits that’s through Oklahoma and they’re trying to figure out a way to branch it out so you can turn that into your college credits if you need to or if you need continuing education this is a good site and resource for you. Also so you can go to the Community Risk Reduction portal and you can download this area and you can actually go in and look and see what you need to do for your community. You know every year we say we have two important dates that we really want to push the smoke alarm issue so we announced those yesterday and they’re in the convention book and there’s a flyer there and that flyer is actually on the website also so you can download that too to remind your department. You know Community Risk Reduction is about everybody. It’s that simple conversation that you have, hey did you check your smoke alarm today? Hey do you have working windows to make sure that you can get out? Do your children know how to do this? You think about children do a fire drill every month in their school, the state of Maryland has requirements for that so it’s really, really important that that happens take those times if they’ve had a fire drill in school that day have a fire drill at home that night. It’s really important. Here’s the generator site that you can actually look into and there’s different things you tailor it to you. You can even download your own seal, your Department’s information on there. Its printer ready you can put it and do whatever you need to do. They say that you need three good messages on any type of material. Too much can be too much for one time but if you’re trying to spark that one main interest that’s when you have it. Okay through the fire administration they’re really helping us too. We gave them Bruce, think about that, that’s a big it’s not a loss for us I think that’s a big gain for us. He is still active with our committee and we told him he wasn’t allowed to leave.
You know Fire Prevention and public education it’s really, really important. We really want to make sure that you all have these resources and tools and whatever you need. We’re here to help you. We want you to increase your awareness. You know if you have to go somewhere and just set a table somewhere and just push out some information that’s helping you, save me one time, someone will see something and say you know what I think I need to do that to my home again. A lot of educational resources and materials, oh hello and the biggest thing that they’ve introduced is a pictograph. I know it’s very hard to see up here but these pictures are for your nonverbal people that might not be able to say a lot so they support through messaging of pictures that you can say hey does this look for you and then they can help you from that. They did introduce newer technology they’re gonna start looking at smoke alarms in a different way. They’re gonna be changing the sound so we have a t3 wave now they’re looking in to a t5 wave so that kind of sounds like a foghorn, so if you don’t wake up to the other one you might be able to wake up to that. And again these are the links that we dealt with the NFPA org strategic fire org which is vision 2020 and the United States Fire Administration. These sites will put up links so that we can push everything out there and we go forward and making sure that the state is even safer. So at this time I’d like to do the big part. Our awardees for our books that we give out each year. So I’m gonna have our intern Emily come up and do this part.

Emily - Good afternoon, good morning. So I’m going to start with all of the participants and as I go through I’ll announce the class winners. Once everybody’s up on stage I’ll go through overall winners. I would like to ask everybody, at least one representative, to meet us on that side of the stage afterward to get your books. We’d like to not take the books back with us so thank you. All right so class number one we had Ridge Volunteer Fire Department and they were also the class one year-round project winner. Come on up. Class number two, we had for the year-round project, Benedict Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. If you could come on up. They were also the class two year-round project winner. Class three single project we had Potomac Fire Company number two and they were also the class three single project winner. Class three year-round project we had Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, Newburgh Volunteer Rescue Squad and Fire Department, Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department and Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company. Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company was also the class three year-round project winner. Class number four we have single project, Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department and four year-round project we also had Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department and they were both class four winners. Class number five single project we had Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department Incorporated and they were also the single project class five winner. And for year-round we have Mechanicsville again and La Plata Volunteer Fire Department and La Plata was the class five year-round project winner. Class six we have La Plata again for the single project and Bay District Volunteer Fire Department. Bay District was the single project class six winner. And finally we have the class six year round project which was Junior Fire Company number two and they were also the class
5, class six, I’m sorry, year round project winner. Our overall winners in 10th place we have 7th District Volunteer Fire Department and you will receive a $50 check. In ninth place we have Ridge Volunteer Fire Company with $50 as well. In eighth place we have Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department with $50 as well. In seventh place we have Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company number two with $50. In sixth place we have Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company with $50. In fifth place we have Benedict Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad with $75. In fourth place Junior Fire Company number two with $75. In third place we have Bay District Volunteer Fire Department with $100. In second place we have Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department $150. And in first place we have La Plata Volunteer fire Department with $200. Let’s give a big round of applause to all of our participants. No one is allowed to leave the stage.

**President Mark Bilger** - So it is my esteemed pleasure now to introduce Burt Brenner of the Silver Spring Fire Department.

**Burt Brenner** - Right Presidents, officers, delegates, distinguished guests, emergency firefighters, emergency medical personnel, Auxiliary and everyone from their respective fire companies and rescue squads across this great state of Maryland, the president and board of trustees of the 103 year-old Silver Spring volunteer fire department and its membership welcomes you to this 126 annual Maryland State Firemen’s convention. Again I have the honor of addressing this convention, recognizing the men and women as firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, IV Techs, Auxiliary members who stand tall in our service to the citizens of our great state of Maryland. The Silver Spring trophy for fire prevention excellence was born from efforts of those who have come before, some are still here to guide us and those who have gone from our physical myths and yet are remembered today for their contributions of fire prevention. Over the years it recognizes the highest achievement in the field of fire prevention as judged by one’s peers. Last year the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department was recognized by Montgomery County for installing over 1,000 smoke detectors to residents of Silver Spring as part of our life safety units’ activities. In addition we installed co2 detectors and safety awake units to our needy residents. The funds were made available through a government grant which we applied for. In theory Silver Spring could have applied for the Silver Spring trophy but that would be a conflict of interest. In addition the Gaithersburg Volunteer Fire Department has participated with our installations in order to create their own life safety units and I invite any Fire Department who wishes to be involved to be in touch with us. The Silver Spring trophy singles out an outstanding member of a fire department or Rescue Squad who deserves individual recognition for Events in the year to 2017 in fire prevention excellence. We recognize these efforts and fresh new innovative ideas which bring credit to the fire service, respect to the fire company and give honor to our state association. For excellence in the field of fire prevention from the ranks of the auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for the year 2017 it gives me great pleasure to present to this convention the winner of the Silver Spring trophy for fire prevention excellence from St. Mary’s County Melvin
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Tennyson Bay district Volunteer Fire Department Incorporated. I want to give a special thanks to the fire prevention committee in the state of Maryland, Fire Marshal, his staff and its committee for selecting today’s fire prevention winner. Thank you all for your kind attention this morning have a great convention and let’s have some innovative contributions to fire prevention program for the year 2018. Thank you again and have a great convention.

**LAMSFA Past President Teresa Crisman** - So to close out I was just like to say please contact the committee. Our first meeting will be in July we’ll be putting that announcement out and all the winners could you please go back to Ronnie Watkins and have your picture taken and so you can be a part of the record. So all the girls, everybody go back and have group pictures and thank very much for putting stuff in and being a part of fire prevention and please look at the books. We have the books on the side we’ll give them to you as you leave and again. Thank you all very much for entering the program thank you.

**President Mark Bilger** - At this time I would like to bring up Executive Co-Chair Rick Hemphill for the election results.

**Co-Chairman Rick Hemphill** - Thank You Mr. President. The report of the election judges for 2018. There were total 351 companies in good standing as recorded by the Secretary. Credential committee reports 272 of those companies in good standing or registered at the convention. It was a total of 25 Past Presidents registered at the convention. The following officers were unopposed and elected by a single ballot cast by the Office of the Secretary with the exception of the election of the office of Secretary and that ballot for that office was cast by the President. For President Richard C Blair, First Vice President Mike Faust, Second Vice-President Richard DeVore, Secretary Doyle Cox, Chief Chaplain John Long, Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke and Trustee Jeff Thompson. This year we had one proposed bylaws change results of amendments to the bylaws question number one 853 for or in the affirmative 69 against. The amendment passed this concludes the report of the election judges Thank You Mr. President

**President Mark Bilger** - Just some quick announcements. Again there will be training, special program tomorrow Travis Nelson corporate liaison Maryland State Police and Randy Linthicum EMT-P from MIEMSS. We have a joint installation tonight starting at 6 o’clock all are welcome into the Performing Arts Center also there’ll be a fundraiser for OC Fools block party at Cowboy Coast tonight starting at 6:30. Prayer breakfast tomorrow morning 7:30 a.m. Bay Front Ballroom, the parade will start tomorrow one o’clock rain or shine, we have the fourth annual hair of the Dalmatian 5k sponsored by the OC Fools on Thursday registration7:30. Executive Committee meeting will on Thursday starting 9:00 a.m. Performing Arts Center it’s open to anyone who wishes to attend, family day frontier town will be Thursday started in a one o’clock MS if a family night at the boardwalk will be Thursday starting at 7 o’clock and the golf tournament
starts Friday morning Eagles Landing. At this time we’ll have the chaplain come for benediction.

Also this afternoon starting at 12 o’clock is training for spouses and then at 2 o’clock training for you on how to deal with PTSD.

**Chaplain John Long** - Let us pray all mighty God we thank you for this morning we thank you for all those who received Awards who served diligently in their communities father we just pray for those who are out on the streets answering the call for safety father we ask you to be with us this afternoon as we go around in training events and spend time with families. Father be with us this evening as we install the new officers to lead this association. Be with us now as we partake of the friendship and fellowship and we enjoy while we’re down here. Yes, it’s on your name.

**President Mark Bilger** - Also don’t forget to stop in and see the vendors, at this time I’m going to recess the convention until tomorrow morning 9 o’clock it’s been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your president 2017-2018 thank you all for being here.
Master of Ceremonies Richard Brooks welcomed everyone to the Joint Installation of Officers.

MC Richard Brooks introduced LAMSFA President Vivian Boyd of the Kentland Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary of Prince George’s County and MSFA President Mark Bilger of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company of Carroll County to take their final walks as Presidents.


MC Richard Brooks proceeded to introduce the Appointed and Elected officers of the Ladies Auxiliary of the MSFA and the MSFA.

Ladies Auxiliary Conference Co-Chairman Barbara Hilton from the Damascus Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, Montgomery County escorted by her husband, Gary Hilton. Her page is her daughter, Susan Hilton.

MSFA Executive Committee Member Charles Walker from the Chillum-Adelphi Volunteer Fire Department, Prince George’s County. He is escorted by his wife, Sharon Walker.

MSFA Executive Committee Member Ronald A. Block from the Cape St. Claire Volunteer Fire Company of Anne Arundel County. He is escorted by his wife, Sharon Block.


Ladies Auxiliary Color Bearer Nancy Kay Trego from the Singerly Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary of Cecil County escorted by her cousin, Harold Trego. Her Page is Brenda Perry and her Past President is Patricia Deamond (2006-2007).
MSFA Executive Committee Member Daniel J. Stevens from the Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS of Charles County. He is escorted by his wife Bobbi Stevens.

MSFA Executive Committee Member Charles J. Simpson, Jr., from the Pleasant Valley Volunteer Fire Company of Carroll County. He is escorted by his wife, Bonnie Simpson.

Ladies Auxiliary Guard Jennifer Johnson from the Forestville Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary of Prince George’s County escorted by her boyfriend, Lawrence Moats. Her Pages are her mother, JoAnn Johnson and her daughter, Marissa Stallings. Her Past President is Darby Byrd (2015-2016).

Ladies Auxiliary Historian Holly Trego from the Singerly Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary of Cecil County escorted by her cousin, Bill Trego. Her Page is Dede Lyn Eveland-Pardee and her Past President is Rose Pandolfini (2007-2008).

MSFA Executive Committee Member Stanley “Buddy” Sutton from the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department of Montgomery County. He is escorted by Susan Hilton.

MSFA Executive Committee Member Doug Simpkins, Jr., from the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Company of Baltimore County. He is escorted by his wife, Christine Simpkins.

Ladies Auxiliary Vice-Chaplain Joan Kramer from the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary of Montgomery County, escorted by her son, Brian Adams. Her Page is Grace Aceto and her Past President is Carol Hayden (2013-2014).

Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain Shari Steffen from the Branchville Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary of Prince George’s County, escorted by the President of the Branchville Volunteer Fire Department, Jeramie Jordan. Her Past President is Elaine Huttenloch (1984-1985).

Ladies Auxiliary Corresponding Secretary Jean Main from the New Midway Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary of Frederick County, escorted by Gary Keller. Her Page is Susan Hilton, and her Past President is Kathy Knipple (2009-2010).

MSFA Executive Committee Member Wayne Tome, Sr., from the Water Witch Volunteer Fire Company of Cecil County.

MSFA Executive Committee Member John Fisher of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company of Worcester County. He is escorted by his wife, Janet Fisher.

Ladies Auxiliary Financial Secretary Malea Daughton from the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary of Harford County, escorted by her friend, Lieutenant Brittany Isaacs. Her Page is Donita Dietz and her Past President is Rosa Maher (2002-2003).
MSFA Executive Committee Member Timothy F. Dayton of the Potomac Volunteer Fire Company #1 of Allegany County. He is escorted by his wife, Diana Dayton.


Ladies Auxiliary Recording Secretary Becky Wathen from the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary of St. Mary’s County escorted by her husband, Johnny Wathen. Her Page is Debbie Fairfax and her Past President is Leone Gatton (1985-1986).

MSFA Executive Committee Vice Chairman Robbie Blackiston from the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company of Queen Anne’s County. He is escorted by his wife, Melissa Blackiston.

MSFA Executive Committee Chairman Rick Hemphill from the Independent Junior Fire Engine Company of Frederick and Washington Counties. He is escorted by his wife, Susan.

Ladies Auxiliary Junior Vice President Donna Struntz from the Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary of Allegany County, escorted by her daughter, Samantha Morgan. Her Pages are her granddaughters, Paeton Morgan and Skylar Stewart and her Past President is Sandi Lutz (2010-2011).

MSFA Trustee Past President Jeffrey H. Thompson from the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Department of Kent County.

MSFA Chief Chaplain Reverend John F. Long, Jr., from the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company of Anne Arundel County. His escort is his granddaughter, Emily Long who is celebrating his 4th birthday.

MSFA Financial Secretary Mitchell Vocke from the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company of Harford County. He is escorted by his wife, Darlene Vocke.

MSFA Secretary Doyle Cox from the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department of Calvert County. He is escorted by his wife Cathy Cox.

MSFA 2nd Vice-President Richard DeVore from the Ellerslie Volunteer Fire Company of Allegany County. He is escorted by Ladies Auxiliary Past President Sandi Lutz (2010-2011).

Ladies Auxiliary Senior Vice President Lori Denbow from the Level Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary of Harford County escorted by her husband, Jeff Denbow. Her Pages are Christine Deckard and Charlotte Denbow and her Past President is

MSFA 1st Vice-President Michael Faust from the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company of Queen Anne’s County. He is escorted by his wife, Stacey Faust.

MC Richard Brooks asked everyone to stand to welcome the new incoming presidents as they enter with their group.

Ladies Auxiliary MSFA President for 2018-2019 is Marcia Roth from the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary of Montgomery County. She is escorted by her husband, Johnie F. Roth, Jr. Her Pages are her son, Eric and her granddaughter, Christina Allread. Her Past President is Patricia Deamond (2006-2007).

MSFA President Richard Blair from the Western Enterprise Fire Company of Washington County. He is escorted by his wife Rosalyn Blair.

MC Richard Brooks asked the Fire Brigade Pipes & Drums of Greater Baltimore County to take their place.

MC Richard Brooks asked for The Presentation of Colors by the Color Guards from Harford County and Southern Maryland.

MC Richard Brooks asked for the invocation. MSFA Chaplain, Deacon Charles E. Barnhart gave the invocation.

MC Richard Brooks asked that everyone stand for the singing of The National Anthem. The National Anthem was sung by Staff Sergeant Kim Kerschmer of the Maryland National Guard. Staff Sergeant Kerschmer is also a member of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad in Prince George’s County and the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company in Anne Arundel County.

MC Richard Brooks asked that everyone remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. LAMSFA President Vivian Boyd led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MC Richard Brooks asked to retire the Pipes and Drums and the Colors by the Color Guard.

MC Richard Brooks introduced LAMSFA President Vivian Boyd for her final remarks. Her final remarks made, she ended with her signature saying, -“I love you, and there is nothing you can do about it”.

MC Richard Brooks called anyone who has presentations for President Boyd to come forward at this time to make their presentations.

MC Richard Brooks introduced MSFA President Mark Bilger for his final remarks.
MC Richard Brooks asked Presidents Bilger and Boyd to stand together at center stage and introduced them for the final time as the 2017-2018 Presidents. They were met with a standing ovation.

At this time MC Richard Brooks recognized and introduced Miss Allison Little, Miss Fire Prevention Queen for 2018 who was in the audience.

MC Richard Brooks stated that now is the time for the “changing of the guard”!

MC Richard Brooks introduced the LAMSFA Installing Officer Past President Barbara Sue Nelson to install the LAMSFA Officers. The LAMSFA Officers were duly sworn in. LAMSFA Past President Vivian Boyd presented President Marcia Roth with the LAMSFA Seal, Shadow Box of Officers Pins, one of the original Past Presidents’ Pins of the LAMSFA donated by Marie Souter, and her Gavel.

LAMSFA Past President Barbara Sue Nelson presented Past President Vivian Boyd with her Past Presidents pin and welcomed her to the Past Presidents Club.

LAMSFA President Marcia Roth presented LAMSFA Past President Vivian Boyd with her gifts from the LAMSFA Officers. She received a handbag, some wall hangings, three gift cards and a “Job” shirt embroidered with the LAMSFA Seal and her name.

MC Richard Brooks introduced MSFA Installing Officer Past President Michael Davis to install the MSFA Officers. The MSFA Officers were duly sworn in. MSFA Past President Tom Mattingly presented Past President Mark Bilger with his Past Presidents Ring, Badge, and the framed hand painted permanent MSFA Seal.

MC Richard Brooks presented LAMSFA President Marcia Roth and MSFA President Richard Blair to the audience for the very first time. They responded with a standing ovation.

MC Richard Brooks introduced LAMSFA President Marcia Roth for her remarks.

MC Richard Brooks asked if anyone has presentations for President Roth to come forward at this time. The Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department and the auxiliary members of the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department came forward. They presented Madam President with a check in the amount of $1,400.00, and a bouquet of flowers. Marcia stated that they have 41 members in their auxiliary and thanked them for the gifts. LAMSFA Past President Carol Hayden, who is also the President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association, presented President Roth with a check. The amount was not stated. At this time President Roth’s husband, Johnie, came on stage with some gifts, including an inflatable raft. He explained that earlier in the year while on a boat cruise on the Choptank River, Marcia made an attempt to photograph a bird with her smartphone, and accidentally dropped her smartphone into the Choptank River. Of course it was not able to be retrieved. He
then turned the inflatable raft over to the other side to show a smartphone display complete with decal apps. A roar of laughter came from the audience. Her husband also presented her with a metallic decal of the LAMSFA seal for her car and a LAMSFA shirt and sweat shirt.

MC Richard Brooks introduced LAMSFA Senior Vice President Lori Denbow to speak on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary Officers. Senior Vice President Denbow offered congratulations to President Roth, and pledged support and assistance to the MSFA to President Blair, and looks forward to working with them. Senior Vice President Denbow also thanked everyone for joining us tonight.

MC Richard Brooks introduced MSFA President Richard Blair for his remarks. President Blair recognized and introduced Past Director John Hoagland from the University of Maryland Fire Extension School and thanked him for his presence and guidance. President Blair also thanked Master of Ceremonies Richard Brooks for his support and dedication to the MSFA.

At this time, MC Richard Brooks asked that the persons representing Senator Ben Cardin and Senator Chris Van Hollen to come forward. Proclamations were read, by both representatives, and presented to the LAMSFA Past President Vivian Boyd and MSFA Past President Mark Bilger.

MC Richard Brooks motioned the Transportation Committee Chairman Tom Flint to come forward and present President Blair and President Roth with their State of Maryland Vehicle Tags. They are the first persons to be receiving tags with the new design.

MC Richard Brooks publicly thanked Past Director John Hoagland for his service. He was met with a standing ovation.

MC Richard Brooks announced there will be a receiving line of the Officers and Presidents outside of the room followed by a reception and open house to be held on the 4th floor of the Grand Hotel located at 21st Street and the Boardwalk. He asked that everyone stay in their seats until after the Benediction is given so that all the officers can escort the presidents out.

A Special Blessing for all the Officers was given by MSFA Chaplain Deacon Charles E. Barnhart and the Benediction was given by LAMSFA Vice Chaplain Joan Kramer.

The Presidents and Officers exited the stage to the hallway for the receiving line.
President Richard Blair - I want to call the 4th session open this morning of the 126th annual convention. Chaplain Barnhart with the invocation.

Chaplain Barnhart - Good morning. Please rise for prayer. Heavenly Father, as we begin a new year and close out this year, we give thanks for those who work so diligently to bring us to this point and we ask your blessing to be upon the newly installed officers this day. Father, you are good we ask your blessing to be upon each one of us as it doesn’t matter what we do here it just matters that we continue to be volunteers and that that message goes across this great state. Again we thank you for the beautiful day you’ve given us, bless our parade, bless those who are participating in it and bless those who will be here for the rest of the remaining activities and those who are traveling back today, grant them safe travel. Again we thank you for all the blessings and benefits that you give to each one of us daily and we ask this in our prayers through your son Jesus Christ our risen Lord amen. Please be seated

President Blair – I’d like to introduce Michael LeCompte for a safety message Mike.

Safety Committee Chairman Michael LeCompte - And congratulations sir. And other one another Presidents. A couple things, the parade I was just down to the parade grounds. They’re asking this year, we had an incident last year when they put a child on the front bumper of the engine and it fell off thank God he didn’t you he or she did not get killed but only put people where you’re supposed to be on a fire engine or fire truck. The Senator Mathias the Mayor, our great governor who, by the way he’s going to be here today and in the parade, they asked for really nice weather and it is really nice outside. With that said my a McMuffin hat that I wear because of what happened, wear it, wear sunscreen this it’s deceptive down here when it comes to the sun. Even though its semi cloudy down here we get a fog you can get severely sunburned, and that includes tomorrow at Frontier Town. I had one complaint last year and that was I got sunburned. I told you so, so be careful go over to Roses or whatever and get sunscreen put it on you if you’re down there from 1 to 6 or today put it on you again because we sweat it off wear a hat that covers your back your neck and your ears because we’re continually exposed. Other than that things are perfect. I want to introduce, real quick I watched, I’ve been told I’ve got to back up, watch for children. One thing we could do and I want to pray for the past 40 years this keeps some length some length between the vehicles in the parade. The reason why if something would happen or somebody would fall off or a child would run out or somebody take it a picture you’ve got that margin to stop your vehicles. So it’s extremely important that we keep space between the vehicles. So if you’re not driving tell your driver to back off
a little bit and it looks better. So with that said I’d like to introduce Mr. Gary McGinnis from Carroll County and Gary has been very cued up on cancer in the fire service. I’d like to ask Gary to give, tell you a few a few incidents.

Mr. Gary McGinnis - Thank you sir.Good morning everyone. That’s my first time to address the MSFA Commission. It’s a real privilege. I talked a lot about cancer prevention and the nasty stuff that’s going on. Washing your gear and in the process of that I was talking to a friend and she washed her boyfriend’s hood and when it was all over that’s what was left. Think about the junk that’s in those hoods and stuff and just being re-absorbed into your neck and skin. Please wash your gear one of my big goals this year is to demystify the standards for cleaning gear we’re going to get some experts in we’re going to figure it out. I’m going to help spread the word. Please talk to us we are here for you we’re here to help you whatever your problems are. We will find an expert to help figure it out and a way around it. It’s supposed to be stand down week and we all come down here and have a lot of fun but it’s also serious. Cancer is like number one and a number two killer of firefighters and the emergency service workers. I probably wouldn’t be here today if it wasn’t for the good fortune of having the screening process the fiscal process from Carroll County Volunteer Fire Services. They saved my life please get a physical if you need help with that get in touch with us we’ll help you find something. Thank you all, see you at the parade.

President Blair - Just to bring you up on some information, the Bay Bridge will be closed today at 1 o’clock westbound from 1:00 to 1:45 so if anybody’s heading 50 West please be prepared to stop. Also, today the parade starts at 1 o’clock beginning at 16th Street and ending at the 30th. Ladies back here yet? Yeah there’s a golf tournament on Friday Eagles Landing starting at 8:00 a.m. rain or shine. Executive Committee tomorrow morning at nine o’clock in the Performing Arts Center. There’s family day Frontier Town and water park, Thursday at one o’clock. MSFA family night at the boardwalk Thursday at seven o’clock, and the fourth annual hair of the dog Dalmatian 5k sponsored by the Ocean City Fools. See what time registration starts at 7:30 in the morning at the firefighter’s memorial on the boardwalk at the North Division Street that’s good. Any other announcements to be made? Seeing none. Now I needed a motion to set the resolutions. Sir. Name and a company level? Need a motion on a second- Gene Worthington, Level Fire Department makes the motion, can’t see, who are you back there? Phil Hurlock Past President seconds. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed? Ayes have it. Can’t tell whether the ladies are back or not. We’re gonna wait a second or two for the ladies to arrive. While we’re waiting I’d like to thank everybody for support. Sir? Bring em on. Entering the center aisle, Marcia Roth, I did get that right today and Dick DeVore Second Vice President for Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

LAMSFA President Marcia Roth - Morning everyone. While they’re coming up on stage I want to thank everybody who attended last night. Same thing goes for the
auxiliary as what Richard said last night as far as you being there for us, we’re there for you also anything you need. Ladies when I call your name if you’ll take a small step out. I’d like to introduce my new officers to you. My Senior Vice President Lori Denbow, Junior Vice President Donna Struntz, Recording Secretary Becky Wathen, Financial Secretary Malea Daughton, Corresponding Secretary Jean Main, Chaplain Shari Steffen, Vice Chaplain Joan Kramer, Historian Holly Trego, Color Bearer Jennifer Johnson, our Guard Jennifer Johnson sorry oops she moved up, Color Bearer Kay Trego, my to Bessie Marshall Chairs Pat Deamond and Kathy Knipple and one of my conference co-chairs Barbara Hilton. Thank you and have a wonderful rest of your conference.

President Blair - Thank you ladies. I’d like to introduce Chief Bill Corrigan from College Park Fire Department. He’s going to do a presentation on Hughes 47 building in College Park- Lessons learned and relearned.

Chief Bill Corrigan - Good morning everyone. We’re gonna do a pretty quick overview of the 4700 Berman House Road fire from last April. With the time frame we had this is going to basically be like a 10,000 foot overview of the fire ground, very basic general overview of what we learned that day. A couple videos of the condition some of the crews faced. We’re going to stick around afterwards if anybody wants any more detailed information or questions just grab me in the back of the room. I’m more than happy to talk to everyone. So what we’re gonna look at here today is the building itself. At 4700 Berman house it’s a seven story structure. The first two floors were concrete construction type one parking garage, amenity space, retail space then five floors of wood frame over top of it that was residential. The building was about 90% complete the day the fire started. They were, it was and April when they had the fire they were scheduled to move in on July 1st. So the building was very close to completion. This is a picture that was taken probably about four months prior to the fire occurring. This shows the same general area of where the fire originated. Fire originated on the 6th floor in that apartment right up the stack where you see the orange trash chute running up the building. The trash chute actually played a significant role in the vertical fire extension because the trash chute had been removed but the framing members and structure that held it to the outside of the building were still in place. So when the sheetrock was installed on the ceilings in these apartments up that stack there was a 3-foot by 3-foot hole that was never covered back up with the sheetrock because the frame was still there to hold up the trash chute. They sheetrocked right up to that opening and left it so we had a perfect three-foot hole to get vertical extension from the sixth floor to the seventh floor and ultimately up into the cock lock. So just bear with me here because I can’t really see much of what we got going on here behind me. All right, so we talked about the trash chute already. All right so here this is dash cam video from the engine from College Park. This is a short clip of their arrival conditions. We can go ahead and click and play on that. You can see as they pull into the block it’s very obvious that we have a fire on the sixth floor but the status of the apartment where
the fire started it kind of hid the severity of the fire a little bit. This this vertical stack of apartments up that corner that was where they made all the deliveries into the building for appliances furniture and stuff like that so they were still unfinished. They didn’t have windows in place yet they had 1/2 inch OSB plywood over top of the openings instead of windows so the fire that was present from the alpha side of the building had already burned through these half-inch thick sheets of plywood and when you were if you were to look straight into the structure from across the street you could see we basically had floor-to-ceiling fire in the living room, kitchen, dining room the combination area and it was rolling down the hallway into the bedroom in the back corner of the apartment. But it was hidden pretty well from the outside because of how the plywood was still in place. So some of the stuff we learned during this initial operation. We maintained interior operations for about 40 minutes before we went the exterior, so the look at some of the stuff that we learned out of this. First wave of interior operations we had a huge problem with valves being in the closed position. Both sprinkler and standpoint. Obviously with new construction the building was going to be fully sprinklered. All the sprinkler zone control assemblies were all in the closed position and the biggest, biggest issue we had that day was the riser valves beckon for the vertical combined sprinkler standby riser in the stairwell the riser valves were in the closed position. So even though we were pumping multiple supply lines into the fire department connection for the building none of what it wasn’t going anywhere. The crews got up to the fire floor stretched off the stand pipe and got no water even though the connections were charged and it took a little while for us to overcome that. In the couple the first two engine company driver and one of the second alarm engine company drivers did a fantastic job of overcoming this and they had to hand stretch lines into the building to the base of the riser and back feed the stand pipe through a hose valve on the first floor. It’s the only way we ever got water up to the fire floor. The other thing that kind of threw the crews for a loop, when they got up to the top of the stairs when they were stretching the initial line, the stand pipe had water in it and was pressurized. Pressure gauge at the top of the stamp 1 riser showed 150 psi on it when they got to the top of the stairs, but the second they opened up the hose valve to start a charge in the line, the gauge zeroed out because there was no supply to it, it was just full of water pressurized and then turned back off. A lot of this stuff we just have to kind of, and I’ll jump around a little bit, we basically we need to reteach the fire service building construction as a result of what we’re looking at here. I always, I never would have thought like if you look at one of these buildings, and if you go back to that original slide of the building under construction I’m sure pretty much everybody would agree it’s a wood frame type five structure. As we learned reviewing the plans for the building looking at the code aspects of it, which is a whole other presentation in and of itself, this is actually considered ordinary construction now even though everything’s made out of wood it’s all wood framing the building code now considers this ordinary construction based off of a couple of caveats that they have to meet for how they frame it in. The structural members but they now consider this ordinary construction and not wood frame so that that threw me for a loop when I learned that through the whole process. The other thing
we take for granted, the standard six foot hook on a truck company and a ladder company, and that’s our standard complement for tools for companies to carry in the top floor ceilings on this. In this building we’re 11 feet four inches so the initial wave of company’s going to the top floor to chase extension and open up were very ineffective. But they got up there with six foot hooks I mean even some of my height at six-two six-three with a six foot hook is not going to be very efficient for long and drop the ceiling. We also learned the hard way of dealing with the type X and type C drywall which is how they get their fire rating and their enclosure and everything much more impact resistant than there’s just your standard half inch sheet of drywall. Very difficult to open up and not paying much attention while the building was being built and I’m now watching very closely. On a lot of this stuff they use an acoustical hanging system for the sheetrock on the ceiling. Just the trusses are so flimsy and there’s not there’s no mass to them that the sheetrock doesn’t get screwed into the underside of the floor trusses and ultimately the roof truss on the top floor there’s a hanging system of metal straps that the sheetrock actually gets attached to. So even once we got longer hooks to the top floor and a lot of resources up there that could only open up one foot at a time because these straps are one foot on center so no matter how fast the crews were moving they could only open up a foot wide strip at a time to try to get ahead of this fire. So we just, the building was basically our own worst enemy that morning in terms of trying to get in there and get everything opened up. I mean one issue we had from the command perspective on the ground, just looking up and talking to company officers and division supervisors inside the building and it’s an issue that wasn’t just - this fire it’s kind of a common place issue on a lot of fire grounds anymore, was getting the engine companies to just get a line in place open the valve and leave it open and let it heat for a while. We just we watched a lot of this call of penciling for lack of a better term, quick short burst of water and you’ll see some of that when we pull up a video here in a second of what the crews were doing on the top floor. A lot of quick bursts of water because basically what they were seeing they were they’re hitting the initial fire, fire would darken and down they lost visibility which means they lost visible fire and which shut the line down. We were watching from the command post down on the ground even once the fire presented itself through the roof and you would see an engine company start making significant progress on the fire through the roof and the hose line would then shut down and then 15 seconds later the fire was through the roof above them again. So just pushing your people to just open the valve and just let it go for a while and just let that thing eat. I mean I said that’s not just - this fire I mean we’re seeing that on a lot of fire grounds anymore. Read in the smoke conditions and again when we look at this video here in a second look at what the smokes telling you. We talked a couple seconds ago about the 12 basically 12-foot ceilings and we’re also looking at a building that was over 500 feet in length and over 200 feet deep so when you’re in a corridor that’s got a 12-foot ceiling and you have 200 feet off we come out of stair one you got 200 feet a hallway directly in front of you and the smokes almost to the floor you’ve got something burning. You’re not dealing with just a little bit of trap smoke on the top floor. I mean you have that big a volume of a cubic feet of space and
you have that filled with that much smoke and when you see the video here in a second and the smokes moving up with pressure behind it. Find where that fire is I think crews got a little complacent when they got upstairs. They didn’t think they had much extension, they opened up a little bit and they weren’t recognizing what the smoke was trying to tell them of just how much fire they had above them. The building itself was this open center courtyard it was basically a giant square so you have rapid fire spread in multiple directions simultaneously. When that fire got into the cock low space right in the corner of the building it was running left to right and front to back at the same time. The stairwell that we use for the fire attack stairwell was a great stairwell for the original fire department. He came out of the stairs he made a left and you had one apartment and then you’re in the fire apartment so it was a nice short easy stretch straight line out of the stairwell. It was a terrible stairwell for the fire extension into the Cock low firm above the seventh floor because the crews came out of the stairwell chasing the fire. Right away they came from behind the fire and it was running away from them so without factoring all the delays we talked about for how difficult it was to get the ceiling opened up and the engine companies were coming from behind it the fire was running away from him and it was running away from him in two directions at once and it took all of us a couple minutes to catch onto this fact and start getting crews coming in from the other direction, from the other end of the building come and head on into it to try to stop it. Which ultimately we were able to stop it with the help of the fire wall and just a lot of resources but we burned the roof off the top of 36 apartments before we got to that point. So it’s just some of the stuff to look for there. So this is about a two or three minute long clip and show them what the companies dealt with on the top floor. This is coming out of the stairs going to the apartment directly above the original fire apartment. So you’ll see when they bang the right here and turn down the corner this hallway in front of them is almost 200 feet long and when you look at the level of visibility for such a large area that right there should be telling people that we’ve got something burning somewhere and it doesn’t show as well on the screen verses if you’re looking just on the right there computer monitor but you’ll see this smoke is rolling over their head and it’s moving with some pressure. They get to the door to the fire the apartment above the fire property which ultimately became a fire apartment as well. You’ll see the amount of pressure behind the smoke as it’s rolling out of the top of the doorway. When you have that much movement of your smoke to the top of the doorframe coming out into the hallway in an apartment that’s got a 12 foot ceiling that should be telling everybody right now that we have something going on. When you hear some of the radio traffic in the audio in the background you’ll hear division supervisors and officers talking about how they’re just checking for extension, they have just smoke no visible fire etcetera. And then as I come around this corner here you’ll see this apartment, see fire rolling through the Kok walked over and while somebody’s getting the radio returned that there’s no fire just smoke. You’ll see some of the engineer, somebody here with guys jumping up on top of the kitchen island. Guys jumping up on top of the appliances to be more effective putting holes in this 12 foot ceiling. And you’ll occasionally get a couple glimpses of
the rest of the ceiling here as they’re starting to open up. Everybody focused right here in this corner thinking that was the extent of the extension. You can see periodically that some of the gaps in the fire wall and the junction boxes for the light fixtures and stuff like that. You’ll see the fire very clearly through any opening in the ceiling well behind the wall they’re working right now. You need to get to a position where you write off basically what you have burning over top of you and get ahead of it. The whole time we’re mess around with this corner that’s burning it’s moving racing down the hallway behind and over top of them just undetected basically. But a couple times when this camera pans up they’ll go to go glimpse of like every single seam in the drywall and you can just see fire behind it. Now we’re finally starting get some water. But again it’s a tough, it’s a tough position to get into to talk yourself into writing off a certain area of a building. But ultimately when we got to the trench cut operation and wrote off a huge chunk of the building to get ahead of it. It’s not an easy decision to make as a company officer or incident commander. Writing off a piece of property or hoping that you can still save some of the building. So we’re gonna look at the roof operations now. The trench cut operation which is ultimately which basically reinforced the firewall that was in place and ultimately where the companies were able to stop this thing. A huge roof, huge surface area trench cut was over hundred feet in length and four feet wide. Between the companies that operated underneath of the trench cut dropping ceiling and getting hand lines in place and the companies that worked on the roof we utilized 16 companies ultimately as part of this trench cut operation. When you factor it in the initial wave that went up there then the relief companies 16 total companies went to work and when making this trench cut happen. So some of the challenges from the roof itself that we were dealing with; the membrane very thick pliable rubber type membrane that basically destroyed saw blades. It cut very easily after the fact when we I mean we spent multiple weeks on site of this fire after the fact. We got a lot of samples of the roof membrane. A simple box cutter carpet cutter a utility knife cut it very easily but fire department chainsaws rotary saw destroyed blades gummed them up killed a couple chainsaws up there because it didn’t cut it just melt it. The other challenge with the roof membrane itself the fact that it didn’t burn like anybody who got up on that roof after the fact they all commented that such a huge percentage of the roof membrane even over top of the fire area was still intact. The cock lock was completely burned out and gone underneath of it and it was just draped across the walls of the top floor apartments like a giant sail with no wind behind it. So the big challenge we have with that was when the aerial master streams went into effect went into place they were very ineffective because the roof membrane never burned away. We just could not get water into the cock loft space from above. The only when you look at all like all the news footage from that day and everything the helicopter footage and when we utilize the police department’s helicopter for a lot of aerial footage back to the command post the only time we ever got fire through the roof was when the trusses burned away underneath the where the air handlers were and the air conditioners would tear the membrane because there was nothing holding them up and they would all fall through the roof and tear then the fire would vent out those
holes and a couple tower ladders that were operating they just took advantage of when these holes tore. They would move over towards them and lob into the opening until the fire would burn past further. So the membrane itself was just very effective at defeating us basically and our tactics of getting any water into that cock loft you had trying to get replacement equipment up to the crews on the roof. We’re dealing with a wood roof, very labor intensive trench cut operation 85 feet up in the air. This building code allows for up to 85 feet in height in this type of construction and we were at every bit 85 feet. So trying to get cans of fuel, saw blades, spare SCBA cylinders up to the crews on the roof all of that proved to challenge and it’s just one of those you can half serious half-jokingly talk about it. All the stuff in fire 1 when we teach everybody ropes and knots and hoisting this was a giant firefighter 1 evolution of hoisting equipment up to the roof. If you’ve watched some of the operation from that day there was multiple bags of utility rope thrown over the side just hoisting up equipment to these guys up on the roof. It was just if you get into one of these situations tell your company’s going to the roof to bring everything with them the first time up so then you’re not scrambling trying to get them all this replacement equipment 20 minutes into the operation. Let’s see what else. This is very like building by building things are gonna change. For this particular building, for 4700 it was a true flat roof with zero power pitch, no edge protection, no anything. It literally was just a flat roof right to the edge and then an 85-foot drop down to the ground. Yeah personnel did a fantastic job of watching out for each other because you’ll see in a second when we look at the conditions these crews operated in on the roof how poor their visibility was and I didn’t even realize it until I saw some of these videos days after the fire of like just what these companies went through up there. But just look for stuff like this where we could have very easily put somebody over the edge of this roof in poor visibility conditions because there was absolutely nothing to protect them. There wasn’t even a two-inch lip to let somebody know they were hey I’m at the edge of the roof I got to watch out. I mean it literally just came over to the edge and was a 90-degree straight drop down to the ground. The water supply we kind of talked about the issues we have with the standpipe system earlier with the riser valves being closed and then how the two engine company drivers were back feeding through a hose valve. Obviously that got water to a couple hand lines but we were very hydraulically limited for the sheer volume of water we were trying to flow. Like we just kept trying to stretch more lines get more lines in service and try to get some master streams in service and we just could not support that based off of one or two 3-inch lines being fed in through a hose valve at the bottom of the stairwell. Ultimately though this was just one of those fires where as you figure things out days and weeks later there was just so much like this fire department creativity and just thinking truly outside of the box not to overuse a catchphrase. Couple companies got together and they hoisted a four inch line up the exterior of the building. So a manifold and got a thousand gallon per minute water supply up to the roof and that gave the the companies on the roof all the water they needed. That wasn’t directed from the command post that was just one of those tell people figure it out make it happen then 10 minutes later they’re telling me they got two portable monitors
and service on the roof and that was just because a couple engine companies got together and said hey this is this is a good idea let’s try this. They used one of the utility rope bags that were hanging off the edge of the roof hoisted up the building you use a couple of rope hose tools the secure the four inch to the window frames and then next thing you know we’re in good shape. Obviously that was time consuming though but fortunately they got it done before we lost the fire at the trench cut. The firewall itself and I’ll show a couple pictures at the end now that I have a bunch of pictures of the reconstruction process. Going back to the comment I made earlier about re-teaching the fire department building construction. I think pretty much everyone in this room will say when we were taught how to identify a fire wall we always were told go to the roof and look for the wall bumping up through the roof fully extended up through the roof membrane 30 inches. Not the case anymore. The fire wall can terminate underneath of the roof sheathing as long as they meet several other factors in building construction. So that was 100% the case. In this building the fire wall terminated underneath of the roof the roof deck. There was no penetration up through. This gets on to walking through these buildings when they’re being built. Walk through them regularly. Pay attention to where the fire wall is and we’ll look at a couple ways at the reconstruction pictures or some stuff that I never even thought of until some various fire marshal’s office people taught me this, subtle cues to look for and what the teach your people to look for when you’re trying to find the fire wall. We got lucky on this one because we ballpark knew where it was and after like two or three inspection cuts they found it. There’s your fire wall. You see it terminates directly underneath the roof decking and that’s your cinderblock wall underneath of it. They got lucky like I said it was like the second or third inspection cut because we knew ballpark where it was and the saw blade dinged off the block wall and they lifted it up and they kept, there it is and then you can see where they just moved in front of it and made the actual trench cut.  This is the reconstruction part. This is a photo from about a week ago now that the building’s topped out again has a roof on it.  The big, big clue that was taught to me as a result after the fact; look for your mechanical penetrations in and out of the roof. Obviously for the sheer economics of building, the bathrooms are stacked together or back up to each other. They share common plumbing vents. The HVAC units, all their plumbing and utilities run through common stacks. Whenever you see two identical stacks whether it’s a plumbing vent or in the background you can see the HVAC stacks in such close proximity to each other it’s because they’re not allowed to penetrate the firewall at all anymore. If they’re going to they’re going to terminate under the roof deck you’re not allowed to do even if you fire stop them you can’t they can’t share a plumbing vent from a bathroom that’s on either side of the firewall. So when you see two plumbing vents a couple feet apart from each other, two air conditioner vents that are a couple feet apart from each other you can be even if you’ve never been in that building before, that should be at least your first inspection cut because odds are you’re gonna find the firewall directly in between them. And I’m basically when I snapped this picture I’m straddling the firewall directly underneath of me and just yeah I know bathroom to your bathrooms here not walls directly in between so that’s basically our only clue we have
on the roof now to look for the firewall. And obviously if you have poor visibility, nighttime something like that it’s going to be a lot harder to find than it is on a clear sunny 80 degree day when you have all day. So one last video clip to look at. This is from the trench cut operation. Looking back over the building you just see I mean ton of people operating up there early, early on in this operation we basically only had two hand lines to support them. And I mean just for the interest of like we have for time today this is a pretty abridged clip. Like if you were to ever like have the opportunity to sit down and watch I have literally from like five different perspectives like nine hours of helmet cam and GoPro footage from the roof on this fire. And this fire ultimately burned right up to the trench cut and they had a significant volume of fire come out of this trench as they opened it up and fortunately those companies got that four-inch line in place in the nick of time and then gave them the water supply they need at the push back. But you can see, I mean these companies have pretty poor visibility and getting back to what we said earlier about the no fall protection on the roof. Like they you had to be careful up there. I mean this is beyond just the fire conditions lightweight construction you got to worry about all that then you got to factor in that you got to worry about your folks falling off the roof because there’s no edge. So looking solely at moving past the company operations, the roof operations, looking solely at the command level like what we got out of this thing. I mean first and foremost I mean this fire ground operation I mean at the end of the day you have one incident commander of record but there was a group of 20 people that helped run this fire ground. This was not, this wasn’t a room and contents one-person operation to keep track of this fire ground. There was literally a room full of people that kept this fire ground straight. And if you look at the notes we have I mean various pieces of paper command charts, dry erase boards there’s a whole list of companies that were operating at one point in time. That’s literally written in sharpie on the back of the pizza box because we ran out of stuff to write on and there’s a list of relief companies that went to the roof that’s on the back of a Papa John’s box. Does it I mean it just it took that many people to track correctly and keep good accountability of everything we had going on. So I mean that’s one thing I like to hit on is that this is a fire where you have to have a lot of help to keep it straight and even then it was an extreme challenge with a lot of good people around us and it still was a struggle. So first thing, it took us a while to recognize that we were kind of lacking in the rapid intervention aspect of this fire ground. We were kind of in apartment fire mentality and not high-rise mentality early kind of took us all a little while to catch on like hey we got to change what we’re doing here and get more into high rise fire mentality and expand our RIT operations. I mean everybody’s SOPs around the area are always going to be a little bit different. We had our a RIT group build out based off of our box alarm and our working fire dispatch SOP and they were in place on the Alpha side of the building but they were seven floors below where these companies are operating. So it took us a while. Somebody made the recommendation of hey we need to expand our RIT operations and we wound up with multiple RIT groups on this fire as we got more and more people working in different areas we had to have basically have a RIT come a RIT group below the fire ground floor
and one on the Alpha side on the exterior, it took us a little while to catch on but this is something now like if God forbid we have to do this again we can do much more quickly because we just luckily, we didn’t need any of the RIT group. But we were lacking for the first probably half hour of this fire until we caught on to the fact that we needed to expand to match the incident. This is obviously for us for PrinceGeorge’s counties, just was incident specific and exactly how everything went down. Several of the companies that were dispatched on the extra alarms could have brought a rescue squad or truck or tower. Work with your communications folks and we just had so much going on at the command post we’re not putting two and two together like hey why are you sending me the rescue engine from this company and when they’ve got a ninety five foot tower ladder on a fire that we’re making multiple radio returns that were setting up from aerial master streams. But again this for us this is a specific to this day and time in this incident where pay attention to the resources you’re getting work with your communications folks to say hey like recognize when a fire is going downhill, going south like this one was and you’re going to multiple master streams where if you have to alter an assignment based off of what a computer recommended you’re gonna spit out to get the units that you truly need on that fire ground. Don’t skip over a tower, ladder because the assignment recommended the engine from this company and a rear mount ladder truck from another company. Work with those folks to flip some stuff around and get units that are more beneficial to your operation. The division and group supervisors: We talked about the trench cut a couple minutes ago where we had 16 companies operating I mean what’s your, how effective is your span of control if you have 16 companies operating under you basically in the same area? We talked about the sheer size of the building, how long the hallways were how big the floor the floor plan was, how good a job can one division supervisor do when you rifle off a list of eight or nine companies that are reporting to them on that fire floor? Just have to it could get confusing in and of itself. Like how do you separate how do you make that division of labor on one division? You can’t have two division supervisors but they have. It’s just again it’s gonna be unique to each in incident but figure out ways that you can split up your division of labor better to maintain a much better span of control for your supervisors. Ultimately you get better or better information fed back to you from those folks up there because they’re paying better attention to a smaller area and you just have much better accountability for your personnel and a much safer operation for them especially in a fire like this where all the challenges that they had. I talked briefly about like how many people we had supporting this. This was a fire ground where like it truly should have been like the ICS purest of developing out your full command structure. We very much did that on this role on this fire ground where we had somebody we had to buy stuff, multiple times early in the fire ground we had somebody had to go to the Home Depot up the street to buy stuff. We had people run to get saw blades get this get that. Somebody was very much taking care of all of this. This isn’t something that your incident commander and the folks that are running the actual operation can’t get bogged down in something like this. But we needed, we needed to officially declare that to the rest of the fire ground. If you need this you’re
gonna go to this Chief or gonna go to that Chief, rather than it really burdened the true command staff for a while because every radio return and every request was going directly through command and then we were like okay well and we fell into that trap too. We’re like okay we’ll take care of it then we yelled across the room to the person that was handling all the logistics stuff hey and we need X Y & Z go get it. Then the person that was actually authorizing it to go pay for it was sitting right next to that person it was like okay well we’ll go get it but if we would have officially declared and officially drawn out that full command staff it would have taken a lot of burden off of us that we’re running the actual fire ground and all that stuff would have been lifted from us and put where it belongs the first time and not relayed through us. I mean this this kind of reiterates what I just said when you draw out a better more formal full command staff it takes the burden off of a lot of the radio returns. I mean I’ve listened to the audio this fire ground especially the early part of it numerous times in the last year and a half and I’ll freely admit like I got pretty snippy with people multiple times because there was just a ton of radio returns that come and direct the command that weren’t command level functions to figure out and it just work with your people. The only people talking from inside the building unless they have an emergency or something urgent should be division supervisors. Engine drivers that are moving water from point A to point B don’t need commanded to get involved. When you only have three engines on the scene the incident commander is not figuring out water supply at that point in time. Your company officers need to be empowered to make those decisions on their own and not have everything go through command. And I freely admit that I’d let myself get sucked into it for a while and you start losing focus on big picture of the fire ground because you’re not up here dealing with the command post level stuff you’re down here do you own the company operations. Again so when you get put in a position where you’re in charge of something like this, put that wall up in front of yourself and push yourself back, make your company officers be company officers and act accordingly. You got to be worrying about strategy let the tactics folks worry about tactics. Tell people what you want done but don’t tell them how to do it unless you have to be very specific and just keep yourself at a distance from that and don’t let yourself get sucked down into the weeds and the muck with all the companies that are working because you’re losing focus on the big picture. One other thing, on the command stuff, I mean everybody loves to talk about the fact that this was like the first five alarm fire ever and it was really like a six alarm equivalent and everything. With all the command staff that we did have there we did not do a very good job of supporting the rehab function. We had a very good rehab group in place. Crews were very effectively rehabbed. We did not do a very good job collectively on the fire ground of tracking those folks in and out of rehab. We had a lot of companies that showed up on this fire ground who worked one cycle went to rehab and then got lost. They hung out in rehab for two hours and then got released. We kept calling for more units to come in because hey we need a fresh crew here we need another engine here another truck here and we kept bringing them in either from staging or additional alarms when we just didn’t have a good list of hey companies X Y &Z have been through rehab they’re
fresh they’re ready to go back to work. Some companies went in and out of rehab three four times that day and went back to work, other companies they did it once and then we never utilized them again. This was still obviously going to be one heck of a fire ground with a very lengthy list of resources there but we probably wasted an entire alarm worth of apparatus that we didn’t have to bring there that we could have kept available for other stuff if we if the collective we would have done a better job tracking companies that were ready to go back to work. So this is something where I mean we needed to get out of our day-to-day mindset of rehab with a couple transport units and the rehab bus checking vitals, getting refreshments into some folks and then sending them on their way and then some companies did a very good job of saying hey I’m clear rehab I’m ready to go back to work. Another company is just kind of milling about and were waiting to be told to go back to work. But we never knew they were ready again so if you get some command level presence in the rehab function on a fire ground this, this complicated you can probably not even probably I can guarantee you’re gonna utilize your resources much better and you’re not gonna waste a bunch of labor sitting around doing nothing. All these companies that are ready to go to work or sitting there watching companies have come pass them from staging so command officer presence and rehab group in a large fire like this is definitely going to benefit you.

So kind of wrapping up real quick; again just the overall incident summary and then we’re gonna look at a couple pictures now at the buildings under construction again. I mean we talked about it was essentially was a six alarm equivalent. We officially sounded the fifth alarm although we never actually asked for a fourth alarm so I’m not really sure how we got to a fifth alarm when you look at the tracking of all the resources. We hit a third never asked for a fourth and then they prompted us to hit a fifth alarm. We had a ton of special calls in between the third and the fifth which far, far exceeded the equivalent of a fourth but I think part of me thinks it’s just the dispatcher being a little squirrely and they never hit a fifth alarm and he looked up the history at that point in time and just want to be the first one to do it. But I mean we had well over six alarms worth of apparatus during the peak of this operation. Well over 200 personnel at the peak of it operating simultaneously. Again you just talk about an accountability and a tracking nightmare. Just so many people to keep track of and when you factor in a huge command staff presence and then everybody all of the mutual aid that was there from you look at all the jurisdictions I mean I was giving assignments and we were sending companies to go work together in combinations and run downs I never thought were ever going to be possible even as heavily as we all use mutual aiding our area. I mean it’s not too often that you have Howard County in Anne Arundel County and Montgomery and a DC company operating together on one task in one group. So I mean that’s, you just look at the huge use of mutual aid we had which obviously was a huge benefit to us that we’ve got all of these resources in so quickly. When you add up all the time we had on scene we had a fire department presence on scene for just over a hundred hours from time at dispatch till the time the last unit cleared. The fire
started about 9:30 in the morning on a Monday and the last fire department unit cleared on Saturday afternoon. A lot of it was just due to structural compromise of the building and our fear of collapse. We couldn’t get companies into the top floor to pull apart all this roof stuff and wet it down and properly overhaul it and we just had numerous flare-ups and we didn’t release the last unit and so we went 24 hours without any evidence of any kind of flare-up on this thing. And even then we still maintained a more passive fire watch presence where a company was sent there every hour to go check the building and then over the course of that weekend we went from every hour to every three to every six and we didn’t actually pull the last of our equipment out of there until the following Monday night. So we actually had equipment there for a full week straight. We had personnel there over a hundred hours straight. So get quick a couple quick snapshots of the building now as it’s under reconstruction and I kind of just get the willies a little bit right now because if anybody’s been in College Park recently and has seen this building it’s at about the identical state of construction now as it was when the fire occurred. So every time I just drive by just look over and that’s like all right so you kind of get a little bit of a view of how this place went up. Some of the changes that have occurred: A lot more robust no smoking policies, keeping the systems and service giant signs hanging off of every valve that the valve is to remain open. Looking for your firewall, this is something to look for if you’re sending companies in looking for the firewall. This has been sheet rocked over subsequently but look for that set of double doors in the corridor because that’s part of your fire separation. Obviously the hallway has to go through that firewall somewhere look for that set of double doors send a company if you have no idea whatsoever where the firewall is in the building, send a company to the top floor find the fire doors in the middle of the hallway and that’s your firewall. Relay your location in the building to the companies on the roof and that’s it. That can also help them track down the location the firewall a little quicker. The other big change they made on this one second time around is the sprinkler system is set up as a true automatic fixed fire suppression system as the building is going up; which is pretty atypical in the construction world to keep water on the sprinkler system to have it immediately available for automatic operation because there’s just such a fear of water damage. Second time around they put in a dry sprinkler system. I mean we won’t get too much into details it’s actually a pre-action sprinkler system with several levels of redundancy and electronic interlocks on it to prevent an accidental discharge of water. If somebody hits a sprinkler head with a ladder puts a screw through a piece of pipe something like that it’s not gonna activate it needs several electronic interlocks to release the trigger. The sprinkler system and this has been in place since the building got to about the third floor. Wood frame going up it was a little messy for a little bit because we had some issues with permitting and getting the water supply reestablished to the building through the WSSC feed so it was temporarily fed with the 3-inch line off the side cap of a hydrant in front of the place just to have some water supply to it and now that they have their WSSC feed fully in place it’s got the 8 inch water line coming into it through the fire pump room and it’s also got it’s automatic water supply from the street now. One other very complicating factor we had, it was
truly unique to this fire ground. I’ve never got any pictures of it the first time the building was being built. I was able to get them the second time around as all these large steel I-beam cross braces on the concrete wall the backside of the parking garage. The entire masonry wall that makes up the two floors of the parking garage and part of the third floor on the Charlie side on the backside of this building is a large retaining wall. This building is built into a hill so that wall is actually a retaining wall that holds the hill up and they need at the building to be 90 percent complete, 90 percent of the drywall in for weight in order to take the weight of the building on top of this wall basically is like a counter balance holding the hillside back up. So until all the weights back in place they have to put these giant steel I beams as bracing and to hold the wall up against the hill. They had just been taken down like a week or two before the fire occurred because the building was so far along it met the weight requirement to hold the hill back up. So our big fear talking with, like the night of the fire, one of the owners of the building and all the engineers everybody showed up we’re just like okay you need to bring a crane in here with a giant claw and just start bringing this building because we can’t get to it. You got to start bringing this building down to the street to us to do the mop up and wet it down and the structural guy who designed the building was like absolutely not we can’t do that because if we take too much weight off the back wall is gonna fall down, the hill’s gonna collapse and then the houses on top of the hill up in the neighborhood were gonna ride the hill down. So everybody who lived on Osage Street was all of a sudden gonna have a Berwin House Road address absolute worst-case scenario. So we had to do, as part of everything else we had going on post fire, we were now dealing with this and getting folks from the city involved and the county’s office of Emergency Management some relocation everything was done voluntarily. Nobody was forced, but a lot of people were offered voluntary relocation and hotel rooms and everything until then. Nobody ended up taking the offer but we had a we had to act or that in the whole first couple days until they got these steel I-beams back in place to re-secure the the retaining wall in case we had a catastrophic collapse and everything came down at once. We didn’t lose the houses behind it. For all the good things they’ve honestly have done on the reconstruction process with the sprinkler system much better evacuation plans they actually have a temporary fire alarm in the building as well for their personnel you still have all the same challenges you have everyday on the on a building under construction. And dealing with people, it was tough to hear on the audio of the arrival video you can hear the driver and officer yelling back and forth to each other where’s the Hydrant because they knew exactly where the hydrant was supposed to be and they pulled into the block and they didn’t see it and they just started second-guessing themselves of where it was and they ended up repositioning to a different hydrant. The reason they didn’t see the hydrant was because there were several pallets of bricks for the masonry contractors stacked up all around the hydrant and it was buried behind the bricks. We got them moved pretty quick into the fire, they came over with the skid loader and moved everything but it still it was a bit of a handcuff for the initial operations. So all the different times I’ve been over there on the fire on the on the building site since it’s been rebuilt, I mean I said I’m literally
there almost every day at this point in time, I’ve snapped up I’ve dozens of pictures of like hey didn’t we learn anything the first time like tough to see in this picture but there’s a hydrant directly behind this Bobcat and it’s the hydrant that the first engine company used the day of the fire and the hydrants buried behind this Bobcat right now and it’s like and this was on like a Sunday afternoon at like 3 o’clock like it wasn’t like the guy was actively working and was sitting in it and could move in two seconds. This was on a day where there was nobody working on the jobsite except for the two security guards and this thing was sitting in front of the hydrant all weekend long. Doesn’t photograph well on these screens but this was their attempt, the version 2.00 burning the place while it was still very much in wood framing. They fried the electrical service coming into the building one afternoon so it’s just I don’t know what it is with this place but that’s it’s cursed or something but then the tower crane operator was picking a dumpster off of the pad and when he extended out and boomed over, the steel cable came in contact with the power lines in front of the building, fried the motor to the tower crane and it arced down through the electrical service to the crane into the main transformer and power supply coming in the building and burn everything up and all this stuff is just mounted to a couple of two by fours and a sheet a half-inch plywood right to the outside of the building because it’s all temporary just from their construction stuff. They got lucky that it arced and basically blew itself out and there was no active fire when we got there. We got dispatched for an investigation and pulled up and then we saw this so this again just know you’re always going to have these challenges. So that’s pretty much it. I said I know we moved quick. We looked at a lot of stuff really fast. I said I if anybody wants to pick my brain there’s a lot of other folks in this room today that were all in this fire with me. I’m gonna stick around for a while in the back if anybody wants a little bit more detailed information whether from the code aspect of it, of how this building came to be or the fire ground side of it I’m more than happy to talk with anybody on either side of it. But like I said we didn’t even touch the code stuff today because that’s a whole separate fire marshal type presentation on its own to go into where we’ve evolved over the years to get to a point where you look at a building like this just huge city blocks square made almost entirely of wood and it’s 100% code compliant and it’s just I’ve kind of became a de facto expert on these buildings just from studying them after the fact. So I think we need to turn over to you again.

President Blair - Thank you. This is Mike LeCompte he’s got a message for you. Also for the new people in the audience the Bay Bridge will be shut down at one o’clock today both directions to 1:45 just to give you a heads up watch for backups regarding traffic.

Michael LeCompte - The parade detail has already setup. They’ve asked everybody if you would disseminate this to your people in your vehicles. When they leave at 12 o’clock from the inlet parking lot they’re gonna be coming up as you know and he starts they stopped at 16th Street and work their way back to 9th Street. With that said when they get done or when you can get down to the parade there’s still people that
venture and sit in the streets from like 29th Street where we stop so they’re asking everybody to please keep your apparatus moving go down to 33rd Street. You’ve got a traffic light you can go right or left at 3030 Coastal Highway. So do not turn at any side streets because of kids. The only other thing is we’ve got eight or ten professional photographers from all over the region. One gentleman’s from Georgia. They’re taking pictures and they’re archiving the pictures of all of our apparatus. And what they’re trying to do is they’re archived in it all over which means we might be in a publication in Florida. With that said, if when you leave 33rd Street if you make a right come up to 40th Street work your way through where the apparatus is out here over to the bay side on the north side of the building there’s about 10 photographers over there including some of our media that are taking pictures of the apparatus with a nice background. It takes about ten minutes to get it done. So again when you leave the parade route come out 33rd go up to 40th turn in go right across in front of Convention Center you’ll see the people out there staging you and they’ll position the vehicles take your picture and you should be out of here in about 15 minutes. Thank you, thank you for being here.

President Blair - Thanks Mike. We would introduce you now to the Past President Mark Bilger. Mark

Past President Mark Bilger- Good morning everyone. President Blair, Vice President Faust, Vice President DeVore, Chairman Hemphill, members of the executive committee, committee chairs, officers, members of the LAMSFA, clergy and guests. To all of you that served on a committee or as a committee chair this past year thank you for your hard work and dedication. Here are one of the reasons our great association had a successful year. To all companies who invited me to attend your banquets your dedications of new buildings and new equipment, your conventions and parades. Thank you for the hospitality. I was always welcomed with open arms. The Governor, Larry Hogan included in his annual budget an increase to this association of $225,000.00 thanks to Major General Singh who testified on our behalf at all of the budget hearings. That money stayed in the Governor’s budget. One hundred thousand dollars of the increase will be used in our annual operating budget to better serve the Volunteers of Maryland, the second $100,000 will be utilized for a full time contractual executive director and office space that will be renting from the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and a receptionist to answer the phone. The final $25,000 will be used by our trustees to enhance the benefits of our Widows and Orphans. So when you have an opportunity please thank Governor Hogan, and Major General Singh for their help and support of all the first responders in Maryland. Executive committee chair Charles Simpson, Jr. completely retooled the operations of the executive committee. This year we went from one from two day meetings down to one day we saved this association money and we gave the opportunity of our member committee people to spend an extra day with their family. It also made it easier on the departments who hosted us instead of having to give up a whole weekend of fundraisers they only had to provide one day of service to us so thank you Charlie for your hard work and
dedication. You made a difference this year. Treasurer Chief Ron Siarnicki worked on several projects this year which benefited our association. Ron provided detailed responses to some tough questions from the legislative auditors in the Governor’s office. Ron also worked closely with the SAFER oversight committee to ensure the requests that were received by that committee met the criteria established by FEMA when we were given the grant so thank you Ron. Past President Chief Stephen Cox and all the members of the legislative committee worked tirelessly this year in Annapolis to ensure that the volunteer emergency responders of Maryland were taken care of. They walked the halls of Annapolis gaining support for legislation that would benefit our volunteers and they also work just as hard to make sure that any legislation that would hurt our volunteers was either left in committee or stuck in a drawer somewhere so thank you very much for your work and dedication. Chief Cox the work of the legislative committee would be much harder without your helping the support of Past President Teresa Chrisman and Past President Elaine Huttenlock and all the ladies of the LAMSFA who staff the phones in the office in Annapolis. Thank you all for your support. Training committee Chair Chief Leon Fleming and Co-Chair Chief Scott Woods and the members of the committee drafted and updated the association’s 10-year plan. This has not been done for several years. It was made a priority that committee worked hard to get the form updated. Every one of the delegates received one in your bags. Please take that back to your departments and share the information. Training is one of the most important things that we can give our members to keep them safe so they can continue to provide service to the citizens of Maryland. Mr. Tom Flint is chairman of the Transportation Committee. Tom and his committee comes to every executive board meeting working the whole two days or one day making sure that everything gets done. Last year shortly after our convention ended myself, Tom and Past President Frank Underwood went to the vehicle administration of Glen Burnie. We sat down with them and we went through the process to develop a new tag. After that meeting Tom went to work. Went through some drafts and came up with a new design that was approved by your Executive Board. Those tags are out being distributed now. Well done Tom and your committee. Thank you for the work. The work performed by Mr. Justin Towles chairman of the SAFER Oversight Committee, along with his committee members and the committee employees allowed many worthwhile projects to be funded and completed. One of the most significant accomplishments was the establishment of a contract between your association and First Arriving. The SAFER grant itself has been a challenge since the Association and Maryland parties were awarded two funds back in nineteen in 2014, September 2014. That grant runs out September of 2018. Several people attempted to bypass the established process which made the committee’s work much harder but thanks to the work of Justin the Chairman, Chiefs Siarnicki, Skip Mahan, Tyler, Pat and Teresa the committee employees, the work of the committee got done. Funds got spent appropriately and we’re in good shape with our SAFER grant. Executive Committee Ron Block who, represents the volunteer emergency first responders in Anne Arundel County. He came on the executive board last year in 2017. When asked to chair a new committee reaching the
next generation Ron stepped up to the plate, didn’t hesitate and took on those additional responsibilities and we’re seeing some good work out of that committee so thank you Ron for your continued support of volunteers in Maryland. Mr. Kent Whalen has asked to step down from the Executive Board. He represents volunteer responders in Kent Queen Anne’s, Caroline counties. We thank him for his support and his help and we wish him best luck in his future ventures. Mr. Daniel “Skip” Mahan, Jr. is the association’s current executive director. Skip brought with him many years of leadership experience from the military, law enforcement the Volunteer Fire and EMS service. Skip interacted with all the committees to ensure the work of our association was getting done. Skip also took an active role with the SAFER Oversight Committee ensuring that the business of our association was getting done appropriately within the guidelines of FEMA. Please join me in thanking Skip for his service to this association and to the state of Maryland. Executive Committee Chair Charlie Simpson, Treasurer Chief Siarnicki, Past President Chief Cox and our executive director Mahan worked together to hire a new executive director for us. We had 69 highly qualified individuals that applied for that position. Those four individuals worked through the process and came up with the best candidate that will be the best fit for this association. This individual will work and bring the Association up to the next level by supporting the committees and the officers to all the State partners. Thank you for the support this past year. The communication, the dialogue that we had working together in teams makes everybody’s job easier and we can provide better service to the volunteers of Maryland and the citizens of Maryland. Today Hampstead Volunteer Fire Engine whose company number one and the auxiliary to the Hampstead volunteer fire and engineers company number one thank you very much. President Ruby is here this weekend I appreciate the support and help from the associates from the department as I made the travel through the chairs. Without my departments help and support I would not be able to do this. The following companies provided receptions Friday night socials for us before our executive committee meetings. Reese and Community Volunteer Fire Company, Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department, The William N Singerly Steam Fire Independent Hose Company Number One and the MidlandFire Company for the ones that hosted our executive committee meetings again they opened their house to us, they provided us food, refreshments, hospitality and anything we needed. They stepped up to the plate so thank all the departments for their help again. These associations that sponsored our Friday night receptions were the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association, United Communities Volunteer Fire Department, the Harford/Cecil Volunteer Fireman’s Association, the Allegheny/Garrett County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association. They allow us to come together spend some time together before our meeting got started and everyone had a great time. LAMSFA Past President Vivian Boyd, thank you for your support and friendship this past year. Having you and your officers participating in our meeting is always a plus. The work performed by your committees is truly a benefit to all the volunteers in Maryland. And finally to my wife Nancy of 28 years. Thank you. Without you in my life I would not be able to do the things that I do. And finally I’d just like to recognize Chief Ron Siarnicki, the Convention
Committee and everyone that has come and worked hard this week to provide us with an excellent convention year after year. They get better and better and they’re just amazing the work that’s getting done by a select few, a group of individuals so thank you all very much. To all the delegates, officers, everyone that came down this week for training for meetings or just to come down to the beach thank you for the support, thank you for the dedication. Remember you’re Maryland’s best. You provide service to your community, your County and the state of Maryland so no matter what you’re Maryland’s best. Please remember that. Thank you for a great year. It was an honor to represent the volunteers in Maryland. I look forward to serving on the Executive Board the coming year and working with the Association. Thank you all very much.

President Blair – Mark, it was an honor to work with you over the last couple of years. You’re not going to be missed. I’m gonna use you.

Past President Bilger- Thank you sir.

President Bilger- Morning. It is with great honor to be standing here before you today as you’re newly elected President of Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I want to thank each and every one of you for your attendance here today and for the continued support as I’ve gone through the chairs of the Association. I would like to give a special thanks to my wife, Rosalynn for standing beside me throughout these years. I love you, appreciate you, and appreciate your patience, tolerance with all my association responsibilities. I would like to recognize a few of the people or the local representatives and representatives who have helped me and have been great supporters over the last four years. We’ve had some delegates from far western Maryland come in last night to spend the evening with the Presidents at the reception of grand. Last night we started something that we haven’t done for years, we made a joint reception for the ladies and the men. You know we’re all one. I’d like to thank the Western Enterprise Fire Company Number Four of Hagerstown, the Independent Junior Fire Company, the First Hagerstown Hose Company, South Hagerstown Fire Company, Antietam Fire Company, Pioneer Hook and Ladder Company and Clear Spring Fire Department and the Washington County Firemen’s Association member companies. This past year have been following and learning what the committee chairs were doing and how they interact with the Presidents and the Executive Board. I was also looking at committee’s activity as a team. And that’s the President’s and Executive Board we will be looking at how to enhance the committees that have not been active I am reinstituting some previous committees and adding a few new ones. I have been following the new developments going on around the country and preparing for the past two years by studying possibilities or what the MSFA committees could and should be accomplishing now and in the future. I want to start this year by asking your opinion, your opinion, the opinion every fire company, EMS provider, fire department provider in the state of Maryland. It is important Check your packets that you’ve got when you first came here, there’s an important poll in there. Information we want you to look
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at and try to answer in your best, you give us some feedback because that’s what some of your legislator people were gonna be working on in the next couple years. I done advised the Second Vice President that he will be getting a lot of work providing the people in this community, State of Maryland answers to those questions to give us a direction. We need that direction where we need help, what we can do to better the Association and so forth. That bag needs to be taken back to your company and that poll in that bag needs to be copied and give to it every individual member of your company so they can fill out all, so you can actually go on the website today and fill that poll out it’s on the front page of the website the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. It’s a short form and it’s on the front page. In response to Marks Leadership Summit, I am looking for a number of people from around the state to coordinate and handle social media activities throughout the Secretary’s office. These people will be working with the Secretary. We’ll be asking the Executive Board to assist a sister group to enhance the Volunteer Fire Company Assistance Fund, VCAF program, to enhance it or whatever you know it takes to make things work a little smoother. I’d like to see the MSFA grant committee working on obtaining the additional grants over the next few years. Somehow they got missed this year. MSFA and MCA SAFER grant is coming to an end in September as Mark previously mentioned. The Incentives committee will be looking into opportunities to acquire additional benefits for our members. Due to available funding I am looking at providing additional guidance and assistance to a statewide juniors fire fighter program for the ages of 10 to 15 as well as enhancing the statewide high school cadet program. I’d like to expand the legislative committee with representatives from each county in order to define and pursue long term goals. I’d like to fully support the leadership program committee and appoint President Bilger to begin working on their member of companies to move forward with their mentoring, leadership, development. I will encourage the marketing committee to amplify the Maryland State Firemen’s Association build up visibility and revenue. I will be seeking the input from the business community in hopes of mobilizing an untapped resource for the benefit of Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the member companies. I know that sounds like a lot of work, it is, but I need your help. I would be working with the chaplains of setting up a statewide chaplains group. I would ask for your help with these. Together we can move this Maryland State Firemen’s Association forward over the next year. Don’t forget please visit the vendor’s downstairs before you leave the convention hall today. They are the ones who keep us here with their support. And for anybody just come in the building, the Bay Bridge is being shut down from 1:00 to 1:45 so if you’re going to leave after the meeting please watch for the backup. Thank you. I want to introduce the First Vice President, Michael Faust.

First Vice President Michael Faust - Good morning. First I’d like to thank past Presidents Bilger and Boyd for their service last year. There were a lot of positive changes this year and one of the more important ones was the addition of our new executive director Kate Tomanelli. I look forward to working with you. To President Blair, 2nd Vice President DeVore, officers of the MSFA and LAMSFA, I’m looking
forward to working with all of you this year and continuing to make positive changes for the association.

I’d like to thank last year’s executive committee for their hard work and dedication. I know we’re welcoming three new members to the committee this year but I like to take a second to thank Kent Whalen, Jim Seavey, and Richard Smith for all that you did. I welcome the three newest members to the executive committee Co-Chairman Robbie Blackiston, Bob Phillips, and Buddy Sutton. I’m sure you’ll all be a great addition to the committee. To our past Presidents, thanks for being there and guiding me and I ask that you continue to do so. Your experience is invaluable to me. To all of the committees and county associations, thank you for helping make this Association better. I do have one request, if there is an important event or issue that needs our support, please reach out. We are here to help and we don’t want to miss anything important. Before I leave, Thanks again to Sudlersville Fire Company and Auxiliary for your support. I know I will need it this year. To my wife and family, thanks for supporting me last year and for being there this year. I love you all.

Please be safe and let’s get to work. Have a great rest of your time here at Ocean City and look forward to working with you all. Take care. I’d like to introduce your new Second Vice President Richard DeVore.

Second Vice President Richard DeVore- Good morning. I want to take the time first to express my sincere thanks for your confidence and support and allowing me to serve as your Second Vice President. It is truly an honor when God allows your path and your passion in life to meet and I am truly blessed for that. I also want to thank my home company Ellerslie Volunteer Fire Company and my home association Allegheny/Garrett County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association for their support as well as my dear friend Tim Dayton from Potomac Fire Company for his guidance, friendship and support and helping me down this path. Secondly I want to take an opportunity to thank Past President Bilger in setting the example on what great leadership can accomplish in the fire service. Well done Mr. Past President. Lastly I congratulate incoming President Blair and First Vice President Faust on their new positions and I look forward to learning from them while supporting the advancement of their goals as we work to serve the volunteers of this great state. Most importantly though I look forward to serving you after all you are the greatest single asset in the state of Maryland. Have a safe time during the remaining convention and safe travels when you journey home, Thank you.

President Blair- We have a correction to make, we were fed some misinformation in reference to the Bay Bridge that was six years ago blame that on Michael LeCompte. I don’t take the blame for that. I should’ve checked myself. Next up is our Secretary Doyle Cox. Everybody knows him and respect him I believe.

Secretary Doyle Cox- Good morning. Real quick you saw my report in the convention book. The only thing that I ask for you to do is we’re still having problems with the
delegates on our credentials. Only submit one delegate per company. A delegate cannot serve two or more companies. With that thank you and I look forward to working with you the coming year. Thank you.

**President Blair**- Introducing our Assistant Treasurer or Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke.

**Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke** - Good morning. I’d like to thank everyone for their support over the last six years and look forward to serving this Association as your Financial Secretary during the next two years. Thank you.

**President Blair**- Somebody that don’t need an introduction is Chief Chaplain John Long. I’ll make this real short. If you have anybody who’s passed away this year please get their submittals into me right away. We’ll get them posted on the website so we can honor them that way we can make sure they’re in the program for next year. Have a safe rest of the week.

**President Blair**- Next guest is Jeff Thompson the Trustee newly elected.

**Trustee Thompson** - Good morning. I’d like to thank Past President Phil Hurlock and Bill Hildebrand for the nomination and second. I appreciate all the support everyone has given to me in the past five years and look forward to serving this Association as a Trustee for the next five. Thank you very much.

**President Blair** - Next person is Ron Siarnicki, Financial Committee.

**Treasurer Ron Siarnicki**- Good morning everybody. It’s gonna be a nice day at Ocean City. So just a couple things I wanted to report on from this year’s convention. We had 1,500 people attend the memorial service, 1,400 attended the opening ceremonies and of course thanks to Governor Hogan for being here and kicking off our convention. And if you hadn’t noticed he and his wife and grandson came back and actually visited all the vendors, toured some of the classes and that’s a good piece because saying hello to those vendors is important for all of us because they’re the ones that helped fund this convention. Monday night the event at Jolly Roger was 1600 which was the same as last year. It’s a nice crowd that was a slew of people right in the very beginning and then they ate great food and headed off to the rides. We had 170 for prayer breakfast this morning, Chaplain good job, very nicely attended nice program of course. Parade today, units are already lining up. We’ll be running from 16th Street to 30th Street. You heard some of the safety messages. We’re really concerned about all the kids and the beach it’s a nice day so people are gonna be running across Baltimore Avenue to get to the sand. Executive committee meeting tomorrow 9:00 a.m., it’ll be in the Performing Arts Center and I’m sure that the elected officers have a lot to go over with the executive committee. There will also be a walk on the boardwalk, a fundraiser here the Dalmatian walk starting at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow morning at the Fallen Firefighter
Memorial boardwalk and North Division so if you’re interested in getting out getting some exercise you can do that in about 45 minutes and then make it in time for the Executive Committee. Of course Thursday is the Frontier Town family activity; it runs from 1 to 7 p.m. and then family night on the boardwalk through Jolly Roger amusements. They have a special pass for unlimited rides Thursday evening. Golf tournament on Friday 8 a.m. T time if you haven’t signed up there’s still some room. It’s a great activity. And as you can see that what we’ve done is laid out as many family activities as possible. We’ve learned along the way that if we keep our families engaged it makes it good for all of us to have them doing things while we’re here doing the business or the activities of the Association. The dates for the next three years of conventions have been set, 2019 it’ll be June 14th through the 20th, 2020 will be June 19th through the 25th and 2021 will be June 18th to the 24th. And of course you voted to come back to Ocean City so we will be back here the next couple years. The last piece I want to do is thank that entire Convention Committee for all the work they’ve done this past year especially the members of the GO team that built this beautiful hall for us with the flags and the banners and the stage and the audio visual. I’d mentioned that we’re one of the only week-long conventions left for a state association but as far as I could tell were the only one that does everything in-house. Everything we do for this convention is done by our members and that’s pretty neat piece to do as well. So please join me in thanking that entire group that’s been working so hard to bring you a good convention. So thank you, enjoy the rest of your time in Ocean City and we’ll see you next year.

President Blair – Thank you Ron. Next one coming in is Rich Hemphill. Newly elected Chair Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

Chairman Rick Hemphill - Good morning. I’m proud to be the new Chairman of the Executive Committee. If Executive Committee members are in the house please come up through the stage as I call your name and introduce you. Vice-Chairman Robby Blackiston, Timothy Dayton, Ronald Block, John Fisher, Doug Simpkins Jr., Charles Simpson, Stanley Sutton, Robert Phillips, Daniel Stephens, Wayne Tome, Chuck Walker and Past President Mark Bilger. That’s all right we all need a pair of his pants. Thank you ladies and gentlemen. Your Executive Committee members for 2018-2019. Thank you.

President Blair- We have one more additional report from Ron Siarnicki, Ron.

Treasure Ron Siarnicki- Thank You Mr. President. Yep I’m back to do the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation report. Very quickly I want to thank everybody that has helped us this past year and all the activities across the state. Also what we did here in Ocean City with Cowboy Coast and of course fill the boot - today we’ll be in joint effort with the Maryland Memorial so if you’re interested in helping us with the fill the boot you need to be at 15th Street no later than 12:30 today. As far as this October we’re looking at probably 95 line of duty death so we’ll be honoring 75 that are from
what we would call the traditional criteria. Meaning the heart attacks, the traumatic
and the vehicle accidents and 20 post 9-11 cancer deaths and it’s those occurrences
that are spinning up pretty significantly with the number of firefighters that are dying
from cancer as a result of responding to the World Trade Center. You’re gonna see
next year that the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is going to begin to honor
other cancer cases that have been approved through the presumptive laws of the state
governments. So Maryland has presumptive components relative to cancer, Florida
does, North Carolina so those states, if they approve a cancer case as a line of duty
death we are adding that to the National Memorial criteria in Emmitsburg so that’s
going to spin our numbers up as well. But it’s the right thing to do because we know
that these issues with cancer are affecting all of us. So anyway I want to thank you
again for all you do to help the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and hopefully see
you in October. Thank you.

President Blair - Thank you Ron. Now I’m going to bring out the assistant officers.
We’ll bring out Marcia first you go do a swearing assistant secretaries for the ladies
yeah assistant Secretaries for Doyle. Shirley Copado, Thomas Scott, Michelle Malin.
Assistant Treasurer Fred Cross Wylie Donaldson, Robert Jacobs; the Financial
Secretary Barbara “Bobbie” Aaron. Chaplains Fred Bahr, Charlie Barnhart, Harry Hetz,
Marvin Johnson, Calvin Wilbert, Rabbi Tenenbaum; Parliamentarians Richard Brooks,
Ken Bush, Chip Jewell. We have a special program here today. Travis Nelson sergeant
liaison to the Maryland State Police agency MEMA Randy DMTP for Maryland State
Police MIEMSS. Main program is active assailants.

Travis Nelson - All right. Good morning ladies and gentlemen thank you for sticking
with us. I don’t know if you’re just here for the ten thousand what’s a ten thousand a
hundred thousand dollar raffle or something 100 thousand dollars. I have a hundred
thousand dollars can we go two? All right I really appreciate you being here. We were
standing behind the curtain during that swearing-in so I think I just got sworn in as a
sentinel of the ladies auxiliary. I’m not totally sure. I was in the splash zone there. But
really it’s a great opportunity to come and talk very briefly about a topic that has really
struck home for us here in Maryland. But really across the nation and it’s something
that has really taken off in a way that we never truly expected. Randy and I just started
working together on this project this past year. As many of you know John Donoghue
worked with me we came down yesterday and we’re walking down coastal, he really
doesn’t want me to tell this story, we’re walking down coastal highway yesterday and
this gentleman stops us, literally stops us and says is that your dad or your uncle.
And so Uncle Randy’s here with me today and I don’t know if it was a compliment to
me or an insult to him but either way I enjoy it. So it’s been a real privilege to be able
to do this. I was coming to this convention when I was 16 as a member of the of the
Kent and Queen Anne Rescue Squad and when I joined there and if you had told me
that I would ever be standing in front of a fire engine like this presenting so take plenty
of pictures because ladies and gentlemen there is a police officer standing somewhat
involved in the fire engine here but that’s really what we’re going to talk about in general so. I don’t know how this thing works but I’m scared to point it at anybody. All right so if you can see those slides over on the side congratulations you do not need to see your eye doctor today but we are gonna try to cover a few things. First it’s going to be about the history, where have we been already. So how many people in this room that are willing to raise their hand have seen some level presentation on an active assailant whether it be in EMS protocols? Okay, so yeah so this is not new right? So we’re gonna talk about where we are right now and where we’re going. So we have done a lot of things recently that have changed so hopefully it’s not going to be the same song and dance. In the way of brief, very brief introductions, so I’m the liaison officer between the Maryland State Police and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency so Rush Strickland, a friend to all of us, has given to me the duty of trying to coordinate a lot of interdisciplinary things and this being one of them. Randy can tell you a little bit about himself when I give him some mic time, if I choose to, but for right now I’m enjoying driving this firetruck. So where did this start? Back in September of 2013 following the Naval Yard shooting in Washington DC we were having a conversation at a Governor’s Homeland Security meeting and there was a clear disconnect between EMS and law enforcement. And the person John Donoghue who was in the Randy’s position before and I were both probably the more stronger personalities in the room believe it or not and we were disagreeing on how law enforcement and fire would respond to this type of incident in Maryland. And so just as government works poof we became the co-chairs of the Maryland Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Work Group and it has really been a privilege to kind of work on this since then. So there were some clear questions on how we would integrate response and how we would do that effectively. So the picture of the document that you see up there, hopefully you have seen that before, and that is a guideline for how we all respond to these types of incidents. We published that in 2014 it was then adopted in several other states across the nation. John and I traveled and spoke about how we were able to wrangle forty-five different response egos to agree on one common guideline and, I really it was about that is being able to all of us both law enforcement, Fire, EMS and Emergency Management to put our egos aside and say you know even though this is really what I would like to do I understand that EMS and fire would not be comfortable with that so let’s negotiate back to a common guideline. Since then you probably have, how many people have purchased equipment? Anybody? Anybody? Okay great that’s not reassuring at all. So there’s been some equipment guidelines, we identified some training and then more specifically some training or some planning. So these are some of the folks and we’re not going to mention all these folks. So this is all the state-level representation that was on the workgroup at that time. So you had the Maryland State firemen’s Association that was representing,, Maryland Fire Chiefs, Maryland fire training, Rescue Commission Maryland. You can see them? Okay, so there’s a lot of, a lot of different people and what we wanted to do is get the folks that really had the larger body could reach out and grab that larger body and speak on their behalf on behalf of the state but then we also wanted to make sure that we included our federal partners. So what we’ve seen is
if you see on the news anytime there’s a large incident like this you’ll see that there’s all these three-letter acronym people running around with these cool jackets on and they’re a part of the response as well. So we included our friends at the FBI, the US Department of Homeland Security and then who’s responding to these things first? It’s you guys. You’re the locals you are gonna be the first ones that are gonna get there and so for us said the state to say that we know the best way for you to do business is not always accurate, right? It’s very rarely accurate. So we had four local EMS representatives, four local law enforcement representatives and three local emergency managers. Now for saying oh it was probably just a routine Central Region folks. No, we reached all the way out to John Frank in Garrett County all the way down the Worcester County here and everywhere in between. Southern Maryland, we reached all geographic areas and in different demographic areas to really try to capture this effectively so wrong. But anyway what we produced there was that guideline, you’ve then seen a lot of education that’s come out since then but what we’re really excited about is what we’re about to do now. So if you can’t see I’ve had two cups of coffee so I don’t I’m actually not standing on a podium I’m actually hovering over the floor but I am super excited about being able to do this. So Randy’s gonna tell you a little bit about the executive order while I do some jumping jacks so just bear with me. Uncle Randy.

Randy Lincecum- Good morning I’m Randy Lincecum Director of Emergency Operations of MIEMSS. So as Travis mentioned the governor issued an executive order in February. This was as a result of the Parkland shooting and several other events going on across the Country. It was following the Las Vegas shooting and some school safety initiatives. So the executive order was issued on February 23rd and will just go through a few of the key points. One it states, you probably can’t read it, but it states that each state agency shall develop an active assailant plan. Many state agencies have done that, but many had not. The executive order says they shall. It also says that each state agency will participate with their key stakeholders in making sure that they’re prepared for active assailant events. It further states that Public Safety officials from state agencies will utilize a whole community approach. Work with their stakeholders, evaluate the situation, make sure they’re doing everything they can to be prepared for an active assailant. To them it also added some school points. For public safe schools it requires them to provide their basically their preparedness plans with their local first responders. It strongly suggests that private schools do the same. That could not be mandated by the executive order. We’ll get to a survey in minute that many schools. It also adds several new members to the active assailant interdisciplinary work. Alright it adds some new members as Sergeant Nelson mentioned they were already about 40 members, a really large group. The executive order adds even more, including Maryland Department of Health and some educational related organizations. We also did a survey of all the schools, 96% of the survey responses were from public schools a mix of elementary, middle and high schools and there were some interesting findings. You’ll see most of the schools had updated their emergency plans within the last year. Many of them had received input from local Fire, EMS and law enforcement
but only a very small percentage had shared their emergency plans when they were complete with their local first responders in their community. And even a smaller percent of those that did share their plans about half shared their plans with local law enforcement and a smaller percent with law with fire and EMS. It’s a lot of gaps there. Schools have plans they’re just training and exercising and not sharing them with their first responder agencies so that’s something that as far as next steps, one thing we did. You might have seen a survey that was posted on social media and across the state after Parkland and after each of the large events. We get a lot of emails and phone calls from people from the public, from first responder agencies, retired people that offer some sort of expertise related to active assailant planning and offer to help. So we wanted to try to corral all of that so we issued a survey statewide basically asked people to share their level of interests, their expertise and let us know how they would like to be involved and we’re currently going through that survey and we’ll be trying to pull in those experts into the subcommittees as we can. We recently held our first Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Work Group meeting about a month ago. That was a first meeting in quite a while. It pulled in the new members we were able to introduce the new members, get everybody up to speed on what’s been done so far and on what are the key things we’re working on as a charter for the workgroup. We mentioned 40 members who’ve added some more. We’re working on a charter for how the group works together and how we make decisions. Sergeant Nelson mentioned some of the difficulties initially and getting a large group of active stakeholders to make decisions. The charter is going to help with that. We also started some of the work plan and where we’re headed. And some of those focus areas, we’re gonna work on that school integration, also work on some more community involvement with large venues like malls, of prevention strategies, more training, continuing local plan integration making sure that each of the local communities have whatever support we can give them from the state. We’re also going to be updating that the guidance Sergeant Nelson mentioned that came out in 2014. We could try to stand on this thing. One of the big things that I just want to drive home, because you’ve probably seen my face up here before; Randy unfortunately it’s like we just pushed him into the deep end of the pool and he’s trying to survive but really one of the big things so a lot of people have heard about the recent NFPA document that came out and a VFPA 3000 addresses this in a big way. We attended a seminar on that we’ve read that document we’re working on it. One of the biggest things that nobody wants to touch with activist assailant stuff is prevention. Nobody wants to look at it, nobody wants to talk about it, it’s such a dicey issue you know so they’re afraid that it’s gonna get into gun control. They’re afraid that it’s gonna get into violating behavioral rights and mental health things. One of the things that Governor Hogan really challenged us with is looking directly at prevention. All right, so we’re really good that’s why you saw the Department of Health in there. They are going to be trying to figure out how can we better track these folks, how can we prevent the incident from ever occurring. Okay so we can be the best at responding to this thing and we can be the best ever recovering from it but what do we really want to achieve? We want to keep it from ever happening. I don’t know if anybody’s here from St. Mary’s
County but we went down there shortly after that incident occurred. That was a beautiful job by those folks. And I mean I can’t commend them enough. This, all the way from the teachers to the responders to the recovery they did family reunification it was just a beautiful, beautiful job for a terrible incident that occurred. So we know that in Maryland we are really leading the front and other people have referenced that incident and how well they had drilled. They wrote a plan and they worked it all the way through but we really want to keep these incidents from occurring if we can, right? So that’s a really, really strong point. So if you saw very briefly if you’re wondering why the Department of Defense is gonna be part of the Maryland active assailant work right, there’s this little thing called Posse Comitatus or something, I’m not a lawyer but from what I understand we can’t activate the resources for local incidents you’re absolutely right. What we are doing with the Department of Defense is we have this great little resource, maybe you’ve heard of it called Aberdeen Proving Grounds yeah. So in those folks at the Army Research Lab have been we’ve been working with them. So many of you, I’m not going to ask how many of you have purchased body armor okay. That body armor is designed for who? primarily? Right it’s for people that are in law enforcement or engaging the threat. Okay so very briefly what we’ve talked about is if you’re an EMS or a fire person great you don’t have any, you know, don’t carry a gun or you shouldn’t be telling me if you’re carrying a gun whatever. But really you’re not going to be engaging the threat. So it is your area of vulnerability the same as a police officer who once they see the assailant is going to be engaging that versus you who’s going to be down potentially providing treatment or in some type of retreat right. So if you look at most body armor, where is it where is it connected? Right. You have vulnerable areas up top here where as opposed to your primary protection is right up front. I’d like to see the person that says yeah that guy’s got a gun let me go try to tackle it okay so we’re gonna try to look at what is the sensible area of protection for fire and EMS and we’re working with NIJ and the federal folks. So hopefully we can create a national guideline on what’s appropriate for Fire, EMS folks that are going into these situations to have sensible body sensible protection that’s affordable and you guys can adopt locally so you’re not carrying a ton of extra weight for no reason. Okay and when we’re driving to be running some exercises right. So we’re gonna be putting all these routes we’re gonna be putting not just I’m not just trying to attack firemen and EMS we’re gonna put some of our law enforcement officers that don’t go to the gym six times a week right. So when you get volunteers to do physical activities who are the people that volunteer? Right the people that live at Golds gym. All right we don’t want those people, we want the realistic folks that are gonna be responding to these calls we’re gonna take them put them into a high-stress environment wearing the equipment and we’re gonna measure the physiological responses. So you see me say that physiological response is to their bodies, cops can say big words to their bodies while they’re going through these incidents. Okay so there’s a lot of exciting things that Maryland is doing to lead the charge for this and so there’s a reason my emails really small and then there’s a really big one so the reason is is we want we want to hear from you okay? And we truly mean that. You guys are the experts. You’ve been doing this
for a while. Some of you if you haven’t been doing it for a while we’re interested in hearing from you too because you probably have a different approach to it and we want we want that feedback. That was a whole reason we did the survey. Okay we truly want the input of every person from the mother of two kids that go to school every day to the 20 to 30 year fire veteran and we want to hear how we can improve this interdisciplinary response for years. For as long as I’ve been doing this for probably as long as you’ve been doing this Fire Department does their training and police does their training right and then every now and then we might run an exercise together where we run out auto accident right and then somehow it all works out. We have good working relationships because we do those all the time. However these things don’t occur often but we need to train together for them and this is why we need to figure out if you’ve had a success in really working well with your Police Department and doing that integrated training and that true integration because the days of independent response fire EMS and police are over. Our incidents have evolved. Okay. There’s no longer just the fire department response or the police response, it’s really it’s an emergency response that we all have to work on so that’s my soapbox. Don’t quote me on Twitter on that, Google face or whatever you have. So these are our contacts Miss Lisa Raja, for anybody that’s ever had an administrative assistant she’s the one that really does all the work. She also monitors that email there at the bottom all three of us have the ability to check that email and reply to emails from that so that’s the reason we made that one really big is so that way if one of us is in the office or whatever if you email that we can get back to you really quickly. And then we also have a record of it. We have a better way of tracking it if you send something in my inbox in the last 20 minutes it’s gonna be like it never happened unfortunately so just please send your feedback in that direction. I think that’s all we have. Thank you. Any questions? Do we have time I don’t have time for questions but, yeah he’s saying no. But does anybody have any questions? I’m kidding. All right. Thank you. They kicked me off now they put me back.

President Blair- We have we have a cup for each one of you to take along home with you. Our appreciation we also have a gift bag. Here comes the money guys, oh are you coming?

Chairman Lou Jonske - Ok ladies and gentlemen we’re here again but before I start my presentation I’ve got 20 chances left, if anybody wants them. Yes? This ends another year 2018. The $10,000 raffle committee started the year right after convention last year and the first thing we did was distribute chances to the executive committee and all except Wayne Tome they all sold them. We started the sales at the Harford County Fair and we sold 1597 chances, the Darlington Apple festival did 1654 chances and we hit then hit Sun fest with beautiful weather and we did nine thousand five hundred and fifty dollars at the Sun fest we handed out 110 thousand chances to all the fire companies and ladies auxiliary and we moved to the major sales event at Ocean City for this Spring Festival. Our goal every year is for every fire company and every ladies
auxiliary to sell 100 percent of their chances. This year we’re going to make that goal happen. The counter sales this year at Ocean City the Sunday we had was a record. We did how many Mitch? That’s ninety eight hundred dollars at 0800 hours on Sunday at the counter sales it just didn’t count the chances or the money that the companies brought in. This was all counter sales. Let’s see we have gotten we’re close to the record. This year we got about fifty four, fifty six thousand dollars turned in right now so that’s we’ve still got a little more to count so we maybe have a record year we’ll see. We’re going to have our two lovely ladies, we’re gonna have our two ladies from the Fire Prevention Queens draw out the tickets. We’ve got Alison Little and Brianna Reed. Okay we’re going to draw the first one and I hope it’s not the deuces but we’ll see. Okay the first one is a smart person they put the stickers on and guess what? It is a volunteer fire company. Madison Volunteer Fire Company wins - ten grand. See how easy it is guys. I’d like to thank all the help that I had. We had a lot of people that gave us a hand. Harford County Cecil County, Worcester County we had some people from Somerset County they gave us a hand to sell these chances and they worked hard. They spent a lot of their time a lot of their money. Okay the $2,500 winner is Midland Fire Company. Yay see what happens when you sell your chances you win money. Yeah, my wife said not gonna be able to talk for the next four day as soon as I get home she said that’s great. Okay the $1500 winner is looks like Christopher Gregory – 2406028334, Christopher Gregory. If anybody’s interested we’ve already signed the papers for Sun fest at Ocean City and sit that into September come down and spend four beautiful days on that hard parking lot hope the weather’s nice. Good gravy look here the wood how many? What’s the next one which winner $1,000 winner guess what, Glyndon Volunteer Fire Department. Okay fifth prize for $750 is Jen Rill-4104597511. Sixth prize Stockton Volunteer Fire Company. That’s a record now. We never have given this many fire companies away have we? How much five hundred hours I’m sorry $250 winner is looks like Santoni Paul or Paul Santoni he put the last name first. Santoni Paul seeing Tony 4102518443 five one. Prize number 8 goes to June Ruling 4437631520 that’s $100. Also $100 last name is Hitler or Hipps 77578943871 where could you be? Up here on stage that had such lovely ladies bring it bring it chances and number 10 will be why can’t these people write? Valerie Sharpe SHARP 410368083.I want to thank everybody that participated thank everybody that bought the chances and we’ll see you in September at the Sun fest. Okay my turn to talk oh yeah don’t go away I got a stand on Vivian’s box. If you don’t know I think in Lou’s previous life he worked in the pits at the New York Stock Exchange because when the committee’s working the public events all you hear is sell sell sell and then when the public is there it’s buy buy buy it’s all we hear. So you had to work in the pits all you had to. Okay and I also have next year’s tickets downstairs in the finance office which if you know where the restrooms are behind where the raffle is the finance office if don’t go to the men’s room it’s straight ahead anybody wants to pick their next year’s tickets up I have them down there. There’ll be blue next year and President Blair can you come forward please. Okay as customary usually do it at the Executive Committee meeting, President Blair is starting the raffle for next year. I have his five or ten tickets but he’s going to get another
190 tickets on top of that. Thank you, thank you.


Chief Chaplain John Long – Let’s pray. Almighty God as we close this annual conventions meeting session, Father I would just thank you for the guidance and wisdom you’ve given us. We thank you for those who have received awards for their service to their communities. We thank you for the dedication and hard work of the Convention Committee that spent all their hours coming down here and putting this on and the work they do throughout the year planning for this convention. Father as we get ready for the parade we ask for safety and guidance and good weather and give us all safe travel for those who are departing. We ask this on your Holy Name. Amen.

President Blair – Thank you Chaplain Long. Do we have a motion to adjourn? We have a first, second, name. Okay I’ve motion and second to Adjourn. All in favor, opposed? Okay let’s start out with a new year we need some help I want some help from all obvious not just some of you. I want all of you. We all got to work for the betterment of this Association. So have a safe trip home, have fun while you’re at the beach and don’t forget tomorrow morning Executive Board meeting at nine o’clock next door.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Vice President Blair, Vice President Faust, Officers, Members of the Executive Committee, Clergy, Auxiliary, Honored Guest, State Partners, Delegates and Alternates to the 126th Annual Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention and Conference.

What a positive year! There were sad moments, and good times. There were many good decisions, and some that, with hindsight, were not so good. There were many successes, and a few programs that ended in ways other than what we had anticipated. Overall it was a year of new and renewed friendships, achievements, and a lot of forward progress in many directions.

One of our most productive efforts this year has been the result we achieved during the Legislative Session. Thanks to Governor Hogan and Major General Singh for their help in securing a $200,000.00 dollar increase to our annual operating budget and a $25,000.00 increase for the trustees widows and orphans fund.

Our Legislative Committee Chair Steve Cox, PP, and his committee did an excellent job this year in Annapolis. 2018 was a record year in which 3,127 bills and joint resolutions were introduced, 890 bills or 28% were passed and 142 have already become laws. On more than one occasion I received a compliment from our state partners on the excellent job PP Cox did this session. I also want to thank the members of the LAMSFA who took time out of their busy lives to staff the office.

The Executive Committee under the leadership of Charles J. Simpson, Jr. handled routine business and some difficult issues that were new to the group, they completed their discussions in each instance, after careful review and meaningful discussion. This year the committee approved several new policies and established a fulltime contractual position “Executive Director”. The Executive Director will handle the day to day business of the association. Along with the new position the committee approved the lease of an office space at 2130 Priest Bridge Drive, Suite 4, Crofton, MD 21666. The space will serve this association for many years to come.

In attempt for the association to recruit new volunteers for our member companies we entered into an agreement with First Arriving Marketing, Web, Recruitment & Technology Solutions for Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement & Government Company. One of their focuses will be on assisting us with social media.

Sharing recognition this year with LAMSFA President Vivian Morgan Boyd and her husband Ron has been a special treat. We started talking about “our year” back in 2015 and we have been working together ever since. Thank you Vivian for your support, comments and suggestions.

There are so many who contributed to the success of this year, and assisted me in many ways. Thank you to the officers and members of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire
Engine and Hose Co. No. 1 who supported me while going through the chairs of this association. Reese and Community Volunteer Fire Company, Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department, Singerly Fire Department, and the Midland Fire Company #1 all opened up their volunteer fire houses to host an executive committee meeting.

To all of you who have given me the opportunities to serve, and to make new friends, thank you. To all of you who volunteer in your home company, in your county and in the state, thank you.

Finally, to my wife Nancy who understands my dedication and commitment to the volunteer fire service, and in spite of the time we spend apart you continue to love me and make me a better person by sharing your life with me.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark A. Bilger, MSFA President

REPORT OF THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

President Bilger, Second Vice President Faust, Chairman Simpson Jr., Members of the Executive Committee, Officers, Past Presidents Committee Chairs and Members Companies of both the MSFA and LAMSFA and Honored Guests of the 126th Annual Convention and Conference. This past year has been interesting and a learning experience in many ways for me as I traveled around the tri-state and throughout the State of Maryland and out of State events. I have visited different companies, met with some old friends, made some new friends while attending meetings, special events and many banquets.

First and foremost I want to thank my wife, Roslyn, for all of her continuing support and understanding that she and my sons and their families have given to me over this past year. Too my Fire Service family’s from the Western Enterprise Fire Company and the Clear Spring Volunteer Fire Company and the Clear Spring Ambulance Service, thank you for all of your support and help that you all have given to me the past two years as well to the member companies of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association for all your backing and support.

Special thanks go to the Past President’s Robert (Bob) Cumberland, Doyle Cox, and Treasurer Ronald J. Siarnicki who have been working and helping me over the past few years.

I also want to recognize MSFA Conference and Convention Committee Members before I get too far into this report. Thank you all so very much for all the hard work in putting this 126th Annual Conference and Convention together. Thank you to those who have helped this committee on special projects they have put together this past year and for all of your hard work and long hours.
Thanks to each of you for allowing me the opportunity to have served you as your First Vice President this past year. Please remember those dedicated members who could not be with us here today due to illness and remember those who have passed on in the last year. My condolences go out to each family member and friend and their home company. Our thoughts and prayers of the MSFA remain with all of you.

MSFA President Mark Bilger, LAMFSA President Vivian Boyd, Second Vice President Michael Faust, and Past Presidents of the MSFA, and Executive Committee members, I would like to thank each of you for your leadership, guidance, friendship and trust this past year. Thank you for providing me with valuable information that will help me as I move forward within the association. I would like to extend my thanks to our state partners who are always willing to work with us and who are there every day in the field. Some of these agencies are MFRI, MIEMSS, MSP & MSP Aviation, DNR, as well as the University Of Maryland Shock Trauma Systems for working so closely with MSFA and its member companies.

Thanks again to our Legislative Committee for another great and successful year in Annapolis. Thank you for all your hard and dedicated work and long hours of commitment that you all made this year.

I am taking this opportunity personally to thank our MSFA legislative Committee Chairman Steven Cox,

Vice Chairman Richard Smith, Past President Johnie Roth Jr, and Chuck Walker. All of you did an outstanding job this past session. I would also like to give a big thanks to the LAMSFA ladies for spending so many long hours at 17 state Circle to help out with the office duties such as reading and reviewing all those bills as they came in and cataloguing all the legislative bills. Thank you for stepping up and helping out so that the Chairman and other MSFA members could work on bills, go to hearings, and make the necessary visits and contacts with the legislators. Thanks to each one of you for what you all do for the MSFA and Citizens of Maryland.

I have attended many meetings with the MSFA Presidents, Executive Officers, Legislative Committee Members, MFRI and MIEMSS, over the past year. We have held many discussions on issues that is effecting our states EMT’s. I am looking forward to work with MIEMSS, MFRI, on correcting the issues for the National Registry EMT program in our state once and for all. Hopefully we will quickly have a better understanding of this issue that MIEMSS, and MFRI we can all agree on. Over this past year a few officers of MSFA had an opportunity to attend many meetings at the University Of Maryland Shock Trauma, working with their legislative group and attending their Board of Visitors Meeting. MSFA has a seat on that board now and will be working very closely with the Maryland Shock Trauma Board of Visitors. MSFA Officers will continue to work very closely with MFRI in bringing in new and advanced Fire and EMS educational programs to Maryland. I believe that the MSFA Officers, Legislative Committee will be spending
time looking at and working on some major EMS problems that have started popping up again across the state. We will be reviewing information and attending the EMS Board Meetings at MIEMSS as well as the MSFA EMS Committee, SEMSAC Committee and other meetings held at MIEMSS.

MIEMSS is continuing to ask that all providers in the state help share the Maryland Crisis Hotline phone number with opioid overdose patients who refuse transport to a hospital. The Maryland Crisis Hotline is provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The hotline provides support, guidance, and assistance on how to access substance use disorder and mental health services. Information includes accessing naloxone, recovery support, and family services as available/appropriate in the individual's local area. Encouraging patients to utilize the crisis hotline may help prevent future overdoses and assist to combat the opioid epidemic. Maryland Crisis Hotline: 1-800-422-0009 EMS

Sincerely
Richard C. Blair, MSFA First Vice President

REPORT OF THE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

To the Officers, Members, and those attending the 126th Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention and Conference in Ocean City, MD. Welcome to the beach and I hope we have an enjoyable and productive convention.

First, I'd like to take a moment to thank my family for their support over the last year. We knew it was going to be a lot of busy weekends and nights where I wouldn’t be home until late and that proved to be the case. I would like to especially thank my wife, Stacey Faust, for going with me to most of the functions I attended.

I'd also like to thank my home company, Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company and our Auxiliary for their support. It really helps having a lot of great people supporting you.

Thanks to President Mark Bilger, First Vice President Rick Blair, and all the Officers of the MSFA. Most of the Officers have served in their positions for a number of years and were a tremendous help to me. I appreciate all they did for me personally and the Association this year. Also thanks to those chairing and serving on the various committees. Every committee is important but there are a few that I feel need a little special recognition.

The Legislative Committee are in Annapolis every day that the State Legislators are in session. They are there working for the Members of the MSFA and the citizens of Maryland and it is appreciated. One fact I would like to point out is that they were there until midnight on April 9th just to make sure something important didn’t slip through. Thank you for all your efforts. The connections you made and the relationships you built are impressive and I hope whomever serves on the Committee next year and
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

beyond are able to continue those relationships. I would be remiss if I didn’t thank the ladies that support our efforts in Annapolis. Your work does not go unnoticed. Thank you!

Next I would like to recognize and thank a few other committees including the VCAF, Finance, Safety, Training, Fire Prevention, and Recruitment & Retention committees. I have attended several meetings for these committees and the work they put in is tremendous. People really have no idea what these people do every month to help educate, train, and protect our members and citizens.

To our partner agencies, it has been an honor to work with all of you. I don’t believe the average person that lives in Maryland has any idea of all of the behind-the-scenes work done by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and our partners. We must continue to make every effort necessary to keep our members safe so that we can protect the citizens of Maryland.

Last but certainly not least on my list of people to thank, I appreciate the support of the Officers and Members of the LAMSFA. I have developed a great relationship with the ladies and I am sure it will just get stronger as we continue to work together. Personally I would like to thank Vivian Boyd for her friendship and support this year. I wish Marcia Roth, Lori Denbow and the other officers of the LAMSFA much success in the upcoming year and I am sure we can accomplish a lot together.

As we all know, the National Register EMT Certification continues to be a topic of concern at our Executive Committee meetings. The dedication of several members of the Executive Committee is impressive and I remain hopeful that we can find a resolution that is acceptable to all parties because we need more EMT’s on the streets.

All in all, I think we had a great year. It is important that we remember the reason we are all here which is to protect our Members, our State, our Communities, and our Families. I look forward to continuing to work with this great association and the dedicated members that lead this organization for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael R. Faust, MSFA Second Vice President

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

President Bilger, Vice Presidents Blair and Faust, Officers, Past Presidents, Members of the Executive Committee, Delegates and Guest. It has been an honor and privilege to have served as your Secretary this past year, working with President Bilger and Vice President Blair and Faust, Treasurer Siarnicki and Financial Secretary Vocke. Their continuous support, cooperation and assistance is greatly appreciated. The relationship that exists between the Secretary’s Office, the President’s, Treasurer, Financial Secretary’s Office and the Executive Committee are a vital part of the overall
The members of the Secretary’s Office have attended all Executive Committee meetings that were scheduled by the President. The meetings were held the following days and at the following locations:

June 22, 2017       Ocean City, Convention Center
August 26, 2017     Reese and Community VFC, Carroll County
December 2, 2017    Kent Island Fire Department, Queen Anne’s County
February 24, 2018   Singerly Fire Company, Cecil County
April 14, 2018      Midland Volunteer Fire Department, Allegany County
June 17, 2018       Ocean City, Convention Center

All correspondence and business from those meetings were duly recorded, transcribed and properly distributed and acted upon.

Chairman Simpson has conducted the Executive Committees meetings in an efficient and very professional manner and I would like to thank him for his cooperation and good working relationship. Many of the meetings were lengthy and involved some in-depth discussions and debates.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Assistant Secretary Shirley Copado and Michelle Malin for their tireless efforts in recording and transcribing the minutes of our Executive Committee. And Assistant Secretary Nancy Cox for her efforts in recording and transcribing the minutes of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee, Assistant Secretaries Tom and Nancy Scott for their efforts in the area of distribution, copying and updating the web calendar. Each of these individuals has dedicated countless hours in fulfilling the responsibilities of the office to which they were appointed or they volunteered for. To the many other individuals that have stepped up and assisted when needed throughout the year, without your assistance, the office would not have been able to provide the service that was requested.

The Secretary’s Office will continue to work with the Convention Committee in preparing and distribution of the Convention Program. This year the first mail out was completed in November 2017 and the last one was completed the last part of April 2018. An additional mail out of the proposed By-Laws amendment was also completed the last of April 2018.

The Secretary’s Office has supplied the many companies and departments with certificates of recognition of their anniversaries as well as certificates to individuals on their many accomplishments.

As your Secretary, I will continue to travel around the state representing the Association and the Office of the Secretary at meetings and other related functions.
I would like to thank my wife, Cathy for her support and assistance in preparing the mail outs this year. Thanks to all for allowing me to serve as your Secretary of this great Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Doyle E. Cox, PP, Secretary

REPORT OF THE FINANCE TEAM

To the Officers, Delegates and Membership of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

On behalf of the Finance Team for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), representing the Office of the Financial Secretary, Office of the Treasurer and the Budget Committee, we would like to extend to all in attendance at the 126th Annual Convention sincere best wishes for a most enjoyable experience here in Ocean City. As we gather again this year to conduct the business of the Association, the Finance Team would like to thank our elected officers, President Bilger, Vice President’s Blair and Faust for their continued support and assistance as we have worked through the financial concerns of this organization. They have worked many long hours and traveled numerous miles all year long in an effort to support the mission and purpose of our great organization. Our deepest expressions of gratitude go out to all of them.

Since the creation of the MSFA Financial Team, efforts have been put into place to maintain a solid financial status of our organization and ensure fiscal responsibility throughout the organization. As a team, we will continue to work on addressing every organizational fiscal issue we face and that each of you are kept informed of the financial status and opportunities we have available to us.

For the past twelve months, the Finance Team has worked very hard to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of managing the finances of this Association. As elected and appointed officers, we are appreciative of the opportunity to serve the organization and assist in its growth. While growth is critical to our survivability as an organization, the challenge of ensuring the financial stability of the MSFA must be on the forefront of our efforts and work products. Having gone through some tough times in the past, and with the way our national economic situation stands today we have to remain ever vigilant to carry out our tasks and responsibilities, which will help build a stronger financial plan for all of us.

Each of us on the team, Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke, Assistant Financial Secretary Bobbi Aaron, Treasurer Ron Siarnicki, Assistant Treasurer’s; Past President Jacobs, Past President Cross and Wylie Donaldson, Budget and Past President Chair Steve Cox, his Vice-Chair Richard Smith, and his committee members: Eugene Curfman, Past President C. Daniel Davis, Past President Bobby Balta, Past President Carl Edelin and Ex-Officio Benjamin W. Kurtz are all committed to maintaining a high professional level of performance and fiscal responsibility in this office. Each has helped make a
real difference to the end result and for that, we can all be grateful. Additionally, it has
been a pleasure working with the Board of Trustees whose charge it is to support
the families of our lost and injured brothers and sisters. The Trustees have worked
hard to bring additional resources to the forefront for our families and assisting them
is both rewarding and the right thing to do. As a team, we would be remiss if we did
not extend thanks to the Executive Committee who, under the leadership of Chairman
Charlie Simpson, always supported our efforts and helped to manage the financial
affairs of our organization. We would not be where we are today without their help,
guidance and support.

We look forward to another year of hard work to ensure that the best fiscal decisions
are again made in support of the mission and purpose of this great Association. Your
support and understanding will be needed in order for all of us to be successful.
Thanks again and remember to “Be Safe” in all you do.

Respectfully Submitted,
The MSFA Finance Team

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN

Welcome to Ocean City, again we gather to fellowship with our friends and meet new
friends. Brothers and sisters of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Services, who share the
same likes and dislikes as we do. People who know how we feel, and understand how
we think and feel. It is just a good time that we all look forward to every year.

This year at the memorial service we again have to recognize Line of Duty Deaths. It
is a tough reminder that at any minute we could be the next one to lose our life. Have
you prepared for this tragic event, does your company have you complete a PSOB
Beneficiary Designation form and is it up to date. Do you have a copy of your birth
certificates, marriage license, divorce decree, in your company file. Do you have a
WILL, you should they are produced at no cost to you by the MSFA WILLS for HEROES
committee. Does your company take pictures of their membership each year and keep
it on file. It is very important that the company/department leadership start working to
keep accurate records of their membership. I had the awesome task of receiving the
memorial forms this year and I was shocked at how many companies submitted forms
to memorialize their members without a photo. Please take the time to take and file
pictures of your memberships. When you have a member pass, please don’t wait until
March’s deadline to submit them form the memorial service. Send the memorial form
right away so they can be put on the Memorial page at MSFA.org.

Enjoy your time at the ocean, blow off some steam, be safe, and watch out for your
brothers and sisters. If you need help reach out to your chaplain. If you don’t have one
contact me. I am on Facebook, Twitter, e-mail me at JFLONGJR@YAHOO.com, or call
me 443-623-0753.
God Bless
John F. Long, Jr., Chief Chaplain

REPORT OF THE MSFA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President Bilger, Officers, Past Presidents, Delegates and Guests of the 126th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This year the Trustees have paid benefits to thirty-one (31) widows/widowers, two (2) dependent child, two (2) dependents college educations, and three (3) Line-of-Duty-Injury claims. This year we had (1) one Line-of-Duty-Death claim.

We are saddened to report one (1) Line-of-Duty Death this year. Please keep the family of Christopher Charles Pryor in your thoughts and prayers.

This year the Trustees increase Widows/Widowers benefits from $750 to $800, Dependent Child benefit from $650 to $700, Line-of-Duty-Death benefits remained $11,000 and Line-of-Duty-Injury benefits from $750 to $800 (effective 7/18). Education for Dependent Children was raised $6,000 per year ($3,000 per semester).

Please remember to visit the www.msfa.org web site and look under the Board of Trustees for the updated manual with all the forms and procedures you will need to file a claim.

Lastly, I would like to thank your very dedicated Trustees for their service:

Vice Chair Doug Alexander
Secretary Jeff Thompson

Trustee Terry Thompson, PP
Trustee Ben Kurtz

Thanks for the opportunity to serve the Volunteer Fire Service of Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Dan Carpenter, III, Chair

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

President Bilger, 1st Vice President Blair, 2nd Vice President Faust, Chairman Simpson, Members of the Executive Committee, Officers, Past Presidents, Members and guest of the 126th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), I would like to thank those who have supported and assisted me on this new endeavor created under the leadership of Past President Roth.

Three years ago, Past President Roth hosted a Leadership Summit which was facilitated by the Executive Director of the South Carolina Firefighters Association, Joe Palmer,
and members of this staff. At the conclusion of that summit, the Officers and other invited guests, evaluated and prioritized fourteen (14) specific initiatives that needed to be addressed to better serve the members of the MSFA. At that time, I was asked if I would serve as the Strategic Planner for the MSFA and work with the newly appointed Strategic Planning Committee.

Over the past three years, we have continued to have Leadership Conferences with the Officers of the Association and members of the Executive Committee. This past year, President Bilger requested another Leadership Conference to be conducted at the National Fire Academy. This conference was facilitated by Director Joe Palmer and myself. The outcome from this conference gave a clear indication, that the top six categories that were prioritized to be the top six issues three years ago were still issues that needed to be addressed. Those top six issues are as follows:

- Communications
- Association Staffing
- Reaching the Next Generation
- Budget/Finance to Support Mission and Goals
- Technology and Methodology
- Recruiting and Retention

Three years ago, the Executive Committee met every quarter and listened to fifty plus (50+) committees report over a weekend. The first order of business for the Strategic Planner was to figure out a mechanism to make this process more efficient and congruent and have the committees interact with each other to have more continuity across the entire spectrum of committees. The first thing that was proposed by the Strategic Planning Committee, and accepted by the Executive Committee, was to take the fifty plus committees and break them into categories of Administration, Operations, Planning and Logistics. All Committees were placed in the appropriate categories and a Branch Manager and Committee Chair was appointed for each category. That reduced the committees reporting to 14 initiatives in addition to our partnered agencies. This process has cut down on redundant presentations, and making committees coordinate with each other.

In 2014, the MSFA/MFCA received a SAFER Grant from FEMA for the purpose of Recruiting and Retention. This Grant has been and has had to be monitored daily and the contract personnel have done a great job in assuring we do not go beyond the guides of the Grant or the federal government. In reviewing the money allocations and the remainder of the performance period as of November 27, 2017, and the closing date of the Grant in September 2018, the Oversight Committee requested some adjustments be made to the Grant to maximize the areas that have been successful and to transfer funds from those that have not been successful. Training has been a key part of the Safer Grant and we have been successful in awarding numerous Scholarships and Tuition Assistance to our membership throughout the state. After
some changes within the leadership structure of the Grant Oversight Committee, the MSFA and the MFCA agreed that a Budget Modification and Grant Amendment be requested from FEMA. The Budget Modification and Grant Amendment request was approved by FEMA and will allow us to enhance our efforts to meet our organization’s goals and objectives as identified in the original grant.

We have made large strides in the training arena, as well as the social media arena and reformating of our MSFA website to ensure an open source of communications throughout the entire membership. I would like to personally thank the Coordinators of the MSFA and the MFCA for their hard work on this Grant and a special thanks to media vendors, First Arriving and CBS, as well as Mr. Ron Siarnicki and Richard Snader for their continued support with the outside vendors and communications with FEMA.

I would like to also give a shout out to the following committees for their outstanding work for the betterment and welfare of this fine Association and its members; Safety Committee, Training Committee, Recruiting and Retention Committee, Legislation Committee and Budget and Finance Committee, Cancer Committee, Ways and Means Committee, and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Committee.

Over the past three years, I’ve served under three Presidents and three Executive Committee Chairmen. I would like to thank Past President Roth for his confidence in me to begin this journey, Past President Davis for his active participation in the enhancing the social media presence of this Association and President Bilger for being a true communicator to me as to his wants and desires of this Association. As far as the three Executive Committee Chairmen, Jim Seavey, Doug Simpkins and Charlie Simpson, I couldn’t have worked with any better people than you three who have the best interest of this Association. Thanks to all.

I am humbled to have had the opportunity to serve this great Association and thank the entire membership for your kindness and support throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel H. “Skip” Mahan – Executive Director

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Officers, Delegates and Guests of the 126th Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Fireman’s Association, it is my pleasure to present the report of the Executive Committee for the 2017-2018 year. Thank you President Bilger, it has been my honor and privilege to serve you, all the officers and members of this great Association. The Executive Committee has had a year of many challenges while making progress in stabilizing and moving the association forward for the future.

We conducted nine Executive Committee meetings of which two were tele-conference meetings since the Convention closed in Ocean City on June 21, 2017.
The Executive Committee held a special meeting on June 20th in Ocean City to approve the 2017-2018 appointed officers.

Our first regular meeting was held on June 22nd in Ocean City where President Bilger announced his Transition Meeting that will be held on July 22nd at the Hampstead VFD. We also voted to accept the FY2018 Budget proposal, and to extend the Executive Consultant contract. Immediate Past Chairman Doug Simpkins was thanked for his service as Chairman 2016-2017.

Our second regular meeting was held August 26th at the Reese and Community Volunteer Fire Company. This was the first time a business meeting was conducted in a one day format. We approved three VCAF Loans and one grant, approved the legal consul to handle certain business on behalf of the Association and placed the Bereavement Program on the website. We dropped one company from membership while discussing the combining of several member companies in Baltimore County. We discussed a member company’s request for a standards inspection and continued to discuss National Registry testing and MIEMSS EMT issues. Our meeting was adjourned at 5:30PM.

A special Executive Committee conference call on November 29th discussed the details of reorganizing the SAFER Grant Oversite Committee and the needed changes to its program.

Our third regular meeting was held on December 2nd at the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department. Much information was discussed regarding the SAFER Grant and reorganization of the grant program. President Bilger made a presentation to MFRI Director Steve Edwards who retired January 1st , thanking him for his many years of service. We voted to extend the Executive Consultant contract to three years, discussed a LODI Trustees claim rejection and the legal action that may follow. The Standards Committee reported inspection was conducted of the Salisbury Fire Dept., Inc. Co. 1 on September 22, 2017 as requested by the Executive Committee on June 21, 2017. The results of that inspection indicated that the pumper and building of the Salisbury Fire Department, Inc. Co. 1 met the standards of the MSFA for these categories. The Committee approved changes to the President Vehicle SOP and the adoption of the Sexual Harassment/Anti-discrimination Policy and a Disciplinary Policy. We voted to change the pay-back guidelines for the VCAF and to approve six loans and two grants. The new MSFA Tag design and the updated Ten-Year Training Plan were also approved by the Committee. This meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM.

Our fourth regular meeting was held at the Singerly Fire Company on February 24, 2018. We approved Michelle Malin as a new Assistant Secretary and President Bilger appointed two new committees, the Next Generation Committee with Ron Block as Chair and the Executive Director Search Committee with Charles Simpson as Chair. We welcomed Dorchester County Vol. Fireman’s Association as they were approved
for Associate Membership. We approved three grants and seven loans recommended by the VCAF committee. The Committee voted to recommend a Constitution and Bylaw change for the Convention changing the Planning Committee to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee with specified members. We also approved a Resolution recommending all member companies to participate in Traffic Incident Management training. We adjourned at 4:00 PM.

On March 28, 2018 The Executive Committee had a special tele-conference call and approved the attorney’s request for “Articles of Amendment” to the Constitutions and Bylaws to replace missing documents. We also approved the lease of office space for the Executive Director in Crofton.

Our fifth regular meeting was held at Midland Volunteer Fire Company on April 14, 2018. We handled the many items on the agenda including information on the status of our Executive Director Search and the new “Home” for the MSFA. A proposal was submitted to change our Planning Committee in the Constitution and Bylaws and a presentation on drones from MCAC. Continued concerns with the MIEMSS National Registry EMT testing remains a constant concern for the volunteer emergency services and the appeared lack of inclusion by MIEMSS when changing their policies and procedures.

The MSFA Leadership and Executive Committee conducted a Leadership Summit on January 5th thru 7th at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg. Many strategies were developed to continue to move our Association forward and better prepare for the changes in the future. Our thanks to Joe Palmer of the South Carolina State Firefighters Association for his interest and continued support.

Special thanks to Reese and Community Volunteer Fire Company, Kent Island Fire Department, Singerly Fire Company and Midland Volunteer Fire Department for their hospitality in hosting these meetings.

Thanks to Treasurer Siarnicki, Secretary Cox and Executive Director Mahan for all the assistance provided and the many hours you have contributed. Many thanks to Jim Seavey for his guidance and friendship.

Best wishes and thanks to Vice Chair Rick Hemphill as he moves forward. Most importantly for all their hard work and diligence, I would like to thank my 2017-2018 Executive Committee:

Vice Chairman: Richard Hemphill, Independent Junior VFC
WASHINGTON/FREDERICK County

Kent Whalen, United Communities VFD
KENT/QUEEN ANNE’S/_CAROLINE County
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Timothy Dayton, Potomac FC#1
ALLEGANY/GARRETT County

John Fisher, Ocean City VFD
WORCESTER/WICOMICO/SOMERSET Co.

Wayne Tome, Sr., Water Witch FC
HARFORD/CECIL County

Doug Simpkins, Jr., Arbutus VFC
BALTIMORE County

James P. Seavey, Sr., Cabin John Park VFD –
MONTGOMERY County

Richard Smith, Oxford VFD –
TALBOT/DORCHESTER County

Daniel J. Stevens, Waldorf VFD –
CHARLES/ST. MARY’S/CALVERT County

Ronald A. Block, Cape St. Clare VFC
ANNE ARUNDEL County

Charles Walker, Chillum Adelphi VFD
PRINCE GEORGE’S County

Ex-Officio Member: Michael A. Davis, Cockeysville VFC
BALTIMORE County

My thanks to Frank Underwood, PP Prince George’s Co. for participating on behalf of
member Chuck Walker during his convalescence.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles J. Simpson, Jr., Chairman

REPORT OF THE BUDGET AND REVENUE COMMITTEE

President’s Bilger, Vice Presidents Blair and Faust, Officers, Delegates and Members of
the Maryland State Firemen’s Association; it has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair
of this committee during this past year. Our committee along with the financial team
continues to make positive changes in the financial management of this organization.

The Budget and Revenue Committee has worked closely with the Treasurer’s Office and
the Financial Secretary to ensure the income and expenditures of the association are
managed according to the approved budget and in the best interest of the association.
The budget committee would like to thank the Executive Committee for providing latitude to the budget committee to monitor expenditures and move funds from one budget item to another as long as the bottom line of the approved budget remains the same. These actions have permitted the budget committee and the financial team flexibility to better serve the association. The budget committee as part of the “Financial Team” strives to improve communications and operations which make us a stronger organization and more responsive to those we serve.

The continued use of the Budget Request Forms by all committees continues to provide beneficial information and has been very helpful. After the Budget and Revenue Committee reviews the requests and approves the submitted budget, a copy of the request form is returned to the committee verifying the approved budget amounts in which the committee must operate. Budget requests received after the budget has been established continues to diminish. Committees have been extremely prudent with spending and have monitored their approved budgeted and stay within the established amounts. The Budget and Revenue Committee has actively maintained a watch over the income and expenditures of this Association and are pleased to report that we are operating within our level of funding for the current year. All officers and committees are to be commended for the great job they are doing and their willingness to operate within their approved budget limits.

As expenditures of this Association continue to increase, it becomes increasingly problematic to balance the income versus expenses and requires complete cooperation, prudent spending, and communications from all officers and committees. The Committee would like to thank the officers and committee chairpersons for their assistance during the past year and we look forward to assisting them and this Association in the coming year.

Finally, the Budget Committee would like to thank Governor Hogan for his support by increasing the State Appropriations by $200,000.00 this year. Although General Services recommended striking that request from the Governor’s budget, General Singh believed in our Association and fought hard to keep it in the budget. As a result, the funds remained and the General Assembly passed the budget with our increase.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephan D. Cox, Chairman

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Vice-President’s Blair and Faust, Ladies Auxiliary President Boyd, Vice-President’s Roth and Denbow, Officers, Delegates, Alternates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) and Ladies Auxiliary: I am pleased to report that again this year there has been an extraordinary effort put forth by many individuals to provide to you and our membership the 126th Annual Convention and
We continue to make changes within the Convention Committee and the convention event as a whole. The committee has made several visits to the site and has pulled together various planning efforts to make this convention even better than has occurred in the past. I would be remiss at this time, if I did not take a moment to remember my predecessor Chairman Emeritus and Past President Leonard King who passed this year as his leadership helped make the Convention what it is today.

Since last year’s event, the Steering Committee: Tom and Flo Collins, Past President Doyle Cox, Susan Proels, Past President John Denver, William Hawkins, LAMSFA Past President Elaine Huttenloch, Past President Frank Underwood, Past President Roger Powell, Past President Danny Davis and Past President Paul Sterling along with each of the committee management sector leaders: Administration, (Co-Chair Past President Danny Davis, Vice-Chair Past President Jackie Olson); Exhibits, (Co-Chair Wylie Donaldson, Vice-Chair Past President Roger Steger, Vice-Chair Past President Dave Lewis); Finance, (Co-Chair Past President Robert Jacobs, Vice-Chair Past President Fred Cross); Production, (Co-Chair Past President Tommy Mattingly, Vice-Chair Bill Hildebrand); and Program, (Co-Chair Ken Bush, Vice-Chair Ben Kurtz); have been hard at work preparing for our week at the beach. We are confident that you will enjoy, learn, and take something back to your departments from this year’s Convention and Conference experience.

With the efforts of many dedicated individuals, the 126th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is being provided for the enjoyment and information gathering of the entire Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services community and their families.

This past year has seen many dedicated individuals putting in a great deal of hours planning and developing the weeklong events and activities that will be a part of our annual gathering. The Roland E. Powell Convention and Conference Center is a tremendous facility in which to hold our Convention and Conference. The Steering Committee, the various working groups such as: Exhibits, Program, Program Book, Parade, Social Activities, Logistics, Security and many more feel confident that you will most surely enjoy, learn, and take something back to your communities from this year’s Convention and Conference.

Our Convention and Conference will again launch the week long activities with the Joint Officers Banquet that will be held at the Clarion Hotel. Each year the Banquet Committee does an outstanding job in planning this event and makes it a fitting start to our annual gathering. Our Presidents, Officers and invited guests will gather to commemorate the productive efforts of the Association this past year.

The Education and Hands-On Training Seminars will stimulate new thought processes
and tone up some skills to better enable you to serve your departments and citizens in a most professional manner. Thanks to the members of the Program Committee, MFRI, MIEMSS, Shock Trauma and the Ocean City Fools for making some of the best educational opportunities available to our association membership.

The “MSFA Joint Memorial Service” proves to be another moving and most important part of the overall convention and conference. Our Chaplin Corp and many others are to be commended for their efforts for this very moving program where we will recognize many of our fellow fire service members who have passed since our last gathering. In addition, special tributes and Line-of-Duty Death Recognitions will be provided.

This year’s Opening Ceremonies on Monday morning will be spectacular with new additions to the program and a keynote presentation that will hit home with every single member of the Maryland fire service community. We look forward to jointly celebrating our rich history, numerous association milestones and most of all benefits to our member organizations. Thanks to the entire opening ceremonies work group for all they do.

The most up-to-date informational programs will be featured on the main convention floor to allow you to build on your skills, knowledge, and contacts for the betterment of the emergency services personnel of our State. Thank you to all members of the Program Committee for your efforts.

Each year our exhibits bring some of the most innovative apparatus, equipment and services available on the market today and through our convention you are able to visit more suppliers during the week than you could contact throughout the year. You will meet the technical personnel, sharpen your purchasing power, and obtain answers to important question. We owe a “thank you” to all of the exhibitors for supporting our Convention and Conference. Thanks to the Exhibits Committee for another year of outstanding service and dedication.

There will again be many family oriented social events peppered throughout the week to include:

Sunday Morning Worship Service, Fire and EMS Memorabilia Flea Market, Miss Fire Prevention Contest, A Night at Jolly Roger Amusement Park, Prayer Breakfast, Purse and Bag Bingo, Exhibitors Reception, Joint Officers Installation, Installation Reception, Special Events at Splash Mountain Park, MSFA Night at the Boardwalk Pier Amusement Park, Frontier Town Day, Mack Fire Truck Rally, OC Fools Block Party, Eagles Landing Golf Tournament, and much more. These events require a lot of coordination, planning, logistics and hard work. Thanks to the entire team who helped to bring these special events to our Association attendees and their families.
The parade on Wednesday requires many hours of preparation and work. The Parade Committee will be in place to make sure that it fulfills everyone’s expectations as we again travel up Baltimore Avenue starting at 15th Street. Lineup will again be at the inlet parking lot and this year Chick-fil-A will be there to show their appreciation to our fire service family. A special thanks to the Ocean City Fire Service, the Transportation Department, Police Department and Public Works Department for there long hours and hard work in producing the parade.

The Convention Committee extends a special thank you to Mayor Meehan for all of his cooperation and assistance throughout the year in helping to make everything happen for a successful Convention and Conference. Thanks also to the Ocean City Council, City Manager, Ocean City Police Department, Ocean City Department of Public Works, Ocean City Department of Transportation, and to the Ocean City Convention and Conference Center staff for all of their assistance, cooperation and dedication.

We could not put on this Convention and Conference without the splendid year round cooperation of the Town of Ocean City and we thank their residents and business community for supporting us.

The Convention Committee would also like to thank the Prince George’s County Fire/EMS Department, the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services, the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, Maryland Military Department, M.E.M.A., M.F.R.I., M.I.E.M.S.S., State Fire Marshal’s Office, Maryland State Police, and the Governor’s Office for all of the assistance, cooperation, and work in planning and producing our Convention and Conference.

My personal thanks to the entire Convention Committee with so many additional individuals who work tirelessly to pull everything together and I thank each and every one of them: Fire Chief Ben Barksdale, Miriam Wrenn, Alan Doubleday, Joseph Walters, Gary Jones, Allen Doolings, Charles Rogers, Tom Nevins, Mark Telfer, Dickie Briggs, Jimmy Atchison, Tim Thomas, Lewis Harvey, Rob Korb, Donna Clark, Kate and Rich Tomanelli, Scott, Carrie and Brain Svoboda, Bobbi Aaron, Robert Rose, Jason Bloom, Chris May, Jeff Thompson, Past President Steve Cox, Nancy Cox, Jim Hall, Ed Bilger, Kevin Reilly, Laura and Harve Woods, Richard Snader, Victor Stagnaro, Lynn Hawkins, Kevin Roberts, Dennis Woods, Chris, Lisa and Jacqueline Tona, Michael LeCompte, Chip Jewell, Danny McGowan, Paul Cruz, Rick Ringenbach, Rachael Hatcher, Jenna Pritchett, Ron Howlin, Rae Olivera, Past President Phil Hurlock, Rose and Tom Clark, Kevin Henderson, John Proels, Billy and Joy Hinton, Mike and Terri Levasseur, Brad and Jenna Childress, Kent and Donna Whalen, Doug Guare, Robbie Blackiston, Bill Faust, Ron Watkins, High Owens, Jim Smith, Past President’s Worthington and Cumberland and Ladies Past President Teresa Crisman, Ladies Past President Fran Crisman, Dennie Mattingly, Danny Carpenter, Ginny Wilhite, Shirley Copado, Tony Clark, Pat Neil, and Tim Clark, Richard Brooks, Richard Udell, Bob Ryan, Chaplain Long, Chaplain Hetz, the Chaplain’s Office, Rick Hemphill and the entire Registration Team, Joe Ward, and
Director Mike Cox at MFRI, State Fire Marshal Brian Geraci along with Jim Brown and Pat Gainer, Dennis Beard, Maryland Fire & Rescue Services Pipes & Drums and all the Honor Guard members, Past President Dave and Gloria Lewis, Sandy Jacobs, Rose Davis, Chris Yinger, Lou and Anna Jonske, along with Mitch and Darlene Vocke and their entire raffle crew. They are to be thanked for their countless hours of coordination and work in the control center, back stage and logistics areas for all events during the week along with the UCVFD Team.

Also, my personal appreciation to Susan Proels formally with the PGFD and now with the NFFF, for all she does all year long and especially keeping the command center back stage well organized and well managed.

YOUR Convention Committee hopes that you and your families will enjoy your stay in Ocean City. We also hope that you will learn from the many events and displays during the Convention and Conference and take that knowledge back to your communities to improve the safety and well-being of every citizen of our great state.

It has been a pleasure serving as your Chairman and working with a great team of individuals on the Convention Committee. We are already talking about things we would like to do next year to make the convention even better. Be safe and enjoy the beach!

Respectfully Submitted;
Ronald J. Siarnicki, Convention Chairman

REPORT OF THE EVENTS & MARKETING REPORT

President Bilger, Vice Presidents Blair, and Faust, officers, members, and guests,
The Events & Marketing Committee had a busy and successful year. The Committee supported the MSFA, several of its committees, our partner agencies, and our membership throughout the year.

The Committee supported the Association and its Legislative Committee by hosting booths at the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Conference, the Summer, and Winter Conferences of the Maryland Association of Counties (MACO), and by assisting at the MSFA Legislative Reception in Annapolis. At these events, we have the opportunity to meet face to face with Municipal, County, State, and even Federal elected and appointed officials.

The Committee continues to work in support of the various initiatives involved with the SAFER Grant.

The Committee sponsored an Ocean City Hotel Motel and Restaurant Association (OCHMRA) dinner. As a sponsor, we distributed Fire Prevention information and Convention information to all of the attendees. The Committee also hosted a booth at
the OCHMRA Trade Show. During this event we distributed Convention Sponsorship Information.

The Committee hosted a booth at the Maryland Emergency Managers Association (MDEMA) Symposium. Our member departments work hand in hand on a daily basis with Emergency Managers in their local jurisdictions. Any effort we can make to build these relationships will serve our member departments well.

The Committee also hosted a booth at EMS Care in Ocean City in support of our EMS providers statewide.

The Committee would like to thank President Bilger and Vice Presidents Blair and Faust for their help and support. The Committee would also like to recognize the efforts of Past Presidents Olson, Cross, and Roth for their hard work this year.

Respectfully submitted,
John Denver, Chairman

REPORT OF THE FIRE LAWS BOOK COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Vice President’s Blair and Faust, Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association it has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of this committee during this past year.

We changed the practice of purchasing approximately 500 copies of the Fire Laws Books and distributing them to our officers, legislators, past presidents, every department, and certain government partners every two years to purchasing 300 copies. The 300 copies still enable us to provide books to the officers, legislators in Annapolis, Past Presidents, certain committees and some partner agencies. This change enabled the Association to provide those necessary copies and reallocate funds to other Association projects.

The Association did not purchase and distribute Fire Law Books this year. Books will be purchased in FY 2018 – 2019 budget year. Distribution will be to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and members of the General Assembly, MSFA Officers, Fire Prevention Commission, and State Fire Marshal’s Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephan D. Cox PP, Chair

REPORT OF THE FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE

We would first like to thank President Mark Bilger for his support and appointment of this committee. The Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee has worked very hard to keep current on the trends and demands for prevention efforts to the Maryland State
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Firemen’s Association and its member companies. We look forward to working with President Blair and President Foust in support of their respective years.

This year we held meetings in the following locations:

- Prince George’s County – Cranford/Graves Fire Services Building
- Abingdon Volunteer Fire Department
- Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Department – canceled due to funeral for Past President Leonard King.
- Committee Support MSFA/ MFRI - Maryland Weekend Emmitsburg
- MFRI – College Park University of Maryland
- United Communities Volunteer Fire Department

This past year we have strived to bring the best in education to the departments with resources and tools made available on the website. Allowing us to add and update or portion of the website has become valuable resource. We have been able to add pertinent educational materials for use by our member companies. We have installed and updated the following tip sheets:

- Burn Safety for Children and Adults
- Carbon Monoxide Safety
- Christmas Tree Safety
- Close the Door Safety
- Hoarding Safety
- Home Escape Plan
- Holiday Safety
- Pet Safety
- Senior Safety
- Smoke Alarm – MD Laws
- Space Heater Safety
- Sprinkler Safety
- Statewide Community Risk Reduction Weekend Dates
- Turkey Fryer Safety
- Winter Safety

In all there are over 15 tip sheets for review. They are found of the top of the FPLS Committee section of the MSFA website. As trends change and newer information is passed on we will be updating the website. Please go to our committee page and see what we have done to support you as a member company.

As always this committee has great people to help support the efforts and our many
messages I would like to thank Vice Chairs, Dave Reid and Holley Trego and Secretary Daria Brown thank you for dedicated work in the world of Fire Prevention and Life Safety for this state.

Fire Marshal Brian S. Geraci I would like to thank you for all of the support that you have given towards the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee of the state this past year. Thank you for the support to myself and our committee we are always ready to serve you and support the Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal. The committee serves you with great support and we will continue to find ways to spread the message of Fire Prevention and Life Safety for your office. Thank you for always being with us and being beside us when we find ways to educate the residents of this great state. Thank you Fire Marshal for all that you do.

This past year a valuable asset from the State Fire Marshal Office our liaison Bruce Bouch decided to jump ship and move on a new job and is now working for the National Fire Academy. Thank you for helping spread the messages that we created and we wish you the very best in your new position with the National Fire Academy. We are still very grateful that you will remain a committee member and we look forward to your support.

To the sub-committee members, I must thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the programs we work on. To Cyndy, Lori, Bridgett, Debbie and Robin and Susan, thank you for leading the charge in your respective programs for the committee. This group could not function without your efforts and time to getting valuable information to the MSFA membership. Each program is unique to the issue and it is a great resource and tool that can be used to help support the messages we work so tiredly on. Your work is very important and I cannot say thank you enough for your hard work and dedication to the committee.

To Sarah and Lauren, You both did a great job and your travels and efforts are greatly appreciated. Congratulations on a successful year. I would like to thank the many other Fire Prevention Ambassadors for your years as we go around the state is very important to see the upcoming ambassadors helping spread the efforts of our messages. Congratulation for all that you do.

Adding a very valuable component of our committee has been to integrate Vision 20/20 more into the efforts towards Community Risk Reduction and ways to help member companies. We have updated and included many valuable tools that can be shared with the member companies. Myself and James Resnick are the Maryland Representatives and we look forward to learning new ideas and allowing us to bring them forward to the efforts of the Community Risk Reduction for the State.

To LAMSFA Chairman Rose Pandolfini and to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association thank you for your continued support and efforts also in

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spreading the word of prevention to the state.

Each of us has a very valued interest in Fire Prevention and Life Safety. This committee is at its ready to support the needs of the members of this state. We have many valuable tools to support a department’s needs when it comes to implementing programs. Please contact any of us when your department needs the many items that we are proud to support you with. We are only a phone call away.

Respectfully,
Teresa Ann Crisman, Chairman
Dave Reid, Vice Chairman
Holly Trego, Vice Chairman
Daria Brown, Secretary

WHAT IS FABSCOM?

The Fire and Burn Safety Coalition of Maryland (FABSCOM) is a 501 © 3 non-profit charitable organization that was established in 1992 with the help of a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FABSCOM brings together public fire educators, fire prevention personnel, and private sector members to support a common goal of making Maryland a safer place. The mission of FABSCOM is “to promote Fire and Burn Safety Education for the citizens of Maryland.” This group meets quarterly to share updates on the preparation and progress of the group’s main projects.

The Fire and Burn Safety Coalition of Maryland assists and supports the Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference (MALSC) held annually at the John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Howard County. The coalition also assists Maryland residents in the community by providing visual smoke alarms for the deaf and hard of hearing community. FABSCOM assists Marylanders by promoting residential fire sprinklers as well as the proper placement, maintenance, and installation of smoke alarms.

Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference (MALSC) is held each year in September at the John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. Each year the conference has a wealth of knowledge presented in numerous breakout sessions that appeal to several aspects of fire and life safety. During the lunch portion of the conference the Office of the State Fire Marshal announces the Life Safety Educator of the Year Award. This award recognizes an individual or group who have significant contributions in fire or life safety programs which identifies measurable achieved outcomes.

Visual Smoke Alarms for the Hard of Hearing is a statewide program to help prevent fire related deaths in Maryland. Members of the deaf and hard of hearing community are unable to hear a regular smoke alarm so this committee offers two options to warn
of smoke and/or fire within their homes. Safe Awake offers an alarm that listens for the sound of a conventional smoke alarm and then activates a “bed-shaker” to powerfully shake the person’s bed alerting them of the impending smoke and/or fire. Another alarm that FABSCOM offers if the Gentex smoke alarm with visual signaling. Upon activation, the smoke alarm will sound and also have a high intensity strobe. During the alarm period the strobe will flash 60 times per minute. Debbie Gartrell-Kemp from Carroll County oversees this project to offer alarms to those residents in Maryland who are in need through an application process that is available online and a then group of installers go out to the community and install the alarm as well as educate the homeowner on how it works.

Residential Fire Sprinklers save lives and this group assists lawmakers and home builders understand their importance. It is the goal of this group to have legislation in every Maryland County and Baltimore City requiring residential sprinklers in all new construction as well as any remodeling projects that meet the requirement for sprinklers. FABSCOM also supports the side by side demonstrations that are conducted in a joint effort between the MSFA, MFCA, and the OSFM.

Smoke Alarm installation and maintenance are a key component of saving lives. This group assists in educating the community on the proper placement of smoke alarms. Currently the law in Maryland requires a smoke alarm in every bedroom, outside the sleeping area, and on each floor of the residence. Maintenance of smoke alarms is imperative to ensure a working smoke alarm. Smoke alarms should be replaced every ten years and tested monthly to be sure they are in working order. It is recommended that if you have any issues or questions regarding your own smoke alarms that you contact your local fire department. If you still need additional assistance you can contact FABSCOM and we will assist in making your home a safe place to live. For more information about FABSCOM please visit our website at www.FABSCOM.org or send us an email at FABSCOM@gmail.com.

REPORT OF THE MISS FIRE PREVENTION AMBASSADOR

I never thought that I could be the girl who gets up in front of the room and speaks. I never thought that I could be the girl who engages in conversations with strangers. Most importantly, I never thought I could be the girl who makes a difference. Fire Prevention has been a part of my life for the past four years. It has been the constant in my life when everything had changed, and it gave me a purpose in my community. By being selected as the Maryland State Fireman’s Association Miss Fire Prevention 2017-2018, my dream came true. My hard work for the past four years had finally paid off and I learned that no matter who you are, if you set your mind to something, you can achieve anything.

Everyone asks if you could would you change anything during your reign, I simply
answer no. I have given my heart and soul into this past year educating the community about fire prevention, and I have met a second family and friendships to last a life time along the way. This program has given me transferable skills that I will use for the rest of my life.

Some of my favorite events include the busy week in Ocean City, the Maryland Fire and Rescue Memorial Gala in Hollywood Maryland, the Polar Bear Plunge, and visiting the 9/11 memorial in New York City. I also had the pleasure of attending the Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference at the John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, and the Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. One of my favorite roles as an Ambassador was being able to teach children about life safety through interactive games at Open Houses and Safety Expos. As of April 16, 2018, I have traveled 3,398 miles.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me this past year. I specifically want to thank Lori Denbow, Teresa Ann Chrisman, and Bridget Weishaar. These women have been three of my biggest supporters and for that I am grateful. Thanks to New Windsor Fire Department and Auxiliary as well as the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Service Association for their ever-lasting endorsement and support, it is because of them that I joined this wonderful program and am proud of where I come from.

A huge thanks to my Mom, Dianne Gunderson, for all she has done for me. Thank you for the adventurous road trips. She is my best friend and mom all rolled into one and I will forever look up to her for inspiration. Lastly, I want to thank my Grandfather, James W. Paul. He tragically passed away in October 2017. Although he is no longer with me I am forever blessed to have him as my guardian angel who has guided me through this journey. Everything I do is in remembrance of him. Due to everyone’s love and support, I am the woman who confidently stands in front of the room. I am the woman who can engage in conversation with others. I am the woman who makes a difference.

Although my reign has come to an end, my love for serving the community is far from it. I will continue to serve my community and teach the value of Fire Prevention. I will pass down my wisdom onto the upcoming girls and will guide and support them in any way I can. I have truly loved being your MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Ambassador. I will cherish this past year for years to come.

Thank you,
Sarah Paul , MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 2017-2018

REPORT OF THE MISS FIRE PREVENTION AMBASSADOR 1ST RUNNER UP

I would like to believe that the biggest surprise of this journey was the moment they called my name as MSFA MFP 1st Runner Up. Despite that being a huge shock, I was wrong. It was the many blessings that followed that really caught me off guard.
Although it took me a while to realize: yes, I am Lauren Caudill and yes, that was my name they just called, it took me no time to realize I had a busy year ahead of me. Little did I know then about the amazing fire prevention family I would gain and amount of love I would be shown. I have made friendships that will last forever, giggled until my stomach hurt, went through two book bags, traveled far and wide, talked to all age groups, and most importantly, spread the word throughout the great State of Maryland. I have attended elegant banquets, exciting open houses, long meetings, carnivals, fairs, and rode in many parades. There are millions of amazing memories from this year, but here’s a couple that stood out: HHS Best Buddies Sensory Sensitive Carnival, Farm Fair, Bel Air Parade, and of course Ocean City. This has been a challenging task due to it also being my senior year in high school, but I would like to thank everyone who was willing to help me during this time. I could not have done this without God, my parents, boyfriend and the MSFA and LAMSFA. I want to thank everyone involved for making this year one of the most memorable years of my life. I will cherish this year and my fire prevention family forever.

Lauren B Caudill
MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner Up

REPORT OF THE HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Officers, Past Presidents, Delegates and Guests of the 126th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This year the Hall of Fame Committee received thirty three (33) nominations for the Hall of Fame Award, and forty six (46) nominations for the Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award.

A complete set of rules for the Hall of Fame and Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award were mailed or delivered to each member company as well as being placed on the Maryland State Firemen’s Association web page and in the Annual Proceedings Book. A complete list of previous inductees and winners are also on the web page and in the Annual Proceedings Book.

The committee is recommending that each department, company or squad review their membership rolls or records for members that have been with a department/company for fifty years (50) or longer. These individuals should be nominated for the Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award in recognition of their years of service. There are many members in the departments/companies that have reached this stage of service. They need to be recognized for their service to the department/company, community, county and the state. To be inducted into the Hall of Fame or be selected to receive the Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award, these are among the highest awards presented by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Remember that nominations are not held over from year to year. If your nominee does not get selected, please submit the individuals name again next year before April 15.
The remainder of the Hall of Fame Committee Report will be given during the presentation of awards on Tuesday, June 19, 2018, during the awards ceremonies.

As Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee, I would like to thank Vice Chair Ben Kurtz for his assistance, support and advice. Thanks also goes to each member of the committee for their commitment, support and hard work they put into selecting the individuals for these two awards.

Chair C. Dan Carpenter III
Vice Chair Ben Kurtz
Member Emeritus C. Oscar Baker
Charlie Abrecht Fred Cross, PP.
John Ferguson, III Timothy Jones
David Keller, III, PP Bill Lay
Richard Smith

The committee and I would also like to thank President Bilger for his commitment to the committee and for the opportunity to serve this great Association.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Dan Carpenter, III Chair

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Vice Presidents Blair and Faust, and Members of the Executive Committee. The 2018 Legislative session started on January 11 and ended at midnight on April 9. Again a great deal of time was spent continuing to build relationships with members of the General Assembly as well as to explain Maryland’s Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services.

This year’s primary goals were to support MSFA’s Budget request for appropriations, provide additional funds for the Widows and Orphans, and to support or Oppose Public Safety Legislation.

Our legislative reception was held on January 16th and was well attended by legislators and members of the Emergency Services as well as our partner agencies. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association under the direction of their Chair Carene Housenfluck did an OUTSTANDING job putting the reception together and fixing the food. As usual the ladies did a GREAT job and this committee would not be successful without their dedication and support. Thank you ladies for all your hard work and I can say it is certainly a pleasure to work with them.

During the session there were 1269 Senate Bills and 1832 House Bills introduced. Every bill introduced was reviewed by the Legislative Committee to determine any impact it would have on Maryland’s Emergency Services. As a result of those reviews,
the committee supported the 2 budget bills along with 28 bills, opposed 12 bills, monitored 28 bills, and watched 25 bills with local/county impact. A copy of our legislative report # 13 is attached outlining the progress of the legislation supported, monitored or opposed.

Although this was the session preceding elections the dynamics in Annapolis were different than the last three years. In the past MSFA would provide testimony and meet with legislators to clarify our position on a bill. Usually after those meetings, often numerous meetings, we would leave a legislators office with a commitment to support or oppose, and they held to that commitment. This year, politics and trade offs interfered with the final outcome on several bills. Specifically, in several cases we were assured a bill would remain in the subcommittee only to have the committee overrule and vote on the bill.

However; the committee would like to thank Governor Hogan for his support by including the increase to the MSFA appropriations and the final payment to the Widows and Orphans in his budget request. During the budget process, General Services recommended cutting our increase in appropriations. A special thanks goes out to General Singh for her unwavering support and commitment to have the funds remain in the budget.

Finally, I would like to thank the committees that spent numerous hours in Annapolis this year. The MSFA’s core group; Richard Smith, Bernie Smith, Johnie Roth, Chuck Walker, Laura Woods and Ed Woods for all their work to make this a successful year. Unfortunately we only log hours physically in Annapolis but everyone spent additional time working away form the office. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association under the direction of their Chair Carene Houseenfluck did an OUTSTANDING job putting the reception together and fixing the food. As usual the ladies did a GREAT job and this committee would not be successful without their dedication and support. Thank you Carene Houseenfluck, Elaine Huttenloch, Jane Huffman, Marian Nicholson, and Teresa Crisman for all your hard work and I can say it is certainly a pleasure to work with you.

Respectfully Submitted
Stephan D. Cox, Chairman

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN NO. 13

Our bulletin offers up-to-date information on legislation that the MSFA is tracking. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the listed legislation, please contact us via phone or e-mail. Also, before addressing any Legislative matters, please contact the Legislative Committee so that we can keep the goals of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association in the forefront. We are here to assist with questions or concerns relating to the status of any particular piece of legislation. Should you have
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<td>HB0037 (SB038)</td>
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<td>Income Tax - Subtraction, Modification - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, or Emergency Medical Services Membership Task Force on Rural Internet, Broadband, Wireless, and Cellular Service - Study and Extension Emergency Medical Services - Emergency Medical Services Board - Appointments Law Enforcement - First Responders - Killed or Disabled in the Line of Duty Fund Public Institutions of Higher Education - Family Members of Killed or Disabled First Responders - Tuition Exemption (Sean Suter Act) Commission 9-1-1 - Across Maryland - Establishment</td>
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<td>Delegate Clark</td>
<td>Income Tax - Subtraction, Modification - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, or Emergency Medical Services Membership</td>
<td>HB0037 (SB038)</td>
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<td>Appropriations</td>
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<td>Delegate Eberole</td>
<td>Task Force on Rural Internet, Broadband, Wireless, and Cellular Service - Study and Extension</td>
<td>HB0226 (SB043)</td>
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<td>Economic Matters</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Delegate Krimm</td>
<td>Emergency Medical Services - Emergency Medical Services Board - Appointments</td>
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<td>Delegate Bromwell</td>
<td>Law Enforcement - First Responders - Killed or Disabled in the Line of Duty Fund</td>
<td>HB0371 (SB0175)</td>
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<td>Health and Government Operations</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Judiciary</td>
<td>Delegate All</td>
<td>Public Institutions of Higher Education - Family Members of Killed or Disabled First Responders - Tuition Exemption (Sean Suter Act)</td>
<td>HB0543</td>
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<td>Ways and Means</td>
<td>Hearing 2/22 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Delegate All</td>
<td>Commission 9-1-1 - Across Maryland - Establishment</td>
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<td>HB0534 (SB0285)</td>
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<td>HB0510 (SB0728)</td>
<td>Public Safety - Battery Operated Smoke Alarms</td>
<td>First Reading Senate Rules</td>
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<td>Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Medical Services Members</td>
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<td>HB0824 (SB1122)</td>
<td>Emergency Medical Care - Administration of Opioid Antibiotics - Immunity</td>
<td>Hearing 3/7 at 1:00 p.m. (Judiciary)</td>
<td>Favorable Report by Environment and Transportation</td>
<td>Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund - Pilot Program</td>
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<td>HB0961</td>
<td>Rural Broadband Communication Services</td>
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<td>HS1816 Safe Schools Act of 2018</td>
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<td>HB1069 (SB1269)</td>
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<td>SB0175 Emergency Medical Services - Board - Appointments</td>
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<td>Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund - Pilot Program</td>
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<td>SB0285 Commission to Advance Next Generation 9-1-1 Across Maryland - Establishment</td>
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<td>SB0388</td>
<td>Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services Members</td>
<td>Senator Middleton</td>
<td>First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations</td>
<td>2/14/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0483</td>
<td>Public Schools - Sprinkler Systems - Required</td>
<td>Senator King</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Withdrawn</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0624</td>
<td>State Income and Property Tax Credits – Purple Line Construction Zone</td>
<td>Senator Smith</td>
<td>Hearing 2/28 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 2/28/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0682</td>
<td>Emergency Medical Services Providers – Coverage and Reimbursement of Services – Reports and Plan</td>
<td>Senator Hershey</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Finance 3/1/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0728</td>
<td>Public Safety - Battery Operated Smoke Alarms</td>
<td>Senator King</td>
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<td>Judicial Proceedings 3/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0816</td>
<td>Criminal Law - Death Penalty - Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders</td>
<td>Senator Salling</td>
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<td>Judicial Proceedings 2/22/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0968</td>
<td>Task Force on Rural Internet, Broadband, Wireless, and Cellular Service - Study and Extension</td>
<td>Senator Eckardt</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Finance 2/22/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB1051</td>
<td>Public Safety - 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System - Trust Fund and Fees (Carl Henn's Law)</td>
<td>Senator Kagan</td>
<td>Hearing 3/13 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Finance 3/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB1052</td>
<td>9-1-1 Trust Fund - Public Safety Answering Point - Mandatory Reporting</td>
<td>Senator Kagan</td>
<td>Hearing 3/13 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Finance 3/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB1054</td>
<td>Public Information Act - 9-1-1 Communications - Denial of Part of a Public Record</td>
<td>Senator Kagan</td>
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<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/22/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Emergency Medical Care - Administration of Opioid Antidotes - Immunity</td>
<td>Senator Klausmeier</td>
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<td>Judicial Proceedings 3/14/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB1257 (HB1816)</td>
<td>Safe Schools Act of 2018</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Hearing 3/15 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/15/2018 - 1:00 p.m. Budget and Taxation</td>
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<td>SB1269 (HB1069)</td>
<td>Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services Members</td>
<td>Senator Mathias</td>
<td>First Reading Budget and Taxation</td>
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**OPPOSING THE FOLLOWING:** Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.

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<td>HB0139</td>
<td>Public Safety - Emergency Medical Services - Motorcycle Response Unit</td>
<td>Delegate Knotts</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Judiciary</td>
<td>Judiciary 1/23/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>HB0140</td>
<td>Public Safety - Emergency Medical Services - Bicycle Response Unit</td>
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<td>Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0293</td>
<td>HB0359 - Vehicle Laws - Mopeds and Motor Scooters - Protective Headgear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marythomas@house-md.md">marythomas@house-md.md</a></td>
<td>HB0359</td>
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<td>HB0694 - Health - Reporting of Oversed Information</td>
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<td>HB071 - Public Safety - Building Codes - Transfer of Administration to Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation</td>
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<td>HB072 - Public Health - Opioid Overdoses - Prohibition and Rehabilitation Order</td>
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<td>HB0924 - Emergency Medical Care - Administration of Opioid Antidotes - Immunity</td>
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<td>HB1116 - First Responders - Mandatory Training - Autism Training - Permits Exemption</td>
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<td>HB0934 - Public Safety - Agriculture - Permit Exemption</td>
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<td>HB1588 - Public Safety - Fire Protection Science Advisory Workgroup</td>
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### MONITORING THE FOLLOWING:

Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.

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<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>SB0309 (HB0359)</td>
<td>Health - Reporting of Overdose Information</td>
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<td>HB0123</td>
<td>Emergency Vehicles - Blood, Organ, or Tissue Delivery Vehicles</td>
<td>Delegate Angel</td>
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<td>Task Force on Rural Internet, Broadband, Wireless, and Cellular Service - Study and Extension</td>
<td>Delegate Krimm</td>
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<td>Economic Matters 2/1/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>HB0354 (SB0299)</td>
<td>Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Correctional Officers (Hometown Heroes Act of 2018)</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>Hearing 2/21 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ways and Means 2/21/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

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<td>Correctional Officers' Retirement System - Board - Appointments</td>
<td>SB0299 (HB0354)</td>
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<td>Emergency Medical Services - Board - Appointments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Health and Government Operations Withdrawn</td>
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<td>Unfavorable Report by Budget and Taxation</td>
<td>Senator Young</td>
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<td>Hearing 1/31 at 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Senator Mathias</td>
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<td>Senator Middleton</td>
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<td>Health and Government Operations 3/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Finance 2/21/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Appropriations 1/31/2018 - 1:00 P.m.</td>
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### Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

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<td>SB0648</td>
<td>Real Property - New Home Sales - Information on Energy-Efficient Options</td>
<td>Kelley</td>
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<td>Judicial Proceedings 2/15/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0816</td>
<td>Criminal Law - Death Penalty - Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders</td>
<td>Salling</td>
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<td>Judicial Proceedings 2/22/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0968</td>
<td>Task Force on Rural Internet, Broadband, Wireless, and Cellular Service - Study and Extension</td>
<td>Eckardt</td>
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<td>Finance 2/22/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Economic Matters</td>
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<td>SB1007</td>
<td>Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Opioid Data - Disclosure</td>
<td>Pinsky</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Finance; Withdrawn</td>
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<td>SB1013</td>
<td>First Responders - Mandatory Autism Training</td>
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<td>Judicial Proceedings 3/6/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB1053</td>
<td>Property Tax Credit - 9-1-1 Public Safety Telecommunicators</td>
<td>Kagan</td>
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<td>Budget and Taxation 3/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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### LOCAL THE FOLLOWING:

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<td>HB0339</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Howard County - Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department Ho. Co. 5-18</td>
<td>Howard County Delegation</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Appropriations</td>
<td>Appropriations 3/10/2018 - 10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Somerset County - Fire Companies - Appropriations</td>
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<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
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<td>Calvert County - Fire and Rescue Commission - Membership</td>
<td>Calvert County Delegation</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 111</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 2/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
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<td>Montgomery County - Fire and Explosive Investigator - Definition</td>
<td>Delegate Moon</td>
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<td>Judiciary 2/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Judicial Proceedings</td>
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<td>Carroll County - Public Facilities Bonds</td>
<td>Carroll County Delegation</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 89</td>
<td>Appropriations 3/6/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/27/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Calvert County - Length of Service Award Program - Death Benefits</td>
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<td>Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Clubs, Firehouses, and Multiple Event Licenses</td>
<td>Harford County Delegation</td>
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<td>Economic Matters 2/19/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0984 (SB0542)</td>
<td>Carroll County - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services</td>
<td>Carroll County Delegation</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 3/2/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
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<td>Valentino Smith</td>
<td>HB1006 (SB0487)</td>
<td>Appropriations by Appropriations</td>
<td>3/10/2018 - 1:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>SB1050 (SB1022)</td>
<td>Ways and Means</td>
<td>2/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>HB1144 (SB0754)</td>
<td>Appropriations by Appropriations</td>
<td>3/10/2018 - 1:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>SB12149</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Appropriations</td>
<td>2/19/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0356 (HB0425)</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Economic Matters</td>
<td>2/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0360 (HB069, CH0089)</td>
<td>First Reading House</td>
<td>2/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0487 (HB1006)</td>
<td>Rules and Executive Nominations</td>
<td>2/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0535 (HB0339)</td>
<td>Nomination and Executive Nominizations</td>
<td>2/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Budget and Taxation</td>
<td>3/10/2018 - 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Hearing 3/10 at 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>3/10/2018 - 12:00 p.m.</td>
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Notes:
- HB1006: Creation of a State Debt - George's County - Bowie Emergency Operations, Center
- SB1050: Baltimore City - Property Tax Credit - Rental Discount
- SB1144: Baltimore City Public Safety
- HB1435: Prince George's County Volunteer Fire Department
- HB1818: Prince George's County - School Facilities and Public Safety Surcharge - Maryland
- SB309-18: Somerset County - Fire Companies - Appropriations
- SB309-18: Carroll County - Public Facilities Bonds
- SB487: Creation of a State Debt - George's County - Bowie Volunteer Fire Department, Co.
- SB487: Howard County - Liston Volunteer Fire Department, Ho.
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<th>Number / Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Primary Sponsor</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>SB0542 (HB0984)</td>
<td>Carroll County - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services</td>
<td>Carroll County Senators</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation</td>
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<td>SB0674</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore County - Lansdowne Volunteer Fire Department</td>
<td>Senator Kasemeyer</td>
<td>Hearing 3/10 at 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/10/2018 - 4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB0754 (HB1144)</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Prince George's County - Bowie Volunteer Fire Department</td>
<td>Senator Peters</td>
<td>Hearing 3/10 at 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/10/2018 - 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>SB1022 (HB1050)</td>
<td>Baltimore City - Property Tax Credit - Rental Discount for Baltimore City Public Safety Officers</td>
<td>Senator Conway</td>
<td>Hearing 3/13 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB1037 (HB0460)</td>
<td>Montgomery County – Fire and Explosive Investigator – Definition</td>
<td>Senator Smith</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Judicial Proceedings 3/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Judiciary 4/3/2018 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>SB1106</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Calvert County - North Beach Volunteer Fire Department</td>
<td>Senator Miller</td>
<td>Hearing 3/10 at 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/10/2018 - 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>SB1161</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Prince George's County - Prince George's County Volunteer Marine, Fire and Rescue Department</td>
<td>Senator Muse</td>
<td>Hearing 3/10 at 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/10/2018 - 9:00 a.m.</td>
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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

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<tr>
<th>SB1249</th>
<th>Prince George’s County - Reduction in and Exemptions From the School Facilities Surcharge - Sunset Extension</th>
<th>Senator Rosapepe</th>
<th>Second Reading Passed</th>
<th>Budget and Taxation 3/15/2018 - 1:45 p.m.</th>
<th>Environment and Transportation 4/9/2018 - 2:15 p.m.</th>
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Denotes enacted legislation

**BUDGET:** Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.

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<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</th>
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<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
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<td>HB0160 (SB0185)</td>
<td>Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2019)</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>First Reading Appropriations</td>
<td>Appropriations</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB0185 (HB0160)</td>
<td>Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2019)</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Passed Enrolled</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation</td>
<td>Appropriations</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
any information on issues of special interest to the Fire, Rescue, or Emergency Medical Services, please let us know. The MSFA Legislative Office phone number is 410-974-2222. Our e-mail address is msfaleg@msfa.org. If you need to speak with the Chairman, please contact Chairman Stephan D. Cox or Vice Chairman Richard Smith.

IF YOU WISH TO BE ADDED TO THIS MAILING. PLEASE SEND A REQUEST TO TERESA ANN CRISMAN AT tacrisman@co.pg.md.us SO YOU CAN BE ADDED TO THE MAILING LIST.

To find information on a bill, go to http://mgaleg.maryland.gov, page down to “Bill Information and Status” then enter HB (House Bill) number or SB (Senate Bill) number, then press enter.

Thank you for your support.
Stephan D. Cox, Chairman
Richard Smith, Vice Chairman

MSFA Bills of Interest (April 12, 2018)

There have been 1269 Senate Bills and 1832 House Bills introduced to date.

We are currently tracking the following 95 bills.

The MSFA stance on these bills will be determined later. A breakdown of these bills are as follows:

SUPPORTING THE FOLLOWING: Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.

REPORT OF THE FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT SUB-COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Legislative Branch Director Stephen Cox I want to thank you on behalf of the following committee members for appointing us, Vice Chairman C. Daniel Davis, Jr. Eric Bernard, Marcine Goodloe, Pete Mellits, Harve Ed Woods Sr., and Laura Woods, the Federal Legislative Oversight Sub-Committee.

On Monday Dec. 18th the House was scheduled to consider H.R. 4661, the United State Fire Administra-tion, AFG, and SAFER program Reauthorization Act Of 2017. The bill reauthorizes the Assistance to Firefighters, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, and Fire Prevention and Safety grant programs for six (6) years. Unfortunately, the bill includes a “sunset” provision that will eliminate the grants after seven years if Congress fails to reauthorize them in the future. All of the technical corrections that was requested, and the Senate approved in S. 829 are included in H.R. 4661. On Tuesday Dec. 19th the House just passed H.R. 4661 by voice vote.
The Senate will now take up the bill for consideration with the changes that the House has in their bill and will approve them and sent it to the White House for the President signature.

In the evening on December 21, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed H.R. 4661, the United States Fire Administration, AFG, and SAFER Program Reauthorization Act of 2017. H.R. 4661 was introduced on December 15, was taken up and passed by the full House by a voice vote on December 18. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) programs provide critically-needed funding to help fire and emergency service departments meet their resource needs. Through AFG, local departments receive funding to purchase training, equipment, and apparatus as well as pay for health and safety programs.

SAFER grants can be used to pay for hiring career firefighters or for recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters. H.R. 4661 extends AFG (including the Fire Prevention and Safety grant program) and SAFER through FY 2023, maintains the current authorization levels of $750 million for each program, and makes several minor technical changes. It also moves the date of a “sunset” provision in current law stipulating that the grant programs will be eliminated from January 2, 2018, to the end of FY 2024. The authorization for USFA is also extended through FY 2023.

On December 20 Congress passed H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law and will overhaul the U.S. Tax Code for the first time in more than three decades. The final conference report which was released on December 15 and modified slightly on December 19 contains several provisions that will benefit the volunteer fire service.

Included in the conference report is language from the LOSAP Cap Adjustment Priority (LOSAP CAP) Act (H.R. 1720/S. 1239), which would double the limit on annual contributions into an individual’s length of service award program (LOSAP) from $3,000 to $6,000. It would also establish a mechanism tied to inflation whereby the contribution limit can be increased in the future. LOSAP CAP was added to H.R. 1 by the Senate Finance Committee.

H.R. 1 also makes “fire protection systems” an eligible property under section 179 of the tax code, which means that business owners will be able to receive a tax credit for the cost for installing fire sprinklers and fire alarms in commercial structures.

On February 9 President Trump signed H.R. 1892, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, into law. The bill increases the federal government’s budget by a total of $320 billion in FY 2018 and 2019, including $90 billion for disaster relief. H.R. 1892 also appropriated funding to maintain federal government operations for six weeks, during which time Congress is expected to finalize FY 2018 appropriations.
In addition to the budget and appropriations language, H.R. 1892 included language reinstating and extending for five years “add-on” payments through Medicare to EMS providers for ambulance transport services. The add-on payments increase Medicare reimbursement rates for ambulance transport by two percent, three percent, and 22.6 percent, respectively, for urban, rural, and super-rural providers and are designed to address the disparity between the base reimbursement rate and the cost of providing services. The add-on payments technically expired at the beginning of this year but H.R. 1892 extends them retroactively to January 1 so providers will not be penalized.

H.R. 1892 was originally introduced as the Honoring Hometown Heroes Act, which modifies the U.S. Flag Code to formally authorize state governors to order the flag lowered at state facilities in recognition of a public safety officer line-of-duty death. After the House and Senate passed different versions of H.R. 1892 last year the House decided to use the bill as the vehicle for the larger budget and appropriations measures. Fortunately, the original Honoring Hometown Heroes Act language was retained and now becomes law. Representative John Larson (D-CT) and Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) were the authors of the Honoring Hometown Heroes Act.

On March 22, the U.S. House and Senate passed H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, funding the federal government through the end of September. The bill provides full-year funding for all federal agencies, including programs that directly assist local fire, EMS, and rescue agencies.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant programs are funded at $350 million each in the bill, representing a $5 million increase for each program. This is the second time in the past three years that Congress has increased funding for AFG and SAFER by $5 million each.

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) also receives a slight increase in H.R. 1625, going from $44 million in FY 2017 to $44.4 million in FY 2018.

There were several positive provisions in H.R. 1625 related to funding for programs to fight wildland fire, including funding for the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant program at $16 million, a $1 million increase over the FY 2017 level. The bill also increases funding for the State Fire Assistance (SFA) grant program by more than $2 million to $80 million.

H.R. 1625 also includes the Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act (H.R. 949/S. 597), which clarifies that children of public safety officers who die in the line of duty are eligible for the maximum Pell Grant award. This legislation, which addresses a problem where children of fallen public safety officers were having their Pell Grant awards reduced because they had received an education benefit through the Public Safety Officers’ Benefits (PSOB) program. The Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship
Act was introduced and applies to the children of fallen fire police officers, in addition to police, firefighters, and EMS personnel. President Trump signed H.R. 1625 into law on March 23.

HR 931, S 383 Firefighter Cancer Registry Act, This bill requires the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to develop and maintain a voluntary registry of firefighters to collect history and occupational information that can be linked to existing data in state cancer registries. The registry must be used to improve monitoring of cancer among firefighters and to collect and publish epidemiological information regarding cancer among firefighters. The CDC should seek to include specified information in the registry, including the number and type of fire incidents attended by an individual. To collect information for the registry, the CDC may incorporate questions into existing public health surveys, questionnaires, and other databases. The CDC must: (1) develop a strategy to maximize participation in the registry; (2) develop guidance for states and firefighting agencies regarding the registry; (3) encourage inclusion in the registry of data on minority, female, and volunteer firefighters; and (4) seek feedback on the registry from nonfederal experts. The CDC must develop a process for making registry data available for research without a fee if findings or publications from the research are made public or available to stakeholders.

Extension of Ambulance Transport “Add-on” Payments: The rate that Medicare reimburses EMS providers for ambulance transport was reduced on January 1, 2018, after Congress failed to extend “add-on” payments – increases of 2-23 percent (depending location, urban, suburban, and rural) over the base rate for ambulance transport – that were set to expire on that date. We have asked Congress to extend the add-on payments retroactively to January as soon as possible.

Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Bills: The NVFC worked with Senators Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND), Jon Tester (D-MT), and Claire McCaskill (D-MO) to develop two bills that were introduced late in 2017 to help fire and EMS agencies recruit and retain volunteer personnel. The Volunteer First Responder Housing Act (S. 1831) would expand eligibility for volunteer emergency responders to participate in two federal housing assistance programs. The Volunteer First Responder Loan Forgiveness Act (S. 2207) would make volunteer emergency responders eligible to participate in the Public Service Loans.

Respectfully,
Robert Cumberland, Chairman,
C. Daniel Davis, Jr., Vice Chairman
Eric Bernard Marcine Goodloe,
Harve Ed Woods Sr. Laura Woods Pete Mellits
REPORT OF THE MARYLAND FIRE RESCUE SERVICES MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

As you read this annual report, we will have just concluded our ceremony. We were saddened to have placed 7 additional names to the wall of honor, 4 from previous years that have been brought to our attention. Our prayers continue to be with those families. Chief Rod and his group always do an outstanding job making this a memorable event for all.

Again, we want to thank the convention committee for allowing us to set up our display at the front entrance to convention hall. Certainly, this is the premier location and we welcome all as they enter the facility. We appreciate the great partnership we have with the MSFA. We are again having several fund raising events during convention week and we look forward to seeing you at those.

The Foundation always recognizes the organizations that make up our group. Their commitment and dedication continues with outstanding support. We also would like to recognize our state elected officials who also continue to support the Foundation and we cannot forget our folks who regularly attend the meetings and support the activities of the memorial. Without you there is no Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation.

Remember our on-going major goal is to get a picture of the memorial hanging in every fire station. About half of our member companies had a LODD, please hang the picture in their honor. We have made a good start, but there are many more to go.

The Foundation successfully held another GALA. A crowd of nearly 250 attended the event and enjoyed the evening. We want to especially thank our committee under the leadership of Dennis Beard. Thanks to the Hollywood VFC for hosting our last two events. We need your support as always to make this event a success. Please sponsor a table and enjoy an evening of fellowship, dancing and recognition. We look forward to seeing you there as this year we are going to the eastern shore.

The Foundation has enjoyed a banner year with accomplishments from the repairs and enhancements at the memorial site, the on-going program to capture pictures of our LODD’s to the Facebook and web site hits. However, this did not happen without a cost as we spent $30K from our reserve funds which we need to replace. The Foundation has hosted several events over the past year at the site.
We always want to remind you that we are still selling bricks, pictures and DVD’s along with our annual shirts. We have an annual budget that we must meet. In closing, we want to again thank the MSFA for allowing us to be a major part of the convention. Stop by our booth for a first hand look at our items. See you at the beach.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Worthington, Chairman

REPORT OF THE MEMA FIRE SERVICE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

This year has been a year of revamping the committee and starting to get the members trained to be able to assist MEMA if called upon to staff the Fire and Emergency Services desk in the SEOC (the old “Fire Desk”), or to be able to work virtually as well, during activations. We have only met once this year but have communicated via email and have started identifying training needs. We will be working with MEMA to get committee members up to speed with WebEOC and SEOC operations.

Another thing that we envision as a function of the committee is to work with the Resource Branch at MEMA, as well as the Search and Rescue Committee, to maintain the resource lists at MEMA.

Six things have been identified that a member of this committee needs to be trained on and willing to do. They are:

Having a WebEOC account and being able to navigate the boards within WebEOC.

Taking part in the monthly WebEOC drills.

Being able to respond to the SEOC or work virtually when there is an activation that includes the Fire and Emergency Services SCF to be monitored or staffed.

Understanding of the resource requesting process.

An understanding of EMAC and MEMAC.

Helping to maintain the resource list in WebEOC and work to update it as requested by MEMA.

Anyone who thinks they would like to be a part of this committee is welcome to contact one of the Presidents or the Chairman of the committee. Our goal is to be prepared to perform when called upon by MEMA to staff Fire and Emergency Services desk at the SEOC.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Hildebrand, Chairman
Maryland State Firemen’s Association for the 126th Annual Convention, President Bilger, Vice-Presidents Blair and Faust, Officers, Delegates, and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Convention:

It has been a true honor to work with the various committees and members of the MSFA this year to provide state-of-the-art emergency services training programs to the EMS/fire/rescue agencies in our great state. This year we were able to provide a vast array of diverse programs to help our first responders prepare themselves to mitigate the numerous incidents they are faced with day in and day out. The following is a synopsis of our educational programs for the past year:

Total Students 34,057
Total Programs 1,756
Total Instructional Hours 829,407

Total Students by Discipline
Fire 7,984
EMS 6,501
ALS 1,103
Rescue 2,847
Management 4,904
Hazardous Materials 1,734
Specialty 3,077
Company Drills 1,638
Seminars 1,292
Simulation Center 3,067

I would like to thank the members of the MSFA for all their hard work and unwavering commitment to improving the Maryland fire service, as well as the outstanding services they provide to the visitors and residents of our state. I look forward to our continued success making the Maryland EMS/fire/rescue services the best they can be!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael E. Cox, Jr., Executive Director, MFRI

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

President Bilger, Vice President’s Blair and Faust, Officers, Delegates, Alternates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA): It is with great pleasure that I submit to you the 2018 National Fallen Firefighters Foundation’s Annual Report. I hope it is useful to the Association and the fire service community, to highlight our activities this past year and moreover, to strengthen the relationship that exists between our two organizations. On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, we wish you a
The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) has been hard at work this past year to bring programs and services to the American Fire Service Community. Through the efforts of a great Staff, supportive Board of Directors and a contingent of dedicate Contractors and Volunteers; we have been able to meet our organizational responsibilities. Much success has been reached this past year and highlights are listed.

**Fire Hero Family Network** - Members of the Foundation’s Fire Hero Family Network provided emotional support and grief information to the surviving family members of 95 fallen firefighters in 2017. Matches are made based on similarities between the newly-bereaved family members. For example, widows who were pregnant when their firefighter died were matched with widows from previous years who had been pregnant when their firefighter died.

The 6th Annual Hal Bruno Camps for Children of Fallen Firefighters took a new approach in 2017. For the first time, the camp for the 7-17 age group and the camp for the 4-6-year-olds were held simultaneously in Ward, Colorado, from July 21-23. This made it easier for parents who have children in both age groups to participate. Partnering with Comfort Zone Camps, older campers stayed at the Glacier View Ranch with “Big Buddy” volunteers, who support their camper while providing the ultimate experience. Little campers stayed at the hotel with their parent or guardian and participated in activities led by a play therapist. All campers participated in the camps’ closing ceremonies.

**Parents and Siblings Retreat** - Families of firefighters who died from 1998 to 2016 supported one another. Participants connected with their peers that provide them support, hope and strength from knowing they are not alone. Time was spent making creative memories and celebrating the lives of their loved ones.

**Scholarships** - Scholarship recipients were from 26 different states. New York had the greatest number of recipients with 20. Of those, 9 recipients are family members of firefighters killed on 9/11. New Jersey had the second highest number of recipients with 8. Recipients are attending institutions in 26 states. Recipients include 26 family members of volunteer firefighters and 52 family members of career firefighters.

**36th Annual Memorial Weekend** - The families of the fallen were welcomed by the Foundation and other Fire Hero Families whose loved ones had been honored in previous years during a special dinner on Friday, October 6, 2017. On Saturday, October 7, 2017, they met in special groups based upon their relationship to their firefighter, learned about the services offered by the NFFF and talked with others. Our Fire Hero Families also made luminaries, memory boxes, and Christmas ornaments to honor and remember their firefighters. That evening, everyone gathered on the grounds
of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial for the annual Candlelight Service. The firefighters were honored during the National Memorial Service on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at Mt. Saint Mary’s University. A bronze plaque bearing the names of the fallen was officially added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. Each family received a folded flag, a special badge and a rose.

Project Roll Call - The program identifies and honors firefighters who died in the line of duty prior to 1981 when the National Memorial was established. Following a special dedication on the Walk of Honor® in June 2016, we continued to work diligently with state fire service organizations to purchase and place Pre-81 bricks in 2017. We have placed and/or ordered bricks for Pre-1981 line-of-duty deaths from: Oregon, Oklahoma, Arizona, Maryland, Michigan, Delaware, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and Vermont. Numerous other fire service organizations are also working to honor firefighters in their state sections. In 2017, we received biographies and photos from state associations, departments, and individuals. We began to add these firefighter profiles in a special section on our website.

Fire Service Programs - The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation’s Everyone Goes Home® program continues to offer up-to-date fire training to help assure that everyone does go home after each tour of duty. The Fire Hero Learning Network (fhln.net) launched in the last quarter of 2012, has seen more than 65,000 registered users with more than 80,000 certificates. In 2017, the Saving Lives: Inspiring Stories in Community Risk Reduction was launched. In December 2017, the Everyone Goes Home® program released a 30-minute documentary highlighting the San Diego Fire Department. The documentary features some critical incidents the department faced where the leadership didn’t envision the difficult path it would take them. The lessons learned from these incidents and how the department addresses these gaps provide a forthright approach to leadership and considering the well-being of its firefighters and paramedics.

Everyone Goes Home Advocates - On November 3 –6, 2016, the Everyone Goes Home® Regional Advocates, along with the Everyone Goes Home® Advocate leadership team, met in Pflugerville, Texas, to create a five-year strategic plan to be Advocate operations specific. The results of the plan were implemented in April of 2017. The focus to this point has been to meet the goals and tasks needed to build for the next layer. A robust Everyone Goes Home® Advocate life cycle program has been developed. It consists of a clearly defined recruitment and development program that identifies a complete communication plan for each life cycle of the advocate. Recruitment has increased within the regions. Using newly established communication pathways engages agencies to participate in the Everyone Goes Home® program. Managing a comprehensive state/agency email and phone contact list establishes communication pathways throughout the country. The success we have with the advocates and communication pathways has been at a measurable level. The group
has been able to add fifteen advocates across the country, two in a state that did not have prior advocate representation. Another great success story is the State of South Dakota. Two advocates, along with the support of the State Fire Marsha’s office, have been able to build a network of Everyone Goes Home® instructors who are dedicated to reducing preventable line-of-duty deaths and injuries. The state has worked with the Local Assistance State Team (LAST) to build a robust system within their vast borders.

The Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance (FSOCA) hosted the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Symposium to share the latest research, prevention strategies, best practices, and support from the nation’s leading experts. The goal was not simply to present information, but to inspire attendees to affect change and help reduce the incidence of occupational cancer. The two-day event drew more than 500 attendees from across the United States, Canada, and Europe, representing a broad cross section of volunteer, career, and combination departments, as well as fire industry representatives, workers ‘compensation insurance providers, state and local governments, and federal agencies.

In its fourth year, the FSOCA continues to lead the nation’s efforts to address firefighter occupational cancers. A collaboration of 54 individuals representing fire service leaders, constituency organizations, occupational medicine practitioners, manufacturers, and others with a vested interest in the subject, the Alliance continues to work on multiple projects addressing the impact of firefighter occupational cancer. Since its inception, the Alliance has been facilitated by Chief Dennis Compton, Chairman of our Board of Directors, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. The FSOCA is now transitioning and will be jointly overseen by the NFFF and its affiliate, the First Responder Center for Excellence for Prevention of Occupational Illnesses, Injuries, and Deaths.

It’s widely acknowledged in the fire service that cardiac events account for roughly 45 percent of all firefighter line-of-duty deaths. Autopsy reports showed many of these incidents occurred in people who had underlying heart problems, and most of the research has focused on firefighters with existing coronary heart disease. But this doesn’t tell the bigger story. A new white paper released by the Foundation “Cardiac Enlargement in U.S. Firefighters,” shows research finding a direct relationship between an enlarged heart and an increased risk for cardiovascular events, including sudden death, among firefighters. Furthermore, studies indicate an enlarged heart may be the only abnormality, which often is undiagnosed. Understanding this relationship can help the fire service expand research to help determine how common heart enlargement is among working firefighters, the best methods of measuring its presence, and which firefighters are at highest risk and, therefore, should be screened. This is especially good news since many effective treatments for an enlarged heart are available, including weight loss through diet and exercise.

Fire Service Behavioral Health Management Guide - A Fire Service Behavioral Health Management Guide was created to help fire departments in their efforts to implement
a comprehensive behavioral health plan or to enhance their existing behavioral health program.

**The ACT Campaign** - This campaign was launched to help firefighters help other firefighters who may be struggling with suicidal thoughts. The acronym ACT encourages firefighters to Ask how someone is feeling, show the person you Care about them and Take them to get help, if needed.

**Checking In: A Behavioral Health Size-Up** - A podcast series focused on behavioral health was released. It provided a foundation for a discussion on leadership’s role in behavioral health, managing the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and tips on how to work with peer support groups and clinicians.

**Primary Care Physicians-Fire Service Health & Wellness** - In conjunction with the HOPE (Health Research Institute, Kansas City, MO) the NFFF surveyed primary care physicians across the country to ascertain what they know about firefighter medical examinations. The survey also looked at the attitudinal priorities of these physicians regarding the delivery of fire service health and wellness material among each other and to their fire service patients. These primary care doctors were asked to reflect on how they discover their patients are in the fire service and what this information prompts in terms of testing and treatment. They were also asked general knowledge regarding the occupational diseases associated with firefighting (primarily, cardiac and cancer) and to comment upon how they would like to receive more information and prospective training on these special topics.

For more than a decade, unlocking the how and why of fire behavior has been a key research priority for UL’s Firefighter Safety Research Institute (UL-FSRI). To help get the science into the hands of firefighters, the NFFF, partnering with UL-FSRI, hosted Fire Dynamics Boot Camp for fire service instructors and leaders. The pilot course was held at the Howard County (MD) Department of Fire and Rescue Services Training Academy. We provided attendees with the tools and information they need to integrate the science into their daily operations, and to train others in their departments.

The three days included classroom discussions and hands-on activities to illustrate how different materials, such as wood, cotton, synthetics, and polystyrene burn, along with the effect water, flow path, and ventilation have on a fire. Live burn demonstrations on small-scale (doll house) models and actual sized structures provided clear examples of fire dynamics principles.

**Fire Service Heritage Mini-Summit** - Since 1947, scores of reports and white papers have generated hundreds of recommendations for improving the fire service. In December 2017, the Foundation hosted a mini-summit to review the over-riding priorities from the recommendations and discussed how they have benefitted the fire service and the communities served over the past 70 years. This review helped to
reveal how the roots of technology advancement and policy prioritization at the national level have been part of the fire service since its early days of national conversation. Likewise, the discussion illustrated how forward-thinking many fire service leaders were, some of whom were “borrowed” from the military, to incorporate technologies developed during World War II into the fire service. The Mini-Summit developed a series of its own recommendations which will become part of the NFFF strategic plan.

**Everyone Goes Home, Wildland** - As the incidence of wildfires across the nation continues to rise, so do the numbers of wildland firefighters and their families affected by occupational accidents, injuries, and deaths. To counter this trend, the NFFF has begun the process of introducing the effective Everyone Goes Home® program to the wildland fire community, but within a context that specifically addresses the health and safety risk factors of this population. Chief Tom Harbour, with more than 40 years of wildland fire experience and recently retired as Director of National Fire and Aviation for the U.S. Forest Service, is coordinating this effort.

As an initial step, the NFFF hosted several regional listening sessions across the country for stakeholders to explore questions, answers, and approaches to the problem of reducing wildland fire line-of-duty deaths and injuries. The input from these sessions will be used to develop wildland-specific Everyone Goes Home® resources and materials, that will be disseminated to individual firefighters through collaborative efforts and partner-ships.

**American Firefighter** - In cooperation with Rizzoli Publishing, the NFFF released American Firefighter (2017) which celebrates the diverse lives of 53 American firefighters. Acclaimed portrait photographer Paul Mobley captured the spirit of these extraordinary men and women who represent career, volunteer and seasonal wildland, and military firefighters who work for a wide spectrum of departments and organizations within the fire service community. The project was made possible through the support of Kidde.

**Community Risk Reduction** - The free Be a Hero, Save a Hero® mobile app was launched in October of 2017. The app provides the fire service and the public with tips on fire prevention including smoke alarm testing reminders and holiday safety messages. Safety tips on the app include information from the U.S. Fire Administration, the National Fire Protection Association and other partners working together to help prevent home fires. The Be a Hero, Save a Hero® app can be downloaded on the Google Play Store or the App Store through links on the redesigned website, www.beaherosaveahero.org

**LAST** - The Foundation trains fire departments to prepare for a line-of-duty death through the Taking Care Of Our Own® (TCOOO) program and provides immediate support to departments and families of fallen firefighters by the Local Assistance State Team (LAST) program. The LAST program is funded by the Department of Justice (DOJ) – Bureau of Justice Assistance. The program’s primary mission is to
assist families and departments in preparing Public Safety Officers Benefits (PSOB) claims after a line-of-duty death. While the principle focus is to oversee the accurate and timely submission of these claims, the program also offers immediate logistical, administrative and emotional support after a fatality. Support may include funeral and memorial service planning, logistical assistance with benefits administration and connect surviving co-workers and immediate families with behavioral health resources. The LAST participated in the implementation of the new automated PSOB 2.0 submission process which is a secure web-based system, completely paperless. This user-friendly system makes it easier to submit the PSOB claim, track its progress, make inquiries regarding benefits and receive communications from the PSOB office. The system has eliminated many documents that had been required with each claim submission making it much easier to submit. Training will be provided to all Local Assistance State Teams on the new PSOB web-based system to ensure all members are prepared to assist families and departments in submitting the PSOB claims. PSOB office Director will participate in all upcoming training sessions across the country.

Foundation Marketing - We continued building on our relationships with traditional media outlets, and expanded our social media presence through Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Pinterest. We provided live coverage through Facebook Live of the Fire Dynamics Boot Camp with UL and the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Symposium to further engagement about these important issues.

During the 2017 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, our Communications and Marketing team was supported by an extraordinary group of volunteers. Both the Candlelight Service and Memorial Service were live-streamed through VISTA Worldlink’s generous donation of equipment, facilities and expertise. Likewise, Comcast generously provided technical assistance and additional equipment. These valuable partnerships allowed news websites and TV stations around the world to share the events with the fire service and the public. Additionally, we created “Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters” to raise more awareness of the Foundation’s mission and the Memorial Weekend. More than 40 iconic buildings and landmarks across the country were lit in respect to the fallen and their families. Participants included One World Trade Center in New York, the Prudential Tower in Boston, the Willis Tower in Chicago, LAX in Los Angeles, and the Bank of America Plaza in Dallas.

Regional stair climbs are held across the country to support the FDNY Counseling Services Unit and the programs of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Fifty (50) stair climb events were held in 29 States and 24 regional golf tournaments were held in 21 States. Special thanks to Past President Tom Mattingly for the Southern Maryland Tournament he hosts, as it is one of our most successful tournaments.

I am pleased to submit this annual report and encourage all of you to consider getting involved with one or more of our programs. The Board and Staff of the Foundation appreciate all the support we have received from the Maryland Fire Service and we
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

hope to see you in Emmitsburg on October 5, 6, and 7, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ronald J. Siarnicki, Executive Director

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL VEHICLE COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Vice President’s Blair and Faust, and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Executive Committee. The Presidential Vehicle Committee has worked closely with the Presidents to ensure that our fleet provides reliable and safe transportation for our officers. Each vehicle receives routine maintenance as well as repair in a timely manner of an unexpected occurrence. Because of the committee’s inspections, regular maintenance, and low mileage a recommendation was made and approved by the Executive Committee not to purchase a new vehicle this year.

This year, at convention the new President will move in the newest vehicle marked MSFA. The First Vice President will move into the vehicle marked MSFA 1 and the newly elected Second Vice President will move into the vehicle marked MSFA 2.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephan D. Cox, Chairman

REPORT OF THE SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) COMMITTEE

President Bilger, Vice Presidents Blair and Faust, Chairman Simpson, Officers, Delegates, Members and Guests of the 126th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. The MSFA Search and Rescue Committee joins with our fire service family in remembering the passing of Jim Riegel, Sr., long standing SAR Committee member and as quoted by Baltimore County Fire Chief Kyrle Preis “A Father to Some, A Leader to Many, and A Mentor to All”. We give thanks for his service and offer condolences to his family and Baltimore County comrades.

SAR Committee plan and goals:

• Primary purpose/mission will be to promote the role of, and support, MSFA member companies that provide technical search and/or rescue.

• Provide technical assistance to member companies and coordinate with other MSFA committees concerning SAR issues.

• I would encourage departments with any questions related to search and rescue to contact a member of the SAR Committee. We are here to serve the member companies and can most likely use the expertise of the committee members in addressing any concerns. We are frequently consulted by departments for information on equipment and training and welcome such contacts.
• Will liaison with state/regional/national organizations involved in SAR to advocate for MSFA member companies and gather information to disseminate to the MSFA and…

• Monitor the field of technical SAR and work on positioning the MSFA and member companies to respond to any changes in a way that promotes the work of the MSFA.

• MSFA organizational representative to the ASTM F-32 Committee on Search and Rescue.

• MSFA organizational representative to the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR).

• Serve as the MSFA liaison to MEMA on ESF#9 matters.

• MEMA Director Strickland approved the proposed concept of operations plan for the Maryland Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue (SFSAR) Response System. This document is largely based on the Whitepaper written by Vice-Chair Berna and endorsed by the MSFA. It has replaced the Whitepaper on the SAR page of the MSFA website and can be viewed there. Participation in the Maryland SFSAR system is voluntary and jurisdictions are not required to adopt the outlined typing and credentialing standards for their swift-water/flood rescue team(s) unless they wish to be rostered at MEMA as a state-recognized resource eligible for state-wide deployment.

• Following initial planning in December with MEMA, the statewide roll out of the Maryland Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Response System was held at Anne Arundel County Emergency Management Headquarters on January 18, 2018. Representatives from current teams/SAR assets, special operations command staff, and local emergency managers attended to hear the new concept of operations and how they may contribute to the statewide effort.

• Following the statewide roll out of the Maryland Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Response System a meeting for this credentialing process was held on March 15, 2018 at the Savage Volunteer Fire Company. Established teams that are planning to be rostered under this new plan as state recognized assets attended this meeting to review the preliminary documentation for validation.

These assets were encouraged to begin their internal self-assessment pending further notification to arrange review of their validation paperwork and possible site visit. An additional planning meeting is pending with MEMA, MSFA, and MFCA representatives to determine the exact process to receive, review, and register team validations.

MSFA SAR Committee members will be involved in the regional outreach to known
assets to encourage validation and rostering under this new system. We will specifically be reaching out to the MFSA member companies that operate Type III Swiftwater/Flood Teams that did not attend this validation meeting. It is the intent of MEMA to have as many assets as possible validated prior to the 2018 hurricane season.

**MEMA SEOC/ESF#9 Requests:**

- **Harvey and Irma:** From August 26, 2017 to September 10, 2017 various members of the SAR Committee participated in EMAC deployment discussions with MEMA and maintained situational awareness in response to Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. No MSFA assets were mobilized during either storm.

I again want to emphasize that we want to hear about any SAR resource that a member company operates that may meet the NIMS Typing requirements. Even a Type III or Type IV resource is valuable to have in the resource matrix. Committee members can assist you with review of the NIMS typing and compliance planning as needed.

I would personally urge each department providing technical search and/or rescue services to pursue Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (and National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications where applicable) certifications for their members in the following areas as applicable to the type of service you provide: Structural Collapse Technical Rescuer, Rope Technical Rescuer, Surface Water Technical Rescuer, Vehicle and Machinery Technical Rescuer, Confined Space Technical Rescuer, Trench Technical Rescuer, Fire/Rescue Boat Crew Mate I, II, and Motor Vessel Operator. By having these in place you will be on your way to demonstrating required competencies in the field of SAR response. Information on all of these programs is available thru MFRI.

The Committee would like to thank President Bilger and the other Association officers for their support over the past year. The Committee looks forward to continuing its’ work with each of you and others in the coming year.

Submitted for the Service by,
Todd “Scuba” Johnson, Chair

**REPORT OF THE STANDARDS AND NFPA REVIEW COMMITTEE**

For the past year, it has once again been my honor to serve as the Chair of the MSFA Standards and NFPA Review Committee. This Committee plays a critical role in the review and adoption of standards which directly impact the safety and survivability of firefighters and first responders throughout the State.

In response to a motion which was approved by the MSFA membership at the Annual Convention and Conference on June 21, 2017, and at the request of the Salisbury Fire Department, Inc. Co. 1, an inspection of that department was conducted on
September 11, 2017 by Roger Steger and Jon Black, members of the MSFA Standards Committee. The purpose of that inspection was to determine the status of compliance of the pumper and building housing fire equipment intended to be used for emergency operations by that department with appropriate standards of the MSFA to continue Regular Membership status as part of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. The results of that inspection indicated that the pumper and building of the Salisbury Fire Department, Inc. Co. 1 met the standards of the MSFA for these categories. A written report of this inspection was forwarded to the MSFA President, MSFA Secretary, and Chair of the MSFA Executive Committee for further consideration and appropriate actions to be taken by the MSFA.

The Standards Committee continues to monitor the promulgation and passage of new and revised Codes and Standards of the National Fire Protection Association in order to determine possible effects on fire service operations in Maryland, and will stand ready to report any such effects to the Executive Committee and MSFA membership. The 2018 editions of revised NFPA Codes and Standards were reviewed for issuance by the NFPA Membership at the June 7, 2018 Technical Session of the Association in Las Vegas for approval by the Standards Council at the August meeting of that Council. The Standards Committee will review these changes to the NFPA documents to determine any direct impact on fire service operations in Maryland.

In addition, this Committee will review the process of the adoption of revisions to the State Fire Prevention Code, and report any impacts to member departments through the Executive Committee of the MSFA. It should be noted that revisions to the State Fire Prevention Code are scheduled to be adopted on January 1, 2019.

A pending major change proposed to the model building codes would recognize the construction of tall buildings of laminated heavy timber construction. This could result in buildings as high as 200 ft. or 20 stories constructed of combustible materials being approved for construction in the 2021 edition of the International Building Code, which is currently used in every jurisdiction in Maryland. This Committee will continue to monitor the progress of the approval of this construction type and possible impacts of fire suppression activities in buildings of these construction classifications.

Another important responsibility of this Committee is to provide guidance and advice to the governing bodies of this Association and to its member companies. During the past year, the MSFA Standards Committee did respond to a request from the MSFA Secretary regarding the need to conduct a Standards inspection for new fire departments that have formed by existing departments that have merged to provide emergency services as a new combined department. It was decided that when the new department continues to use existing equipment and facilities that were previously approved for use, no new standards inspection of equipment or facilities would be required.
The primary goal of this Committee for 2018 is to initiate a review of the existing MSFA Guidelines of standards required for approval of emergency fire suppression apparatus. The Committee has received a commitment from a majority of its members to complete this task, and has begun to gather information which will be used as a part of this review process.

In addition, this Committee will continue to review and monitor current MSFA Bylaws to coordinate these requirements with current NFPA Standards and generally recognized practices. While this coordination with current NFPA Standards will continue, it is understood that many local conditions will require modification to the national standards in order to provide an adequate level of cost effective services. All of these issues will be considered as a part of the MSFA Standards Committee review and recommendation of proposed regulations, with the prime consideration for the safety of the emergency responders of this State and the citizens that they are committed to protect.

The activities of the Standards Committee were accomplished through much diligent work by its members. It is my personal commitment to continue the fine efforts and tradition of this Committee that has been long established. If anyone has any questions or comments that they wish to bring before the Standards Committee, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Bush, Chair

REPORT OF THE TRAINING COMMITTEE

Thanks to the committee members representatives from MFRI, MIEMSS, MD Fire Chiefs, EMS and other partners for their attendance, support, time, input, and research in the completion of the ten-year plan that was passed by the executive committee and has be placed on the MSFA web site. Thanks to past chairman Kingsley Poole and Vice Chair Dan Stevens who had a lot of information that helped the committee to begin. The Training committee has started to review and update the next ten-year plan.

I selected Scott Wood to serve as Vice Chair and also to be the committee’s representative to the convention committee. He passed along information the committee felt to be important to improve classes at the convention. We are working closely with Joseph Ward to arrange classes at the convention. Everyone should Thank Joe for the tremendous job he does to organize, support, and setup with equipment to support classes in Ocean City.

We have worked closely with the Safety committee, Md. Fire Chief, EMS and other MSFA committee to improve communication dealing with training.

The committee set up a calendar for seminars, and training being scheduled throughout
the state to better arrange for attendance and support for training. Scott Wood and Tim Delehanty were assigned to handle. Thanks for taking over this important assignment goes out to Scott and Tim.

Maryland weekend was a great success this year. Six classes have already been selected for 2019. Thanks to Todd Dyche Western Maryland Training center for his assistance with this project. We will also have two NFA short course weekend classes scheduled for MFRI this year, dates to be announced. The MFRI staff has supported this committee and special thanks go to past Director Steven Edwards, Current director Michael Cox and assistant Director Larry Preston for their assistance.

Thanks to Charles Simpson for placing the training committee information to the MSFA web site.

Thanks to all who have supported the Training committee in making Training in Maryland better.

Respectfully submitted,
Leon Fleming, Committee Chair

REPORT OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

This has been a busy year for the Transportation Committee but a very productive one. In September 2017, a meeting was arranged with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Administrator, her staff, President Bilger, Past President Underwood and Chairman Flint. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the process and cost to design a new logo tag.

Instructions and specifications were discussed with MDOT. The logo on the tag was the only thing that could be changed due to various reasons regarding clarity and safety. MDOT agreed to allow us to present our own design without a charge to the MSFA.

Chairman Flint researched many logo designs and with the assistance of the MDOT decided on two designs that met their specifications. The designs were submitted to the MDOT. MDOT approved the new design which involved the changing of the Maltese Cross to include the wording FIRE-RESCUE-EMS at the bottom of the cross. For many years, Chairman Flint has received comments regarding the inclusion of all members of the MSFA to include EMS and was pleased to have this now accomplished.

The new design was approved by the Executive Committee in December and placed in production in March. The new vehicle and motorcycle tag is currently being issued.
If you choose to get the new design, you can do so upon the renewal from MDOT of your old tag. You must contact Chairman Flint to obtain the paperwork necessary to do this. There is no charge to the member for the new tag.

Past Presidents can get the new tag design and still retain their tag number. This is called Replating and there is a $25.00 charge because the tag must be made. Again, contact with Chairman Flint is required for the paperwork.

Chairman Flint has also been working with the MDOT to design a new database that will assist us with a current listing of members. The information on the tag certification form was used to design the database. Therefore, it is very important that all information is correct on the tag cert form. The County Coordinators need to complete the form properly with all information filled in. All County Coordinator will be informed of this new process as soon as possible.

This year “2018” is the recertification year for member companies. This means that anyone who has a MSFA logo tag must pay a fee of $5.00. The printouts for all Counties listing the member companies and individuals will be sent out in late April to start this process. The process was delayed due to the implementation of the new logo tag and data base. This new data base will eliminate the need to enter tag certs into our data base and be more current and correct.

We are in the process of updating the MSFA Transportation Committee Procedural Manual and hope to have it completed this year with the updated information regarding the new logo tag.

We continue to have a good working relationship with the MDOT. All officials have worked with us diligently to implement the new logo tag. Our MDOT Representative, Larue Sauer, and her staff continue to give us excellent service and we are very grateful for their support.

I would like to thank all committee members and County Coordinators for their support and efforts this year. I wish to extend a special thank you to William Frazier, Randy Smith, Dorothy Schultz, LA-MSFA Liaison, Carol Flint, President Bilger and Past President Underwood for their assistance and support. I wish to extend my thanks to President Bilger for his support and my appointment to serve the MSFA.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas L. Flint II, Chair

REPORT OF THE VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND COMMITTEE

The Volunteer Company Assistance Fund (VCAF) Committee continued simplifying the Loan and Grant Application process. During the Fiscal Year 2018 we focused on the goals and the benefits provided by the Fund. The committee met 4 times during
the year to receive, approved and process thirteen (13) loan applications totaling $6,756,159.00 and six (6) Grant Applications totaling $618,237.62 between July 2017 and May 2018. The committee obtained MSFA Executive Committee and Maryland Board of Public Works (Governor Larry Hogan, Treasurer Nancy K. Kopp, and Comptroller Peter Franchot) approval for these Loans and Grants, which guaranteed the company projects.

The approved Loans and Grants the following companies the most affordable way to purchase, replace or improve equipment and or facilities.

- Westminster Fire Engine & Hose Co. No. 1, Inc.  
  *Engine Loan of $287,800.00*
- Sharpsburg Area Emergency Medical Services  
  *Construction Loan of $638,400.00*
- Church Creek Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.  
  *Grant (turnout gear) of $34,990.62*
- Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.  
  *Engine Loan of $314,895.00*
- Hoopers Island Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Engine Loan of $295,431.00*
- Orchard Beach Volunteer Fire Department  
  *Engine Loan of $265,270.00*
- Lisbon Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Construction Loan of $2,496,900.00*
- Borden Shaft Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Engine Loan of $376,639.50*  
  *Grant of $50,000.00*
- Baltimore Pike Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Engine Loan of $270,226.00*  
  *Grant of $150,000.00*
- Tri Town Ambulance and Rescue Service  
  *Ambulance Loan of $177,121.50*
- Darlington Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Equipment Loan (SCBA) of $209,304.00*
- Longmeadow Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Construction Loan of $888,750.00*
- Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Engine Loan of $308,408.00*
- Eldorado-Brookview Volunteer Fire Company  
  *Engine Loan of $33,750.00*  
  *Grant of $100,000.00*  
  *Grant (Equipment) of $25,561.00*
- Midland Volunteer Fire Company
Engine Loan of $193,264.00
Grant of $257,686.00

In closing I would like to thank the VCAF committee member for all the work they have done in the past year to approve the application with a total value of $7,374,396.62. This is a dedicated group of individuals who embrace change and work selflessly to serve the member companies of the Association and to provide financial assistance and guidance. THANK YOU.

Respectfully Submitted
Joseph Antoszewski, Chairman

REPORT OF THE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE $10,000 RAFFLE

President Bilger, officers and members of the MSFA and LAMSFA. The 2017 raffle, which was conducted from June 2016 through June 2017, yielded a total of $47,786.00. The expenses totaled $22,885.68 which left a profit of $24,900.32.

Counter sales at the 2017 convention produced $8,162.00 and the remaining $39,624.00 was realized by the special events that the committee attended, by the sales returned by the member companies, and by the LAMSFA who sold $7,905 worth of chances. Harford County was again the leader in ticket sales with $15,037.00.

198 out of 363 (54%) MSFA member companies did not participate in the raffle. The following list by county represents the percentage of companies that did return money:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegany</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvert</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<td>Carroll</td>
<td>64%</td>
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<td>Cecil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorchester</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garrett</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Prince Georges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicomico</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcester</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The committee would like to thank the county coordinators, member companies, ladies’ auxiliaries, and special individuals who have worked very hard to make the raffle a success.

The returns by county were:
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

<table>
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<th>Amount</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Cecil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>$1,290.00</td>
<td>Talbot</td>
<td>$435.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>$2,078.00</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>$1,104.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick</td>
<td>$1,499.00</td>
<td>Wicomico</td>
<td>$282.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrett</td>
<td>$545.00</td>
<td>Worcester</td>
<td>$2,735.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harford</td>
<td>$15,037.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses for 2015-2016 Raffle:

- Prize Money: $16,800.00
- Printing: $3,079.00
- OC Springfest Fees: $1,000.00
- OC Sunfest Fees: $1,000.00
- Darlington Apple Fest: $75.00
- Raffle License (Worcester Co): $25.00
- Supplies/Postage: $19.22
- Tent Rentals: $887.46
- Total Expenses: $22,885.68
- Total Sales: $47,786.00
- Total Profit: $24,900.32

Prize Winners for 2016-2017 Raffle:

1st $10,000 Dan Martin – Pittsburgh, PA
2nd $2,500 Ronald Lippy – Stoney Beach, MD
3rd $1,500 Wayne Williams – Delmar, DE
4th $1,000 Mike Donaghy – Hellam, PA
5th $750 Dorothy Morse – Ocean City, MD
6th $500 Norrisville VFC
7th $250 David Johnson – White Plains, MD
8th $100 Kathleen Parker – Bel Air, MD
9th $100 Gordon Rifle - Essex, MD
10th $100 Riviera Beach VFC

The committee would like to congratulate all the winners and thank them for their support. Also, many thanks to the MSFA & LAMSFA officers and members who helped with the raffle. Without you, we could not have had such a successful year.

The committee has had a very busy year with the 2017-2018 raffle. We have attended
the Harford County Farm Fair, the Darlington Apple Fest, and Ocean City’s Sunfest and Springfest.

The committee would like to wish everyone an enjoyable, informative, and safe conference and convention.

Respectfully submitted:
Louis Jonske, Chairman
Anna Jonske, MSFALA Co-Chairman
Mitch Vocke, Co-Chairman

REPORT OF THE WILLS FOR HEROES COMMITTEE

The Wills for Heros Committee was established to provide an additional benefit to our membership by providing free wills to qualifying members of qualified companies.

To have your will written go to the MSFA website, click on committee, click on Wills for Heroes Committee, download the forms that you will fill out, send them to the Chairman who will then complete your will in accordance with the paperwork you have submitted and return the completed will to you.

If your County Association wishes to schedule a day for members of member companies to come to a special location to have a will written, your county association president should make those arrangements with this committee to schedule a date, time and location for the committee to come to that location on the agreed upon date and time to have those interested come to have wills written.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger N. Powell, Chairman
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION 126TH ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE

ROLL CALL AND CREDENTIALS LIST OF 2018 DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

ACTIVE MEMBERS


ACCIDENT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 50, 109 S. South Street, Accident, MD 21520; Garrett County. Telephone: 301-746-8800 Fax: 301-746-8800; E-mail accidentvfd@verizon.net; Organized: 1946; Joined MSFA:1947. President: Adam Bach, Vice President: Jesse Deniker, Secretary: Shaina Custer Saturday, Treasurer: Alva Rexrode, Chaplain: Alva Rexrode, Chief: Richard Carlson. Delegates: Mike Simmons, Travis Pickett, Richard Carlson, Tim Simmons, Ed Bach. Alternates: Paul Custer, Jerry Maust, Alva Rexrode, Don Ringer, Paul Hook.

ACCOKEEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 226, 16111 Livingston Road, Accokeek, MD 20607; Prince George’s County. Telephone 301-283-2730 Fax 301-283-3024; Organized: 1932. President: Glenn Sherman; Vice President: Sara Porter; Secretary: Julie Hill; Treasurer: Kathryn Fortgang; Chaplain: Chief: Steven Hainey. Delegates: Sara Porter, Glenn Sherman, Christopher Maggi, Marcie Cox, Darlene Grinsley. Alternates: John Porter III, Ashley Cox, Rachel Cox.


ANTIETAM FIRE COMPANY, INC. 790 Potomac Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21742; Washington County. Telephone: 301-733-3334; Website: www.antietamfirecompany.org; Organized: 1808; Chartered: 1818. President: Ron Horn, Vice President: Chuck Cunningham; Secretary: Jamie Barkdoll, Treasurer: Robert Daveler, Chaplain: Robert McGhee; Chief: James Sprecher Jr. Delegates: James Sprecher, Jimmy Sprecher III, Tyrone Patterson, Jeff Snyder, Travis Barkdonn.

ARBUTUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 5200 Southwestern Boulevard, Arbutus, MD 21227; Baltimore County. Telephone 410-242-6601 Fax 410-242-6962; E-mail:cao350@bcvfa.org; Website: www.arbutusvfd.org; Organized: 1938; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: John McDowell, Vice President: Steven Gower, Secretary: Heather Wilderson, Treasurer: Christopher Brocat, Chaplain: Steven Owens, Chief: Captain Norm Simpkins Jr. Delegates: John McDowell, Joseph Antoszewski, Donald Gutberlet, Lewis Harvey IV, Douglas Simpkins Jr. Alternates: None Listed


ARUNDEL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 2380 Davidsonville Road, Gambrills, MD 21054; Anne Arundel County. Telephone 301-261-0060; E-mail arundelfd@ccconline.net Website: www.arundelfire.com; Organized: 1954; Chartered: 1954; Joined MSFA: 1956. President: Kathleen D. Gross, Vice President: Peter Ferrigno, Secretary: Sara Hilt, Treasurer: Sam Sumpter, Chaplain: Laura Woods, Chief: J. David Ayers. Delegates: Carene Housenfluck, Marian Nicholson, Peter Ferrigno, Kathleen Gross, Robert Cochenour. Alternates: J. David Ayres, Sam Sumpter Jen Benevicz.


BALTIMORE PIKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 359, 15010 Baltimore Pike, Cumberland, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-724-4170; E-mail: co4@allconet.org; Organized:1947; Chartered:1947; Joined MSFA: 1943. President: Gary Carpenter, Vice President: Robert Demoss, Secretary: Lisa Hout, Treasurer: Steven Hout, Chaplain: Jim Kaseycamp, Chief: Sam Wilson. Delegates: Gary Carpenter, Sam Wilson, Steven Hout, Lisa Hout, Robert Demoss. Alternates: John Harr, Rita Hout, Amanda Wilson, Linda Carpenter, Brandon Kelly.
BARTON HOSE CO. NO.1, INC. – PO Box 277, 19200 Legislation Road, Barton, MD 21521; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-463-2138; Organized: 1919; Chartered: 1947. President: Kevin Bowman, Vice President: Joseph Langham, Secretary: John Shuhart, Treasurer: John Shuhart; Chaplain: Stanley Broadwater, Chief: Kevin Rounds. Delegates: John Shuhart, Robert Rounds, Kevin Rounds, Kevin Bowman, Stanley Broadwater. Alternates: Gene Foutz, Brycen Rounds.

BAY DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 1440, (Station 3 - 46900 Shangri-la Drive,) California, MD 20619; St. Mary’s County; Telephone 301-737-0654 Fax 301-737-0353; E-mail bdvfd@bdvfd.org, Website: www.bdvfd.org; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1943; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Wayne Johnson, Vice President: Richard Sullivan, Secretary: Tom Eno, Treasurer: Andy Waikart, Chaplain: Keith Fairfax, Chief: Robert Wahrenbrock. Delegates: Wayne Johnson, Richard Sullivan, Robert Wahrenbrock, Tom Eno, Doug Medley. Alternates: Keith Fairfax, Pat Stanley, Melvin Tennyson, Bruce Theden, Steve Stockwell.

BEDFORD ROAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 13200 Bedford Road NE, Cumberland, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-724-3670 Fax: E-mail; stevestrappercoop@yahoo.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1943; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Tim Growden, Vice President: Bob Grabenstein, Secretary: Diane Schade, Treasurer: Debbie Helmstetter, Chief: Ralph Collins. Delegates: Tim Growden, Mike Helmstetter Sr., Ralph Collins. Alternates: None Listed.

BEL AIR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 109 South Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, MD 21014; Harford County; Telephone: 410-638-4400; Website: www.bavfc.org. Organized: 1890; Joined MSFA: 1924. President: Joe Rutherford, Vice President: Tim Coale, Secretary: Russell Eyre, Treasurer: Josh Krebs, Chaplain: Tim Kick, Chief: Steve Cox. Delegates: Rusty Eyre, Mike Lochary, Gary Kadolph, Joe Price, Nancy Cox. Alternates: NONE LISTED.

BEL ALTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 9765 Bel Alton-Newtown Road, Bel Alton, MD 20611; Charles County; Telephone: 301-932-0894; Fax: 301-932-1115; Website: www.bavfd.org; Organized:1962; Chartered:1962; Joined MSFA:1963. President: John H. Hackley, Jr., Vice President: Billy Robertson, Jr., Secretary: Katie Hayes, Treasurer: James Hoover Thompson, Chaplain: Julian Hayden, Chief: Chris Strybing. Delegates: John H. Hackley Jr., Billy Robertson Jr., James Hoover Thompson, Katie Hayes, Chris Strybing. Alternates: Jeff Hammett, Jeff Goldsmith, Tommy Albritain, Bo Black, David Williams.

BELTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 831, 4911 Prince George’s Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-937-3160; Website: beltsvillevfd.com; Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1947. President: Margie Dickey, Vice President: Billy McNeel, Secretary: Janice Gardiner, Treasurer: Mikel Butler, Chaplain: Michael Schaffer, Chief: Mike Adams. Delegates: Rev. Harry Hetz, Margie Dickey, Billy McNeel, Tony McCall, Janice Gardiner. Alternates: Kenny Reising, Brian Hart, Mike Adams, Steve Flora, Steve Corbin.


BERWYN HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC. - 8811 60th Avenue, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740; Prince George’s County; Telephone 301-627-6905, Website: www.bhvfd14.org; Organized:1924; Chartered:1924; Joined MSFA: 1929; President: Ryan Wagner, Vice President: Richard Kitchen, Secretary: Kyle Snyder, Treasurer: Eric Norris, Chaplain, Chief: Danny McCoy. Delegates: Peter Isaacson, Daniel McCoy, James Kiernan, Ryan Wagner, Brant Woodhouse. Alternates: Ben Ross.

BETHESDA FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 30384, 6600 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20824; Montgomery County; Telephone 301-652-5602 Fax 301-656-3550; Website: www.bethesdafire.org; Organized: 1926; Chartered:1926; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Michael Kay, Vice President: Nat Finkelstein/Ted Rosen, Secretary: Josh Perelman, Treasurer: Grant Davies, Chaplain: Chief: Lawrence J. Gaddis. Delegates: Lawrence J., Gaddis, Michael Kay, Nathan Finkelstein, Virginia Miller, Joseph Chornock. Alternates: Pat McTighe, Marcus Stein, Courtney Fussell, Esmeralda Mathieu, Danny Kuan.

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE RESCUE SQUAD, INC. - 5020 Battery Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814; Montgomery County; Telephone 301-652-0077; E-mail: ned.sherburne@bccrs.org; Website www.bccrs.org; Organized:1937; Chartered:1945. President: Kenneth B. Holden, Vice President: John Bentivoglio, Secretary: Ryan Kilboy, Treasurer: Alex Braun, Chaplain: Chief: Edward Sherburne. Delegates: Kenneth Holden, George Giebel, Kathleen Donahoe, David Dwyer, Edeard Sherburne. Alternates: Robert Kretzmer, Anthony Veith, Robert Rinaudot, Walter Gold.

BETERTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 2 Howell Point Road, Betterton, MD 21610; Kent County; Telephone 410-348-5678 Fax 410-348-5300; Website: www.bvfc5.org; Organized:1938; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Bud Campbell, Vice President: Kip Mathews, Secretary: Carrie Nicholson; Treasurer: Amanda Clark, Chaplain: Bill Carroll; Chief: Chip Campbell. Delegates: Bud Campbell, Chad Clark, Kip Matthews, Chip Campbell, Louis Mancuso. Alternates: Jason Owens, Amanda Clark, Josh Owens, Monica Matthews.

BITTINGER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 176 Brenneman Road, Bittinger, MD 21522; Garrett County; Telephone 301-245-4414; Organized: 1973; Chartered: 1973; Joined MSFA: 1982. President: Dennis Yoder, Vice President: Larry Nesline, Secretary: Jeff Beitzel, Treasurer: Ashley Knauer, Chaplain: Leon Beitzel, Chief: Justin Orendorf. Delegates: Justin Orendorf, Darrin Yoder. Alternates: None Listed.

BLADENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – P.O. Box 348, 4213 Edmonston Road, Bladensburg, MD 20710-0001; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-864-4415; Website: www.bv9fd.com; Organized: 1922; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Gary Katz, Jr., Vice President: Jason Brynes, Secretary: Mike Ruggier, Treasurer: Donnie Wells, Chaplain: Rodgers Reinhart, Chief: Vince Pickel. Delegates: Gary Katz Jr., Jason Byrnes, Vince Pickel, Kyle Schultz, Dave Summer. Alternates: Donald S. Wells, Josh Jany, Mike Ruggier, Robert Wells, Nick Pruksma.


BORDEN SHAFT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1, INC. - 19303 Shaft Road, SW., Frostburg, MD 21532; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-689-1535; Email: co17@allconet.org Website: www.shaftfire.com; Organized: 1938; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1941. President: Roger Bennett, Vice President: Michael Neilson, Secretary: Andrea Bennett, Treasurer: Michael Murphy, Chaplain: Aaron Winters, Chief: Scott Yates. Delegates: Scott Yates, Roger Bennett, Samantha Bennett, Bryan Miller,m Jesse Jeffries. Alternates: None Listed.

BORING VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 14711 Old Hanover Road, Upperco, MD

Bowie Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. – 15454 Annapolis Road, Bowie, MD 20715; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-262-0502; E-mail: info@bowievfd.org; Website: bowievfd.org; Organized: 1928; Chartered: 1928; Joined MSFA: 1929. President: Buddy Gormley, Vice President: Mark Stegmeier, Secretary: Gary Blanton, Treasurer: John Cole, Chaplain: Chief: Jonathan Howard. Delegates: Buddy Gormley, Gary Blanton, Chris St. John, Glenn Locker, Ed Manuel. Alternates: J.R. Bigony, MarySanta Bigony, Michelle Goodier.


Branchville Volunteer Fire Company & Rescue Squad, Inc. - 4905 Branchville Road, College Park, MD 20740; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-7711 Fax: 301-345-8994; Website: bvfco11.com; Organized: 1924; Joined MSFA: 1924. President: Jeramie Jordan, Vice President: John Gardiner Sr, Secretary: Spiro Dimakas.


BRUNSWICK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 286, 1500 Volunteer Drive, Brunswick, MD 21716; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-834-8300; Website: bvfd5.org; Organized: 1893; Chartered: 1894; Joined MSFA: 1910. President: Kenny Nicewarner, Vice President: William Beacht, Secretary: Robin Bell, Treasurer: Kevin Myers, Chaplain: Chief: George Clary Jr. Delegates: George Clary Jr, Kevin Myers, Clarence Webber, Steve Welch, David Young. Alternates: Steve Shook, Goerge Houser, Gail Young, Kim Webber, Todd Webber.

BRYANS ROAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 111, 3099 Livingston Road, Bryans Road, MD 20616; Charles County; Telephone 301-375-7055 Fax Website: brvfd.com; Organized:1 962; Chartered: 1963; joined MSFA: 1964. President: David Hamrick, Vice President: Joseph Gronau, Secretary: Ann Damon, Treasurer: Paul McCormick, Chaplain: Christopher Iekel, Chief: Clifford Montgomery. Delegates: Mike Tackish, Dennis Tomlinson, Elvan Hedges, Richard Green, Robert Eastburn. Alternates: Darrin Tomlinson, Michael Walko, Colleen Dearing, Keith Hettel, Karen Montgomery.

BUNKER HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE COMPANY – PO Box 264, Mt. Rainer, MD 3716 Rhode Island Avenue, Brentwood, Maryland 20712; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-985-5411 Fax: 301-985-5411; Website: www.bhvrc.com. President:
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

John A. Mutchler, Vice President; John Hines, Secretary; Lawrence Trainum, Treasurer; Barry Miller, Chief: Jason Fisher. Delegates: Jason Fisher, Opal Benoit, John Hines, John Gage, John Mutchler. Alternates: None Listed.

BURTONSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 215, 13900 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20866; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-773-8957 Fax 301-879-1487; E-mail: newmanlen@aol.com Website: bvfd.com; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1948. President: Tamera G. Bulla, Vice President: Drew Dunn, Secretary: Leonard Newman, Treasurer: Christine Dunn, Chaplain: Christine Dunn, Chief: Michael Ryman. Delegates: NONE LISTED. Alternates: NONE LISTED.

BUTLER VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 75, 15019 Falls Road, Butler, MD 21023; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7913 Fax: 410-771-4103; E-mail cao490@bcvfa.org Website: butlervfd.com; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1954; Joined MSFA: 1958. President: Wayne Hackley, Vice President: Cary Rutledge, Secretary: Milton Curtis, Treasurer: Wayne Hackley, Chaplain: Captain Matthew Underwood. Delegates: David Arbogast, Matthew Underwood, Wayne Hackley. Alternates: None Listed 2017

CABIN JOHN PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 41, 8001 River Road, Cabin John, MD 20818; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-365-2028 Fax: 301-365-2563; E-mail: firefighter@cjpvfd.org Website: cjpvfd.com; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1931. President: Michael Harting, Vice President: Robert Roller, Secretary: Harry Goldman, Treasurer: James Fones, Chaplain: Katherine Bryant, Chief: James P Seavey Sr. Delegates: James Seavey Sr., Mary Morgal, Mary Seavey, Robert McDonald, David Hanson. Alternates: Greg Karel, Christian Mage, James Lee Hunter, Satchel Kornfeld, Paul Krause.

CALVERT ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT, INC – 55 Security Blvd., Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-0411; E-mail: chief10@calvertals.net Website: calvertals.net; Organized: 1989; Joined MSFA: 2001; Charter: 1989. No Credentials were submitted for 2017.

CAPE ST. CLAIR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 1411 Cape St. Claire Road, Annapolis, MD 21409; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-757-3434; E-mail: webmaster@cscvfc.org Website: cscvfc.org; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1955; Joined MSFA: 1957. President: Jessica Miller, Vice President: Alyssa Cherry, Secretary: Nancy Wright, Treasurer: George Ryan, Chaplain: Chief: Drew Mutch. Delegates: Ron Block, Jim Mekins, Carol Mekins, Bob Seibel. Morgan Parker. Alternates: Jacob Deale.

CAPITOL HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.- 6061 Central Avenue, Capitol Heights, MD 20743; Prince George’s County; Telephone 301-883-7705. See Volunteer Fire Company # 1 of Capitol Heights, MD.

CARROLL COUNTY VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES – 50 Kate Wagner Road, Westminster, MD 21157. President: Donald Fair, Vice President Perry Jones, Secretary: Maryanne Wareham, Treasurer: Mary Karol Stiffler. Delegates: Donald Fiar Jr, Tim Bangert.
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION 126th ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE

Alternates: NONE LISTED.

CARROLL MANOR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 7, 2795 Adams Street, Adamstown, MD 21710; Frederick County; Telephone 301-874-5111; Fax 301-874-5101; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1954; Joined MSFA: 1954. President: Chris Benfield, Vice President: Eddie Arnold, Secretary: Hilary Schaub, Treasurer: Ida Young, Chief: Mike Smallwood. Delegates: Chris Benfield, Joyce W. Shry, Buck Young.


CHAPEL OAKS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT& RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 31309, 5544 Sheriff Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20731-0309, Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-2600 Fax: 301-925-4950; E-mail: gyfisher@gmail.com; Website: chapeloaksfire.com; Organized 1946; Chartered 1950; Joined MSFA 1967. President: Cathy Walker-Peters, Vice President: Hilmar Porter, Secretary: Enola Pickett, Treasurer: Deneen Lewis, Chaplain: Chief: James Felder. Delegates: Hilmar Porter, Cathy Walker-Peters, James Felder, Deneen Lewis, Wanda Thomas. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018

CHARLES COUNTY MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT, INC. – PO Box 366 ,17 Billingsley Road, White Plains, MD 20695; Charles County; Telephone 301-645-7707 Fax 301-870-6136; Website: ccmedicunit.org; Organized:1978; Chartered:1986; Joined MSFA:1983. President: Madison Brady, Vice President: Josh Thomas, Secretary: Connie Robertson, Treasurer: Janet Siviter, Chaplain: Chief: Jamie Smith. Delegates: Madison Brady, Jan Siviter, Dave Siviter, Jamie Smith, Gary R. Gertz. Alternates: None Listed 2018


CHESTERTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 296, 211 Maple Avenue, Chestertown, MD 21620; Kent County; Telephone: 410-778-3434. President: David Eason Sr, Vice President: Phillip Lott, Secretary: Cindy Morris, Treasurer: Henrietta Maloney, Chaplain: Leon Frison, Chief: John Darling. Delegates: Jeffrey H. Thompson, Darlene
Neal, John Darling, Donald Hodges Sr., William Hildebrand. Alternates: Reeny Grapes, David Eason Jr, Kyle Thompson, Pete Lott, Henrietta Maloney.

**CHESTNUT RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** -12020 Greenspring Avenue, Owings Mills, MD 21074; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7781 Fax: 410-252-6111; E-mail: larryq500@comcast.net. Website: www.chestnutridgefire.com; Organized:1954; Chartered: 1957; Joined MSFA:1962. President: Larry Getlan, Vice President: Daniel Burton, Secretary: Cynthia Glace, Treasurer: Harry Kakel, Chaplain, Chief: Daniel Uddeme. Delegates: Fred Cross, Larry Getlan, Dan Uddeme, Dan Burton. Alternates: Gentry Fitzpatrick, Scott Weiner, Scott Cohen, Adam Harrison, Jack Crystal.


**CHURCH CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 16, 1902 Church Creek Road, Church Creek, MD 21622; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-228-4156; Fax: 410-228-4156, E-mail: j.lewisscvfc@yahoo.com . President: Stephanie Mc Williams, Vice President: Jamie Willey, Secretary: Jeff Lewis, Treasurer: Russell Hurley Sr., Chief: Zach White. Delegates: Barbara Steiner. Alternates: Tina McWilliams, Samuel Temple.


**CITIZENS TRUCK COMPANY #4 FREDERICK MD, INC.** – PO Box 3855, 15 South Court Street, Frederick, MD 21705; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-1713 Fax: 301-600-1734; Organized:1926; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA:1927. President: Robert Jacobs, Vice President: Thomas Lawson, Secretary: Vicky Keller, Treasurer: Matt Elden, Chaplain:, Chief: John Elder. Delegates: Robert Jacobs, Timothy Ganley, Mike Buck, Jeff Wisner. Alternates: David Keller III.

**CLARYSVILLE FIRE COMPANY, INC.** - 16304 Clarysville Road, SW, Frostburg, MD 21532;
ALLEGANY COUNTY: Telephone: 301-689-3828; E-mail: co14@allconet.org; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1942. No credentials were submitted for 2018.

CLEAR SPRING AMBULANCE CLUB, INC. – PO Box 61, 233 Cumberland Street, Clear Spring, MD 21722-0088; Washington County; Telephone: 301-842-2711 Fax: 301-842-3073; Website: clearspringems.org; Organized: 1954; Chartered: 1954. President: David Glaze Jr, Vice President: David Irvin Jr, Secretary: Lori Irvin, Treasurer: Brenda Keefer, Chaplain: Lynn Hunsberger, Chief: Stephanie Stellard. Delegates: Walter Irvin Sr., Grace Irvin, Lynn Hunsberger, David Irvin Jr, Lori Irvin. Alternates: David Glaze, Stephanie Stellard

CLEAR SPRING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 400, 30 Mulberry Street, Clear Spring, MD 21722; Washington County; Telephone: 301-842-2300 Fax: 301-842-2794; Email: chief4reid@myactv.net; Website: clearspringfire.net; Organized: 1935; Chartered: 1935; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Terry Thompson, Vice President: Robert Downs, Secretary: Stacey Schlotterbeck, Treasurer: Charles Mundey, Chaplain: Tom Grosh, Chief: Michael Reid. Delegates: Robert Downs, Charles Mundey, Mike Reid, Robert Mills, Stacey Schlotterbeck. Alternates: None listed 2018.

CLINTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 9025 Woodyard Road, Clinton, MD 20735; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-868-1333 Fax:301-868-0330; E-mail: rmason3275@gmail.com Website: clintonvfd.org; Organized: 1936; Chartered: 1937; Joined MSFA: 1937. President: Jerry Spence, Vice President: Scott Kaiser, Secretary: Sally Brown, Treasurer: Jim Ruby, Chaplain, Chief: Renaldo Mason. Delegates: Jerry Spence, Sally Brown, Bob McGhee. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.


COCKEYSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 344. 11210 York Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1851 Fax: 410-527-3739; Email: treasure@cvfa.org; Website: cvfc.org; Organized: 1896; Chartered: 1896; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: Andrew Rosenblum, Vice President: Michael Holland, Secretary: Tawney Linko, Treasurer: John Dixon, Chaplain: Boots Bannister, Chief: Kevin Roberts. Delegates: Kathy Milby, Lawrence Gribble, Kenneth Cole, Jack Roberts. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.

COLLEGE PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 8115 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, MD 20740; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-901-9112; Fax: 301-901-9115; E-mail: webmaster@cpvfd.org Website: cpvfd.org; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Pete Piringer, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary:


**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OF BOWLEY’S QUARTERS & VICINITY, INC.** – 900 Bowley’s Quarters Road, Middle River, MD 21220; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-5771; Organized:1944; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1946; Email: jmheinz210@gmail.com; Website: bqvolunteers.org; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1945. President: Max King, Vice President; Louis Hartmann, Secretary: Bernie Eckert III, Treasurer: Paul G. Cusic Jr., Chaplain: Joyce Elder, Chief: John Heinz. Delegates: Jerry Cusic, Paul J. Cusic, John Hamm, John Heinz, Max King. Alternates: None Listed.

**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY OF MILLINGTON, INC.** – P. O. Box 255, 185 Sassafras Street, Millington, MD 21651; Kent County; Telephone: 410-928-3171; Fax: 410-928-3945; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1923; Joined MSFA: 1926. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018

**COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY OF PERRYVILLE, MD INC.** – P. O. Box 776, 920 Principio Furnace Road, Perryville, MD 21903; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-642-2647 Fax: 410-642-0266;E-mail: jajonesey@yahoo.com; Website: pvfd616.com; Organized:1923; Chartered:1926; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Karen Reinhart, Vice President: George Ryan II, Secretary: Kristie Calaman, Treasurer: Dale K. Dewees, Chaplain: Sue Hornbarger, Chief: Ray Ryan Jr. Delegates: Terri Grove, Daniel Skip Mahan, Charles Thomas, Karen Jones, Mark Fayer Sr. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.

**COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY OF RISING SUN, INC.** – PO Box 699, 300 Joseph Biggs Highway, Rising Sun, MD 21911; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-658-5115 Fax: 410-658-9899; E-mail: risingsunpresident8@gmail.com; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1921. President: William Eyler, Vice President: Stacy Zachry, Secretary: Tamra Wiggins, Treasurer: Suzanne Wehry, Chaplain: Adam Haines, Chief: Donald Wehry. Delegates: Karl Reichenbach, Ken Morris, Stacy Zachry, Walter Funk, Donald Wehry. Alternates: Suzanne Wehry, John Hall.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY INC. DISTRICT No. 12 – PO Box 97, 18002 Tilghman Road, Fairplay, MD 21733; Washington County; Telephone: 301-582-0099; Email: fairplay12@earthlink.net; Organized: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1949. President: Jeb S. Eckstine, Vice President: Kevin Clipp, Secretary: Kim VanMetre, Treasurer: Tracy Mc Cleary, Chaplain: Robert Fraley, Chief: Cory Lescalleet. Delegates: Mark Copp, Roy Lescalleet, Scott Frey, Darrin Eichelberger, Robert Gordon. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.


CORRIGANVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 187, 12502 Corrigan Drive, Corriganville, MD 21524; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-722-7418, Fax: 240-362-7047; Organized: 1939. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018.

CRESAPTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 13109 Warrior Drive, SW, Cresaptown, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-729-1111 Fax: 301-729-1820; Email: ccage@atlanticbb.net Website: cresaptownvfd.com; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1933. President: Patrick Reid, Vice President: William McElvie, Secretary: Katrina Wolf, Treasurer: Susan Clark-Cecil, Chaplain: Calvin Walbert, Chief: Christopher Cage. Delegates: Christopher Cage, Patrick Reid, Calvin “Pete” Walbert, Don Reid, Jesse Schultz. Alternates: Josh Earnest.


DEAL ISLAND-CHANCE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 10010 Deal Island Road, Deal Island, MD 21821; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-784-2612; Website: dealislandchancevfc.com; Organized:1954; Chartered:1954; Joined MSFA:1956. President: Charles Jacopson, Vice President: George Mister, Secretary: Shawn Rath, Treasurer: Danny Webster, Chaplain: David Webster, Chief: Donald L Ford. Delegates: Donald Ford, George Mister. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

DEALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 114, 6007 Drum Point Road, Deale, MD 20751; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-867-1350;Organized:1946; Chartered:1946; Joined MSFA:1948. President: Dale Browning, Vice President: Dale Browning, Secretary: Rebecca Lare, Treasurer: Becky Lancaster, Chaplain: Robin Howard, Chief: Russell Lancaster III. Delegates: Dale Browning, Ray Mudd III, Gayle Moreland, Robin Howard, Doug Howard. Alternates: Bernard Pipps Russell Lancaster, Vicki Browning, Pat Rohr, Shannon Rohr.


DELMAR FIRE DEPARTMENT,INC. – PO Box 143, 301 Grove Street, Delmar, DE 19940; Wicomico County; Telephone: 302-846-2530, Fax: 302-846-2505; Website: delmar74.
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DELA-CARDIFF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 15, 500 Main Street, Delta, PA 17314-0015; (near) Harford County; Telephone: 717-456-7133; Website: deltacardiffvfc.com; Organized: 1898; Chartered: 1924; Joined MSFA: 1942. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018


DENTSVILLE VOLUNTEER EMS & AUXILIARY INC – PO Box 109, 12135 Charles Street, LaPlata, MD 20646; Charles County; Telephone: 301-392-0050; Website: dvems.org; Organized: 1998. President: Robin Windsor, Vice President: Megan Blanchfield, Secretary: Tina Fisher, Treasurer: Darby Byrd, Chaplain: Pat O’Connor, Chief: Mark Kaufmann. Delegates: Darby Byrd. Alternates: None Listed.


DISTRICT HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 3170 West Ward Road, Dunkirk, MD 20754; Calvert County; Telephone: 301-855-8895; Email: billrector@dunkirk5.com, Website: dunkirk5.com; Organized: 1974; Chartered: 1975. President: Jim Taylor, Vice President: Carrol Spriggs, Secretary: Jaime Longfellow, Treasurer: Tommy Smith, Chaplain: Larry Patin, Chief: Toby Sealey. Delegates: James Taylor, Randy Smith, Howard Kelly, Donald Gibson, Tommy Howes. Alternates: Toby Sealey, Carrol Spriggs, Fred Holzberger, Todd Ward, Chris McNally.

EARLEIGH HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 547, 161 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park, MD 21146; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-647-1990,
Fax: 410-647-9463; E-mail: 2002theend@gmail.com Website: www.ehvfc.org; Organized: 1918; Chartered: 1918; Joined MSFA: 1923. President: Andrew Condor, Vice President: Michael Sohn, Secretary: Paul Demasky, Treasurer: Victor Henderson, Chaplain: Keith Zucco, Chief: Dave Crawford. Delegates: Joe Angyellof, Dave Crawford, Chuck Austin. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.


EASTERN GARRETT COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 401 Finzel Road, Frostburg, MD 21532; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-689-8388, Fax: 301-689-9554; E-mail: kitisdll@yahoo.com; Organized: 1967; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: James Raley, Vice President: Nicholas Wiland, Secretary: Penny Lewis, Treasurer: Charon Clark, Chaplain: David Kitis, Chief: Timothy Clark. Delegates: James Raley, Tim Clark, Charon Clark, Justin Clark, Penny Lewis. Alternates: Ethan Snyder, Noah Snyder, Jim Heward, Mike Likens, Mick Wiland.

EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 315 Aurora Park Drive, Easton, MD 21601; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-822-4848, Fax: 410-822-1970; E-mail: eastonvfd@goeaston.net, Website: eastonvfd.org; Organized: 1808; Chartered: 1917; Joined MSFA: 1914. President: Donald Abbatiello, Vice President: Jeff Meintzer, Secretary: Rebecca A. Caldwell, Treasurer: Jeff Meintzer, Secretary: Rebecca A. Caldwell, President: Krista Wallach, Secretary: Justine Slominski, Treasurer: Carolyn Richards, Chaplain: Richard Hurlock, Chief: VACANT. No Credentials submitted for 2018.

EASTPORT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 3332, 914 Bay Ridge Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403-0332; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 301-509-1005; Organized: 1886; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Gary Mathis, Vice President: Krista Wallach, Secretary: Justine Slominski, Treasurer: Carolyn Richards, Chaplain: Richard Hurlock, Chief: VACANT. No Credentials submitted for 2018.

ELDORADO-BROOKVIEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 5752 Rhodesdale-Eldorado Road, Eldorado, MD 21659; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-943-4004; Email: km6070@yahoo.com; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1950. President: Robert Murphy, Vice President: Jason Barnes, Secretary: Barb Warrell, Treasurer: Julie Adams, Chaplain: Jimmy Cole, Chief: Brad Murphy. Delegates: Robert Murphy, Brad Murphy, Jimmy Cole. Alternates: Jason Barnes, Justin Murphy, Debbie Wheedleton.

ELKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 6275 Old Washington Road, Elkridge, MD 21075; Howard County; Telephone: 410-313-4901, Fax: 410-313-4904; Website: www.elkridgevfd.org; Organized: 1942; Joined MSFA: 1943. President: Julianna Casey,

**ELLERSLIE VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC.** – PO Box 390, 14200 Ellerslie Road NW, Ellerslie, MD 21529; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-777-0959; Organized: 1980; Chartered: 1986; Joined MSFA: 1982. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018.

**ELLERSLIE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 237, 14200 Ellerslie Road, Ellerslie, MD 21529; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-777-0959; Website: www.evfc.org; Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1946. President: Richard DeVore, Vice President: Scott Williams, Secretary: Denoma Stallings, Treasurer: Rob Johnson, Chaplain: Jennifer Christner, Chief: Scott Williams. Delegates: Dick DeVore, Dave Christner, Austin Christner, Wayne Shriner, Scott Williams. Alternates: Mark Williams, Rob Johnson.


**EMMITSBURG VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY, INC.** – 17701 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-447-6626, Fax: 301-447-3887; Website: emmitsburgems.org; Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1988. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018


**ESSEX VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – 1449 Sussex Road, Essex, MD 21221; Telephone: 410-877-0329; Website: essexvfc.org; E-mail: co510@bcvfa.org. President: Kevin Nida, Vice President: Ryan Cruikshank, Secretary: Anthony Schield, Treasurer: Frank Spangler, Chief: John Alban. Delegates: Mark Dranbauer, Debbie Peyton, John Medinger, Tammy Medinger, John Alban, Alternates: Danielle Day, John Borman, Zach Krause, David
Klein, Rob Sacks.

EWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 44, 3994 Smith Island Road, Ewell, MD 21824; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-425-5521; Organized:1957; Chartered: 1957.no Credentials submitted for 2018.

FAIRMOUNT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 395, 27407 Fairmount Road, Upper Fairmount, MD 21867; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-651-2888; E-mail: taylorwirt@gmail.com; Organized: 1999; Chartered: 1999; Joined MSFA: 1999. President: Roger Olsen, Vice President: Ernest Tilghman, Secretary: Linda Heller, Treasurer: Sue Nevins, Chaplain: Charles Bagley, Chief: Frank Lusk. Delegates: None listed 2018.

FAIRMOUNT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 395, 27407 Fairmount Road, Upper Fairmount, MD 21867; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-651-2888; E-mail: taylorwirt@gmail.com; Organized: 1999; Chartered: 1999; Joined MSFA: 1999. President: Roger Olsen, Vice President: Ernest Tilghman, Secretary: Linda Heller, Treasurer: Sue Nevins, Chaplain: Charles Bagley, Chief: Frank Lusk. Delegates: None listed 2018.

FALLSTON VOLUNTEER FIRE & AMBULANCE CO., - PO Box 141, 2201 Carrs Mill Road, Fallston, MD 21047;Harford County; Telephone: 410-638-4890, Fax: 410-638-4889; E-mail: chief@fvfac.org, Website:fvfac.org; Organized: 1974; Joined MSFA: 1974. President: Christopher Gibbons, Vice President: Robert Griffith, Secretary: Rachel Brush, Treasurer: Kim Weber, Chaplain: Mike Hayden, Chief: David Williams. Delegates: Hobart Howell, Christopher Gibbons, Ed Benesch, Cathy Pilachowski, Mark Pilachowski. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

FEDERALSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.- PO Box 99, 208 N. University Avenue, Federalsburg, MD 21632; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-754-7400; Organized: 1900; Chartered: 1926; Joined MSFA: 1921. President: Douglas Ramey, Vice President: Kevin Mowbray, Secretary: Susie Trader, Treasurer: Craig Ruf, Chaplain:, Chief: Steve Cox. Delegates: Kevin Mowbray, Wendell Merrick, Michael Robinson, Ken Trader, Susan Trader. Alternates: None listed 2018.

FERNDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.- 4 Broadview Boulevard South, Glen Burnie, MD 21061; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-761-2131, Fax: 410-768-0487; Website: www.fvfc34.org; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1943, Joined MSFA: 1946. President: John F. Long Jr, Vice President: Jon Johnson, Secretary: Stephanie Evans, Treasurer: Craig A. Biding, Chaplain: John Long, Chief: Jay Olson. Delegates: Jay Olson, Jackie Olson, John Long, Timothy Doegen, Joseph Wojtowycz. Alternates: Cliff Odenthal, Stephanie Evans, Tyler Olson, Jon Johnson.

FIFTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. –5000 Signal Bell Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029; Howard County; Telephone: 410-313-7215; E-mail: fpmarlett@mfri.org; Website: fdvfd.com; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1948. President: Miji Kim, Vice President: Carol Ann Stevens, Secretary: Edward Zepp IV, Treasurer: Roy Ferguson, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Patrick Marlatt. Delegates: Wendy Norwitz, Pat Puglisi, Ron Price, Aaron Brent, Brittany Jones. Alternates: Syllsa Tenbroek.

FIRST HAGERSTOWN HOSE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 4623, 33 South Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21742; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-3339, Fax: 301-791-3154; Website: engineone.org; Organized: 1815; Chartered: 1823; Joined MSFA: 1893. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018

FIRST HOSE COMPANY OF BOONSBORO, INC. - 5 St. Paul Street, Boonsboro, MD
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FORESTVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT #1, Inc. – 8321 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-736-7170, Fax: 301-736-5796; E-mail:chief5876@gmail.com; Organized:1931; Chartered:1931; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Jennifer Johnson, Vice President: William, Secretary: Jennifer Breen, Treasurer: Paul Thorne Jr., Chaplain: Mary, Chief: Robert Dickinson. Delegates: Jennifer Johnson, William, Robert Wilhite, Mark Worth, Keith O’Daniel. Alternates: Jeff Thorne, Paul Thorne, Jr., Jennifer Breen, Mary, Allison Worth.


FROSTBURG AREA AMBULANCE SERVICE –PO Box 75, 86 West Main Street, Frostburg MD 21532-0075; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-876-9155, E-mail: faas53@yahoo.com; Organized: 1975; Chartered: 1975; Joined MSFA: 2005. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018.

FROSTBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT #1, INC. – PO Box 461, 75 S. Water Street, Frostburg, MD 21532-0461; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-689-8444; Fax: 301-689-2938. E-mail ebladen@frostburgfd.com; Organized: 1878; Chartered: 1878; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: William Price, Vice President: Ronald Dugan, Secretary: Emily A. Bladen, Treasurer: Dayne Lancaster, Chaplain: Harry W. Foor, Chief: M Da;e Bladen. Delegates: William Price, Ronald Dugan, Dale Bladen, J. Matthew McMorran, Joseph Hoffman. Alternates: Emily Bladen, Joseph Brumage, Thomas Bevan, Brian Cosner, Robert Taylor.

FRUITLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 104 East Main Street, Fruitland, MD 21826; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-749-9421; Organized & Chartered: 1909. President: Gregory Twigg, Vice President: Curtis Kennedy, Secretary: Ed Leether, Treasurer: David Twilley, Chaplain: Mike White, Chief: Robin Townsend. Delegates: Gregory Twigg,
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Robin Townsend, Curtis Kennedy, Chris Twilley. Alternates: None submitted for 2018

FUNKSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 670, 2 South Westside Avenue, Funkstown, MD 21734; Washington County; Telephone: 301-790-0090, Fax: 301-739-5244; E-mail: dfraley@funktownfireco.org; Website: funkstownfireco.org; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1931. President: Gary Farrell, Vice President: Joey Royce, Secretary: Judith Ann Bowers, Treasurer: Joan Kotanko, Chaplain: Dan L. Fraley, Chief: Eric Fraley. Delegates: Edward Clopper, Jean Clopper, Dale Hill, Dave Harman, Linda Kendle. Alternates: None listed for 2018.

GAITHERSBURG-WASHINGTON GROVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 801 Russell Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20879; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-948-0660, Fax: 301-948-6836; E-mail: kvk2@juno.com; Website: gwgvfd.org; Organized: 1900; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Steve Hayes, Vice President: Angela Blom, Secretary: Kimberly Pellack, Treasurer: Garry Walker, Chaplain: Garry Walker, Chief: Ken Knopp. Delegates: Garry Walker, Chris Carlson, Kevin Younkins, Angela Blom, Angelica Kania. Alternates: Steve Hayes, Nelson Anderson, Devin Hunt, Cameron Faison, Robert Harding.

GALENA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 189, 90 East Cross Street, Galena, MD 21635; Kent County; Telephone: 410-648-5050, Fax: 410-648-5907; Website: galenvfc.org; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1942; Joined MSFA: 1942. President: Jeffrey Haley, Vice President: Tyler Bisbee, Secretary: Matt Bryant, Treasurer: Ethel K. Duhamell, Chaplain: Larry Hanifee, Chief: Chris Powell. Delegates: Richard Powell, Chris Powell, Joyce Powell, Robin Powell, Ashley Argoe. Alternates: Jeffrey Haley, Missie Haley, Matt Bryant, Brittney Bryant, Paul Berlen.

GALESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 174, 954 Main Street, Galesville, MD 20765-0174; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-867-1521. President: Nathaniel C. Scotten IV, Vice President: Raymond Hardesty Sr, Secretary: Gladys Sears, Treasurer: Albert P. Bembe, Chief: Terry McAllister. Delegates: Nathaniel Scotten IV, Raymond Hardesty Sr, Terry McAllister, Ronald Wood, Matthew Zang. Alternates: Carol Sherbert.

GAMBER & COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 3838 Niner Road, Finksburg, MD 21048; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-795-3445 Fax: 410-795-0208; E-mail: info@gambervfd.org Website: gambervfd.org; Organized: 1964; Chartered: 1964; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: Michael Franklin, Vice President: Dale Bollinger, Secretary: Jeannie Green, Treasurer: Susan Sullivan, Chaplain: Art Frotton, Chief: Charlie Green. Delegates: Michael Franklin, Dale Bollinger, Charlie Green, Dennis Leppert, Emily Franklin. Alternates: Frank Smith, Chad Hastings.

GEORGE’S CREEK AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC. – PO Box 155, 19 Union Street, Lonaconing, MD 21539-0155; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-463-6122 Fax: 301-463-6172; Organized: 1977; Chartered: 1977. President: Robert D. Knox, Vice President: Harold Nicol, Secretary: Jennifer Knox, Treasurer: James W. Dawson Sr, Chaplain: Vacant.
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Girdletree Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. – PO Box 25, 2739 Snow Hill Road, Girdletree, MD 21829; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-632-2128, Fax: 410-632-5664; E-mail: info@girdletree.org Website: www.girdletree.org; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: John Merritt, Vice President: Robert Schrieves, Secretary: Raye Ellen Thomas, Treasurer: Jeff McMahon, Chaplain: Ralph Carman, Chief: Joe Truitt. Delegates: Virgil Dukes, Kenny Dukes, John Merritt, Joe Truitt, Mike Bradford. Alternates: None Listed.

Glen Burnie Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. – PO Box 1268, 15 Central Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD 21061; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 443-336-9378; E-mail: gdicus@verizon.net Website: gbvfd.org; Organized: 1922; Chartered: 1922; Joined MSFA: 1923. President: Thomas Nevin Jr, Vice President: Patrick Reilly, Secretary: Michelle Davis, Treasurer: Paul Cogswell, Chaplain: Thomas Nevin Jr, Chief: Robert Galante. Delegates: Thomas Nevin Jr, Paul McGinnis, Robert Galante, Patrick Kelly, Kevin Vaught. Alternates: William Hagedorn, Tori Hagedorn, Kevin Reilly, Craig O’Donnell, Chris Younger.


Glen Echo Fire Department, Inc. – 5920 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20816; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-229-3200; Website: www.gefd.org; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1932; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: John Witherspoon, Vice President: Jane Callen, Secretary: Adele Seifried, Treasurer: John Hardison, Chaplain: Herb Leusch, Chief: Jane Callen. Delegates: Herb Leusch, John Witherspoon. Alternates: None Listed 2018. See Conduit Road Fire Board/Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Department.

Glyndon Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. – 4812 Butler Road, Glyndon, MD 21071; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-833-1262; Website: GVFD40.org; Organized: 1904; Chartered: 1904. President: Susan Bollinger, Vice President: Paul Wilhelm, Secretary: Richard Cole, Treasurer: Doug Wolfenden, Chaplain: Joan Wolfenden, Chief:

GOLDSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 35, 700 Old Line Road, Goldsboro, MD 21636; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-482-6196; E-mail goldsborofirecompany@yahoo.com; Website: goldsboro700.com; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1948.  President: Joel T. McGinnes III, Vice President: Ron Dixon, Secretary: Shelly Gray, Treasurer: Jody Lucket, Chaplain: Pastor Doug Morley, Chief: Julius Bartz.  Delegates: Ron Dixon, Shelly Gray, J T Bartz Jr, Joel McGinnes III, Chrissy Bartz.  Alternates: Jody Lucket, Brian Cahall, Courtney Morean, Amanda Squires, Wayne Durham.

GOODWILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 212 Broadway Street, Centreville, MD 21617; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-758-1422; E-mail: aaronslabs@verizon.net; Organized 1889, Chartered 1889.  President: Raymond C. Aaron Sr., Vice President: TJ Palmatary, Secretary: T Parry, Treasurer: J Brown, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Ken Bloodsworth.  Delegates: Dan Tabler, Floyd Kauffman.  Alternates: None Listed 2018.


GORMAN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 270 Gorman Road, Oakland, MD 21550; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-334-1600 Fax: 301-334-1600; E-mail: co120@gc911.org; Joined MSFA: 1953.  President: Dan Tichnell, Vice President: Greg Tichnell, Secretary: Jennifer Landis, Treasurer: Sue Steyer, Chaplain: Stuart Harvey, Chief: Johnny Mayne.  Delegates: Johnny Mayne, Dan Tichnell.  Alternates: None Listed.

GRACEHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 181, 14026 Graceham Road, Thurmont, MD 21788; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-271-2000; E-mail: electronicaddictions@msn.com; Organized: 1963; President: Louis Powell Jr., Vice President: Gary Kelly, Secretary: Julie Durgan, Treasurer: Sterling Seiss, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: James Kilby.  Delegates: Gary Keller, Valaria Kirby, Nancy Keller, Brian Boller, Louie Powell.  Alternates: Hilary Blake, Chuck Farkas, Jean Main, Warren Main, Carol Boller.

GRANTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 248, 178 Springs Road, Grantsville, MD 21536; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-895-5200, Fax: 301-895-3720; E-mail: steve.smith.em2@gmail.com; Organized: 1930; President: Stephen Smith, Vice President: Keith Durst, Secretary: Menno Yoder, Treasurer: Herman Yoder, Chaplain: Raymond D. Yoder, Chief: Duane Stein.  Delegates: John Vought, Anthony Bittinger, Keith Durst, Todd Dyche, Steve Miller. Alternates: Stephen Smith, Brandon Downton, Bob Downton, Jerry Orner, Greg Trumpower.

GRASONVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 457, 4128 Main Street,
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Grasonville, MD 21638; Queen Anne's County; Telephone: 410-827-8100; Website: www.gvfd2.com, E-mail: tsheahan02@aol.com; Organized: 1958; Joined MSFA: 1960. President: Matt Coursey, Vice President: John Werkheiser, Secretary: Laura Marvel, Treasurer: Phyllis Black, Chaplain: John Rediger, Chief: Jason Anthony. Delegates: Troy Tilghman, Jason Anthony, Steve McCombs, Tim Daly, Matt Coursey. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 125 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1804; Prince George's County; Telephone: 301-345-7000, Fax: 301-345-2235; E-mail: t.ray@verizon.net Website: engine35.com; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1927. President: John Wynkoop, Vice President: Brian Rudy, Secretary: Wayne L. Lewis, Treasurer: Lawrence E. Hughes, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Thomas Ray. Delegates: Wayne Lewis, Lawrence E. Hughes, Ashley R. Kozlowski, Gregory Gigliotti, Thomas Ray. Alternates: None Listed.

GREENSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 307, 116 North Main Street, Greensboro, MD 21639; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-271-3413, Fax: 410-271-4990; E-mail: rcovert67@comcast.net Website: greensborovfc.com; Organized: 1927; Chartered: 1927. President: Chris Hammer, Vice President: William Bradley, Secretary: Jim Bruce, Treasurer: Vacant, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Jim Bruce, Danny Bruce. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

GUARDIAN HOSE COMPANY, INC. – 21 North Church Street, Thurmont, MD 21788; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-876-8308; E-mail: guardianhose@verizon.net Website: guardianhose.org; Organized: 1887; Chartered: 1934. President: Wayne Stackhouse, Vice President: Terry Frushour, Secretary: Lori Brown, Treasurer: Beverly Frushour, Chief: Chris Kinnaird, Chaplain: James Hamrick. Delegates: Clarence White, Terry Frushour, Wayne Stackhouse, Chris Kinnaird.


HAMPSTEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE ENGINE & HOSE CO. NO. 1, INC. – P.O. Box 231, 1341 North Main Street, Hampstead, MD 21074; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-239-0523; Website: hampsteadvfd.org; Organized: 1899; Chartered: 1900. President: Kenny Ruby, Vice President: Michael Smith, Secretary: Gary Wheeler, Treasurer: Andrew Smith, Chaplain: Susan Fleming, Chief: Nick Thompson. Delegates: Kenny Ruby, Gerald Lynott, Mike Smith, Brenda Perry, Gary Wheeler. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

HANCOCK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 3 Fulton Street, Hancock, MD 21750; Washington County; Telephone: 301-678-7739, Fax: 301-678-7755; Website: www.hancockfire5.com; Organized: 1928; Chartered: 1928. President: Rick Rowe, Vice

HANCOCK RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 6 East Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750; Washington County; Telephone: 301-678-6774, Fax: 301-678-5399, E-mail: washcofp53@gmail.com; Chartered: 1969; Joined MSFA: 1998. President: Scott Buskirk, Vice President: Ernie Truax, Secretary: Beth Buskirk, Treasurer: Debbie Cohill, Chaplain: Debbie Cohill, Chief: Stephen Barnhart. Delegates: Stephen Barnhart, Ernie Truax, Mary Barnhart, Mike Stewart, Josh Unger. Alternates: Tim Ward, Scott Buskirk.

HARNEY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 5130 Harney Road, Taneytown, MD 21787; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-756-6464; Website: harneyfire.org; Organized: 1951; Chartered: 1951; Joined MSFA: 1958. President: James Waybright, Vice President: Charlie Blocher, Secretary: Richard Yingling, Treasurer: Leonard Bowers, Chaplain: Jennings Martin, Chief: Donald Yingling Sr. Delegates: None Listed 2018. Alternates: None Listed.


HEBRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 300, 200 South Main Street, Hebron, MD 21803; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-749-3037, Fax: 410-749-0511; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1937. President: Johnathon Blake, Vice President: Jake Travers, Secretary: Kyle Cole, Treasurer: Greg Howard, Chaplain: Charles Smith, Chief: David Beach. Delegates: David Beach, Jake Travers, Jonathan Blake. Alternates: Greg Howard, Kyle Cole.


HEREFORD VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION, INC. – PO Box 262, 901 Monkton Road, Monkton, MD 21111; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1935, Fax: 410-887-1935; E-mail: info@herefordemsrescue.org; Website: hvaa.org; Organized: 1952; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1955. President: Paul Tice, Vice President: John Fausto, Secretary: Victoria Schwatka, Treasurer: Nancy Aiken, Chaplain: Dave Crow, Chief: Daniel Burke. Delegates: Richard Bilger Sr, Edwina Bilger, David Crow, Walt Myers, Darlene
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Jones. Alternates: Paul Tice, John Fausto, Victoria Schwatka, Nancy Aiken, Dan Burke.

HEREFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 510 Monkton Road, Monkton, MD 21111; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1934; Website: herefordfire.org; Organized: 1924; Chartered: 1924; Joined MSFA: 1926. President: Ronald Campion, Vice President: Sue Croft Secretary: Charles Frederick, Treasurer: Christina Berkey, Chaplain: Keith Peters, Chief: Kenneth Bollinger. Delegates: Ronald Campion, Kenneth Bollinger, Herbert Taylor, Susan Croft, Christina Berkey. Alternates: Deborah Campion, Chris Klapaska, Greg Leyko, Chuck Frederick, Richard Bilger.

HILLANDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 10617 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20903; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-434-2403; E-mail: hvfdmail@yahoo.com Website: hvfd.org; Organized: 1941; Chartered: 1941; Joined MSFA: 1941. President: Russell S. Hartung, Vice President: John G. Bork, Secretary: Betty J. Phiefer, Treasurer: Earl Clime, Chief: Mike McAdams. Delegates: Russell S. Hartung, Mark Lamb, Frank Gaegiler, Earl Clime, Nyron Honeywell. Alternates: NONE LIDTED 2018.


HOOPERS ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 125, 2756 Hoopers Island Road, Fishing Creek, MD 21634; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-397-3311; Email: hivfc@safe.quik.com; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1956. President: Mark Flowers, Vice President: Cindy Paul, Secretary: Teresa Flowers, Treasurer: Rosemary Dean, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Rick Yinger. Delegates: Rick Yinger, Tina Yinger, Mark Flowers, Rosemary Dean, Teresa Flowers. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

HUGHESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 15245 Prince Frederick Road, Hughesville, MD 20637; Charles County; Telephone: 301-274-4488, Fax: 301-274-9729; E-mail: irose@hvfdems.org Website:www.hvfdems.org Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1946. President: Michael Roberts, Vice President: Phillip Canter, Secretary: Thomas Hoffman, Treasurer: Patty Therres, Chief: Scott Herbert.
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Delegates: James Harris, Mike Roberts, Phillip Canter, Beverly Jarboe, Scott Herbert. Alternates: Patty Therres.

HUNTINGTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 482, 4030 Old Town Road, Huntingtown, MD 20639; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-3331; E-mail president@hvfd6.org Website: www.hvfd6.org; Organized: 1972; Chartered: 1972. President: Jason Jones, Vice President: Charles Hardesty, Secretary: Kaitlyn Rogers, Treasurer: Jeff Burroughs, Chaplain: Larry Patin, Chief: Michael Clark. Delegates: Jason Jones, Charles Hardesty, Dale Bowen, Michael Clark, Robert Small. Alternates: Kaitlyn Rogers, Mike Montgomery Sr, Michael Gaylor, Wayne Ward Jr, Paul Robison.

HURLOCK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 178, 300 Charles Street, Hurlock, MD 21643; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-943-3110, Fax 410-943-4355; Website: Hurlock.firedept@comcast.net; Organized: 1924; Chartered: 1936; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: John Stichberry Jr, Vice President: Brian Tolley, Secretary: Jane Coulbourne, Treasurer: Ward Higgins II, Chaplain, Chief: Jason Trego. Delegates: Gene Aaron, Bobbie Aaron, Jerry Rhue. Alternates: Marlon Parker.

HYATTSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 6200 Belcrest Road, Clarksburg, MD 21702; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-831-8499, Fax: 301-831-8901; E-mail: hyattstownfire@yahoo.com Website: hyattstownvfd.org; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Thomas Falcone, Vice President: David Iannone, Secretary: Nova Johns, Treasurer: Jon Hoerner, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Dave Hang. Delegates: Thomas Falcone, Dave Iannone, Nova Johns, Kevin King, Dave Hang. Alternates: Bill Moran, Ryan Pidgeon, Josh Wortman.

HYATTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 6200 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-927-5770, E-mail: hyattsvillesq1@yahoo.com Website: www.hvfd.com; Organized: 1888. President: Thomas Falcone, Vice President: David Iannone, Secretary: Nova Johns, Treasurer: Jon Hoerner, Chaplain, Chief: Dave Hang. Delegates: Thomas Falcone, Dave Iannone, Kevin King, Nova Johns, Dave Hang. Alternates: Bill Moran, Ryan Pidgeon, Josh Wortman, Andy Levy.


INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY No. 2, INC. – PO Box 1884, 620 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis MD 21404; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-757-1494; E-mail: rchambers@chamberscontracting.com Website: www.hvfd.com; Chartered: 1838. President: Reginald B. Chambers, Vice President: Thomas M. Newquist Sr., Secretary: James D. Powell, Treasurer: George D. Clark III, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Thomas Newquist Sr, William Hollidayoke, Thomas Newquist Jr. Alternates: George D. Clark III.

INDEPENDENT HOSE CO. No. 1, INC. - 310 Baughmans Lane, Frederick, MD 21702;
Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-9010; E-mail: crehandley@verizon.net; Website: ihc#1.org; Organized: 1818; Chartered: 1839; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Scott Shorrow, Vice President: Kevin Ausherman/Charles Handley, Secretary: Kayla Shorrow, Treasurer: April Ausherman, Chaplain: Tim May, Chief: Brian Grossnickle. Delegates: Clarence Rinehart, Walt Cramer, Virginia Rinehart, Walter Cramer, Chuck Handley. Alternates: None Listed.


INDIAN HEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. - 4095 Indian Head Highway, Indian Head, MD 20640; Charles County; Telephone: 301-753-9400; Fax: 301-753-6130; Website:ihvfd@aol.com; Organized:1948; Chartered:1975; Joined MSFA: 1951. President: Richard Bowie, Vice President: Donald Chappell, Secretary: Molly Valentine, Treasurer: Larry Johnson, Chaplain: MikeO’Neil, Chief: Jeffrey Williams. Delegates: Richard Bowie, Jeffrey Williams, Mike O’Neil, Wayne Higdon. Alternates: Joanna Simpson.


JARRETTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 7, 3825 Federal Hill Road, Jarrettsville, MD 21084; Harford County; Telephone: 410-692-7890 Fax: 410-692-7896; Website: jarrettsvillevf.com; Organized: 1929; Chartered: 1929; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Stephen Lancaster, Vice President: Ben Kurtz, Secretary: Denessa Fruhling, Treasurer: Laura Barwick, Chaplain: Terrence Murphy, Chief: Bryan Schulz. Delegates: Benjamin W. Kurtz, W. Mitchell Vocke, James Bair, Ernie Tracey, Thomas Fruhling.
Alternates: None Listed.

JEFFERSON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 578, 4603A Lander Road, Jefferson, MD 21755; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-473-5150, Fax: 301-473-9789; E-mail: aclakin20@comcast.net; Website: jvfc20.com; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1960; Joined MSFA: 1970. President: David Remsburg, Vice President: Ronald Ahalt, Secretary: Ashley Crum, Treasurer: Susan Corun, Chaplain: George Guard, Chief: Thomas Lakin. Delegates: David Remsburg, Thomas Lakin, Lesle Hainline, Michael Ambrose, Ronald Ahalt. Alternates: Michael Rimel, Mark Lakin, James Lakin, Richard Zecher, David Snyder.

JESSUP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 146, 7891 Blob’s Park Road, Jessup, MD 20794; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-799-1314; E-mail: smaceiko@mfrf.org, Website: jessupvfd.org; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Mark Hartz, Vice President: Dorothy Anderson, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: Kathryn Morgan; Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Stephan Maceiko. Delegates: Dorothy Anderson, Stephen Maceiko Jr, Brian Henrichon, Theresa Winklemeyer. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.

JOPPA MAGNOLIA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 1403 Old Mountain Road South, Joppa, MD 21085; Harford County; Telephone: 410-679-1055; Website: jmvfc.org; Organized: 1951; Chartered:1951; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: Danny Adkins, Vice President: Lewis Brown Jr, Secretary: Ron Sollos, Treasurer: Susan Derlunas, Chaplain: Margaret Bullock, Chief: Bill Vanarsdale Jr. DelegatesBill Lay Sr. Alternates: Lewis Brown Jr.


KENSINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 222, 10620 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-929-8000 Fax: 301-929-8008, E-mail: firechief@kvfd.org, Website:kvfd.org; Organized: 1894; Chartered: 1925; Joined MSFA: 1923. President: Sajad Ali, Vice President:, Secretary:, Treasurer:, Chaplain:, Chief: Jayme M. Hefflin. Delegates: NONE LISTED. Alternates: Arthur
Hawkins, Andrew White.


KENT-QUEEN ANNE’S RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 126, 140 Morgnec Road, Chestertown, MD 21620; Kent County; Telephone: 410-778-4495, Fax: 410-810-0346; E-Mail: mddecoy12@hotmail.com; Website: kentrescuesquad.com; Organized: 1961; Chartered: 1961. President: Allan Schauber, Vice President: Robert Coleman, Secretary: Mary Grussing, Chaplain: Kevin Kerr. Chief: Allan Schauber. Delegates: Allan W. Schauber, Kevin Kerr, Larry Hastings, Kathy Hastings, William Lobley. Alternates: Maurice King, Alex Dolgos, Robert Coleman, Jason Lobley, Bruce Owens.


KINGSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 65, 11804 Bellvue Avenue, Kingsville, MD 21087; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-5773 Fax; Website: kvfc.com; E-mail: swfth2o48@aol.com; Organized: 1954; Chartered: 1954; Joined MSFA: 1957. President: Robert Chaney, Vice President: Stephen Belkoff, Secretary: Scott Taylor, Treasurer: Victoria Clayton, Chaplain: Ronald Cassett Sr., Chief: Captain Donald Coster. Delegates: Jeff Webb. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.

KITZMILLER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 438, 249 East Main Street, Kitzmiller, MD 21538; Garrett County; Telephone:301-616-3007;E-mail: paugh@ymail.com Website: kvfd70.org; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1932; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Sharon Paugh, Vice President: James A. Browning Jr., Secretary: Missi Nesselrod, Treasurer: Ronnie Bray Jr., Chaplain: Kirsten Welch, Chief: Shawn Nesselrod. Delegates: Sharon Paugh, Missi Nesselrod, Justin Nesselrod, Jim Browning Jr, Kirsten Welch. Alternates: Shawn Nesselrod.

LA PLATA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 728, 911 Washington Avenue, LaPlata, MD 20646-0728; Charles County; Telephone: 301-934-9201 Fax:301-934-4217; E-mail: president@laplatafiredepartment.com Website: laplatafiredepartment.com; Organized: 1929; Chartered: 1929; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Matthew Gilroy, Vice President: Israel Burch, Secretary: Mary E. Gilroy, Treasurer: Lynn D. Gilroy, Chaplain: Joseph Gardiner Jr, Chief: Jason Moore. Delegates: Matthew Gilroy, William A. Frazier, Lynn D. Gilroy, Mary Gilroy, Tommy Swann. Alternates: Michael Furman, Stephan Shahan.
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Jason Moore.

**LAKE SHORE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 1057, 4498 Mountain Road, Pasadena, MD 21122; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-255-2401; E-mail: achall20@aol.com Website: www.lsvfc.org; Organized: 1940; Chartered: 1941. Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Melvin Clark, Vice President: Michelle Bell, Secretary: Tina Wright, Treasurer: Debbie Kartub, Chaplain: Annette Hall, Chief: Timothy Hall Sr. Delegates: Michelle Bell, Mary Bell. Alternates: None Listed.

**LAKES & STRAITS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – 2103 Farm Creek Road, Wingate, MD 21675; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-397-8154; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: Carl Willey, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary: Lesli Wilson, Chaplain: Scott Wilson, Chief: Debbie Hayward. Delegates: None Listed. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018.

**LANDOVER HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC.** – PO Box 2357, 6801 Webster Street, Hyattsville, MD 20784; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-7730; E-mail: jroberts@co.pg.md.us Website: eng30ine.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1947. President: Dawn M. Rowe, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary/Treasurer: Nancy L. Roberts, Chaplain, Chief: John R. Roberts. Delegates: John R. Roberts, Dawn M. Rowe, Nancy L. Roberts. Alternates: Christopher M. Saputo.

**LANSDOWNE VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION #1, INC.** – PO Box 7374, 140 Lavere Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21227; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1472; E-mail: cao360@bcvfa.org Website www.lansdownevfd.com; Organized: 1902. President: Michael Sparks, Vice President: John Purkey, Secretary: Britni Sparks, Treasurer: Valerie Gill, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Doug Brinkley. Delegates: Michael Sparks, Doug Brinkley, John Purkey, Bernard Smith, Lee Buffington. Alternates: Joe McDevitt, Edward Lindsay, Donald Riley, Mike May, Ronald Imbragulio.

**LAUREL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT #1, INC.** – PO Box 699, 7411 Cherry Lane, Laurel, MD 20725; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-776-3600, Fax: 301-776-2026; E-mail: chief@laurelvfd.org Website: www.laurelvfd.org; Organized: 1902; Chartered: 1902; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: Victor Whipple, Vice President: Robert Grant, Secretary: Mike Sellner, Treasurer: Rosa Maher, Chaplain: Hubert Litchfield, Chief: Travis Pearcy. Delegates: Joseph Robison, Victor Whipple, Robert Craig Moe. Alternates: Dave Ballard, Robin Scaggs, Kevin Frost.

**LAUREL VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC.** – PO Box 1278, 14910 Bowie Road, Laurel, MD 20708; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-604-5055, Fax: 301-725-0654; E-mail: barry.Johnson@laurelrescue.org Website: laurelrescue.org; Organized: 1952; Chartered: 1952; Joined MSFA: 1978. President: Michael Skidmore, Vice President: Richard Sien, Secretary: Richard Walker, Treasurer: Pam Docarmo, Chaplain, Rajah Rose, Chief: Michael Haggerty. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018. Delegates: None Listed.
LAVAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 421 National Highway, LaVale, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-777-0871; E-mail: rreichert2@yahoo.com; Organized: 1933; Chartered: 1933. President: Kimberly Pryor, Vice President: Edward Kidwell, Secretary: Kimberly C. Reichert, Treasurer: James Brant Jr, Chaplain: Eugene Williams, Chief: Ryan N. Reichert. Delegates: James Cook, Jr Kimberly Pryor. Alternates: None Listed.

LAVAL VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 3343, 977 National Highway, LaVale, MD 21504-3343; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-729-4458 Fax:301-729-8191; E-mail: adam.m.miller@lavalerscue.org Website: lavalerescue.org; Organized: 1969; Chartered. President: Dianne Shoemaker, Vice President: Timothy Thomas, Secretary: Pamela DeVore, Treasurer: Scott C. Whetsell, Chaplain: Dale Evans, Chief: Robert May. Delegates: Dianne Shoemaker, Timothy Thomas, Pamela DeVore, Scott Whetsell, Robert May. Alternates: Dale Evans, Kenneth May, Kelly Burkey, Carol Friend, Kristina Whetsell.

LAYTONSVILLE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 21400 Laytonsville Road, Laytonsville, MD 20882; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-948-1677; Fax: 301-948-8227 E-mail: Gregory.albrecht@montgomerycountymd.gov Website: ldvfd.org; Organized: 1952; Chartered: 1952, Joined MSFA: 1958. President: Michael Eanes, Vice President: Wilson Russ, Secretary: Chris Whitting, Treasurer: Murphy Richards, Chaplain: Clark Beall, Chief: Kirk Mongan. Delegates: Milton Bloom III. Alternates: None listed 2018.


LEONARDTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 50, 22733 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown, MD 20650; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-475-8996, Fax: 301-475-5850; E-mail: tjrmattingly@lvfd1.org. Website: lvfd1.org; Organized: 1928; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1929. President: Thomas A. Mattingly Jr., Vice President: Gary S. Bell, Secretary: John K. Mattingly, Treasurer: George Kalnasy Jr, Chaplain, Chief: John Trossbach. Delegates: Kenneth J. Scully, Thomas A. Mattingly Sr, Thomas A. Trossbach, Carl B. Scully, John K. Mattingly. Alternates: E. Gerald Gardiner Jr, Thomas A. Mattingly Jr, William Watts, Robert Lee Trossbach.

LEONARDTOWN VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 299, 22855 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown, MD 20650; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-475-8509, Fax: 301-475-1825; E-mail: president@lvrs.org, Website: lvrs.org; Organized: 1975; Chartered: 1975, Joined MSFA: 19. President: Peter Woodburn, Vice President: David Wright, Secretary: Melissa Persaini, Treasurer: Jaime Weber, Chaplain: Michael Overs, Chief: Kevin Steckowski. Delegates: Mary Della Trossbach, David Wright, Amy Smith.
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LEVEL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 3633 Level Village Road, Havre De Grace, MD 21078; Harford County; Telephone: 410-638-3826; Fax: ; E-mail: kelopes@comcast.net; Website: levelvfc.com; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1954. President: Sandra M Gallion, Vice President: Charles D. Burkins, Secretary: Karen E. Lopes, Treasurer: Sharon Worthington, Chaplain: Diana Caudill, Chief: Nolan Gallion Jr. Delegates: Sandra Gallion, Charles Burkins, Nolan Gallion Jr, Herman Schweers, Mike Deckard. Alternates: Pat Ely, Mary Schweers.

LEWISTOWN DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 11101 Hessong Bridge Road, Frederick, MD 21701; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-898-9988; Website: lewistownfire.org; Organized:1970. President: Scott Martin; Vice President: Scott Stonesifer; Secretary: Karen Stull; Treasurer: Lena Stull; Chaplain: Scott Martin, Chief: Wayne Watcher. Delegates: Vicky Martin, Donald Martin, Wayne Wachter Jr, Scott Martin, Karen Stull. Alternates: None listed 2018.

LEXINGTON PARK VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 339, 21685 FDR Boulevard, Lexington Park, MD 20653; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-862-3331; Email: president@lpvrs.org Website: lpvrs.org; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1986. President: Pat Davidson, Vice President: Leanne Hicks, Secretary: David Miedzinski, Treasurer: Tracey Byrne, Chaplain: Greg Sylvester, Chief: Shawn Davidson. Delegates: NON LISTED 2018. Alternates.


LIBERTYTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 33, 12027 South Street, Libertytown, MD 21762; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-898-9193; E-mail: daniel.p.more@gmail.com; Organized:1964; Chartered:1964; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: Clarence Chip Jewell, Vice President: Mark Vassallo, Secretary: Brittney Lowman, Treasurer: Richard Hemp, Chaplain, Chief: Philip. Delegates: Chip Jewell, Mike Naill, Doug Welsh, Larrie Welsh, Marty Fuller. Alternates: John Lowman, Ryan Fuller, Thomas Fuller, Nick Rippeon, Ken Rippeon.

LINEBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 4224 Main Street, Lineboro, MD 21102-3125; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-374-2197, Fax: 410-374-9254; Website: lineborovfd.org; Organized: 1915; Chartered: 1919; Joined MSFA: 1915. President: Joe Lankford, Vice President: John Krebs IV, Secretary: Patricia Alexander, Treasurer: Bette Sheperd, Chaplain: Linas Saurusaitis, Chief: Kevin Kidd. Delegates: Marianne Warehime, Linda Saurusaitis, Matt Burgan, Mike Buckley, Nathan Saurusaitis. Alternates: NONE
LISTED 2018.


**LISBON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 40, 1330 Woodbine Road, Lisbon, MD 21765; Howard County; Telephone: 410-489-4646; Fax: 410-489-7632; E-mail: dws8364@gmail.com; Website: lisbonvfc.org; Organized: 1944; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Curtis Lowrey, Vice President: Donald Bowman, Secretary: Christopher Bowman, Treasurer: Simone Rockstroh, Chaplain: Lisa Bandel, Chief: Carey McIntosh. Delegates: Ivan Betancourt, Carey McIntosh, Tommy Esworthy, Eric McIntosh, Paul Atwill. Alternates: Dean Smith, Helen Blair-Davis.

**LLOYDS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 1499, 1616 Hudson Road, Cambridge, MD 21613; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-228-6235; E-mail mpepper@pupinc.com; Organized: 1958; Chartered: 1958; Joined MSFA: 1963. President: Randy Travers, Vice President: Rick Travers Jr., Secretary: Linda Horsman, Treasurer: Melissa Meredith, Chaplain, Chief: Martin Pepper. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018

**LONG GREEN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 4009, 4506 Long Green Road, Glen Arm, MD 21057; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-592-8337, Fax: 410-592-5776; Website: lgvfc.com; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1930. Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Joel McCrea, Vice President: Richard Eyre, Secretary: Anna Clarkson, Treasurer: Amber Butcher, Chaplain, Chief: Ronald Harrison Sr. Delegates: Richard Eyre, Joel McCrea, Greg Stolins, Amy Eyre, Ron Harrison Sr. Alternates: Sharon Eyre, Bill Delcher, Katie Eyre, Brad West, Matt Tirocchi.

**LONG MEADOW VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY** – 19307 Longmeadow Road, (13524 Marsh Pike) Hagerstown, MD 21742; Telephone: 301-797-5504; Email: fireco27@aol.com. Website: www.longmeadowfire.com; Organized: 1970. President: Brian Pile, Vice President: John Latimer IV, Secretary: Terry Martin, Treasurer: Pat McCleary, Chaplain: Carol Mazzola, Chief: Jason Eckstine. Delegates: Joe Kroboth, Jason Eckstine, Carol Mazzola, Brian Pile. Alternates: None listed 2018.


**LUKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 236, Westernport, MD 21562; 300 Grant Street, Luke, MD 21540; Allegany County; Telephone 301-359-3311x3240; Email;
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LUTHERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 232, 1609 Bellona Avenue, Lutherville, MD 21094; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7778, Fax: 410-252-3099; E-mail: jbkakel@comcast.net; Website: lvfc.com; Organized: 1909; Chartered: 1909. President: Michael L. Huber, Vice President: James Handy, Secretary: Janet M. O’Rourke, Treasurer: Josh Kakel; Chaplain: Chief: Vacant. Delegates: James Cahn, Michael L. Huber, Mark Goodwin, Lewis Smith Sr, Dante Alfone. Alternates: James Dorn, Janet O’Rourke, Josh Kakel, James Handy, Joseph Murphy.


MANCHESTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 416, 3209 Main Street, Manchester, MD 21102; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-239-2286; Organized: 1885; Chartered: 1885; Joined MSFA: 1885. President: Richard Dell, Vice President: Elwin Wagner, Secretary: Ralph Dull, Treasurer: Corrie Sander, Chaplain: Vacant; Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Ralph Dull, Richard Dell, Elwin Wagner, Gary Eppley, Lauren Pirchalski. Alternates: Alviun Renoll, Malcolm Helwig.

MAREDELA SPRINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 299, 100 Station Street, Mardela Springs, MD 21837; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-749-5997 Fax: 443-944-0549; Organized: 1927; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Jackie Maddox Jr, Vice President: Brandon Hooper, Secretary: Bryan Hooper, Treasurer: David Whitelock, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Doug Jones. Delegates: Issac White, Brandon Hooper, Bryan Hooper, David Whitelock. Alternates: None Listed.


MARLBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 195, 14815 Pratt Street, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-952-0938; Fax: 301-952-8942; E-mail: mvfdcc20@aol.com Website: marlborofire.com; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1928; Joined MSFA: 1931. President: Donald Strine, Vice President: Jeffrey Beavers, Secretary: Heather Bivens, Treasurer: Eric Van Tassel, Chaplain: Kenneth

MARYDEL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – P.O. Box 400, 110 Firehouse Lane, Marydel, DE 21649, Caroline County; Telephone: 302-492-1965; Organized: 1940; Chartered: 1940; Joined MSFA: 1940. President: Randy Barr, Vice President: William Lepore, Secretary: Debbie Madden, Treasurer: Melanie McClement, Chaplain, Chief: Gary Madden. Delegates: Les States, Justin Madden, Randy Barr. Alternates: None listed 2018.

MARYLAND CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC. - 3498 Fort Meade Road, Laurel, MD 20724; Anne Arundel County; Telephone 301-222-8227; Website: mcvfd.org; Organized: 1969; Chartered: 1970. President: Ray Smallwood, Vice President: Joshua Strenger, Secretary: Casey Green, Treasurer: Stephanie Stoler, Chaplain, Chief: Brian Strickland. Delegates: Joshua Strenger, Heather Bosson. Alternates: None listed 2018.

MARYLAND LINE FIRE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION – PO Box 70, 21631 York Road, Maryland Line, MD 21105; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1932; Fax: 410-343-0906; E-mail: co450@bcvfa.org; Website: marylandlinefire.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1943. Joined MSFA: 1945. President: Robert Pearce, Vice President: Edward Pearce, Secretary: Carolyn Rosier, Treasurer: Rebecca Tyrell, Chaplain: Gladys Pearce, Chief: Steve Pearce. Delegates: Robert Pearce, Edward Pearce, Carolyn Rosier, Linda Schmalzer. Alternates: John Rosier, William Schmalzer.

MAUGANSVILLE GOODWILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 716, 13730 Maugansville Road, Maugansville, MD 21767-0716; Washington County; Telephone: 301-739-8515; Fax:301-739-8516; E-mail: mgvfc@myactv.net Website: mgvfc.com. Organized: 1928; Chartered: 1930. President: Phil Ridenour, Vice President: Stephanie Garrett, Secretary: Jill Webb, Treasurer: Heather Ridenour, Chaplain: Leonard Horst, Chief: Mark Miller. Delegates: Kelly Aldridge, Floyd Aldridge, Amber Aldridge. Alternates: Derek Bish, Phil Ridenour.

MECHANICSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 37, 28165 Hills Club Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-884-4709 Fax: 301-884-4139; E-mail president@mvfd.com Website www.mvfd.com; Organized: 1934; Chartered: 1937; Joined MSFA: 1937. President: John Montgomery, Vice President: Dennis Bellevou, Secretary: Daren Kleinsorgen, Treasurer: Tommy Kidwell, Chaplain, Chief: Mark Trowbridge. Delegates: William Wilkerson, John Montgomery, Paul Colonna, Scott Bellevou, David Sampson. Alternates: Andy McWilliams, Harold Anderson, Larry Greenwell, Theresa Palmer, Bobby Johnson.

MECHANICSVILLE VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 15, 28120 Old Flora Corner Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-884-2900; Website: www.co29.org; Organized: 1959; Chartered: 1959; Joined MSFA 1990. President: James Breeden, Vice President: Kathy Suite, Secretary: Diane Mangel,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


MIDDLEBOROUGH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 16634, 1913 Middleborough Road, Essex, MD 21221; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-686-0214; E-mail: cao230@bcvf0326a.org; Website: www.23fire.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1946. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018.

MIDDLETOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY – PO Box 322, 13 South Church Street, Middletown, MD 21769; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-371-6907, Fax: 301-371-8986; E-mail: president@middletownvfd.org Website: middletownvfd.org; Organized: 1895; Chartered: 1935; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Richard Keyser Sr, Vice President: Christopher Ayers, Secretary: Kimberly Kefauver, Treasurer: Patricia Hansen, Chaplain: Brenton Harne. Delegates: Steve Nalborczyk Jr., Janie E. Nalborczyk, Wayne Smith, Debbie Smith, Brenda Cobletz. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

MIDLAND FIRE COMPANY #1, INC. – 14823 Broadway Avenue, Midland, MD 21532; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-463-6631 Fax: 301-463-6631; Organized: 1900. President: Jesse James, Vice President: John Cullen, Secretary: Kecia Coleman, Treasurer: Robert Knippenburg, Jason Thrasher, J R Monahan, Maggie Gatan, John Monahan. Alternates: Jesse James, Andy Cesnich, Michelle McGowan, Dan Monahan, Brant Coleman.

MORNINGSIDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 6200 Suitland Road, Morningside, MD 20746; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-736-4343; E-mail: mvfd27@digizen.net Website: morningsidevfd27.com. Organized: 1944, Joined MSFA: 1947. President: Thomas Groom, Vice President: Mark Hendley, Secretary: Lisa McKlveen, Treasurer: Jamie Hansen, Chaplain, Les Hedrick, Chief: Michael Poetker. Delegates: Thomas A. Groom, Mike Poetker, Mike Stout, Mark Hendley, Les Hedrick. Alternates: Charles Philips, Thomas Warren, James McKnight, Eugene Jones, Ronald Oliver.


MOUNT AIRY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 702 North Main Street, Mount Airy, MD 21771; Carroll County; Telephone: 301-829-0100 Fax:301-829-2353; WebSite: www.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


MOUNT SAVAGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 533, 15701 Iron Rail Street, Mount Savage, MD 21545; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-264-3333, Fax: 301-264-3145; E-mail: co15@gmail.com; Organized: 1896; Chartered: 1896; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Chad Robison, Vice President: Patti Carter, Secretary: Kay Tharp, Treasurer: Paula Winebrenner, Chaplain: Lloyd Wade, Chief: Rick Robison. Delegates: Lloyd Wade, Kay Wade, Mary Kay Leighty, Wayne Leighty, Cameron Michaels. Alternates: Lacey Robison, Janet Robison, Rick Robinson, Patti Carter.

MOUNT VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 27440 Mt. Vernon Road, Princess Anne, MD 21853; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-651-2100; Website: mtvernonvfc@live.com; Organized: 1982; Chartered: 1982; Joined MSFA: 1982. President: Dallas Tatum, Vice President: Joe Faber Jr, Secretary: Dannelle Cullen, Treasurer: Cindi Pietroski, Chaplain: Joe Webster, Chief: Kevin Jones. Delegates: Kevin Jones. Alternates: None listed 2018.

MYERSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 95, 301 Main Street, Myersville, MD 21773; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-293-9817, Fax: 301-293-9828; Email: rebeccajustin*@yahoo.com Website: myersvillevfc.com; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1925; Joined MSFA: 1939. President: Carol Linton, Vice President: Ed Crutchley, Secretary: Linda Frushour, Treasurer: Ellen Crutchley, Chaplain: Glenn Lantz, Chief: Tim Linton. Delegates: Carol Linton, Katelyn Smith, Daryl Ross-Summers, Linda Frushour. Alternates: NON LISTED 2018.


NECK DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 954 Cooks Point Road, Cambridge, MD 21613; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-228-2434; E-mail: neckdistrictvfc@gmail.com; Organized: 1951; Chartered: 1951; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: Michael McKinley, Vice President: Lisa Howard, Secretary: Sonya Parham, Treasurer: Sandy Russum, Chaplain, Chief: Dennis Russum. Delegates: None listed 2018. Alternates: None Listed.

NEW MARKET DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 925, 76 W. Main Street, New Market, MD 21774; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-9150 Email:
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


NEW MIDWAY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 67, 12019 Woodsboro Pike, New Midway, MD 21775; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-898-0543; E-mail: emb01nmvfc9@aol.com; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1926. President: George Nicholson Jr, Vice President: Matt Moser, Secretary: Judy Smith, Treasurer: Joseph C. Lenhart, Chaplain: Monroe Main, Chief: Darrell Johnson. Delegates: Nancy Keller, Gary Keller, Darrell Johnson, Jean Main, Warren Main. Alternates: George Nicholson, Sandy Nicholson, Joe Lenhart, Mary Lenhart.

NEW WINDSOR FIRE AND HOSE COMPANY #1, INC. – PO Box 247, 101 High Street, New Windsor, MD 21776; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-635-6373 Fax: 410-848-6711; Email: info@nwfd10.org Website:nwfd10.org; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1948. President: Rick Fritz, Vice President: Dan Wolfe, Secretary: Sarah Lowman, Treasurer: Jack Coe, Chaplain: Larry Stien, Chief: Tom Coe. Delegates: Rick Fritz, Richard Warrenfeltz, Felix Hill, Dianne Gunderson, Tom Coe. Alternates: Dave Coe, Brad Kreimer, Byron Welker.

NEWARK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 82, 8338 Newark Road, Newark, MD 21841; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-632-3980, Fax:; E-mail: jbarbely@aol.com; Organized:1929. President: James C. Barbely, Vice President: Mike Donaway Sr, Secretary: Jackie Carey, Treasurer: James Scott, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Steve Orth. Delegates: None listed 2018. Alternates: None Listed.


NORTH BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 86, 8534 Bayside Road, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20714; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-257-6564, Fax:; E-mail: nbvfdpresident@gmail.com; Website: northbeachfire.com; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Matthew Weber, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary:

NORTH EAST FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 210 South Mauldin Avenue, North East, MD 21901; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-287-8222, Fax; Email: admin@nefc4.com Website: nefc4.com; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1922. President: Howard Flower, Vice President: George Hollenbaugh, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: Valerie Combs, Chaplain: Phil Meekins, Chief: Steve Piatelli. Delegates: John Hamilton IV, Howard Flower, Patricia Deamond, Deb Kurtz. Alternates: Steve Piatelli.

NORTH POINT EDGEMERE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 7500 North Point Road, Baltimore, MD 21219; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7554; E-mail: palcher687@aol.com; Website: npevfd26.org; Organized: 1936; Chartered: 1936; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Albert L. Palcher Jr, Vice President: Shane Davies, Secretary: Patricia Pace, Treasurer: Albert L. Palcher Jr, Chaplain: James Caris, Chief: Matthew Paul. Delegates: Albert Palcher, James Harvey, Timothy Pace. Alternates: None Listed.

NORTHERN GARRETT COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 293, 124 Miller Street, Grantsville, MD 21536; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-895-5520, Fax; E-mail: ngcrs@verizon.net; Organized: 1972; Chartered: 1972. President: Terry Spear, Vice President: William Beavers III, Secretary: Nancy Savage, Treasurer: Harold Fike, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Cody Wilt. Delegates: Gary Teats, Michael Simmons. Alternates: None Listed.

OAKLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 43, 31 South Third Street, Oakland, MD 21550; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-334-3535; Organized: 1894; Chartered: 1894; Joined MSFA: 1927. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018.

OCEAN CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 27, 1409 Philadelphia Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-289-4346, Fax: 410-289-8421; E-mail: robertboduke@hotmail.com; Website: www.ocvfc.com; Organized: 1905; Chartered: 1926. President: James Jester, Vice President: Sean Glggin, Secretary: Jordan Braniff, Treasurer: Conner Braniff, Chaplain: Phillip Turk, Chief: Moe Cropper. Delegates: Roger Steger Sr, Reggie Bell, J. Paul Adkins, Charles Bunting, Skip Carey. Alternates: Jim Smith, David Coleman, Joey Lessman, Jerry Priestley, Moe Cropper.


ODENTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 1425 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD 21113; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-674-4444 Fax: 410-672-0758; Email joinovfc@verizon.net Website: ovfc28.org; Organized: 1931; Chartered: 1931; Joined MSFA: 1934. President: David Lewis, Vice President: Wylie L. Donaldson, Secretary: Robert Rose, Treasurer: Pat Rose, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Charles Rogers. Delegates:
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


OLDTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 83, 18712 Oldtown Road SE, Oldtown, MD 21555-0083; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-478-5151, Fax:301-478-5400; E-mail: co13@allconet.org Website: www.fire-ems.net/firedept/view/oldtownmd. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018.

ORCHARD BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 654, 7549 Solley Road, Pasadena, MD 21123; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-255-1505, Fax: 410-437-3496; E-Mail: orchardbeach11@yahoo.com Website: orchidbeachvfd.com; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Joseph ???, Vice President: Donna Bushong, Secretary:Michael Mauer, Treasurer: Joseph Snyder, Chaplain: William Rambo, Chief: William Morningst. Delegates: Joseph Snyder, Joseph ???, Richard Cummings. Alternates: None listed 2018.

ORLEANS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 12210 Orleans Road, NE, Little Orleans, MD 21766; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-478-2229 Fax: 301-478-3699; E-mail: orleans43@hotmail.com. President: Janet M. Elbin, Vice President: Robert Littleton, Secretary: Kesseena Hover, Treasurer: Judith Sowers, Chaplain: Robert Littleton, Chief: John Clingerman. Delegates: Michael Yonker, Randy Pyles, Donna Littleton, Joe Marshall. Alternates: Danny Pyles, Shannon Elbin, Alex Sebarn, John Clingerman.


OXFORD FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 300 Oxford Road, Oxford, MD 21654; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-226-5110; E-mail: henryshale@gmail.com, Website: www.oxfordfireco.org; Chartered: 1926. President: John Hanes, Vice President: Tim Kearns, Secretary: Ashley Greenhawk, Treasurer: Connie Greenhawk, Chaplain: Rev. Kevin Cross, Chief: Graham Norbury. Delegates: Richard Smith, Steve Mroczek, Steve Mroczek. Alternates: None listed 2018.

OXON HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 259, 7600 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20750; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-369-2112, Fax: 301-839-0925; Organized: 1929; Chartered: 1930; Joined: MSFA: 1932. President: Mark Adkins Sr, Vice President: Mark Parks, Secretary: Napoleon Epps Sr, Treasurer: David D. Jones Sr, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Darryl E. Lowery Sr. Delegates: Mark Adkins Sr, Darryl Lowery Sr, Napoleon Epps Sr, David Jones Sr, Mark Parks. Alternates: Linwood Armstrong, Vernard Green.

PARSONSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 208,33030 Old Ocean City Road, Parsonsburg, MD 21849; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-742-2408, Fax:
PIKESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 40 East Sudbrook Lane, Pikesville, MD 21208; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-486-9834, Fax: 410-602-8583; E-mail: cao320@bcvfa.org Website: pvfd32.org; Organized: 1897. President: John W. Berryman Jr, Vice President: Kathleen Resnick, Secretary: John Pelton, Treasurer: Phil Goldsmith, Chaplain: Terry Sapp, Chief: Scott Goldstein. Delegates: Stuart W. Carter, Kathleen Resnick, John Pelton, Glenn Resnick, Richard Udell. Alternates: Aaron Robinson, CJ Giblin, Alan Roody, Dennis Genzel, Nadav Korman.

PIONEER HOOK & LADDER COMPANY TRUCK 1, INC. – PO Box 2799, 21West Franklin Street, Hagerstown, MD 21741; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-3338, Fax: 301-733-3368; Organized: 1872; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Steve Eby, Vice President: James Burdett, Secretary: Ciara Preston, Treasurer: Teresa Preston, Chaplain: Jack Emery, Chief: Captain Troy Lloyd. Delegates: Troy Lloyd, Steven Eby, Jeff Preston, Teresa Preston, Ciara Preston. Alternates: Jim Burdett.

PITTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 387, 7442Gumboro Road, Pittsville, MD 21850; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-835-2323, Fax: 410-835-2424; E-mail wknapp2@aol.com; Website pvfd.4t.com; Organized: 1929; Chartered: 1929; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Ronald Adkins, Vice President: Cathy Hall, Secretary: Gene Peavley, Treasurer: Jennifer Laimore, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: George Whited III. Delegates: Essel Ted Farlow Jr, Essel Ted. Farlow III, George Whited III, Roland Adkins, Mark Bratten. Alternates: George Whited Jr, Shawn Townsend, Steve Records, Gary Bratten, Mathew Purcell.

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 2030 South Pleasant Valley Road, Westminster, MD 21158; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-848-1977 Fax: 410-848-6008; E-mail: mgist@pleasantvalleyfire.org Website: pleasantvalleyfire.org; Organized: 1931; Chartered: 1931; Joined MSFA: 1934. President: Michael Stewart, Vice President: James Mora Sr, Secretary: Susan Mott, Treasurer: John Wagner, Chaplain: Donna Geiman, Chief: Forrest Shaw. Delegates: James Mora Sr, Charlie Simpson, Michael Swartzbaugh, Jeff Geiman, Susan Mott. Alternates: None Listed.

POCOMOKE CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 1410 Market Street, Pocomoke City, MD 21851; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-957-2310; Website: pocomokefire.com; Organized: 1888. President: Stan Finch, Vice President: Bruce Morrison, Secretary: Mike Shannon, Treasurer: Jerry Barbieri, Chaplain: Mike Dean, Chief: Dicky Gladding. Delegates: Stan Finch, Lucas Holland, Bill Sparrow, AJ Miller, Corey Dean. Alternates: Mike Dean, Tyler Fairman, Eric Denston, Chris Viera.

POTOMAC FIRE COMPANY NO. 2, INC. – PO. Box 326, 61 Main Street, Westernport,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


POTOMAC HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 73 Glymont Road, Indian Head, MD 20640; Charles County; Telephone: 301-743-7700, Fax: 301-743-6814; Website: phvfd.com; Organized: 1950; Chartered: 1950; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: Jeff Clements, Vice President: Matthew Rogers, Secretary: Lisa Berry, Treasurer: Steve Rison, Chaplain: Charles W. Wills, Chief: Justin Lucas. Delegates: Jeff Clements, C. Dan Carpenter III, Steve Winkler, Matt Rogers, Justin Lucas. Alternates: Kevin Grinder, James King, Craig Lockwood, Charlie Wills, Sean Milstead.

POTOMAC VALLEY FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 2202 Dargan School Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21782; Washington County; Telephone: 301-432-2130; E-mail: ac11@myactv.net; Website: potomacvalleyfire.com; Organized: 1966; Chartered: 1967; Joined MSFA: 1975. President: Adam McMillen, Vice President: Amber Hewett, Secretary: Lacrysta Payne, Treasurer: Jeff Hewett, Chaplain: Henry Ingram, Chief: Roger Otzelberger. Delegates: Adam McMillen, Amber Hewett, Lacrysta Payne, Jeff Hewett, Roger Otzelberger Jr. Alternates: Roy Tarmon, Nancy Tarmon, Ronnie Gray, Jeanne Gray.


PRESTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 3680 Choptank Road, Preston, MD 21655; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-673-7874, Fax: 410-673-1138; Website: pvfc200.com; Organized: 1927. President: Russell Dukes, Vice President: Mike Bradley, Secretary: Andy Garey, Treasurer: Lori Childers, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Bryan Milligan. Delegates: Richie Childers, Lori Childers, Andrew Hughes, Jenny Hughes. Alternates: None Listed.

PRINCE FREDERICK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 976, 450 Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-9875 Fax: 410-414-3655; Email: pfvfdjwo@verizon.net; Website: pfvfd.org; Organized: 1940; Joined MSFA: 1942. President: Patrick F. Hassler, Vice President: James Cox, Secretary: Vicki Delehanty, Treasurer: Alan Billings, Chaplain: Michael Bowen, Chief: Fred Holzberger IV. Delegates: James Cox, Dwight Armiger, Tim Delehanty, Joe Reamy, Fred Holzberger IV. Alternates: Jack Boswell, Vicki Delehanty, Patrick F. Hassler, Tommy Brady.

PRINCE FREDERICK VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 346, 755 Solomons
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Island Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-9836; Email: jwelpf@hotmail.com; Website: pfvrs.org; Organized: 1965; Chartered: 1968; Joined MSFA: 1968. President: Ronald Rawlings, Vice President: Roland “Sonny” Brady, Secretary: Cindy Loveless, Treasurer: Robert Francis, Chaplain: Pastor Todd Marple, Chief: Stanis Inscoe. Delegates: Clarke Rawlings, Stanis Inscoe, Brenda Agamber, Joseph Kemp, Lakesha Estep. Alternates: Donald Inscoe, Robert Shelly Loveless, Joseph Rawlings, Robert Francis, Cindy Loveless.


PRINCESS ANNE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 11794 Somerset Avenue, Princess Anne, MD 21853; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-651-2144; E-mail: pavfc@verison.com; Organized: 1914. Joined MSFA: 1921; President: Morgan Pusey, Vice President: Chris Keene, Secretary: Jenny Cottman, Treasurer: Jack Kin, Chaplain: Mark Thomas, Chief: Robert Murphey. Delegates: Morgan Pusey, Robert Murphey, Sidney Merrill, Kenny Walston, Lee Kelly. Alternates: Bruce Webster, Joey Haymaker, Billy Merrill, Jenny Cottman, Dale Childers.

PROVIDENCE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 9702, 1416 Providence Road, Towson, MD 21284; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-828-9029; E-mail: joseph.henham@gmail.com, Website: 222pvfc29.org; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1950. President: Bryan Wolbert, Vice President: Colin Campbell, Secretary: Susan Denning, Treasurer: Bennett Carroll, Chaplain: Jim Westervelt, Chief: Dean Denning. Delegates: Bryan Wolbert, Jeff Mims, Colin Campbell, Bennett Carroll, Susan Denning. Alternates: Dean Denning, Jack McClean, Geoff Donahue.

QUEEN ANNE-HILLSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 266, 13512 First Street, Queen Anne, MD 21657; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-364-5612; Website: qahvfc.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1945. President: Philip Starkey Jr, Vice President: Vernon Coultas, Secretary: Dolly Starkey, Treasurer: Tom Difatta, Chaplain, Vacant, Chief: Eric Voorhees. Delegates: Philip Starkey Jr, Dolly Starkey, David Chaires, Danielle Hayes. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

QUEENSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 118, 7110 Main Street, Queenstown, MD 21658; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-827-8377, Fax: 410-827-8926; Organized: 1934; Chartered: 1934; Joined MSFA: 1936. President: James Lewis Jr, Vice President: Jeffrey Lewis, Secretary: Candy Golt, Treasurer: Charles Russum, Chaplain: Rev Charles Osberger, Chief: Charles Russum Delegates: NONE LISTED 2018.

RAWLINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 229, 18900 Volunteer Drive, Rawlings, MD 21557; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-729-8229; Email ronniecarr@
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


REESE AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 1745 Baltimore Boulevard, Westminster, MD 21157; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-848-7172; E-mail: reeseco9@ccpl.carr.org Website: reesevfc.org; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1949. President: Kenneth Hyde, Vice President: Norman Schaeffer, Secretary: Andy Leeds, Treasurer: Marion Davidson, Chaplain: Robert Alexander, Chief: Michael Knight. Delegates: Norman Schaeffer, Kenneth Hyde, Michael Knight, Donald Raver, Lisa Click. Alternates: Marion Davidson, Matthew Stansbury, Jerry Dayton.


RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 520, 13820 Point Lookout Road, Ridge, MD 20680-0520; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-872-5571, Fax: 301-872-0632; E-mail: secretary@ridgevfd.org; Website: ridgevfd.org; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1949; Joined MSFA: 1950. President: Joseph Bradburn Jr, Vice President: Ronald Hafner, Secretary: Lori Raley, Treasurer: John E. Wathen Jr, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Ray Mercure. Delegates: Joseph Bradburn Jr, Francis Raley, Ray Mercure, Robert Keith Raley, , John E. Wathen Jr. Alternates: Paul Balta Jr, Bruce Raley, Philip Ridgell, George Gatton, Ronald Hafner.

RIDGE VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 456, 16515 Three Notch Road, Ridge, MD 20680; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-872-5970, Fax: 301-872-5971.

RIDGELY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 425, 101 Sunset Blvd, Ridgely, MD 21660; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-634-2424 Fax: 410-634-2798; E-mail: tjgunderson10@comcast.net Website: rvfd400.com; Organized: 1905; Chartered: 1928. President: Timothy J. Gunderson, Vice President: Lou Hayes, Secretary: Tammy Taylor, Treasurer: Bryan Ebling, Chaplain, Chief: Eric Kellner. Delegates: Bryan Ebling, John Hurley, Tim Gunderson. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

RITCHIE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 1415 Ritchie Marlboro Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20743; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-336-3731, Fax: 301-499-5916; E-mail: info@ritchie37.com Website: ritchie37.com; Organized: 1964; Chartered: 1966; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: Steve Wilson, Vice President: Nick Ragucci, Secretary: Ralph Downs, Treasurer: Dave Crigger, Chaplain, Chief: Gerald Hayden. Delegates: Larry Lee, Steve Wilson, Chris Wilson, William Cunnungham Sr, Gerald Hayden. Alternates: Steve Bernard, Nick Ragucci, William Cunnungham Jr, Anthony Anastasi, Steven Bernard..

RIVA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 602, 3123 Riva Road, Riva, MD 21140; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-956-1299; Organized: 1940; Chartered: 1940; Joined MSFA: 1947. President: John H. Fuharty Jr, Vice President; Vacant, Secretary: Lisa Carr, Treasurer: David E. Carr, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: John Fuharty, David E. Carr. Alternates: Lisa Carr.


RIVERDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 4714 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-927-0356; E-mail:chief7b@gmail.com Web Site: www.riverdalevfd.org. Organized 1923, Chartered: 1927, Joined MSFA 1923. President: Stephen Lamphier, Vice President: David Sutton, Secretary: Joel Gagliardi, Treasurer: Joel Gagliardi, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Brian Carpio. Delegates: Brian Carpio, Stephen Lamphier, Jay St. John. Alternates: NON LISTED 2018

RIVIERA BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 301, 8506 Fort Smallwood Road, Pasadena, MD 21122; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-255-1314; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1932. President: Todd Sink, Vice President: Gloria Lewis, Secretary: Chelsea Davey, Treasurer: Amy Kiser, Chaplain: William Zamostny, Chief: Bryan Gregg.
Delegates: David Rictor, Russel Schlick, Tim Johnson Sr, Gloria Lewis. Alternates: Duane McKee, Tracy Courtney, Russ Zaccari.


**ROCKAWAY BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 34034, 621 Seneca Road, Baltimore, MD 21221; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-0328, Fax: 410-780-1759; Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1947. President, Vice President:, Secretary:, Treasurer:, Chaplain, Chief:. Delegates: Alternates. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018.

**ROCKVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** – PO Box 1547, 380 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20849; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-424-0310, Fax: 301-294-4721; E-mail: president@rvfd.org Website: www.rvfd.org; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1921. President: Eric N. Bernard, Vice President: Brenda Mannix, Secretary: Russell W. Dawson, Treasurer: Ian Weston, Chaplain: Father Valentine Keavney, Chief: James Vagonis. Delegates: Eric N. Bernard, Scott E. Emmons, Christopher Hinde, Tom Kavanagh, Tim Jones. Alternates: Jack Ferguson III, Jim Seavey Jr, Nathan Westlake, Matt Frank.


**ROSEDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY.** – PO Box 9661, 8037 Philadelphia Road, Rosedale, MD 21237; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-0519; Email: charles.leiss@capitalone.com Website: rosedalevfd.com; Organized: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Eileen Endryas, Vice President: Kate Canary, Secretary: Michelle Harding, Treasurer: Chuck McJilton, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Andrew Vernon. Delegates: Bill Pearson, Eric Endryas, Eileen Endryas, Andrew Vernon, Kate Canary. Alternates: Tim DeCoursey.


SALISBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION #1 – PO Box 3215, 1100 Beaglin Park Drive, Salisbury, MD 21802; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-548-3127; E-mail: folskeychuck@yahoo.com Website www.salisburyfd.com; Organized: 1986; Chartered: 1986; Joined MSFA: 1986. President: Kenneth Vickers, Vice President: Charles Foskey, Secretary: Terry Jones, Treasurer: Eric Foskey, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Cory Polidore. Delegates: Justin L. Elliott, David Elliott, Chuck Foskey, Kenneth Vickers, David Marquez. Alternates: Terry Jones, Gerald Beauchamp, Ronald Montgomery, Cory Polidore.

SALISBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION 2 – PO Box 3381, 801 Brown Street, Salisbury, MD 21802; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-548-3125; Website: salisburyfd.com; Organized: 1930. President: Richard Rathel, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary: Justin Byrd, Treasurer: Dale Albert, Chaplain: Tryone Cooper, Chief: Richard Hoppes. Delegates: John Dimare, Bill Higgins, Justin Byrd, Charles Layfield, Michael Houck. Alternates: Jason Davis.

SANDY SPRING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 295, 17921 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-774-7400, Fax: 301-774-4821; E-mail: info@ssvfd.com Website: www.ssvfd.com; Organized: 1924; Chartered: 1925; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Johnie Roth Jr, Vice President: Brendan Bonita, Secretary: Michael Valente, Treasurer: Steve Lampier, Chaplain: Deacon Rory Crawford, Chief: Michael Kelley. Delegates: Michael Valente, George Brown, Johnie Roth Jr, Michael Kelley, Joseph Aceto. Alternates: John Lindner, Michael McTighe, Linda Albrecht, Brendan Bonita.

SAVAGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 905, 8525 Lincoln Street, Savage, MD 20763; Howard County; Telephone: 410-313-8754, Fax: 410-313-8768; E-mail: goofman2320@yahoo.com; Organized: 1937; Chartered: 1937; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Michael Hitt, Vice President: Norman Wines, Secretary: Charisa Carkhuff, Treasurer: Alan Conway, Chaplain: Paul Epstein, Chief: Ronald Hunley. Delegates: Ronald Hunley, Terry Thompson, Norman Wines, Ray Wines, David Hunley. Alternates: Brian Garbutt, Doug Williams, Kevin Larkins, Martin Lepore, Alan Grines.

SEAT PLEASANT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 6305 Addison Road, Seat Pleasant, MD 20743; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-336-2331; Organized: 1915; Chartered: 1915. President:, Vice President:, Secretary:, Treasurer:, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief. Delegates:. Alternates:. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018.

SECRETARY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 56, 115 Myrtle Street, Secretary, MD 21664; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-943-3545 Fax: 410-943-0330; E-mail: pfefferlenny@gmail.com; WebSite: www.secretaryvfc.com; Organized: 1937; Chartered: 1937; Joined: MSFA: 1938. President: Michael LarriRime, Vice President: Sam Yockey, Secretary: Deanna Deshiell, Treasurer: Amanda Gullion, Chaplain, Father Stephen Lonek, Chief: Brian Kimmey. Delegates: Samuel B. Yockey, Michael W. LarriRime Sr, Michael W. LarriRime Jr, Darrin Lindsay, Brian Kimmey. Alternates: Deanna Dashiell, Susan Kirwan, Casey Kirwan, Christopher Hughes, Kenneth Abbott.

SEVENTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 206, 21660 Colton Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-769-3600, Fax: 301-769-3602; E-mail sdvfd5@msn.com; Website: sdvfd5.com; Organized: 1949; Chartered: 1949; Joined MSFA: 1951. President: John D. Nelson, Vice President: Michael R. Huseman, Secretary: Anthony Hammett, Treasurer: Mark Pettit, Chaplain: Josh Phetteplace, Chief: John A. Nelson. Delegates: John D. Nelson, Michael R. Huseman, Anthony Hammett, John A. Nelson. Alternates:None Listed 2018.

SEVENTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 7, 21530 Colton Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-769-2287; Organized: 1960; Chartered: 1960; Joined MSFA: 1968. President: Donald Phetteplace, Vice President: Mathew Colliflower, Secretary: Amy Farr, Treasurer: Steve Lawrence, Chaplain: George Kennett, Chief: Rachel Hayden. Delegates: George Kennett, Joan Raley, Jennifer Huntington, Donald Phetteplace. Alternates: Richard Colliflower, Francis Gibson, Ronald Mattingly.

SHARPSBURG AREA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC. –110 ½ West Chapline Street, Sharpsburg, MD 21782; Washington County; Telephone 301-432-5348 Fax 301-432-6456; E-mail: lester.bussard@saems19.org; Website: saems.com; Organized: 1968; Chartered: 1968. President: Diane Reid, Vice President: Harry Gossard, Secretary: Debra Getridge, Treasurer: Mack Neikirk, Chaplain: Delancy Catlett, Chief: Pricilla Myers. Delegates: Robert Moncrief, Diane Reid. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

SHARPSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 297, 110 West Chapline Street, Sharpsburg, MD 21782; Washington County; Telephone 301-432-6321, Fax: 301-432-5167; E-mail: brandenb@comcast.net; Website: sharpsburgfire.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1944; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Jay Brandenburg, Vice President: Daryl Benner, Secretary: Beth Brandenburg, Treasurer: Ron Delauney, Chaplain: Rev. Delancy Catlett, Chief: Matt Stevens. Delegates: Harry E. Gossard, Jay Brandenburg, Allen James. Alternates: Dolly Jones, Henri Jones, Chris Mullendore, Ron Delauney, Matt Stevens.

SHARPTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 307, 402 Church Street, Sharptown, MD 21861; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-883-3131, Fax: 410-883-3043; E-mail: president@sharptown.net Website: www.sharptown.net; Organized: 1926; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: John Cooper, Vice President: Ben Eskridge, Secretary: Brenda L. Marvil, Treasurer: Linda Lambrose, Chaplain, Chief: William R. White. Delegates: John Cooper, William White, Billy Adkins. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.

SILVER HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 3900 Old Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-899-3624, Fax 301-316-9149; E-mail silverhillyfd@comcast.net; Website: silverhillvfd.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1948, Joined MSFA: 1949. President: Charles A. Diana, Vice President: Jeffrey Kramer, Secretary: Jheri Gregory, Treasurer: Diana Diana, Chief: Matthew Fowler. Delegates: Charles A Diana, Matthew Fowler, Michael Alfieri, Diana M. Diana, Jeffery Kramer. Alternates: Christopher Gregory, Jheri Gregory, Linda Talton, Dale Sellers.

SILVER SPRING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 1145 Seminary Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-587-3400, Fax: 301-588-3548; Email: deana.o@montgomerycountymd.com; Website: www.silverspringvfd.org; Organized: 1915; Chartered: 1918; Joined MSFA: 1917. President: Claire Cramer, Vice President: Margaret Fowke, Secretary: Susan Myatt, Treasurer: Gerald Leener, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Harold Tarver, Steve Lamphier, Burton Brenner, George Peet, Susan Myatt. Alternates: None listed 2018.

SINGERLY FIRE COMPANY – PO Box 444, 300 Newark Avenue, Elkton, MD 21922-0444; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-398-2078, Fax: 410-620-0797. SEE - WILLIAM M. SINGERLY STEAM FIRE ENGINE AND HOOK & LADDER COMPANY NO.1 OF ELKTON CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, INC.

SMITHBURG COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 32, 22 North Main Street, Smithsburg, MD 21783; Washington County; Telephone: 301-824-2889, Fax: 301-824-3880; E-mail: president@smithsburgvfc.org; Website: www.smithsburgvfc.org; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1933. President: Sam Keister, Vice President: Glenn Fishack Sr., Secretary: Barb Miller, Treasurer: Phil Roher, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Dale Fishack Jr. Delegates: Dale Fishack, Glenn Fishack, Margaret Fishack, Chandler Fishack, Logan Fishack. Alternates: Paige Fishack, Sam Keister.

SMITHBURG EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC. – PO Box 411, 8 Maple Avenue, Smithsburg, MD 21783; Washington County; Telephone: 301-824-3314, Fax: 888-557-6158; E-mail: sems@erols.com; Organized: 1981; Chartered: 1981; Joined MSFA: 1986. President: Joanie Cooper-Gerber, Vice President: Melvin Smith, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: Emily Demmons, Chaplain: Melvin Smith, Chief: Kevin Demmons. Delegates: Kevin Demmons, Warner Fleges, Jamie Daily, Daniel Young, Anna Kline. Alternates: Kevin Jones.

SNOW HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 83, 4718 Snow Hill Road, Snow Hill, MD 21863; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-632-2110, Fax: 410-632-3911;
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SOUTH HAGERSTOWN FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 409 West First Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-3337; E-mail: southhagerstownfire@myactv.com; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1932. President: Alan Gladhill, Vice President: William Hastings, Secretary: Todd Cochrane, Treasurer: Jerry L. Cummingham, Chaplain: James Baurdette, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Jerry Cunningham, William Hastings. Alternates: None Listed.

SOUTHERN GARRETT COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD, INC - PO Box 378, 200 Baltimore Avenue, Oakland, MD 21550; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-334-3000; Fax: 301-334-3000; E-mail: emtmayne@gmail.com; Organized: 1973; Chartered: 1973; Joined MSFA: 2000. President: Carl Ford Jr, Vice President: Ron Swartzentrubef, Secretary: Karen Royer, Treasurer: Naomi Swartzentrubef, Chaplain: Sam Moon, Chief: Melissa Harvey. Delegates: None Listed 2018. Alternates: None Listed

ST. LEONARD VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE CO. 7, INC. – PO Box 101, 200 Calvert Beach Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-586-1713, Fax: 410-586-3200; E-mail: president@slvfd.com Website:slvfd.com; Organized: 1982; Chartered: 1982. President: Richard Weems Sr, Vice President; Secretary: Ginger Weasenforth, Treasurer: Mark Carrico, Chaplain: Chief: Richard D. Weems II. Delegates: Ricky Weems Sr, Mark Carrico, Richard D. Weems II, DO Baker, George Anderson. Alternates: Tommy Buckmaster, Michelle Weems, Raleigh Midkiff III.

ST. MARY’S COUNTY ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT - PO Box 2421, 41550 Doctor’s Crossing Way, Leonardtown, MD 20650; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-690-2044, Fax: 301-690-2044; E-mail: president@smcals.org; Website: smcals.org; Organized: 1983; Chartered: 1983; Joined MSFA: 1994. President: Paul Koch, Vice President: Katie Lee, Secretary: Hattie Norris, Treasurer: Debbie Kenney, Chaplain: Rocky Woodburn, Chief: Nicholas Harrison. Delegates: Paul Koch, Eva Jones, Hattie Norris, Nicholas Harrison, Katie Lee. Alternates: Debbie Kenney, Rocky Woodburn, Kevin Jasey.

ST. MICHAELS FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 641, 1001 South Talbot Street, St. Michaels, MD 21663; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-745-9393; Website: stmichaelsfd.com; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1926; Joined MSFA: 1926. President: Jessica Kastel,


SUSQUEHANNA HOSE COMPANY, INC. – 911 Revolution Street, Havre De Grace, MD 21078; Harford County; Telephone: 410-939-1920; Organized: 1902. President: Joe Miller, Vice President: Paul Ishak, Secretary: Gail Reeder, Treasurer: Joe Westherstien, Chaplain: Frank Roth, Chief: Scott Hurst. Delegates: Scott Pentz, Kenny Perry Jr, Alex Jackson, Elaine Brown, Chad Myers. Alternates: Zachary Pinkney, Billy Lamana, Bill Reeder, Craig Triplett, Frank Roth.

SYKESVILLE FREEDOM DISTRICT FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 275, 6680 Sykesville Road, Sykesville, MD 21784; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-795-8021; E-mail: sfdfd@ccpl.carr.lib.md.vs Website:www.sykesvillefire.org; Organized: 1933; Chartered: 1933; Joined MSFA:1935. President: David Kreimer, Vice President: Brian Bowman, Secretary: Elizabeth Leubberman, Treasurer: Susan Tarrant, Chaplain: Deacon Charles Barnhart, Chief: Glen E Ruch Jr. Delegates: Dennis Beard, Gary McGinnis, Lynn Gabler. Alternates:None Listed.

TAKOMA PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-773-8954; Fax:301-270-1906; E-mail: elmer.hamm@montgomerycountymd.gov Website: tpvfd.org; Organized: 1894; Chartered: 1922; Joined MSFA: 1924. President: Elmer E. Hamm, Vice President: Richard Willey, Secretary: Stephen Novik, Treasurer: Bruce Allen, Chaplain: David Hooker, Chief: Thomas Musgrove. Delegates: James E. Jarboe, Thomas Musgrove, Richard Willey, Jorge Alfaro, Bruce Allen. Alternates: Elmer Hamm, Enrique Alfaro, Stephen Novik, Steve Novik.

TANEYTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 39 East Baltimore Street, Taneytown, MD 21787; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-751-0506; Website: tfvc5.org; Organized: 1897. President: James Haines, Vice President: Thomas Hogg Jr, Secretary: Daniel Haines, Treasurer: James Parker, Chaplain: Gordon Brauning, Chief: Craig Austin. Delegates: Thomas Hogg Jr, Craig Austin, Phil Petry, Steve Aberts, Jim Parker. Alternates: Fern Haines, Wayne Staley, Brandon Hinkhaus, Daniel Myers.
TAYLOR'S ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 277, 501 Taylor’s Island Road, Taylor’s Island, MD 21669; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-397-3524; E-mail: myislandlady@gmail.com, Joined MSFA: 1962. President: Patti C. Tieder; Vice President: Anna Grossnickle, Secretary: Ed Bacon, Treasurer: Anna Grossnickle, Chaplain: Rev. Robert Kirkley, Chief: John Tieder III. Delegates: Patti C. Tieder, JB Tieder, Anna Grossnickle, Ed Bacon, Griffith Livingston. Alternates: Jack Smakow, Will Bethea.

TENTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 522, 7035 Poorhouse Road, Marbury, MD 20658; Charles County; Telephone: 301-743-2080; Fax: 301-743-6096; E-mail: dhudson@comcast.net Website: tdvfd8.com; Organized: 1951; Chartered: 1951; Joined MSFA: 1951. President: Charles Burroughs, Vice President: Wallace Danielson Jr, Secretary: Melody Hudson, Treasurer: Wanda Abell, Chief: Daniel Hudson, Chaplain: George Abell. Delegates: Charles Burroughs Sr, Daniel Hudson, Wallace Danielson Jr, Thomas Yowell. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.

THURMONT COMMUNITY AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC. – 27 North Church Street, Thurmont, MD 21788; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-271-7550, Fax: 301-271-0167; E-mail: lke2807732@aol.com Website: www.thurmontambulance.com; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Lowman Keeney, Vice President: Eric Stackhouse, Secretary: Joyce Stitely, Treasurer: Judy White, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Dennis Ott. Delegates: None listed. Alternates: None listed.

TILGHMAN ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 297, 5978 Tilghman Island Road, Tilghman, MD 21671; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-886-2101, Fax: 410-886-2677; E-mail: tivfc@verizon.net Website: tivfc@verizon.net; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Craig Brittingham, Vice President: Eileen Reiss, Secretary: Linda Gottlieb, Treasurer: Charlotte Fluhrty, Chaplain: Rev. Barr, Chief: Billy Lednum. Delegates: David McQuay, Bebby Sweet. Alternates: Chris Hood, Jesse Gottlieb.

TRAPPE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 4001 Powell Avenue, Trappe, MD 21673; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-476-3535; E-mail: trappevfd@verizon.net Website: www.trappevfd.com; Organized: 1935; Chartered: 1935; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Danny McCracken, Vice President: Lou Diefenderfer, Secretary: Cheryl Lewis, Treasurer: Mike Marshall, Chaplain: Gary Moore, Chief: Nick Newman. Delegates: George McCracken. Alternates: None Listed.

TRI-TOWNS AMBULANCE AND RESCUE SERVICE, INC. – 59 Main Street, Westernport, MD 21562; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-359-3067, Fax: 301-359-0479; E-mail: co50@allconet.org Website: ttems.org; Organized: 1999; Chartered: 1974; Joined MSFA: 1999. President: Brendon Gardner, Vice President: Chris Lafferty, Secretary: Kayla Bowers, Treasurer: Vacant, Chaplain: Kristi Williams, Chief: Josh Burkett. Delegates: Tim Connor, Joshua Burkett, John Gray, Garrett Gray, Nathan Blubaugh. Alternates: None Listed.

TYLERTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD INC – PO Box 655, 21140 Tuff Street, Tylerton MD 21866; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-425-2420 Fax: 410-425-2420; Organized: 1985; Chartered: 1985. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR
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UNION BRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 1050, 8 West Locust Street, Union Bridge, MD 21791; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-775-7422, Fax: 410-857-8775; E-mail: tomgarber@aol.net; Website: www.ubfc8.org; Organized: 1887; Chartered: 1889; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Eugene Curfman, Vice President: Freddie Green, Secretary: Linda Bostian, Treasurer: S. Michael Kreimer, Chaplain: Rev. Richard Michael, Chief: Chad P. Green. Delegates: Eugene Curfman, Jerry Harris, George Wentz, Thomas Marble, Tanner Shuster. Alternates: David Musil, Thomas M. Garber.

UNITED COMMUNITIES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 939, 9406 Romancoke Road, Stevensville, MD 21666; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-643-1162 Fax: 410-643-1163; E-mail: rsiarnicki@aol.com Website: www.ucvfd.org; Organized: 1972; Chartered: 1972; Joined MSFA: 1974. President: Ronald J. Siarnicki, Vice President: Bob Bryor, Secretary: Pat Neil, Treasurer: Jo Lasolivich, Chaplain: Andy Cole, Chief: Chris Tona. Delegates: Kate Tomanelli, Doug Guare, Terri Levasseur, Brad Childress, Donna Powell. Alternates: Tim Thomas, Lisa Tona, Jenna Childress, Scott Svoboda, Kevin Henderson.

UNITED STEAM ENGINE FIRE COMPANY NO.3, INC. – 79 South Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-1711; E-mail: ufcgraham@comcast.net; Website: ufc3.org; Organized: 1845; Chartered: 1845; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: James Graham, Vice President: Rick O’Brien, Secretary: Angie Hummer, Treasurer: Kim Shook, Chaplain: Tim May, Chief: Marc McNeal. Delegates: Mike Roop, Keith Duvall, Kim Shook, Derek Graham, Robin McNeal. Alternates: Robin Roop, James Graham, Heather Duval.

UPPER MONTGOMERY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville, MD 20839; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-972-8719, Fax: 301-407-0453; E-mail: umcvfd@hotmail.com Website: umcvfd.org; Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1946. President: Joe Brown, Vice President: Heather Haller, Secretary: Penny Jones, Treasurer: Lynne Bodmer, Chaplain: Fr. Kevin O’Reilly, Chief: Michael Burns. Delegates: Joe Brown, Mike Burns, Robby Bliss, Jeffrey Eck, Pat McTighe. Alternates: Ross Meem.

UPPERCO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY – PO Box 7, 5415 Arcadia Avenue, Upperco, MD 21156; Telephone: 410-887-1576; Website: uppercovfc.org. President: Scott Boose, Vice President: Michelle Crumbacker, Secretary: Jen Haslacker, Treasurer: Jerry Wayne, Chief: Jeff Wickline, Chaplain: Mike Adams. Delegates: Scott Boose, Jeff Wickline, Michele Crumbacker, Tammy Boose, Ashley Hale. Alternates: Scot Hale, Alex Haslacker, Joey Steinberg, Steve Steinberg, Kyle Shropshire.

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VIGILANT HOSE COMPANY, INC. - PO Box 171, 25 West Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD 21727; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-447-2728, Fax: 301-447-1724; E-mail: VN181@aol.com Website: www.vhc6.com; Organized: 1884; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Frank Davis, Vice President: David Stonedifer, Secretary: Steve Valentine, Treasurer: Steve Hollinger, Chaplain: Father Charles Krieg, Chief: Chad Umbel. Delegates: Frank Davis, Steve Hollinger, James Click, Wayne Powell. Alternates: None Listed.

VIOLETVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 7359, 4000 Benson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21227; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-242-3131Fax: 410-877-1470; E-mail: williamswann410@gmail.com Website: violetvillevfd.com; Organized: 1906; Chartered: 1945. . President:, Vice President:, Secretary:, Treasurer:, Chaplain:, . Delegates:. Alternates: NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2018


VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1 OF CAPITOL HEIGHTS, INC. - 6061 Central Avenue, Capitol Heights, MD 20743; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-7705 E-Mail:jemcclelland1@co.pg.md.us Website chvfd.org; Organized:1913; Chartered: 1914, Joined MSFA: 1916. President: James E. McClelland Sr, Vice President: Dwayne A. Frost Sr., Secretary: Robert M. Russell, Treasurer: Charles E. Miller, Chaplain: Dwayne A. Frost Sr., Chief: John H. Weaver. Delegates: James E. McClelland Sr., Robert M. Russell, Albert Adams, John Weaver, Rima Sifri. Alternates: Jennifer A. McClelland, Robert McClelland Jr, Charles Miller, Margie Byrd.

VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1 OF CHESAPEAKE CITY, INC. – 215 Lock Street, Chesapeake City, MD 21915; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-885-5951; E-mail: terryferguson31@yahoo.com; Website: chesapeakecity2and12.com; Organized: 1911; Chartered: 1911; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Randall McLennan, Vice President: James Wadkins, Secretary: Christina Long, Treasurer: Timothy Emory, Chaplain: Robert


**VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OF HYDE PARK, INC.** – 1449 Sussex Road, Essex, MD 21221; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-0329 Fax: 410-391-4718; E-mail: bfastboats@hotmail.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1946. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2018.


**WALKERSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 425, 79 West Frederick Street, Walkersville, MD 21793; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-845-2644; E-mail: jtzimmerman@verizon.net; Website: www.walkersvillefire.com; Organized: 1939; Chartered: 1940; Joined MSFA: 1940. President: John Zimmerman, Vice President: William Horne, Secretary: Brenda Staley, Treasurer: Jim Graham, Chaplain: Chad Weddle, Chief: Randy Williams. Delegates: Brian Hildebrand, Austin Schroyer.

**WALKERSVILLE VOLUNTEER RESCUE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 202, 73 W. Frederick Street, Walkersville, MD 21793; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-845-8875, Fax: 301-845-6058; E-mail: smaxey2@aol.com; Website: www.wrc24.com; Organized: 1977; Chartered: 1977; Joined MSFA: 1978. President: Michael Marchesani, Vice President: Cindy Cramer, Secretary: Bev Barnes, Treasurer: Chuck Hanfman, Chaplain: Pam Eubanks,
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Chief: Topper Cramer. Delegates: Cindy Cramer, Topper Cramer. Alternates: None Listed

WATER WITCH FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 324, 15 North Main Street, Port Deposit, MD 21904; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-378-4133, Fax: 410-378-9343; E-mail: circled@zoominternet.net Website: http://wwfco.com; Organized: 1844. Chartered: 1880; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Wayne Tome Jr, Vice President: Adam Glassman, Secretary: Ashley Hennemuth, Treasurer: Brad Snyder, Chaplain: Paula Honda, Chief: Gregory Miller. Delegates: Wayne Tome Sr, Adam Glassman, Karen Mott, Richard Brooks, Ashley Hennemuth. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

WEST ANNAPOlis VOLUNTEER FIRE AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY, INC. – 121 Jennifer Road, Annapolis, MD 21401; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-266-8066; E-mail: pwbeal19@aacounty.org; Website: wavfd.org; Organized: 1911; Joined MSFA: 1945. President: Douglas M. Beall, Vice President: Lindy Burkhart, Secretary: Andrew Clemenco, Treasurer: Kenneth Blackwell, Chaplain: James Caufield, Chief: Robert E. Vice Jr. Delegates: Gayle C. Bender, Sharon Owen, John Bender, Robert Vice Jr. Alternates: Lindy Burkhart, Ken Blackwell, Douglas Beall.

WEST FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 439, 12535 Old Frederick Road, West Friendship, MD 21794-0439; Howard County; Telephone: 410-313-5403, Fax: 410-313-4822; E-mail: ciroles58@comcast.net; Website: wfvfd.org; Organized: 1944; Chartered: 1944. President: T. Collins, Vice President: Pitkin, Secretary: S. Faramaris, Treasurer: Vacant, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: H. Mitchell Day. Delegates: Earl Bowell, Scott Christiansen, Will Spine, Z Leaf, Mickey Day. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.


WESTSIDE-BIVALVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 85, 21045 Nanticoke Road, Bivalve, MD 21814; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-873-2140, Fax: 410-873-2170; E-mail: Donald_sue@comcast.net; Website: westsidievfd@verizon.com; Organized: 1938; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Donald Messick, Vice President: Dana Gross, Secretary: Lisa Hart-White, Treasurer: Rusty Dennis, Chaplain: Willard Pusey, Chief: John Wilson. Delegates: Joe Dickerson, Don Messick, John Wilson, Riley Scott, John Catlin. Alternates: Dana Gross, Carol Dickerson, Grady Romblad, Crystal Hayes, Jerry Nelson.

WESTERN ENTERPRISE FIRE COMPANY #4, INC. – 526 Washington Square, Hagerstown, MD 21740; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-8615, Fax: 301-739-9124; E-mail: wefc@myactv.net; Organized: 1872; Chartered: 1872, Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Cherry Rohrer, Vice President: Kelly Swain, Secretary: Tania Leather, Treasurer: Rebecca

WESTMINSTER FIRE ENGINE & HOSE CO. NO. 1, INC. – PO Box 357, 28 John Street, Westminster, MD 21158; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-848-1800, Fax: 410-848-3407; E-mail: president@westminstervfd.org; Website: westminstervfd.org; Organized: 1823; Chartered: 1823; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Jamie Petry, Vice President: Timothy Bangerd, Secretary: Joshua Evans, Treasurer: Caroline Babylon, Chaplain: Kevin Dayhoff, Chief: Jason Tyler. Delegates: Daniel Plunkert, Robert Cumberland Jr, Fred Plunkert, Kevin Dayhoff, Caroline Babylon. Alternates: Joshua Evans, Gunnar Mohlhenrich.

WHEATON VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – P.O. Box 1577, 11435 Grandview Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-949-9673, Fax: 301-942-0740; E-mail: gam@wvrs.org Website: wvrs.org; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1955. President: Gamunu Wijetunge, Vice President: Brian McGinness, Secretary: Rhonda Cohen, Treasurer: William Dunlap, Chaplain: Rory Crawford, Chief: Mark Dempsey. Delegates: Paul Sterling Jr, Robert Lawson, Charles Cox, Roger Marks. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

WHITE MARSH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY – P.O. Box 319, 5419 Ebenezer Road, WhiteMarsh, Maryland 21162; Telephone: 410-335-5112; E-Mail: president@wmvfc.org Website: wmvfc.org. President: Kevin Palmer Jr, Vice President: Michael Connelly, Secretary: Jennifer Corridon, Treasurer: Vicky Davidson, Chaplain, Chief: Rick Blubaugh III. Delegate: Laura Connelly, Daniel Deitrich, Rick Breach Sr. Alternates: NONE LISTED 2018.

WHITEFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 6, 1407 Pylesville Road, Whiteford, MD 21160; Harford County; Telephone: 410-452-8875, Fax: 410-638-3630; E-mail: 6063@wvfc.com Website: whitefordvfc.com. President: Larry Holbrook, Vice President: Josh Schueler, Secretary: Kathy Monath, Treasurer: Charles Mohr, Chaplain: Chief: Drew Pritt. Delegates: James R. Williams, John Monath, Jimmy Williams, John Monath. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

WILLARDS VOLUNTEER FIRE Company, INC. – PO Box 38, 7370 Main Street, Willards, MD 21874; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-835-8678 Fax: 410-835-2466; Website: willardsfire.com; Organized: 1927; Chartered: 1927. President: Gary Lewis Sr, Vice President: Ruth Twilley, Secretary: Brenda Twilley, Treasurer: Joan Calloway, Chaplain: Mike March, Chief: Brandon White. Delegates: None Listed. Alternates: None Listed.

THE WILLIAM M. SINGERLY STEAM FIRE ENGINE AND HOOK & LADDER COMPANY NO.1 OF ELKTON CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, INC. – PO Box 444, 300 Newark Avenue, Elkton, MD 21922-0444; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-398-2078; E-mail: president@singerly.com; Website: www.singerly.com; Organized: 1892; Joined MSFA: 1896. President: Frederick Hill Jr, Vice President: Michele Ewing, Secretary: Heidi Coleman, Treasurer: Steve Horah, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Timothy Poore. Delegates: John J. Denve,r William R. Caldwell, Kay Trego,. Alternates: None listed 2018.


WISE AVENUE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 214 Wise Avenue, Dundalk, MD 21222; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-877-7262; E-mail: cao270@bcvfa.org Website: www.wavfc.org; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1972; Joined MSFA: 1943. President: Thomas Cero, Vice President: Thomas Lugwig, Secretary: Nicole Meehan, Treasurer: Jason Reid, Chief: Thomas Jugan. Delegates: Robert Francis, Joe Bruzdzinski. Alternates: None Listed.

WOLFSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 12464 Wolfsville Road, Myersville, MD 21773; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-293-1453; E-mail: dafddf21@aol.com; Organized: 1968; Chartered: 1968; Joined MSFA: 1968. President: David Fox, Vice President: David Doyle, Secretary: Debbie Fox, Treasurer: Gerald Lewis, Chief: Stefan Nalborczyk. Delegates: David Fox, Debbie Fox, Steve Nalborczyk, Diana Lewis, Larry Harne. Alternates: None Listed 2018.

WOODLAND BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 236, 529 Londontown Road, Edgewater, MD 21037; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-956-3100; E-mail: jmandsaconnell@aol.com Website: woodlandbeachvfd.com; Organized: 1944; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: James Howard, Vice President: Steven Hilgenberg Jr, Secretary: Candyc Hilgenberg, Treasurer: Vicki Ogilvie, Chief: Bobby Howlin. Delegates: Paul Mills, Guy Schellenhourse, Melissa Bailey, Christine Duelley, Karen Pollock. Alternates: Laura Gray, John Sweeney, Scott McDonald, Rick Steer Jr, Vicki Ogilvie.

WOODSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 153, 2 South Third Street, Woodsboro, MD 21798; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-898-5100, Fax:301-898-8443; E-mail: rjklind@comcast.net; Website: woodsborovfc.org; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1956; Joined MSFA: 1956. President: Susan Mosholder, Vice President: Robert Lind, Secretary: Diane Fyock, Treasurer: James Writer Sr, Chaplain: Sandra Shaffer, Chief: Michael Fyock. Delegates: Michael Fyock, Diane Fyock, Robert Lind, Jay Lind, Dennis Derry. Alternates: None listed 2018.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

ANNE ARUNDEL ALARMERS ASSOCIATION, INC. – 115 Glenmont Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD 21061; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-766-4221 Organized:1958.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER’S ASSOCIATION - PO Box 881, Millersville, MD 21108; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-222-8200, Fax: 410-987-2904; Organized: 1932; Joined MSFA: April 2007.

Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen’s Association – 700 E Joppa Road, Towson, MD 21286, Baltimore County, Telephone: 410-887-4885.

BOX 414 ASSOCIATION


CITY OF ANNAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT – 1790 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-263-7975.

CITY OF SALISBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT – 325 Cypress Street, Salisbury, MD 21802; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-548-3120.

FREDERICK COUNTY DIVISION OF FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES – 5370 Public Safety Place, Frederick, MD 21704; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-1536, Fax: 301-600-2592.

FREDERICK COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION - 340 Montevue Lane, Frederick MD 21702; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-846-2282, Fax:301-631-3466; E-mail: ckwn@starpower.net, Website: www.co.Frederick.md.us/govt/esd/dfrs;
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference


HARFORD COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE & EMS ASSOCIATION – 343C Granny Road, Forest Hill, Maryland 21050.

HARFORD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES – 2220 Ady Road, Forest Hill, MD 21050; Telephone: 410-638-4900

HARFORD – CECIL VOLUNTEER FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION

HOWARD COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARSON INVESTIGATORS – 2111 Baldwin Ave., Suite 203, Crofton, MD 21114; Telephone: 410-451-3473

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF FIRE AND RESCUE ACADEMIES - 25 W. Church Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

MARYLAND FIRE & RESCUE INSTUTITE -MFRI, University of Maryland, 4500 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20742; Telephone: 1-800-275-6374

MARYLAND FIRE SERVICES PERSONNEL QUALIFICATION BOARD –E-mail:egraf@mfri.org.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & RESCUE - 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD 20850; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-777-2400 Fax: 240-777-2443

MONTGOMERY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION -101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD, 20850; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-777-2400 Fax: 240-777-2443

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT – 9201 Basil Court, Suite 452, Largo, MD 20785; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-5204; Fax: 301-883-5212; E-mail: sltaylor@co.pg.md.us Website: pgfd.org

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION – 1501 Pennsylvania Ave., Hagerstown, MD: Washington County: Telephone: 301-714-0812

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

PROVIDENT AGENCY - PO Box 11588, 272 Alpha Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15238; Telephone: (800)-447-0360 Fax: 412-963-0415; Email:cbens@providentbenefits.com; Website providentbenefits.com.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS INSURANCE SERVICES - PO Box 2726,183 Leaders Heights Road, York, PA 21030
“The Mission of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is to Serve, Promote, Advocate, and Represent the interest of the Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services of Maryland”
An Act to Incorporate the Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Section 1 - Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, that J. Roger McSherry, Charles T. Holloway, Edward Israel, Edward S. Eichelberger, Edward Koontz, Benjamin H. Blackison, Frank Spates, Thomas E. McCardell, E. M. Mobley, G. A. Einwachter, William M. Crimmons, Hiram R. Heck, O. D. Golbert and their associates and successors in office, be and they are hereby constituted and made a body corporate and politic, under the name and style of “The Maryland State Firemen’s Association”, and by that name shall have perpetual succession and be capable in law to hold and dispose of property, real and personal, to sue and be sued, complain and defend in any court of law and equity; to have and use a common seal and alter and renew the same at pleasure; to make and adopt a constitution and bylaws for the government of said body corporate and its affairs provided the same shall not conflict with the constitution and laws of this State or the United States; to elect officers and directors and generally to do every other act or thing to carry into effect the provisions of this act, or to promote the objects and designs of the said corporation.

Section 2 - And be it enacted, That the object and purpose of this corporation shall be to form a more perfect organization among the volunteer firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel of Maryland to establish harmony of action, to provide pecuniary support in cases where firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel who have been injured while in the performance of their duty, to insure prosperity and success, to promote the best interests of the volunteer firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel of Maryland, to encourage the cultivation of fraternal fellowship, to promote the formation of volunteer fire, ambulance and rescue companies in towns and villages in the State that are now without adequate protection from fires and other emergencies requiring rescue and/or emergency ambulance services, to compile statistics of information concerning the practical working of various systems and the merits of various apparatus in use for the aforementioned purposes and to report on the finds and make recommendations to the Association from time to time.

Section 3 - And be it enacted, That the volunteer fire and ambulance and rescue companies of the State of Maryland, comprising the members of this corporation, shall annually in June, elect a President, Fires and Second Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, one Trustee (to serve for five years) and a Chaplain; and that the President shall annually appoint such number as the Executive Committee; who together with the other officers named, shall have the general management of the affairs of the corporation, as respectively set forth in the Constitution of the Corporation.

Section 4 - And be it enacted, That the said corporation hereby formed shall have full power to receive subscriptions, donations, devises and bequests of money, or real or personal property, in trust or otherwise, and to purchase or otherwise acquire, and hold such property, to be applied by it to the objects of its incorporation.
Section 5 - And be it enacted, That J. Roger McSherry, Charles T. Holloway, Edward Israel, Edward E. Eichelberger, Edward Koontz, Benjamin R. Blackison, Frank Spates, Thomas E. McCardell, E. M. Mobley, G. A. Einwachter, O. D. Gilbert, William M. Crimmins and Hiram R. Heck shall be officers and managers of said corporation until the second Thursday in June, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and shall serve as such until their successors are elected.

Section 6 - And be it enacted, that this act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved March 8, 1894.

STATE OF MARYLAND
STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION
301 WEST PRESTON STREET
BALTIMORE 21201

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT the within instrument is a true copy of the ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION as approved and received for record by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland, November 21, 1975 at 8:30 o’clock A.M.

RICHARD H. KELLER
CHARTER SPECIALIST II
ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT
TO THE CHARTER OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION

FIRST: That the General Convention of the members of the Corporation, called by its governing body, and duly convened pursuant to the Constitution of the Corporation on June 17, 1975, upon recommendation of the Officers and Directors of the Corporation, the membership has voted to amend the Charter as follows:

SECOND: The Resident Agent of the corporation shall be: JAMES C. ROBERTSON, 301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

THIRD: The principal of the Corporation shall be located at the Fire Service Extension Building, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

FOURTH: The Charter is amended by striking out Section 2 and section 3 of the Charter and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Section 2. And be it enacted, that the object and purpose of this Corporation shall be to form a more perfect organization among the Volunteer Firemen and Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue personnel of the State of Maryland, to establish harmony of action, to provide pecuniary support in cases where firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel have been injured while in the performance of their duty, to ensure prosperity and success, to promote the best interests of the Volunteer Firemen and volunteer Ambulance and Rescue personnel of Maryland, to encourage the cultivation of fraternal fellowship, to promote the formation of Volunteer Fire,
Ambulance and Rescue Companies in towns and villages in the State that are now without adequate protection from fires and other emergencies requiring rescue and/or emergency ambulance service, to compile statistics of information concerning the practical working of various systems and the merits of various apparatus in use for the aforementioned purposes and to report on the findings and make recommendations to the Association from time to time.

Section 3. And be it enacted, that the Volunteer Fire and Ambulance and Rescue companies of the state of Maryland composing the members of this Corporation shall annually, in June elect a President, First and Second Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, one Trustee (to serve for five years), and a Chaplain; and that the President shall annually appoint such number of persons as may be provided by the Constitution of the Corporation to act as the Executive Committee; who, together with the other Officers named, shall have the general management of the affairs of the Corporation, as respectively set forth in the Constitution of the Corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Maryland State Firemen’s Association has caused these presents to be signed in its name and on its behalf by its President and its Secretary, and to affix its Corporation seal hereunto this 17th day of June, 1975.

ATTEST:
CHARLES B. BURTON, Secretary

THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
by C. EDWIN TURNER SR., President
(SEAL) (SEAL)

STATE OF MARYLAND, TO WIT:
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 17th day of June, 1975, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, personally appeared C. EDWIN TURNER SR., President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, a Maryland Corporation, and in the name and on behalf of said corporation, and pursuant to the authorization of its membership, acknowledged the foregoing Articles of Amendment to be the corporate act of the said Corporation; and at the same time personally appeared CHARLES B. BURTON who made oath in due form of law that he was the Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association at the time of the general convention wherein the a foregoing Amendments were enacted and that the said Amendments were adopted and that the matters and facts set forth in the a foregoing Articles of Amendment are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal the day and year last above written.
(SEAL) Notary Public

Articles of Amendment To The Charter Of The Maryland State Firemen’s Association

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association having had notice of proposed Charter Amendments in accordance with the Constitution of the Maryland State Firemen’s
Association as recommended by the Officers and Directors, and having had notice having attended the annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, and a quorum of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association having been present, and the ballots having been distributed, and the question of the Amendment having been passed as certified by the election judges of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, this Amendment to the Charter of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association,

Witnesseth:

FIRST: That the Resident Agent of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association shall be until his successor is duly appointed, Leonard T. King, 6047, Melbourne Avenue, Deale, Maryland, 120751.

SECOND: The principal office of the corporation shall be 6200 Pontiac Street, Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740.

THIRD: Section 3 of the Charter of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is amended to add to the designated elected officers, the office of Financial Secretary.

FOURTH: With the incorporation of the amendments to its Charter hereinbefore made, the Maryland State Firemen’s Association does reaffirm and republish its Charter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Maryland State Firemen’s Association has caused these presentees to be signed in its name and on its behalf by its President and attested to by its Secretary, this 26 day of August, 1996.

TEST: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Leonard T. King, Secretary

By: Stephan D. Cox, President

STATE OF MARYLAND: COUNTY OF Baltimore: TO WIT: 1996, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, a Maryland Corporation, and in the name and on behalf of the said corporation and pursuant to the authorization of its membership, and acknowledged the a foregoing Articles of Amendment to be the corporate act of the said corporation; and at the same time personally appeared LEONARD T. KING, who made oath in due form of law that he was the Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association at the time of the general convention when on June 18, 1996, the a foregoing Amendments were enacted and that following proper notice to its membership, that said Amendments were voted on adopted, and that the matters set forth in the a foregoing Articles of Amendment are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

AS WITNESS my hand and seal this 26 day of August, 1996.

Judith Lapide
SEAL

Notary Public
***CONSTITUTION***

ARTICLE I- NAME AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1- The name of the Association shall be "The Maryland State Firemen's Association". "MSFA" shall be considered to represent the name of the Association when used, subsequent to this Section, in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2- Regular Membership- Regular members shall be the Volunteer Fire Companies or Departments, Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Companies whose stations are located in the State of Maryland, having equipment, personnel and facilities which comply with the provisions of this Constitution, and who have paid the initiation fee, yearly dues, and have elected delegates and alternates to attend the Annual Convention and Conference of the Association. Nothing in this Article shall
be constructed as affecting the membership status of any volunteer fire company or department, which was a member of the Association on July 1, 1975. The words "Member Companies" as used in the following articles of the Constitution and By-Laws shall include "Volunteer Fire Companies or Departments, and Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Companies", except in those instances where it is necessary to differentiate.

Each company desiring to hold membership in this Association shall pay an initiation fee of five dollars ($5.00). Each active company shall pay to the Financial Secretary on or before the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference each year the sum of Two hundred dollars ($200.00) as annual dues or in the case of new members, a pro rata amount for the current year (payable with the initiation fee), said sum constituting dues for the current fiscal year. Twenty dollars ($20.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships.

Section 3- The MSFA is authorized to suspend a membership, so issued, at any time it determines that the Member Company is proven to be in violation of or no longer meets the qualifications as prescribed under this Article.

Section 4- Associate Membership- Any fire, rescue or ambulance company which does not otherwise meet the standards for membership in the MSFA, and any organization which provides direct services either in supporting any volunteer fire company, rescue company, or ambulance service, by the provision of collateral services which aid the volunteer fire, ambulance and rescue companies of the State of Maryland in providing their services, shall be entitled to apply and upon approval to become Associate Members of the MSFA. Such application would require review and approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee for election to Associate Membership. Action of the Executive Committee is subject to reversal by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership registered and voting at the next Annual Convention and Conference. In order to qualify as Associate Member, the applicant organization must provide services, which directly benefit career or volunteer fire, ambulance or rescue companies of the State of Maryland, such as providing for services at the scene of an emergency, fund raising for such organizations or other similar purposes. The application shall contain a statement of the purpose of the organization applying for Associate Membership, and that it is effectively a non-profit organization; that it is an organization which does not exist for the profit of any individual member thereof, but for humanitarian purposes.

The annual dues for Associate Membership would be fifty dollars ($50.00). The first year's dues plus a five-dollar ($5.00) initiation fee must accompany the application. Twenty dollars ($20.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships.

Associate Members, once approved as such, are entitled to attend activities of the MSFA. However, Associate Members shall not be entitled to a vote with regard to the
Section 5- Sustaining Membership- Any organization which desires to provide pecuniary support or otherwise collaterally support any program or purpose of the MSFA, and the existence of which as an entity does not otherwise contain any conflict with respect to the purposes of the MSFA, may apply to the MSFA as a Sustaining Member. The application for such membership would be required to be submitted to the Executive Committee of the MSFA for review and approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee for election to Sustaining Membership. Action of the Executive Committee is subject to reversal by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership registered and voting at the next Annual Convention and Conference.

The application shall identify the applicant with regard to the name of the applicant, whether the applicant is a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation, the primary business of the applicant, the nature of activities in which the applicant is involved, other than its primary business, the reason for the application, the type of pecuniary or collateral support the applicant proposes to provide to the MSFA, and the nature and constituency of its directors or membership or any other persons having a directorial or managerial interest in the applicant organization. The application will be accompanied by the first year's annual dues of two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00), plus a five-dollar ($5.00) initiation fee. Two hundred dollars ($200.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships.

The applicant, upon approval as a Sustaining Member, would be entitled to attend the Annual Convention and Conference of the MSFA and, by invitation, selected meetings of the Executive Committee of the MSFA, but would have neither a right to a seat in the Annual Convention and Conference nor a right to vote with respect to the affairs of the MSFA. The Sustaining Member shall receive the Maryland State Firemen's Association Trumpet magazine, window decal, and an appropriate recognition award as approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 6- The President shall designate a Special Committee to study and report on the application of any person, firm or corporation for either Associate or Sustaining Membership and to, thereafter, report to the Executive Committee its recommendations with respect to the applicant. Such Special Committee would consist of no less than two (2) members of the Executive Committee, two (2) past presidents of the MSFA, the Chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, the Chairman of the Legislative Committee, and the Chairman of the Standards Committee. In addition, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, up to three (3) additional members-at-large may be appointed to the Special Committee to study and make a recommendation with respect to the application for Associate or Sustaining Membership. This committee shall not exist beyond the recommendation for any subject application.

Section 7- The Executive Committee shall report on the approval of all Associate or
Sustaining Memberships at the Annual Convention and Conference. Such report shall be made prior to the preparation and distribution of ballots, thereby providing the right of the delegates registered and voting to call for reversal of action by the Executive Committee with regard to such approval or disapproval of Associate or Sustaining Memberships. This reversal shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership registered and voting at the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 8- The Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen's Association is a member of the MSFA, without voting privileges and without obligation to pay dues.

Section 9- Member companies of the MSFA and members of those companies shall conduct themselves in a manner, which will be a credit to the MSFA. Any Member Company or members of those companies who are accused of misconduct as defined in the Constitution and By-laws of the MSFA shall be subject to a hearing by the Executive Committee.

Misconduct shall be defined as acting in such a manner and fashion so as to expose the MSFA or the Maryland Volunteer Emergency Services to negative publicity and ridicule by failing to act to remedy an event of misconduct by a member(s) of its Company.

Upon a Member Company or member(s) of a company violating this provision, the Executive Committee shall direct the MSFA Secretary to notify the company, in writing, of the specifics of the misconduct and request a representative of the company to appear before the Executive Committee at a specific time and place.

The Executive Committee in executive closed session shall conduct a formal hearing on the misconduct and/or Constitution and Bylaws violation. The accused shall be accorded due process during the hearing and shall have the right to be heard. After the formal hearing the Executive Committee may dismiss the charges, suspend membership privileges, fine or expel the member.

ARTICLE II- ANNUAL AND SPECIAL CONFERENCES AND CONFERENCES

Section 1- The Annual Convention and Conference shall be held annually in June. Business sessions shall be at the call of the President. The President shall develop an Order of Business for the Annual Convention and Conference, to be approved by the Executive Committee at the first Executive Committee Meeting in the new calendar year. The Order of Business shall enumerate the business session planned and provide, at a minimum, for Reports of Officers; Reports of Committees; Nomination of Officers; Voting for Officers and Constitution and By-Laws changes; Unfinished Business; New Business; Good of the Association; and any other Business to come before the Annual Convention and Conference in the Business Sessions. The location of the Annual Convention and Conference shall be chosen by a majority of the
votes of the Delegates, Alternates, or others qualified, present and voting on the official ballot, at least three (3) years in advance. Each Member Company shall be entitled to cast five (5) votes and the Past Presidents one (1) vote each.

Section 2- Should there, for any cause, be a need to change the place and/or time for the holding of the Annual Convention and Conference, the Executive Committee shall have the power to select the place and the Secretary shall notify the Member Companies of the place chosen, three (3) months prior to the time of the meeting. In case the Annual Convention and Conference is not held for any cause at the time fixed in Section 1, then it shall be held at a subsequent date during the year. The date to be determined by the Executive Committee and notice thereof to be given to the Member Companies by the Secretary.

Section 3- After the holding of the Annual Convention and Conference, the President shall call the delegates to attend Special Conventions and Conferences at times and places named by him, whenever the Executive Committee shall deem Special Conventions and Conferences necessary. Counting from the Centennial, the Association shall schedule a Special Convention and Conference, to be held thereafter, on each 25th year anniversary.

Section 4- All Past Presidents shall be entitled to seats in and participate in the proceedings of the Annual Convention and Conference. (See Article B of these By-Laws).

Section 5- Parliamentary Procedure- Rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the meetings of the MSFA in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws and any special rules that the MSFA may adopt.

ARTICLE III- REPRESENTATION AND RULES

Section 1- Each active Member Company shall be entitled to the benefits of the Association in full.

Section 2- Each active Member Company shall be entitled to elect annually five (5) delegates and five (5) alternates to attend the Annual Convention and Conference, who shall be the representatives of their respective organizations for one (1) year and entitled to participate in the proceedings of the Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences during the year for which the dues of their Member Company has been paid in accordance with Article I, Section 2. No delegate may represent more than one (1) Member Company and no delegate's name shall appear on more than one (1) Credential List.

Section 3- Each Member Company electing delegates and alternates to the Annual Convention and Conference shall furnish said delegates and alternates with proper
credentials certifying to their election, and signed by the President or Secretary of the organization, which shall be forwarded to the Recording Secretary of the Association on or before the third day of June in each year.

**Section 4-** Any Member Company, who is delinquent in paying their dues by the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference, shall automatically be suspended. The Secretary shall notify the Member Company that it has been suspended for failure to pay dues and shall not be permitted to register at the Annual Convention and Conference. If the suspended Member Company does not pay its dues by the Executive Committee meeting, held at least thirty (30) days following the Annual Convention and Conference, the suspended Member Company's membership will be terminated. The terminated company may reapply for membership, pursuant to Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution, and shall pay all dues, in arrears, with the application.

**Section 5- Membership and Voting-** Member shall be defined and qualified as recited in Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution.

Qualified new members shall have the right to participate in the business of the MSFA at Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences as provided in Article III, Sections 2 and 3.

Delegates or Alternates otherwise qualified pursuant to terms of this Constitution shall have the right to vote on all matters properly submitted during Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences.

Past Presidents shall have the right to participate as voting Delegates during the Annual Convention and Conference as provided by Article II, Section 4.

**Section 6- Fiscal Year-** The Fiscal Year of the MSFA shall be July 1st through June 30th. Following the close of the Fiscal Year, the books of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer shall be reviewed by the Financial Committee and a financial report conducted by an outside accounting service of their status made to the Executive Committee, prior to the next Annual Convention and Conference.

**Section 7-** There shall be a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Manual maintained by the Constitution and By-laws Committee which shall contain administrative and operational procedures approved by the President and the Executive Committee. SOPs shall be developed in accordance with SOP A001 “Preparation and Control of Standard Operating Procedures."

**ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS**

**Section 1-** All elected officers of this Association shall be from the active membership of their Active Member Companies, in good standing, and shall consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Treasurer, Chief Chaplain, and a Board of five (5) Trustees.

The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Chief Chaplain shall hold their offices for one (1) year or until their successors are elected. One (1) Trustee shall be elected each year for a term of five (5) years to fill the vacancy in the Board of Trustees occasioned by the expiration of the term of one (1) of the Trustees.

The Financial Secretary and the Treasurer shall hold their offices for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected. The Treasurer and the Financial Secretary shall be elected in alternate years, so that their terms of office do not end in the same year. This initial transition to alternating years will result in the Treasurer being elected for a two (2) year term and the Financial Secretary being elected to a one (1) year term at the June 2007 Convention and Conference. The Financial Secretary will then be elected for a full two (2) year term at the June 2008 Convention and Conference.

Section 2- A majority of the votes of those qualified present and voting shall be required to elect. Each Member Company shall be entitled to five (5) votes. Voting shall be by printed ballot or voting machine.

For any office or place of next Annual Convention and Conference where there is only one (1) nominee, the nominee shall be declared elected or chosen and the office and place shall not be listed on the ballot.

Section 3- Whenever there are more than two (2) candidates, after each ballot when there shall be a failure to elect, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped until two (2) remain.

Section 4- The President shall preside at all conventions and conferences, appoint all committees and in collaboration with the Chief Chaplain, the Treasurer, the Financial Secretary, and the Recording Secretary and appoint Chaplains, Assistant Treasurers, Assistant Financial and Recording Secretaries, if required. The President shall sign orders on the Treasurer for payment of money, and countersign all orders issued by the Board of Trustees for the payment of benefits. In making committee appointments, the President shall be guided by the concept of regionalization as provided for in the Constitution, Article VIII (Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board).

The President shall visit or cause to be visited by the First and/or Second Vice-Presidents as many Active Member Companies and respective bodies of Active Member Companies as possible, the delinquent Member Companies, and the companies or departments that do not belong to this Association.

The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. They shall make an
annual report to the Association and shall perform all other duties as may be required of them by the Association.

The President, after conferring with the Executive Committee, shall annually meet with the Governor with regard to the State Budget to provide for funding requests for the funds to be administered by the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board.

It shall be the duty of the President to invite through the Secretary, the Governor of the State of Maryland to attend the Annual Convention and Conference of the Association. The invitation shall go forward to the Governor at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Annual Convention and Conference, and the President shall provide a period of time on the program to suit the Governor's pleasure.

Section 5- It shall be the duty of the First Vice-President in the case of the death, resignation or inability to act of the President to assume the duties of the President. In the event of the death of both the President and the First Vice-President, or if either be unable to attend the duties of the President, the Second Vice-President shall assume these duties, if necessary.

Section 6- In the absence of the President, the First and Second Vice-Presidents from any convention and conference, one of the delegates shall be called to the chair by a vote of the convention and conference.

Section 7- The Recording Secretary shall keep in an appropriate medium a complete record of all Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences and all meetings of the Executive Committee, and shall publish each year the proceedings book of each Annual Convention and Conference. The Recording Secretary shall receive and answer all communications pertaining to the Association and keep a record thereof. The Recording Secretary shall make an annual report to the Association and also such reports from time to time as the President and Executive Committee may require. The Recording Secretary shall, provide to the meeting of each Annual Convention and Conference, a roll of Member Companies entitled to representation therein, by reason of having complied with the provision of Section 1, Article III, and another roll of Past Presidents, delegates and alternates entitled to a seat in the convention and conference and deliver the rolls together with credentials of the delegates and alternates-elect to the committee on credentials appointed by the convention and conference. The Recording Secretary shall give bond to be approved by the Executive Committee, who shall fix the amount thereof, and it shall be held by the President.

Section 8- The Financial Secretary shall receive all monies and turn them over to the Treasurer. The Financial Secretary shall keep in an appropriate medium, provided for that purpose, a complete record of all the monies received by the MSFA. The Financial Secretary shall give bond, to be approved by the Executive Committee, who shall fix the amount thereof, and it shall be held by the President. The Financial Secretary shall
mail bills to each Member Company in January of each year. Said bills to contain a notice, prominently displayed, that dues are payable in advance and will be considered in arrears after the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 9- The Treasurer shall receive from the Financial Secretary and safely keep all monies belonging to the MSFA. The Treasurer shall sign all checks for the payment of bills of the MSFA, along with the President, the Financial Secretary, or Committee Chairman on whose budgeted funds the check is being drawn, after the expense has been submitted to the Budget and Revenue Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall make a report at the first session of each Annual Convention and Conference, giving an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements, accompanied by the vouchers thereof. The Treasurer shall give bond to be approved by the Executive Committee, who shall fix the amount thereof, and it shall be held by the Financial Secretary.

Section 10- The Board of Trustees shall have control and management of the money annually appropriated to the MSFA by the State of Maryland, and shall not order the expenditure of any of it for any other purpose than paying of the benefits provided for in Article VI.

The Board shall meet after the adjournment of each Annual Convention and Conference and organize by the election of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary from among its number, who shall hold their offices for one (1) year or until their successors are elected. The Board shall also meet prior to the first session of each Annual Convention and Conference and at such other times and places as it may be called together by its Chairman. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall receive and mark, tie and keep a record of all claims for benefits and perform all other duties as prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws. The Board of Trustees shall make a report, in writing, to the MSFA at each Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 11- The Chief Chaplain shall have had formal training of the Word of God, shall have served as a Priest, Rabbi, or Minister; and shall be recognized as a clergyman by the religious group of which he is a member; and shall be elected from any of the Member Companies of this Association, and his duties shall be those that the President shall call for him to perform. If because of Ministerial duties or other reasons he requires assistants, he shall submit his request to the President, together with names. The President may appoint a Chaplain or Chaplains, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to serve until the next Annual Convention and Conference. The Chaplains shall have the responsibilities of conducting the Memorial Service at the Annual Convention and Conference, including the compilation of a list of deceased members.

Section 12- No Officer, Committee Chairman, or Member shall at any time or in any way, by writing or otherwise, take into their hands any matter being handled by an
Section 13- Failure of an Officer to perform their duties shall be deemed just and sufficient cause for suspension from office in the MSFA by the Executive Committee.

Section 14- Travel reimbursement for Officers attending the MSFA Executive Committee shall be in accordance with SOP A003 "Travel Reimbursement".

Section 15- The appointed officers of the MSFA shall be from the active membership of their Active Member Companies, in good standing, and shall consist of the Executive Committee Members, Office of the Parliamentarian, and Office of the Attorney. The appointed officers shall hold their office for one (1) year or until their successors are appointed by the President of the MSFA.

Section 16- The immediate Past President, who shall be an ex-officio member and twelve (12) appointed members shall constitute the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee Members shall be appointed with the provision that no more than one (1) appointed member shall be from any one (1) region represented in the Association.

The Executive Committee shall hold at least three (3) meetings during each year, one (1) within thirty (30) days after their appointments, one (1) at least twenty (20) days before each Convention and Conference, and others at the discretion of the President at such times and places as shall be designated by the President. Other meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by a majority of the Committee.

The Executive Committee shall fix the amount of and approve the bonds of the Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers, if applicable; make all contracts for work to be done or supplies to be provided by this Constitution; and approve Committee Chairman out of pocket expenses incurred by them

incident to the performance of their duties. The Executive Committee shall approve the budget as submitted by the Budget and Revenue Committee, with the right to alter the budget as submitted, within its discretion, as in the best interest of the MSFA.

Any vacancy occurring in an elective office shall be filled by an individual recommended by the President and approved by the Executive Committee. The officer so selected shall serve until the next Annual Convention and Conference; if the term, for which the vacancy occurred does not expire at that Annual Convention and Conference, the term of the successor elected there shall be for the balance of the vacant term.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to call Special Conventions and Conferences through the President. The Executive Committee shall make an annual
report to the MSFA and shall look after its interest generally. At all of its meetings a majority shall constitute a quorum and a majority of those present shall decide all questions. (The Executive Committee shall only receive or make payment of money or contracts during its period of office.)

The Executive Committee shall take an annual inventory of all equipment, supplies, etc., owned by the Association, listing name of article, value of same and in whose custody said article is maintained. This inventory shall be published in the Annual Proceedings Book. No property belonging to the Association shall be disposed of without the consent of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee and the Elected Officers shall manage the affairs of, and the Executive Committee shall transact all business of the MSFA requiring action between the Annual Conventions and Conferences.

The Executive Committee shall review and approve, or disapprove with recommendations all recommendations for grants, loans, or low interest loans made by the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board. The Executive Committee shall confer with the President of the MSFA, with respect to requests for funding to be made for the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board, to be presented to the Governor by the President of the MSFA.

The Executive Committee shall review and approve the creation and/or presentation of any new awards based upon the review and recommendations of the Awards Committee.

Section 17- The Office of the Parliamentarian shall be consultant to and advise the President or other Officers and Committee Chairman on any questions that may arise in interpreting the Constitution and By-Laws. The Parliamentarian shall be present at all meetings during the Annual Convention and Conference to assist the presiding officer on questions of parliamentary inquiry and to call attention of the presiding officer to any error in the proceedings that may affect the substantive rights of any member or may otherwise do harm. The Parliamentarian shall speak when requested by the presiding officer.

Section 18- The Office of the Attorney shall render advice and assistance to the officers and committees on all legal matters involving the MSFA, as requested.

Section 19- All elected and appointed officers and committee members shall turn over to the Executive Committee, all records, equipment, monies and any other property of the Association, upon completion of their term of office or service on a committee.

Section 20- Any officer who requires an assistant, may request, of the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to appoint one (1) or more assistants. An assistant officer shall serve until the next Annual Convention and Conference, unless
removed earlier by the President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee. The duties of each assistant officer shall be within the scope of the duties of, and as determined by, the elected Officer to whom that assistant assists.

**Section 21-** MSFA Officers will be reimbursed for expenses occurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with SOP A002 "Expense Reimbursement".

**Section 22-** The MSFA presidential vehicles are provided for the use of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents for official business of the Association as authorized by the Executive Committee. Rules for the operation and maintenance of the President's vehicles shall be in accordance with SOP A004 "Operation and Maintenance of the President's Vehicle Fleet".

**ARTICLE V- COMMITTEES**

**Section 1-** The Standing Committees of the MSFA shall be:

**17 State Circle Committee-** At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.

**Awards Committee-** To be appointed annually, and to include as members the Chairman of all awards committees and a Chairman, not a member of any such committee.

**Budget and Revenue Committee-** Six (6) members, plus the Treasurer and the Financial Secretary shall constitute the Budget and Revenue Committee. Two (2) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.

**Constitution and By-Laws Committee-** At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

**Convention and Conference Committee-** At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

**Data Systems Committee-** At least six (6) members, two (2) to be appointed each year for a three (3) year term.

**Emergency Medical Services Committee-** At least nine (9) members, three (3) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.

**Financial Committee-** The Committee shall consist of the Office of the Financial Secretary, the Office of the Treasurer, the Budget and Revenue Committee Chairman and a representative of the Executive Committee.

**Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee-** At least nine (9) members, three (3) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.
Firefighter of the Year Committee- At least nine (9) members, appointed annually.

Grants Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

Hall of Fame Committee- At least six (6) members, two (2) to be appointed each year for a three (3) year term.

Historical, Archives, and Volunteer Firefighter's Room Committee- At least seven (7) members, all to be appointed annually.

Incentive Programs Committee- A Chairman and at least nine (9) members, but not more than twenty-three (23) members, who shall cover the various areas of the state.

Legislative Committee- Chairman and one (1) member from each county represented in the MSFA, all to be appointed annually.

Planning Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

President's Vehicle Committee- At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.

Public Relations Committee- At least five (5) members all to be appointed annually.

Recruitment and Retention Committee- At least seven (7) members, all to be appointed annually.

Residential Sprinkler Initiative Committee- At least eleven (11) members, all to be appointed annually.

Risk Management Committee- At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.

Safety Committee- At least five (5) members, terms of two (2) years with three (3) members to be appointed in odd-numbered years and two (2) members appointed in even-numbered years.

Scholarship Committee- At least seven (7) members, three (3) to be appointed every even year for a two (2) year term and four (4) to be appointed in odd years for a two (2) year term.

Sergeant-At-Arms Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

Standards Committee- At least seven (7) members, terms of two (2) years, with four (4) members to be appointed in odd-numbered years and three (3) members to be appointed in even-numbered years.

Statistical Committee- At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.
Training Committee- At least nine (9) members, three (3) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.

Transportation Committee- At least five (5) members, terms to be for two (2) years, with two (2) members appointed in even years and three (3) members appointed in odd years.

Ways and Means Committee- At least six (6) members, all to be appointed annually.

Section 2- The Standing Committees shall be appointed annually by the President, within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the Annual Convention and Conference, with members of Active Member Companies of the Association.

A subcommittee for a specific purpose may be appointed under any Standing Committee. Such subcommittee shall be appointed by the President, with approval of the Executive Committee. The Chairman of the subcommittee shall be a member of the Standing Committee. Reports from the subcommittee shall be presented through the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

Section 3- Committee members shall meet and transact business, meeting as and when scheduled by the Chairman.

The Committee Chairman shall report the activities of the committee, as directed by the President, to the Executive Committee and to members of the MSFA in convention and conference assembled. The failure of a committee member to perform prescribed duties shall be reported to the President, in writing, by the Committee Chairman. The President may remove and replace the offending committee member, who will be notified, in writing, by the MSFA Secretary. Said offending committee member may request, in writing, a hearing by the Executive Committee at its next scheduled meeting. In that event, the Executive Committee will either support or reverse the President's action.

Any appointee to a Standing or Special Committee of the MSFA, or to any Government, Regular or Special board, Commission, study group or administrative agency of this State; or any appointee to any committee or commission of another State or political subdivision; or any appointee to any organization shall report on his or her committee's or commission's activities to the Executive Committee and to the Member Companies of the MSFA in convention and conference assembled. A list shall be appended to the By-Laws, naming such personnel and the non-MSFA bodies on which they are serving; listing terms of appointment, including date each person's term ends; describing briefly the purpose of each group; and showing a minimum schedule of reports to the MSFA, the schedule to be set by the Executive Committee. Such list shall be updated continuously (without need for the Amendment process) as information becomes available or as Executive Committee reporting requirements change.
Section 4- Except as otherwise provided in the Constitution, the President shall fill any unexpired term vacancy in any committee. In newly established committees with staggered terms, lots shall be drawn to determine length of terms of those initially appointed.

Section 5- Travel reimbursement for Committee Chairman or their designated representative shall be in accordance with SOP A003 "Travel Reimbursement".

ARTICLE VI- BENEFITS ADMINISTERED BY THE TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees shall act in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article on Public Safety, Section 7-201, et. Seq. to provide and administer Line of Duty death benefits to spouses and children, or other family members, of volunteer firefighters, volunteer rescue squad personnel, volunteer ambulance personnel, and volunteer advanced life support personnel who have been determined to have died in the Line of Duty.

The Board of Trustees will also provide and administer Line of Duty injury and disability benefits as provided in the Article on Public Safety, Section 7-201, et. Seq.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to increase death and/or disability benefits subject to available funding and in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Article on Public Safety, Section 7-201, et. Seq.

Specific rules and application procedures for the award of benefits shall be published in a manual which shall be made available to the membership of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, and any changes thereto shall be presented to the Executive Committee. The manual shall be reviewed and/or updated at least annually.

ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS

Section 1- This Constitution may be amended or revised at any Annual Convention and Conference by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those entitled to vote and present and voting on the amendments, provided the proposed amendment or revision shall have been submitted, in writing, by the Executive Committee or a member company of this Association and forwarded to the Executive Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference. The proposed amendment or revision to be in the hands of the Secretary, at least sixty (60) days prior to the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 2- Upon receipt of the amendment by the Executive Committee, in accordance with section 1, the Recording Secretary shall mail or distribute by an appropriate means at least forty-five (45) days prior to the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference, copies of the proposed amendments to all member companies in order that the amendments may be acted upon by the said member companies before
ARTICLE VIII- VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND BOARD

Section 1- There is herewith established pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 8, Sections 202-209, a Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board.

Section 2- The Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board ("Board") shall be comprised of twelve (12) persons, who shall be appointed by the President as prescribed in this section, from twelve (12) regional districts, which have been determined by virtue of the number of fire companies located in each district and other geographic consideration, and which are constituted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County/Region</th>
<th>Number of Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegany, Garrett Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, Frederick Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll, Howard Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harford, Cecil Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore County</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel County</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George's County</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talbot, Dorchester Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester Counties</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board members shall be appointed annually by the President for the stated terms, within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the Annual Convention and Conference, with members of Active Member Companies of the Association. A Board member should not be appointed to serve concurrently as an Executive Committee Member. The following credentials should be considered for selection of members to the Board:

* Ten (10) or more years of fire organization experience
* Operational fire service experience
* Administrative fire service experience
* Financial Background

Each member shall serve for a term of three (3) years with four (4) members appointed each year. Of the initial twelve (12) appointments, four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years, four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years and four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year. A Chairman shall be appointed annually by the President.

Section 3- Board members shall meet and transact business, meeting as and when
A) The Board shall appoint a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary. The Vice-Chairman shall assume the duties of the Chairman in the event that the Chairman is unable to fulfill the term of appointment. The Secretary shall record all proceedings of the Board, maintain all records of the Board and initiate and receive correspondence on behalf of the Board.

B) Initially, the Board shall meet and consider, adopt and publish such rules of procedure as is necessary to carry out the functions of the Board as mandated by the aforesaid statute and shall thereafter enact or amend such other rules and regulations as it might be necessary to carry out its purpose. The Board, shall in addition to the foregoing, provide for applications for a low interest loan or grant and provide for distribution of such applications. The rules and regulations enacted by the Board shall include, but not be limited to, the following provisions:

1. That any volunteer fire, rescue or ambulance company of the State of Maryland be entitled to apply for assistance pursuant to the provisions of the statute, to the Board, irrespective of affiliation of the applicant;
2. Develop loan and grant criteria;
3. Develop loan and grant terms;
4. Develop criteria for the loan and grant application process;
5. Develop criteria for prioritization of loan and grant requests;
6. That the business of the Board be conducted in accordance with accepted parliamentary procedure.

C) The Board shall meet as and when necessary to consider or otherwise act upon applications that are pending or as is otherwise necessary to transact the business of the Board. The Board Secretary shall make notification of the meetings to all appropriate parties.

D) The applications submitted to the Board shall be complete and shall have attached thereto the following:

1) Applicants audited financial statements for the most recent two (2) years. For applicants that do not have audited financial statements, each application must have attached thereto financial statements in the form requested by the Board for the applicants most recent two (2) year period along with IRS Form 990 for each year presented on the financial statements.
2) A completed Non-Discrimination Certificate.

E) The Chairman of the Board shall regularly report on the business of the Board to the Executive Committee of the MSFA. No action with respect to any applicant or application recommended by the Board shall be valid unless the Executive Committee of the MSFA approves the same. Initially, all rules and regulations proposed by the Board in reference to its operation, including application forms, shall be approved by the Executive Committee of the MSFA, and thereafter, any amendments to the rules or regulations or changes in any application forms are subject to the herein approval of the Executive Committee of the MSFA.

F) The provision of an application form to an applicant, or the approval by the Board and Executive Committee of the MSFA, shall nevertheless be subject to approval of the Board of Public Works of the State of Maryland and available funding, in accordance with statute as currently constituted or as hereafter amended.

G) The Board shall recommend annually to the Executive Committee of the MSFA the rate of interest charged on the loans.

H) The Board shall not be limited nor otherwise bound with regard to its consideration of an application by any previous action it has taken with respect to any other applicant or application.

I) The Board shall receive and disburse funds in accordance with statute as currently constituted or as hereafter amended.

J) The Board shall in any event be subject in all of its activities to the provisions of the statute as currently constituted or as hereafter amended.

K) The Board shall submit an annual report to the Association, which shall be submitted to the Department of Budget and Management and to the Board of Public Works of the State of Maryland by August 30 of each fiscal year.

ARTICLE IX- FOUNDATIONS, BOARDS, AND AGENCIES

Section 1- The MSFA Foundation is a corporate entity related to the Maryland State Firemen's Association. The Foundation raises funds which provide benefits to the Association. The Foundation reports on its activities to the Executive Committee of the Association.

Section 2- The President shall appoint representatives to all government boards and commissions established by Government agencies, wherein the MSFA is requested to send the name of one (1) or more individuals to the appropriate Appointment Secretary, for the Government body making the request.
Section 3- Where a board or commission has been created, wherein one (1) or more members of the voluntary emergency services would be appropriate to serve as members and where no specific request has been made of the MSFA, the following action shall be taken. The President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee shall direct the Secretary to send to the Chief Executive of the Governmental body creating or establishing the board or commission, one (1) or more names of persons to be considered for appointment as appropriate to represent the interest of the Maryland voluntary emergency services.

***BY-LAWS***

ARTICLE A- STATUS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1- By-Laws shall not be enacted contrary to the form and substance of the MSFA Constitution.

Section 2- Any of the By-Laws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those entitled to vote and present and voting on the amendment at any Annual or Special Convention and Conference.

ARTICLE B- CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES

Section 1- All those entitled to seats in the Annual Convention and Conference shall be entitled to vote upon every question; but no member shall vote on any question in which they have a direct pecuniary interest. The presiding officer of a convention and conference shall not vote unless there is a tie. (Note: See Articles II and III of the Constitution).

Section 2- If any ten (10) member companies require it, the yeas and nays shall be taken and entered upon the records of the MSFA.

Section 3- Any ten (10) member companies may call for the "previous question" and if it is ordered all debate shall cease and the pending question shall be at once put to the convention and conference.

Section 4- The President of the Convention and Conference shall decide all questions of order without debate, subject to an appeal to the Convention and Conference. In case of an appeal the point of order may be debated.

Section 5- Any person called to order shall immediately take his seat until the point of order is decided, when he shall be again entitled to the floor and while speaking shall confine himself to the question and shall not use any personalities or indecorous language.

Section 6- At least one (1) delegate or one (1) alternate from one hundred (100)
different Member Companies, in good standing, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any convention and conference.

Section 7- No Member Company, Association of Member Companies, Auxiliary, individual or any other person, shall be allowed to conduct any raffle, benefit, or solicit alms, in any way, on the floor of the MSFA Convention and Conference.

Section 8- The order of business at the Annual Convention and Conference will be developed in accordance with Article II, Section 1 of the MSFA Constitution.

ARTICLE C- ASSOCIATE/SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

Section 1- Associate/Sustaining Members are entitled to the rights and subject to the limitations specified in Article I of the MSFA Constitution.

Section 2- Associate/Sustaining Members shall not use the logo of the MSFA without special permission of the Executive Committee.

Section 3- Associate/Sustaining Members shall not display FD tags on vehicles owned by them unless they are otherwise qualified, pursuant to the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 13-615.

ARTICLE D- STANDARDS, FIRE COMPANIES/DEPARTMENTS

Section 1— THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE, ALS, BLS, RESCUE, AND MARINE COMPANIES OR DEPARTMENTS ARE:

a) Shall maintain records of responses in accordance with an approved reporting system

b) Provide a heated station of adequate size and configuration to house apparatus, vehicles and equipment

c) Shall have a suitable means of receiving and alarm and alerting membership

d) Shall pass an inspection made by the Standards Committee prior to acceptance

e) Shall pass subsequent inspections made from time to time by the Standards Committee

f) Shall require all emergency vehicle drivers to be trained as Emergency Vehicle Operators

g) Shall require all Marine unit vessels to have a qualified operator

h) As used in these By-Laws the term "emergency medical provider" will include
those individuals having a current valid certification or license issued by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS).

**Section 2— THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES OR DEPARTMENT ARE:**

a) Active membership consisting of at least twenty (20) members including at least three (3) active line officers

b) At least three (3) trained active operators to be appointed to drive and operate the apparatus. These operators shall be thoroughly familiar with the operation of the apparatus and will be under the guidance of the Chief Officer

c) A minimum of ten (10) active members shall have successfully completed at least the Firefighter I training, as conducted by the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute or equivalent, and the Hazardous Materials-Operations Level Course

d) Shall operate apparatus in conformance to the following SOPs defining the MSFA standard for pumpers, pumper/tankers, tankers with pumps, tankers without pump, and aerial apparatus, as applicable:

1. SOP No. S001 "Pumper Standards"
2. SOP No. S002 "Tanker Standards"
3. SOP No. S003 "Ladder Truck Standards"

**ARTICLE E- MINIMUM STANDARDS AMBULANCE COMPANIES MIEMSS VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE INSPECTION PROGRAM**

**Section 1-** The minimum standards herein have been jointly developed by the MSFA and MIEMSS and thus also constitute the standard for the Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program. Upon successful completion of a voluntary inspection conducted by MIEMSS personnel, Certificate of Excellence decals for the ambulance and a Certificate of Excellence wall plaque for the station will be issued by MIEMSS Minimum standards for MSFA member fire and rescue companies operating Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulances are:

a) Active membership consisting of at least ten (10) members with EMS training, two (2) of whom must be Line Officers with responsibility for the ambulance service. For purposes of membership in the MSFA, these ten (10) members must be trained in accordance with subsection "e" of this section.

b) A heated station of adequate size and construction for housing of the apparatus and equipment.
c) A suitable means of receiving an alarm and alerting company membership.

d) Each ambulance shall have reliable two-way radios for communication with dispatch and medical command and control. Said equipment shall be operated in accordance with applicable FCC Rules and Regulations. Where communications equipment, provided by the State EMS Communications System, is operated, said equipment shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time to MIEMSS or State EMS Communications System contracted maintenance personnel. Said equipment shall also be operated and maintained in accordance with State EMS Communications System guidelines.

e) After July 1, 1995, it shall be the standard of every ambulance belonging to a member company of the MSFA, when operated on a mission in or from the State of Maryland, to be staffed by at least two (2) attendants certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, and the Hazardous Materials Operations level course. One (1) of these attendants shall possess current and valid Maryland EMT-B certification (or higher-level certification) issued through MIEMSS. The EMT-B (or higher-level attendant) must care for the patient and ride in the patient compartment during transport. The second attendant, or another person who is not certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, may be the driver. The driver shall be trained as an emergency vehicle operator.

f) Each ambulance shall be registered as an emergency vehicle with the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration or by reciprocity with a bordering state. All apparatus shall be in the preventive maintenance inspection program. Records of inspection under this regulation shall be kept at the location where the vehicle is garaged, assigned, or maintained. The vehicle shall be equipped with NFPA Standards for emergency warning lights and emergency audible devices, including back-up alarm and safety devices.

g) Each company which submits an application for membership in the MSFA and which operates a BLS ambulance shall pass an inspection by the EMS Committee, or its designees, prior to acceptance. This inspection may be in addition to other requirements, if the company also operates fire and rescue apparatus. If the required medical supplies and equipment fail to meet the requirements, the company shall be notified, in writing, and have thirty (30) days to rectify the discrepancies. If the discrepancies have not been rectified, the MSFA membership of the company concerned may be suspended.

h) Member companies which have not previously operated an ambulance and undertake to do so shall, pass an inspection by the MSFA EMS Committee, or its designees, prior to initiating such a service.
a) It shall be the duty of a member company and its officers to comply with the provisions of these sections and all regulations adopted under the authority of these sections. Notification of suspension for non-compliance shall be made, in writing, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, delivered to the member company.

b) Each ambulance shall be equipped with adequate equipment and supplies to care for patients in the pre-hospital phase as dictated by applicable Maryland guidelines and training. Said equipment shall be in good condition and shall be appropriately marked. All reusable items, especially those that are most often left with the patient at a hospital (boards, MAST, etc.), must be clearly marked. Due to the fact that patients are most often transported to trauma centers outside the immediate response area, the following minimum information is required: Ambulance Number (A31, M7, etc.), Company Name (not just initials), County and State Name, and Permanent Accessible Phone Number Including Area Code.

i) The equipment in each ambulance and all records relating to its maintenance and operation as such shall be open for inspection at any reasonable time to a duly authorized representative or designee of the MSFA. Ambulance supplies and equipment are listed in SOP E001 "Ambulance Company Standards".

ARTICLE F- MINIMUM STANDARDS, RESCUE COMPANIES ALS (MICU)

Section 1- Minimum standards for Advanced Life Support (ALS) Companies, performing ALS with a mobile intensive care unit (MICU). A MICU is an ambulance equipped to render ALS and transport the patient to a medical facility. Minimum standards for MSFA member ALS companies operating at the MICU level are:

a) Active membership consisting of at least ten (10) members with EMS training, two (2) of whom must be line officers with responsibility for the ambulance service. For purposes of membership in the MSFA, these ten (10) members must be trained in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

b) A heated station of adequate size and construction for the housing of the apparatus and equipment.

c) A suitable means of receiving an alarm and alerting company membership.

d) Each unit shall have reliable two-way radios for communication with dispatch and medical command and control. Said equipment shall be operated in accordance with applicable FCC rules and regulations. Where communications equipment is operated that is provided by the State EMS communications system or that interfaces with the State EMS communications systems, said equipment shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time, to MIEMSS or State EMS
communications contractual maintenance personnel. Said equipment shall also be operated and maintained in accordance with State EMS communications systems guidelines.

e) From and after July 1, 1994, it shall be the standards of every MICU belonging to a member company of the MSFA, when operated on an ALS mission in or from the State of Maryland, to be staffed by at least two (2) attendants certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, and the Hazardous Materials Operations Level course. One (1) of those attendants shall possess current and valid Maryland Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT) or higher-level certification issued through MIEMSS. The attendant with the higher-level certification shall ride in the patient compartment and shall be responsible for patient care during transport. The second attendant or other person, who is not certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, may be the driver.

f) Each MICU shall be registered as an emergency vehicle with the MVA, or by reciprocity with a bordering state.

g) Each company submitting an application for membership in the MSFA who operates a MICU shall pass an inspection by the EMS Committee or its designees prior to acceptance. This inspection may be in addition to other requirements, if a company also operates fire and rescue apparatus. If the required medical supplies and equipment fail to meet the requirements, the company shall be notified, in writing, and have thirty (30) days to rectify the discrepancies. If the discrepancies have not been rectified, the MSFA membership of the company concerned may be suspended by the MSFA. Notification of suspension for non-compliance shall be made, in writing by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, delivered to the member company.

h) It shall be the duty of a member company and its officers to comply with the provisions of these sections and all regulations adopted under the authority of these sections.

i) Each MICU shall be equipped with adequate equipment and supplies to care for patients in the pre-hospital phase as dictated by applicable Maryland protocols and training. Said equipment shall be in good condition and appropriately marked. The equipment on each MICU and all records to its operation and maintenance shall be open for inspection at any reasonable time to a duly authorized representative or designee of the MSFA.
a) Each MICU shall be equipped with medical supplies and equipment as set forth in SOP E002 "ALS (MICU) Standards".

**ARTICLE G- MINIMUM STANDARDS, RESCUE COMPANIES ALS (CHASE VEHICLES)**

**Section 1-** Minimum standards for Advanced Life Support (ALS) companies performing ALS with a chase vehicle (ALS Unit). An ALS Unit is a vehicle equipped to render ALS, transport the ALS provider and equipment to the scene to provide patient care, and accompany the patient to the appropriate medical facility on an ambulance.

**Note:** This section does not apply to companies operating a chase unit to upgrade an ALS equipped ambulance from basic life support staffed to ALS staffed.

a) Active membership consisting of at least ten (10) members with EMS training, two (2) of whom must be line officers with responsibility for the ALS service. For purposes of membership in the MFSA, these ten (10) members must be trained in accordance with subsection "e" of this section.

b) A heated station of adequate size and construction for the housing of the ALS unit and equipment.

c) A suitable means of receiving an alarm and alerting company membership.

d) Each unit shall have reliable two-way radios for communication with dispatch and medical command. Said equipment shall be operated in accordance with applicable FCC rules and regulations. Where communications equipment is operated that is provided by the State EMS communications system or that interfaces with the State EMS communications system, said equipment shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time, to MIEMSS or State EMS communications contractual maintenance personnel. Said equipment shall also be operated and maintained in accordance with State EMS communications systems guidelines.

e) From and after July 1, 1994, each ALS unit belonging to a member company of the MSFA, when operated on an ALS mission in or from the State of Maryland, to be staffed by at least one (1) attendant certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, and the Hazardous Materials- Operations Level Course. That attendant shall possess a current and valid Maryland Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT) or higher certification issued through MIEMSS. The CRT or higher-level certification shall be responsible for patient care. A second attendant, or other person, not certified to the level of CRT (or higher) may be the driver.

f) Each ALS Unit shall be registered as an emergency vehicle with the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration, or by reciprocity with a bordering state.
g) Each company submitting an application for membership in the MSFA who operates as an ALS unit shall be required to pass an inspection by the EMS Committee or its designees prior to acceptance. If the required medical supplies and equipment fail to meet the requirements, the company shall be notified, in writing, and have thirty (30) days to rectify the discrepancies. If the discrepancies have not been rectified, the MSFA membership of the company concerned may be suspended by the MSFA. Notification of suspension for non-compliance shall be made, in writing by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, delivered to the member company.

h) It shall be the duty of a member company and its officers to comply with the provisions of these sections adopted under the authority of these sections.

i) Each ALS unit shall be equipped with adequate equipment and supplies to care for patients in the pre-hospital phase as dictated by applicable Maryland protocols and training. Equipment shall be in good condition and shall be appropriately marked. The equipment on each ALS unit and all records relating to its operation and maintenance, shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time to a duly authorized representative of the MSFA. Each ALS unit shall be equipped with medical supplies and equipment as stated in Section 3.2 of SOP E002 "ALS (MICU) Standards".

**ARTICLE H- MINIMUM STANDARDS, RESCUE COMPANIES**

**Section 1-** The minimum standards for volunteer rescue companies are:

a) The following rescue equipment shall be carried on a motorized piece of apparatus with a minimum 1/2-ton capacity to carry same without being overloaded. The vehicle shall meet D.O.T. specifications and shall not exceed chassis manufacturer's G.V.W. The vehicle shall be registered as an emergency vehicle and meet all codes of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration or its successors. All apparatus shall be in the preventive maintenance inspection program. Records of inspection under this regulation shall be kept at the location where the vehicle is garaged, assigned, or maintained. The vehicle shall be equipped with NFPA Standards for emergency warning lights and emergency audible devices, including back-up alarm, and safety devices. All personnel staffing this unit shall have protective clothing available.

b) Active company membership consisting of at least ten (10) trained members including two (2) officers; a heated station of adequate size and construction for housing of apparatus and equipment; and a suitable means of receiving an alarm
c) Member companies operating a rescue squad shall maintain on their roster a minimum of ten (10) members who have successfully completed the forty (40) hour basic course in rescue procedures, the intermediate course of Rescue Instruction, or the Rescue Technician course as offered by the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute or equivalent, and the Hazardous Materials-Operations Level Course.

d) Equipment standards are found in SOP E003 "Rescue Company Standards".

**ARTICLE I- MINIMUM STANDARD BLS FIRST RESPONDER UNITS**

Section 1- The standards for this unit are found in SOP E004 "BLS First Responder Standards".

**ARTICLE J- MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR MARINE UNITS**

Section 1- Standards for watercraft are found in SOP E005 "Watercraft Standards".

**ARTICLE K- COMMITTEE DUTIES**

**NOTE:** For duties of the Executive Committee, refer to MSFA Constitution, Article IV, Section 16.

Section 1- The 17 State Circle Committee shall be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the building at 17 State Circle, Annapolis, for so long as it is leased to the MSFA, including such duties as formulation of a budget based on maintenance and operating expenses, recommending alterations in conformity with guidelines of the Maryland Historical Society, preservation of the building as a show place for the MSFA, and establishing exhibits of selected MSFA memorabilia.

Section 2- The Awards Committee shall coordinate functions of the MSFA Committees responsible for the selection and making of awards.

Section 3- The Budget and Revenue Committee shall establish and maintain procedures to implement the budget, with approval of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall supervise the compilation of the MSFA annual budget and submit same, with recommendations, to the Executive Committee for final approval. The Budget and Revenue Committee at the time they present the Budget to the Executive Committee shall make a recommendation of monies to be kept in Reserve for that Budget year. That Reserve can only be changed by a supplemental Budget.

Section 4- The Constitution and By-laws Committee shall formulate and present proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws to the Executive Committee,
providing the proposals have been submitted, in writing, in accordance with Article VII, Section 1, entitled "Amendments".

Section 5- The Convention and Conference Committee shall make arrangements for the Annual Convention and Conference and, as needed, shall coordinate activities with local organizations.

Section 6- The Data Systems Committee shall establish a mechanism for collecting and recording information on the type and value of each kind of financial support provided or available by counties and municipalities to fire, emergency medical services, and rescue companies in each jurisdiction. All appropriate information on equipment, buildings (including federally and/or state owned structures), membership, alarms, etc., is to be included in the database. Gathering and use of the information is to be coordinated with the Statistical Committee and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board.

Section 7- The Emergency Medical Services Committee shall represent the Ambulance and Rescue Services in the member companies in formulating standards to comply with regulations as deemed necessary under the Emergency Medical Service of Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The committee shall provide information to and cooperate with the Firemen's Training Committee in the development of a Ten (10) Year Training Plan, including such training relating to the provision of Emergency Medical Services.

Section 8- The Financial Committee shall function as a team consisting of the Office of the Financial Secretary, the Office of the Treasurer, the Budget and Revenue Committee Chairman, and a representative of the Executive Committee.

The team will be responsible for the fiscal matters of the Association and shall provide an annual Financial Report conducted by an outside accounting service to the Executive Committee by the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 9- The Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee shall develop and promote a statewide year-round fire prevention program. The program shall be planned and promoted to inform the people of Maryland of all age groups. The program shall be developed and carried forward in cooperation with the Director of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute and the State Fire Marshall, who will serve as technical advisors to the Committee. The Committee may enlist the aid of any interested organization, group or individuals at the discretion of the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee or at the direction of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall furnish a written report at each meeting of the Executive Committee, and it shall present a complete report of Committee activities during the year to the delegates assembled at the Annual Convention and Conference. The Committee shall
Section 10- The Firefighter of the Year Committee shall be responsible for receipt of the nominations and selection of the recipient of the annual MSFA award. The Committee shall solicit nominations for the National Volunteer Fire Council's award and submit appropriate names to that group.

Section 11- The Grants Committee shall promote participation in grant programs and provide assistance to Companies/Departments with grant applications and grant writing.

Section 12- The Hall of Fame Committee shall be responsible for naming persons to the MSFA Hall of Fame, Marbury F. Gates Service Cup Award, and the Roll of Honor, in recognition of their efforts on behalf of the Fire/EMS/Rescue service.

Section 13- The Historical, Archives, and Volunteer Firefighter's Room Committee shall compile historical data relative to fire, emergency medical services and rescue activities in Maryland. This committee shall represent the MSFA in all matters relating to the Volunteer Firefighter's Room and shall coordinate appropriate MSFA activities including, but not limited to, furnishing and decorating with those activities of the University College, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland. The Committee shall endeavor to locate and acquire items for exhibit in a permanent museum and perform such other duties as may be required by the MSFA.

Section 14- The Incentive Programs Committee shall be responsible for monitoring incentive programs, coordinate the collection of information for programs such as LOSAP, Income Tax Modification and other programs that might come about, to provide for volunteer firefighters, rescue, and emergency medical personnel.

Section 15- The Legislative Committee shall formulate and monitor the passage of such legislation as may be to the interest and benefit of the MSFA. The Chairman of the Committee shall register as the legislative agent for the MSFA and shall direct others that assist him in this endeavor to also register. The Chairman shall keep records and file reports as required by the laws of Maryland and shall assure that any person registered on behalf of the Association also keeps and files records required by law. The Chairman shall report regularly and seek advice from the Officers and the Executive Committee on positions of the MSFA, but shall have the authority to act by lone judgment when time is of the essence, being ever mindful of the goals and aims of the MSFA.

Section 16- The Planning Committee shall in conjunction with the Presidents and Executive Committee develop short and long range goals and plans of the Association.

Section 17- The President's Vehicle Committee shall be responsible for the acquisition, maintenance, and disposal of Association vehicles and accessories.
Section 18- The Public Relations Committee shall compile information of interest to fire, emergency medical services, rescue companies and the public, making this information generally known throughout the State, by whatever method that can be used to the best interest of the MSFA. The Committee shall perform such other duties as may be required by the Association and shall submit a written report of its activities to the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 19- The Recruitment and Retention Committee shall be responsible for developing and executing programs to assist members with recruiting new members and keeping their existing members.

Section 20- The Residential Sprinkler Initiative Committee supports and works with local fire service groups in establishing requirements for residential sprinkler systems in new one (1) and two (2) family dwellings and educate various groups on the facts about residential sprinklers.

Section 21- The Risk Management Committee shall monitor MSFA insurance requirements and recommend adjustments as needed.

Section 22- The Safety Committee shall promote a statewide safety program among member companies. The program will be planned so as to provide companies with material and literature on safety on the scene of any emergency and driving of equipment to emergencies, drills and parades. The Committee will cooperate with the Training Committee, the Emergency Medical services Committee, Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute or its successor, and any such agency that promotes safety. The Committee will have published in the bulletin of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, its successor, or other such publications, information on accidents as well as precautions to be taken for the best interest and welfare of personnel. The Committee will make a report at each meeting of the Executive Committee and will present a complete report for the year to the delegates at the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 23- The Scholarship Committee shall by June 1st in cooperation with scholarship committees of appropriate universities, colleges, academies, or other institutions of higher learning within Maryland to determine to provide or deny grants or loans to new applicants or continuing students. The Committee shall in proper cases award, to the extent funds are available, such grant or loan to an eligible applicant or student participating in a course related to fire or health services including, but not limited to, fire sciences or emergency medical services.

The Committee may use funds provided through resources of the MSFA Foundation or from other sources. The Committee is authorized to solicit funds for grants or loans from any source it deems proper. The Committee shall from time to time, promulgate rules and regulations relating to its duties, eligibility of applicants or recipients, acceptable sources of funds to be solicited or regulations dealing with liability of a
Section 24- The Sergeant-At-Arms Committee shall maintain order at all Executive Committee meetings, the MSFA Convention and Conference, and other meetings as required.

Section 25- The Standards Committee shall study and keep abreast with fire fighting, emergency medical services and rescue requirements and make recommendations for any changes that would improve the standards of this Association, and to make inspections or perform such other duties as may be required by the Association.

Section 26- The Statistical Committee shall assist and cooperate in the formation and operation of a uniform statistical reporting system (Statistical Report) by the State. The Committee shall require the use of the uniform statistical reporting system by all member companies of the MSFA and shall obtain and compile other statistical information as may be requested by the MSFA.

The failure, in any two consecutive years, of a member company of the MSFA to provide to the MSFA a Statistical Report as required by the Statistical Committee shall lead to the suspension of said company from the MSFA until such reports are filed.

Section 27- The Training Committee shall promote programs responsive to the needs of the fire service located within the State of Maryland and shall continue the development of a ten (10) year training program which reflects the future needs of the Maryland Fire Service; in addition, the Training Committee shall be the official voice of the MSFA in fire service training matters with the University of Maryland and other vocational or educational organizations of this State. The Committee shall advise and collaborate with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute in the conduct of courses of instruction for the Maryland Fire Service; and shall encourage and assist in developing regional schools and local and other specialized courses in the State. The Committee shall recommend to the Executive Committee enabling legislation, which will maintain and advance the necessary fire service training plans or programs. The Committee shall submit periodic reports to the Executive Committee and a written report of its activities to the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 28- The Transportation Committee shall provide to the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration or its successor, as required, proof by MSFA that applicants for special "FD" license plates are eligible members of a volunteer fire department, or emergency medical services company, or auxiliary thereof. The applicable fees and time periods shall be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee on its own motion or on the request of the Transportation Committee. It shall be responsible for notifying companies and auxiliaries of current procedures for obtaining such plates or validation stickers for them. The Committee should maintain a close working relationship with the M.V.A. concerning any matters that may affect the emergency services organizations of their members. The Committee shall also maintain liaison with the Maryland Toll
Facilities Administration to continue the special privileges provided for authorized emergency vehicles.

Section 29- The Ways and Means Committee shall operate the MSFA's annual raffle and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to it.

ARTICLE L- NON-DISCRIMINATION

Section 1- This organization prohibits discrimination in membership or other activities on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental handicap.

The Constitution and By-laws of the Maryland State Firemen's Association have been revised and updated with the amendments approved at the 120th Annual Convention and Conference held at Ocean City, Maryland, June 16-22, 2012.

Punctuation and grammatical errors were corrected August 14, 2013.

Steven J. Scheinin, Chairman Constitution & By-laws Committee

APPENDIX A

MSFA Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

SOP A001 "Preparation and Revision of Standard Operating Procedures" SOP A002 "Expense Reimbursement"

SOP A003 "Travel Reimbursement"

SOP A004 "Operation and Maintenance of the President's Vehicle Fleet" SOP E001 "Ambulance Company Standards"

SOP E002 "ALS (MICU) Standards"

SOP E003 "Rescue Company Standards"

SOP E004 "BLS First Responder Standards"

SOP E005 "Watercraft Standards"

SOP 5001 "Pumper Standards"

SOP 5002 "Tanker Standards"

SOP 5003 "Ladder Truck Standards"
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF DEADLINE DATES FOR AWARDS

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<td>Josiah A. Hunt, M.D., EMS Person of the Year Award</td>
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Check msfa.org (Awards) for details and specifics for each award
RUSSELL J. STRICKLAND AWARD

Purpose of Award: The Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board has established an award in honor of Russell J. Strickland. This award is to be presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated professionalism in the field of fire service certification in the same manner that Mr. Strickland performed for the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board.

Mr. Strickland was instrumental in the organization and founding of the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board and has served in many capacities including Treasurer, Chairman of the Accreditation Training Review Agencies Task Force and while holding the position of Assistant Director of the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute served as a member of that agency’s Accredited Training Review Agency Local Review Board and as their Representative to the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board. Mr. Strickland also served many years as the Maryland Representative to the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications.

Professional, dedicated, honest and fair were the hallmarks of Mr. Strickland’s daily life and work. His words and deeds were always courteous and respectful. It is in this light that the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board honors Mr. Strickland through this award.

Award Criteria: The Russell J. Strickland Award is presented to a worthy individual who has made significant contributions towards the promotion of certification for fire and emergency services personnel in the State of Maryland in keeping with the high standards of dedication and professionalism exhibited by Russell J. Strickland.

Nomination Process: A call for nominations will be open to all member agencies during the months of January thru February each year and all member agencies are invited to participate. Nominations for the Russell J. Strickland Award must be submitted to THE RUSSELL J. STRICKLAND AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE, Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board, c/o Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, University of Maryland, Building 199, College Park, Maryland 20742-6811 by March 1st of each year on the form designed specifically for this award. A one-page narrative shall be attached to the nomination form detailing the nominee’s contributions and up to 3 endorsements for the nominee may be included. The endorsements shall be no more than three pages in length and should thoroughly detail the nominee’s contribution.

Previous Recipients: 2013
2014
FRANCIS L. BRANNIGAN
INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of an individual or group contribution to fire, rescue, and emergency medical services training and education.

Award Sponsor: Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors, and the Maryland Chapter of the International Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors.

Award Administered By: Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors

Background: The Francis L. Brannigan Instructor of the Year Award was first established by Professor Francis L. Brannigan in 1977. Professor Brannigan was the first and longtime Professor with the Montgomery College Fire Science Program and a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers. This award is presented annually by the Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors in recognition of an individual or group contribution to fire, rescue, and emergency medical services training and education in Maryland.

Award Rules:

1. In order to be considered for the award, the following should be addressed in the nomination:
   A. The contribution during the previous calendar year with any specific information related to fire, rescue, and EMS training and education.
   B. The contribution made to fire, rescue, or EMS training and education during the years prior to the previous calendar year.

2. Nominees do not have to be members of the Maryland fire and rescue service or the Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors to be considered.

3. Nominations should be sponsored by a chapter member and submitted in a narrative format with as much specific information as possible to:
   Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
   4500 Paint Branch Parkway
   College Park, MD 20742

4. All nominations must be received no later than March 31st of each year.

5. The award is presented at the Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Previous Recipients:

1977    Francis L. Brannigan    2000    Michael Weller
1977    Warren E. Isman        2001    Mark New
1978    Kurt Eisenschmidt       2002    Jackie Carey
1979    Theodore L. Jarboe      2002    Stephan Cox
2005    Mike Crawford           2004    John G. "Jack" Hulet
1981    Mary Beth Michos        2006    Alan L. Braver
1982    John McNeece            2007    Earl Powell
1983    Not Awarded             2008    
1984    Harry Devlin            2009    George Fairfax
1985    W. Newton "Skip" Carey  2010    Jeff Dickey
1986    Judith K. White         2011    Mark Falkanhan
1987    State Fire Marshal’s Staff 2012    Daniel J. Stevens
1988    Margaret E. SeBour      2013    
1989    Herman E. Rhue          2014    David Lewis, PP
1990    Milton Zepp             2015    
1991    Andrew I Levy           2016    Stephan D. Works
1992    George A. Morgan        2017    
1993    Leon M. Fleming         
1994    Clarence “Smiley” White  
1995    Leonard E. Yox          
1996    Robert I. Rose          
1997    W. Newton “Skip” Carey  
1998    William Luberman        
1999    Elaine Wedding          

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SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Applicants may apply for scholarship assistance in the following areas:
1. Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland.
2. Emergency Health Services at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC).
3. Current approved curricula are the Management and Paramedic tracks, which lead to a Bachelor’s Degree.
4. Any Maryland Community College, in a curriculum that leads to a Bachelor’s degree in Fire Protection Engineering.
5. Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Fire Sciences or Emergency Medical Services leading to a Bachelor’s Degree.
6. Any Maryland University, in a curriculum leading to a Bachelor’s Degree in Fire or EMS related fields.
7. Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Emergency Medical Services leading to an Associates Degree.
8. This scholarship is paid directly to the educational institution for the purpose of tuition and fees. At no time will this scholarship be awarded directly to the student or third party for cash or payment.

The committee has assigned the following priorities to control scholarship grants:
1. Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland. (Juniors in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
2. Fire Science at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC). (Juniors in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program.)
3. Emergency Health Service Majors at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). (Juniors in good standing or higher standing or higher, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
4. Community College in Fire or EMS related programs leading to a Bachelor’s Degree.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

Application must be submitted by April 15th to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year.

Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support.

Applications are available via download from the MSFA Web Site.
Program Requirements:
All applicants must enter full time or part-time status as a student in his/her respective
College/University to be eligible for the scholarship.

Verified acceptance by the respective College/University with confirmation of approved
program acceptance will be a prerequisite for receipt of a scholarship.

The awarded scholarship will be made available to the finance office of the College/
University specified in the application at the beginning of the academic school year or
designated semesters. At no time will the scholarship be awarded as cash funds to the
individual recipient.

Unused funds are to be returned by the academic institution at the end of the academic
year.

Applicants are required to advise the committee of any other grants or scholarships
that have been awarded or for which the applicant is eligible at the time of application.

The respective campus finance office will be asked to review each application for
scholarship assistance.

All applicants must be Maryland State High School Graduates or hold a GED. Verification
of five years of active volunteer service in a Maryland fire or EMS company/department
may be substituted for this requirement.

The applicant for any approved degree program shall be required to submit a letter of
recommendation from his/her volunteer Fire/Rescue or EMS Company.

This letter must be signed by the President of the applicant’s member company and
accompany the application for scholarship.

Applicants must have completed one year of study at a college/university earning no
less than 12 credit hours per semester and have been accepted to participate in an
approved degree program.

Currently supported college level students will be required to maintain an acceptable
Grade Point Average (GPA) 3.0 to be eligible for scholarship support for the ensuing
academic year.

Currently supported college level students who have not maintained an acceptable
GPA of 3.0 but have a GPA above 2.5 or greater will be placed on academic probation
and required to bring their GPA back to the accepted standard with in one academic
year to remain eligible for the scholarship.
New sophomore applicants are required to have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for the program.

All students that have been awarded a scholarship are required to submit their transcript at the completion of each semester while receiving the scholarship.

Failure to present current grades at the completion of each semester to the scholarship committee may result in future funds being withheld and ineligibility for future academic years.

Students must maintain full time status and carry no less than 12 credit hours per semester to be eligible for the scholarship.

Students dropping below the required credit hours per semester will forfeit their scholarship and be required to reimburse the Maryland State Firemen’s Association the full amount of the scholarship.

Students changing to a major not supported by the program or dropping out of school may be required to reimburse the Maryland State Firemen’s Association the awarded scholarship or a portion thereof.

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the selection committee.

It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

In an effort to conserve funds and to give our younger persons the opportunity for a college experience, committee policy is to deny scholarship support to those applicants currently holding a Bachelor or equivalent degree.

For more information, please contact:
Glenn Dale Fishack Jr., Chairman
Maryland State Firemen’s Association
Scholarship Committee
14545 Barkdoll Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
EMAIL: chiefringgold@aol.com
Scholarship Application
(Please Type or Use Dark Ink)
Page 1 of 3

Name: _____________________________________________________
Date of Birth:_____/_____/_______
Home Address: _______________________________________________________
City: ___________________________________________________ State:___________
Zip Code:_________________
Phone Home:_____________________________
Cell:_____________________________________
Email Address:____________________________

Name of Volunteer Fire Department/Auxiliary:
Address:_______________________________________________________
City: _________________________________________ State:____________
Zip Code:_________________
President of Department: ____________________________________________
________________________________________
Phone #: ______________________________________
Year Joined: __________________________________
Years of Membership: ________________________

List all Fire or EMS Certifications and Courses, (ATTACH Copies of Cards and Transcript):
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

High School Attended:____________________________________________
Date Graduated:___________
Address: _________________________________________________________
City: _________________________________________ State:____________
Zip Code:_________________

If GED, Give date entered, received and location: _________________________
________________________________________________________________

Scholastic & Athletic Honors Receive in College: _________________________
List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a Member or Participated in High School. (Include any Office Held):
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

*****ATTACH DOCUMENTATION*****

List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a member or participated in college. (Include any Office Held):
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List any other financial assistance opportunities for which you have applied or will be receiving:
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

*****ATTACH DOCUMENTATION*****

Name of Educational Institution that you are attending:
________________________________________________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________
Major: _________________________________________
Name of Faculty Advisor: __________________________________________
Phone:__________________
Status: FULL TIME / PART TIME Credits per Semester: ______________
Credits completed towards Major: _________________________________
GPA:____________________

Please circle Level for academic year that you are seeking scholarship:
Sophomore / Junior / Senior

Scholastic & Athletic Honors Receive in College: _________________________
_______________________________________________

*****ATTACH DOCUMENTATION*****

List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a Member or Participated in College. (Include any Office Held):
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List any other financial assistance opportunities for which you have applied or will be receiving:
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________
List any other financial assistance that you have been awarded: ________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
List scholarships or awards previously received: ____________________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
Employer: __________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________  
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________  
Zip Code:_____________  
Supervisor: ____________________________________  
Phone #: ___________________________________  
Full Time/ Part Time Hours per week: _____________________  
Do you plan to continue to work while in school: YES / NO Full Time/ Part Time?  
On a separate sheet of paper to be submitted with the application please answer  
the following questions in typed essay format approximately 250 to 500 words.

1. Why are you applying for financial assistance?  
2. What inspired you to pursue this course of study?  
3. What are your career goals and objectives upon completion of this degree?

Before submitting this application, be sure the following items are enclosed:  
1. Application  
2. High School Transcript  
3. College Transcript  
4. Letter from President of Fire Department/Auxiliary  
5. Copies of Awards and Certifications  
6. Essay  

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection  
and will not be reviewed by the Selection Committee. It is the responsibility of  
the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting  
supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.  

I hereby declare that all of the above information is complete and correct to the  
best of my ability.
Signature: __________________________ Date: ____/____/______

Please return the completed application with all accompanying documentation to the chairman, at the address indicated below, no later than March 31st to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support.

CHAIRMAN:
Glenn Dale Fishack Jr.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association
Scholarship Committee
14545 Barkdoll Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
EMAIL: chiefringgold@aol.com
Scholarship Renewal Application
(Please Type or Use Dark Ink)
Page 1 of 3

Name: _____________________________________________________
Date of Birth:_____/_____/_______
Home Address:____________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________
Zip Code:________________
Phone #’s: Home:_____________________Cell:_________________________
Email Address:____________________________________________________
Name of Volunteer Fire Department/Auxiliary: ___________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________

President of Department/Auxiliary: ____________________________________
Phone #: ________________________________________
Year Joined: ____________________________________
Years of Membership: __________________________________

Name of Educational Institution that you are attending:
________________________________________________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________

Major: ________________________________________
Name of Faculty Advisor: ___________________________________________
Phone:_________________
Status: FULL TIME / PART TIME Credits per Semester: _________________
Credits Completed towards Major: ___________________________________
GPA:__________________

Please circle Level for academic year that you are seeking scholarship:

Sophomore / Junior / Senior

*****ATTACH A COPY of TRANSCRIPT with APPLICATION*****

Scholastic & Athletic Honors Receive in College:
________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

*****ATTACH DOCUMENTATION*****
List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a Member or Participated in college. (Include any Office Held):

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List any other financial assistance opportunities for which you have applied or will be receiving: __________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List any other financial assistance that you have been awarded:
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List scholarships or awards previously received:
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Employer: ________________________________________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________
Supervisor: ___________________________________
Phone #: ___________________________________
Full Time/ Part Time Hours per week: ____________

Do you plan to continue to work while in school: YES / NO Full Time/ Part Time

Before submitting this application be sure the following items are enclosed:

Application Letter from President of Fire Department/ Auxiliary

College Transcript, Copies of Awards and Certifications

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the Selection Committee. It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

I hereby declare that all of the above information is complete and correct to the best of my ability.

Signature:__________________________ Date:_____/_______/_______
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Please return the completed application with all accompanying documentation to the chairman, at the address indicated below, no later than **March 31st** to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support.

**CHAIRMAN:**
Glenn Dale Fishack Jr.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association
Scholarship Committee
14545 Barkdoll Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
EMAIL: chiefringgold@aol.com
PAST PRESIDENT C. OSCAR BAKER
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of the Outstanding Rookie Firefighter/EMS Provider

Award Sponsor: Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company or Carroll County

Award Administered By: Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company and the elected officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Background: The Past President C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award was established by the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 2002. The award was established to honor Past President C. Oscar Baker for his sixty (60) years of active service to the citizens of Mount Airy and the surrounding communities, Carroll County and the State of Maryland. Past President Baker has served as President of the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company, President of the Carroll County Volunteer Firemen’s Association and President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (1978-79). Past President Baker retired as Fire Chief of the National Bureau of Standards and then served as the Volunteer Coordinator for Carroll County for several years. He was a field instructor for the Fire Service Extension and later the Maryland Fire/Rescue Institute for several decades. Past President Baker has served as Chair of several committees of the MSFA, including: the Training Committee, Hall of Fame and the Centennial Committee. The Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company saw it fitting to honor someone who is beginning their emergency service career with an award to encourage them to reach the high level of service and dedication to our citizens we all serve that Past President C. Oscar Baker exemplifies. The award is to be presented during the annual convention and conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

Award Rules
1. Nominee must be from a member company or department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
2. Any active member of a member company or department of the MSFA may submit the name of a nominee for the award.
3. Junior/Cadet members of a member company or department are NOT eligible for this award. Time spent as a Junior/Cadet member does not count towards the 24 months of service.
4. Nominee must be an active Senior Member of the sponsoring company or department, and at least 17 years of age at the time of award application.
5. Nominee must have at least 6 months, but less than 24 months of active membership with the sponsoring company or department, calculated from the April 15th application due date.
6. A nominee that transfers from one company or department to another is not eligible for the award unless their total time of membership is less than 24 months combined.

7. Nominations in the form of a resume must be submitted on an individual basis only and on official company or department letterhead or stationary.

8. Nominations must be submitted to, and received by the MSFA Secretary no later than April 15th of each year. Late entries will NOT be considered.

9. All elected officers of the MSFA will judge nominees.

10. The mailing address for entries is:
    Doyle E. Cox
    Secretary, Maryland State Firemen’s Association
    29132 Superior Circle
    Easton, MD 21601

**Award Details:**

Upon selection of the winner of the award, the President or Chief of the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company shall be notified no later than May 15th of the selection. This will allow preparation of the personal trophy and the recording of the individual’s name on the master trophy.

The master trophy will have the date of the award, name and fire company of the recipient engraved thereon and will, for one year from date of presentation until the next MSFA Annual Convention and Conference, remain in the responsible custody of the honored individual’s company. The personal trophy also suitably endorsed will be presented to the individual to covet and keep forever. The selected award winner will also receive the C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the MSFA Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is blue/red and the gold medal is inscribed as Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year, with the year and the MSFA Seal in the center.

**Previous Recipients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Chris McDonald</td>
<td>Maryland City</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Matthew Rose</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Derek R. Dods</td>
<td>Mt. Airy</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Rachel Goucher</td>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Jeffery A. Martin</td>
<td>Potomac Valley</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Jennifer Chafin</td>
<td>Branchville</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Michael Offutt</td>
<td>Woodsboro</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Charles Cadden</td>
<td>Arbutus</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Tyler Olson</td>
<td>Ferndale</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Brandy C. Guy</td>
<td>Seventh District VFD</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Nicholas Haspert</td>
<td>Winfield Community</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Jesse Cade</td>
<td>Herald Harbor</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Stainaker</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Keith Clemente</td>
<td>Winfield Community VFD</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Nicholas Aldridge</td>
<td>Maryland City</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Andrew Eppley</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Noah C. Day</td>
<td>North East Fire</td>
<td>Cecil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EDWIN L. EMKEY SR. CADET AWARD

**Purpose of Award:** Recognition of the Outstanding Company Cadet Program

**Award Sponsor:** Maryland State Firemen’s Association Past President Roger N. Powell

**Award Administered By:** Maryland State Firemen’s Association

**Background:** The Edwin L. Emkey Sr. Cadet Memorial Award was established by President Roger N. Powell and underwritten by American Claims Service and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee at the November 2011 meeting. The award was established to recognize Edwin L. Emkey Sr. for his outstanding service in promoting Cadet Programs. The outstanding Cadet Program must be sponsored by a fire, rescue, and or EMS department, company or squad. The program should be based on the teaching of safety and basic skills required for firefighting or Emergency Medical Service.

The nomination may be submitted by a committee within the department, company and/or squad, as long as it is verified by the president and/or chief. The award will be presented each year at the annual convention and conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. The winning department, company or squad will be awarded a master trophy, which will be held for one year and relinquished at the following convention and conference, at which time, the past-year recipient will receive a plaque for permanent possession. The trophy will have the award date and name of the company engraved thereon and will, for one year from date of presentation until the next MSFA annual convention and conference, remain in the responsible custody of the honored fire, rescue, and/or EMS department, company or squad. The winning department, company or squad will also receive a Five Hundred Dollar ($500) prize, which will be utilized to assist with providing funding for the cadet program.

**Award Rules:**

1. The department/company must be a member in good standing of the MSFA
2. To be eligible for the nomination, cadet program must:
   a. Have a minimum of seven cadets between the ages of 9 and 15
   b. Program must have been established no less than 5 years prior to nomination
   c. Must hold monthly or bi-monthly meetings, drills, training events, community service programs and be involved in other department or company activities
3. The nomination must be submitted in a resume form letter on department/company letterhead, indicating when the Cadet Program was established, number of members, activities over the previous year, including all community
activities, training and fund raising.

4. Any book entered, including scrapbooks, photo albums, or loose-leaf binders, cannot exceed 12 x 15.5 inches. The thickness of the book is not limited. The book entered will only be used as backup information to the resume.

5. Slide presentations, DVDs, slide/tape presentations and video tape presentations will not be accepted.

6. Photographs and newspaper clippings must be dated and the sources indicated.

7. Entries must be in the hands of the Selection Committee by April 1st

8. All materials submitted should reflect activities of the previous calendar year (Jan. through Dec.)

9. Judges shall be the elected officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the decision of the judges shall be final.

10. Any evidence of material from previous years will automatically disqualify the entry.

11. Send or deliver all entries to Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

Previous Recipients:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cadet Company/Department</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012 English Consul Cadets</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Arcadia VFC</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Williamsport Volunteer Fire and EMS</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Williamsport Volunteer Fire and EMS</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Williamsport Volunteer Fire and EMS</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Arcadia VFC</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 Williamsport Volunteer Fire and EMS</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COLBURN TROPHY AWARD

Purpose of Award: Outstanding Act of Heroism

Award Sponsor: Princess Ann Volunteer Fire Company

Award Administered By: Board of Trustees

Background: At the 40th Annual Convention in Frostburg in June, 1932, the Colburn Silver Cup was presented to the Association by retiring President George W. Colburn Jr. The award is to be awarded in line of succession from year to year to a firefighter in our organization for some outstanding act of heroism or from some act for the good of the Association. Qualifications and awards to be made by the Board of Trustees who shall act as judges. This cup is to be presented at the Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association with appropriated ceremonies.

At the 66th Annual Convention in Ocean City in June 1958, due to the lack of space for more recipient’s names, the original Colburn Silver Cup was retired and presented to the Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company to be placed in their fire station in honor of Dr. Colburn. Since the retirement of the original cup, the Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company has agreed to supply a replacement for the Colburn Cup each year with this difference; that it will be retained by the recipient for keeps. Your department surely must have a member who would be eligible to have his/her name submitted to the Board of Trustees to be considered for this high award.

The recipient will receive the Colburn Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is solid red and the gold medal, with red, white and blue enamel paint is inscribed as the “Medal of Heroism”, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

Award Rules: Nomination submitted for consideration must follow the following requirements:

1. Must be on fire, rescue, or ambulance department stationary giving detailed summary of his/her outstanding actions or reason to be considered.
2. Must be received by the Board of Trustees prior to May 1st of each year.
3. Must be mailed or delivered to: Jeffery H. Thompson
   MSFA Board of Trustees Secretary
   202 Oriole Road
   Chestertown, MD 21320

Previous Recipients:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>Reuben R. Palmer</td>
<td>Kensington</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Wilbur R. Dulin</td>
<td>West Annapolis</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Captain Austin Leithiser</td>
<td>Susquehanna Hose</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Marion E. Rose</td>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Cecil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>John A. Hornberger Sr.</td>
<td>Waterwitch</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>Bernard P. Odum</td>
<td>Takoma Park</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>William A. Kral</td>
<td>Bel Air</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>Captain George C. Arnold</td>
<td>Glen Echo</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Vernon Listman</td>
<td>Earleigh Heights</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Walter Jackson</td>
<td>Hancock</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Charles A. Pastrana</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Spencer J. H. Brown Sr., PP</td>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Amos C. Bear</td>
<td>Goodwill</td>
<td>Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Edward S. Hall Jr.</td>
<td>Herald Harbor</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Carl W. Pollette Jr.</td>
<td>Hebron</td>
<td>Wicomico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>William MacWilliam</td>
<td>North Beach</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
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<td>David Yankey</td>
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<td>H. Edward “Eddie” Woods</td>
<td>Glenn Dale</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Michael Moore</td>
<td>Glenn Dale</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Brian Thrasher</td>
<td>Huntingtown</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Michael Nasti</td>
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380
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Adam St. John</td>
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<td>Deal Island-Chance</td>
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<td>Ryan Evans</td>
<td>Deal Island Chance</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Kris Kene</td>
<td>Princess Anne</td>
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<td>Brent Harne</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Ryan Barrow</td>
<td>Joppa-Magnolia</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>Wesley Burrier</td>
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<td>Adam St. John</td>
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<td>Wicomico</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of Award: Outstanding Citizenship and Exemplary Job Achievement

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Firefighter of the Year Committee

Background: The Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) established the Firefighter of the Year Award in 1978, to be presented at the Annual Convention and Conference each year from nominations received from the member departments or individuals. Qualified nominations will be judged by the Firefighter of the Year Committee appointed by the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

The committee solicits your support in this fine program and asks that you select someone in your department or from a member department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for the award.

Award Rules

1. Nominee must be from a member department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

2. Any active member of a department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association may submit the name of a nominee for the award.

3. Nominations must be submitted on an individual basis only on official letterhead or department stationary with the official MSFA Firefighter of the Year Nomination Form attached. Form must be signed with title of person submitting the nomination. A photograph of the nominee shall be submitted with the form.

4. Nomination must be submitted to the Chairman of the Firefighter of the Year Committee no later than April 15th of each year. Any late entries will NOT be considered. The mailing address for the entries is:
   William B. “Bill” Lay
   Chairman – MSFA Fire Fighter of the Year Committee
   22100 Old Joppa Road
   Joppa, MD 21085

5. Guidelines for selection of nominee:

   A. Outstanding citizenship, i.e., activities by a firefighter to better his/her department and community at large, etc.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

B. Exemplary job achievement, i.e., lecturing at school on fire safety, setting up a program of fire inspections, fund raising, etc.

C. This award will be for calendar year only.

NOTE: This award will not be judged on acts of heroism. All heroism nominations should be directed to the Colburn Trophy Award.

6. Awarding of the Firefighter of the Year Plaque and Certificates:

A. Award to be made at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference.
B. Winner to receive large plaque annually
C. Winner receives the Firefighter of the Year Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is red and white and the gold medal is inscribed as Firefighter of the Year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.
D. Awarding of plaque and medal to be made by the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
E. Certificates will be presented or mailed to all nominees.
F. Recipients name will be placed on a large plaque in the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland, College Park. Plaque donated by the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department of Montgomery County in memory of Chief Spencer J. H. Brown Sr., Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

Previous Recipients:

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<td>Tony Sterling</td>
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<td>Wicomico</td>
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<td>Thomas Y. Miller</td>
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<td>Luke</td>
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<td>Goodwill</td>
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<td>Barton Hose</td>
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MARBERY F. GATES SERVICE CUP AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of Fifty (50) Years of Continuous and Faithful Service

Award Sponsor: Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame Committee

Background: This award was established by the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 1981 to honor over sixty (60) years of active service performed by charter member, Mr. Marbery F. Gates of Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland. The initial and first award was presented to Mr. Marbery F. Gates on June 15, 1981, at the 86th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Mr. Gates served on the MSFA Board of Trustees from 1969 through 1989.

Award Rules:

1. The Marbery F. Gates Service Cup is to be awarded to an individual selected by the MSFA as deserving of this honor; such individual is to have at least, but not less than 50 years of continuous and faithful service to organizations within the Association. Individuals nominated must be living prior to the cutoff date of April 15th of the year to be presented.

2. The Master Cup will have the award date, name and fire company of the recipient carved thereon and will, for one year from date of presentation until the next MSFA Annual Convention, remain in the responsible custody of the honored individual’s fire company. The Personal Cup also suitably endorsed, will be presented to the individual to covet and keep forever.

3. The individual selected by the Committee will receive the Marbery F. Gates Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is gold with four stripes of purple and the gold medal is inscribed as Marbery F. Gates Award.

4. Each individual nominated will receive a MSFA plaque and a Governor’s Citation the first year nominated and any sequential years a MSFA certificate recognizing them for their Continuous and Faithful Service.

5. The Committee will receive nominations until April 15th. The President of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department will be notified no later than May 20th of the individual selected, to allow preparation of the individual trophy and the recording of the individual’s name on the Master Cup.

6. Nominations in the form of a resume shall be submitted No Later Than April 15th of Each Year to:
## Previous Recipients:

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
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<td>1981</td>
<td>Marbery F. Gates</td>
<td>Rockville</td>
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<td>Chief Leslie B. Thompson, PP</td>
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<td>G. Mitchell Boulden, PP</td>
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<td>Frank Middleton</td>
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<td>Chief Byron H. Miller</td>
<td>Gaithersburg-Washington Grove</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>William G. Holley</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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CHIEF A. MARVIN GIBBONS MEMORIAL AWARD

**Purpose of Award:** Best Appearing Company in Convention Parade

**Award Sponsor:** Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Incorporated – Montgomery County, Maryland

**Award Administered By:** Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention Committee

**Background:** In memory of Chief A. Marvin Gibbons, Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) and a man whose impact on the fire service was felt nationwide, the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (Montgomery County, Maryland) with the foreknowledge and endorsement of the MSFA Executive Committee and the Gibbons family, shall sponsor the annual A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award for the best appearing company in the MSFA Convention Parade.

Starting with the 1992 MSFA Convention, a trophy will be awarded by the parade judges at the regular award ceremony following the parade and will be presented to the best appearing company for their edification and personal safekeeping until the following MSFA Annual Convention. At that time, during the opening ceremony, the trophy will be formally surrendered to the Convention Chairman, who will then present a permanent award to the surrendering company. The trophy will then remain on display until it is re-awarded.

The perpetual trophy and permanent award will be provided by the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (Montgomery County) in memory of our brother, Chief A. Marvin Gibbons, who served with profound distinction for the forty-two years in many capacities, including President and Fire Chief.

Because Marvin was the driving force behind the annual MSFA Convention Parade and because he personally choreographed the opening ceremony of our convention it was universally felt that this award, having an impact upon both the annual parade and opening ceremony, would be a fitting tribute and memorial to this great man.

The award shall be presented to the company which, in the sole opinion of the parade judges, presents the best overall appearance considering such factors as: number of and composition of units, number of personnel in uniform, decorum, demeanor, and esprit de corps.

**SECTION 1 – ANNOUNCEMENT** - The following announcement was submitted to the MSFA for inclusion in the Awards Information Manual:
Name of Award: Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award.
Purpose of Award: Best Appearing Company/Department in Line of Parade, Annual MSFA Convention Parade.

Award Sponsor: Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., (Montgomery County).

Award Judged By: MSFA Annual Convention Parade Judges.

SECTION 2 – CHIEF A. MARVIN GIBBONS

Arthur Marvin Gibbons was born on April 14, 1927 in Washington, D.C. For over forty-two years, Chief Gibbons made significant and lasting contributions to the fire service of his community, Montgomery County, the State, and the Nation.

In his community, Marvin joined the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department in 1948 and served as Fire Chief for sixteen years and as President for four terms. In 1961, he was named Montgomery County “Fireman of the Year”.

At the county level, Marvin worked enthusiastically for “Bill 1” which established a seven member Executive Committee of the Montgomery County Fire Board. This committee developed policy for the fire and rescue services of Montgomery County. Chief Gibbons served as chairman or vice-chairman of the Fire Board for fourteen years. During his tenure, he spearheaded the movement to establish the county’s Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP). This program was the first of its type to recognize the service of volunteer fire and rescue personnel and has spread throughout our nation.

Also while Chairman of the Fire Board, Marvin helped to established the Heart Mobil which was the forerunner to the current Paramedic Program. In addition, he was personally involved with the building of the Public Safety Training Academy. Chief Gibbons hired the first Training Officer, the late Warren Isman and hired the first Director of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services. Chief David B. Gratz. Both of these individuals went on to become known internationally in the fire service community.

When Chief Gibbons recognized that Montgomery County lacked adequate mutual aid agreements, he attacked the problem. He used his common sense and uncommon persuasive abilities to forge the mutual aid agreements that now exist among all metropolitan area jurisdictions.

Upon retiring from the Fire Board, Chief Gibbons was elected Chairman Emeritus. Chief Gibbons also served as President of the Montgomery County Fire/Rescue Association.

At the state level, Chief Gibbons, for many years, worked tirelessly for the MSFA Convention, organizing the parade, choreographing the opening ceremonies, and
serving as both Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Convention Committee. In 1977 Marvin was elected President of the MSFA. Following his tenure as President, Chief Gibbons continued his work with the Association on numerous committees. In 1981, Chief Gibbons was elected to the “Hall of Fame.”

His efforts just prior to his death were more national in scope. Chief Gibbons was instrumental in establishing a National Fallen Firefighter’s Memorial erected at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This memorial, and the annual ceremony which recognizes those individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving their fellow citizens, was truly one of Marvin’s proudest achievements. In 1990, Chief Gibbons was honored with an award for outstanding service from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for his work in overseeing the design and construction of the Memorial.

Chief Gibbons held honorary memberships in the following organizations: Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Chillum-Adelphi Volunteer Fire Department, Prince George’s County; Damascus Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, Worcester County; Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Upper Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Wheaton Volunteer rescue Squad, Montgomery County.

Chief Gibbons was a life member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and a charter member of Heroes, Inc.

On May 16, 1993, the Fire and Rescue Service Wing of the Montgomery County Public Service Training Academy was dedicated in memory of Chief A. Marvin Gibbons.

Marvin Gibbons was raised in Washington, D.C., graduating from Anacostia High School. He served in the Navy aboard the U.S.S. Eldorado for 23 months in the Pacific during World War II. Chief Gibbons married May Ann Campbell. They raised two sons, Michael C. and A. Marvin III. Marvin’s grandchildren include: Lauren A., Michael C. II, Kelly L., and Marvin IV.

Chief A. Marvin Gibbons passed away on December 13, 1990 at his home in Lighthouse Point, Florida.

Marvin was admired for his accomplishments, love for his wit, and respected for his decency. He saw the good in every person. A friend of both the mighty and the meek. Marvin nonetheless possessed uncommon humility.

Those of us who knew Marvin personally will never forget his happy demeanor, caring personality, and high values. Those who did not have that special privilege will still
have his remarkable legacy of good works. Marvin Gibbons will always be a beacon of honor and genuine hero to the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department.

SECTION 3 – THE MEMORIAL AWARD

1.1 INTRODUCTION - The Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award consists of four major components: the pedestal, the felt field, the granite base, and the speaking trumpet. In addition, the award also includes a support for the trumpet and a dust cover. Each of the major components represents a specific aspect of the life of A. Marvin Gibbons.

1.2 PEDESTAL - The pedestal forms the foundation of the A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award. Just as Marvin Gibbons was in life, this pedestal is robust, solid, and distinguished looking. The pedestal. Made of solid mahogany, is octagonal in shape and measures forty inches high and approximately twenty-five inches across. The pedestal rests on a one inch base plate. In the top surface of the pedestal is a circular felt field. This felt field is red, Marvin’s favorite color. The felt field measures approximately eighteen inches in diameter. Upon this surface rests the granite base.

1.3 GRANITE BASE - The base of the Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award is made from Elberton dark blue-gray granite. The stone measures twelve and five-eights inches long, eight inches wide, and two inches high, has a smooth bottom, polished top, and rough sides with rounded corners. This granite resembles the gravestone of Chief A. Marvin Gibbons.

1.4 SPEAKING TRUMPET - The Speaking Trumpet is an exact duplicate of the antique speaking trumpet presented to Chief Gibbons by the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department upon his election to President of the MSFA. The Speaking Trumpet was cast in bronze from a mold made from the original trumpet. The bronze trumpet was then polished and chrome plated. Chief Gibbons instituted the use of chrome to accent equipment and apparatus in order to build pride within the Department. The red, white and blue braid and tassels are a ceremonial halyard representing the patriotism of Chief Gibbons.

SECTION 4 - ADMINISTRATION

1.1 SET-UP AND RELOCATION - The Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award should be displayed in a dry, level location. Care should be taken to protect the pedestal base molding from damage. After an appropriate location has been decided, determine where the front of the Award will face. Place the pedestal in position and rotate until the “pointed” portion of the dust cover groove is facing
away from the front. Place the granite base in the center of the felt field with the
name plate toward the front. Align the rear side of the base with the “pointed”
portion of the dust cover groove. Place the plastic trumpet holder (plastic rod)
in such a fashion that the ends point toward the front. Place the Trumpet on the
plastic holder so as to tilt the trumpet toward the back. The Trumpet should rest
on the holder. Adjust the location (front to back) to space the Trumpet evenly
over the granite base. Lift the dust cover over the Trumpet and place in groove
with “seam” of dust cover at the “pointed” portion of the groove. Check the
alignment of the Trumpet by standing at the front; the dust cover seam should
be invisible behind and in line with the Trumpet.

1.2 MAINTENANCE AND CARE - The Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award
has been designed with minimum care required. The pedestal requires only
occasional dusting. Prior to returning the Award to the next MSFA Convention,
the pedestal should be waxed with a good grade furniture wax. The dust cover
should maintain the granite base and Speaking Trumpet relatively dust free.
Prior to returning the Award to the next convention, simply dust the trumpet with
a soft cloth. The granite base may be wiped with a damp cloth. The dust cover
should be cleaned with the plastic cleaner provided.

1.3 INSURANCE - The Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department initially carried insurance
on the Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Award. The insurance is now provided under
the MSFA insurance coverage. In the event of damage or theft, please contact
Secretary Doyle E. Cox at doyle.cox2010@gmail.com or call 410-532-1416

The Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department gratefully acknowledges the cooperation and
support of the following individuals and organizations during the design and production
of this award: Abe Lincoln Flags, Banners & Gifts, Vienna, Virginia; Acme Plating
Company, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland; Clements Industries, Inc., Ashton, Maryland;
Continental, Inc., Rockville, Maryland; Day Memorials, Beltsville, Maryland; John J.
Habert, Ellicott City, Maryland; New Arts Foundry, Baltimore, Maryland; Precision
Plastics, Beltsville, Maryland; William Thrift III, Bowie, Maryland; Wood Creations,
Dunkirk, Maryland.

The A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Committee, Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department;
Chief Richard P. Clime, Chief Bruce A. Emmel, C. Townesend Jones, Maureen G. Saval,
Joseph A. Weisgerber, George W. Willie.

Previous Recipients:

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GLADHILL – THOMPSON TROPHY

Purpose of Award: Outstanding contribution to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Award Sponsor: Mr. Bernard D. “Buck” Gladhill, and the Damascus Volunteer Fire Department

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Elected Officers

Background: This award was originally established by Mr. Bernard D. “Buck” Gladhill and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 1974. Mr. Gladhill saw the need to honor an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the future welfare of the MSFA and would be known as the Gladhill Trophy. The award will be considered the highest Maryland State Firemen’s Association award that can be conferred on an individual. It will be awarded on a highly selective basis to an individual who, in the opinion of the judges, has made an outstanding contribution to the future welfare of members of the MSFA or who has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service of major significance to the MSFA or the Fire Service of the United States. In 1984, the award was changed to the Gladhill-Thompson Trophy in recognition of both Mr. Gladhill and Chief Thompson.

Award Rules:

1. Eligibility
   A. The following are eligible:
      a. Members of the “Official Family” (i.e., members of the Executive Committee, the Standing Committees, Special Committees, etc.)
      b. Bona fide members of member fire companies
      c. Members of part-paid or paid fire departments, within the state
      d. Former members of an organized Fire Department within the state
   B. The following are not eligible:
      a. The judges
      b. Any candidate that received compensation for the performance of the act or acts considered for the award

2. Criteria
   A. The Candidate accomplished assigned (or assumed) duties in such a manner as have been clearly exceptional among all who have performed like or similar duties in a superior manner and/or;
B. The candidate developed and improved methods and procedures, or produced an innovation or invention which accomplished extraordinary results for the MSFA or the U.S. Fire Service; or

C. The candidate may have exhibited great courage and voluntary risk of personal safety or personal possessions in the face of danger, over and beyond the call of duty, in performing an act or acts which resulted in direct benefit to the MSFA and/or its members (which this award is given for a “heroic” act it shall be given to the candidate if no other award (cash or otherwise) has been granted previously in connection with the same act); or

D. The candidate may have rendered outstanding service related to his/her activities for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association comparable with the above and relating to the following:
   a. Activities which improved the image of the Association or which gained favorable benefits or meritorious recognition for the Association or its members, or
   b. Contributed to/or developed a valuable program for the benefit of the future of the Association and its members.

3. Time Period - Although it is realized that to be fully effective an award should be timely, it is not necessary that the service or performance be rendered within the year of the award.

4. Preparation of Award Certification - Factual information will be prepared as separate correspondence in the form of a proposal for each candidate. It shall list the candidates’ accomplishments in accordance with the above criteria (Section 2).

5. Submission of Nominations -
   A. The name or names of prospective recipients shall be submitted to:
      Doyle E. Cox, Secretary
      29132 Superior Circle
      Easton, Maryland 21601
      Before April 15th of each year or at least 30 days before the Annual Convention.
   B. If no candidates are submitted to the judges, the judges shall select a qualified candidate.

6. The Judges - The judges shall be the elected officers of the MSFA. A simple majority of the judges present and voting shall be necessary for a decision.

7. The Award will be presented to the recipient annually at the Annual Convention and Conference and to be inscribed with his/her name. He/she will be presented with a miniature trophy for his/her possession at the following Annual Convention and Conference. After the trophy has been filled with the names of the recipients, the award will be retired to the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland, College Park.

8. The recipient will also receive the Gladhill-Thompson Medal and Ribbon Bar,
which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is red/green and the gold medal is inscribed as Gladhill-Thompson Award and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

Previous Recipients:

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<td>Chief Ralph N. Small, PP</td>
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<td>Chief Lewis C. Grabille</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>William A. Hawkins</td>
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Award known as the “Gladhill Trophy” prior to 1984

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<td>Prince Frederick</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
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<td>Joppa Magnolia</td>
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<td>Richard Smith</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Craig Harman</td>
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HALL OF FAME AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of Distinguished Service to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association or an Individual Department or County Fire or Rescue Service

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame Committee

Background: The Hall of Fame Award was established by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 1979 as a result of a recommendation from Past President Eugene J. C. Raney to recognize the distinguished service of individuals. The first emphasis was to service to the MSFA and then service to the individual’s department and local jurisdiction. Through the year 1985 the Hall of Fame Committee was authorized to select up to twenty (20) inductees into the Hall of Fame, and hence the selection shall be limited to ten (10) inductees, either living or deceased. The award shall be made at the Annual Convention. Distinguished service to the MSFA is the primary consideration, with service to the member’s company and county to be considered also.

Award Rules

1. During the year 1981 thru 1985, there were twenty (20) individuals selected each year, either living or deceased.
2. Beginning in the year 1986, induction into the Hall of Fame will be limited to ten (10) individuals who are members of a volunteer fire, rescue or EMS department/company, either living or deceased, and up to three (3) individuals who are not members of a volunteer fire, rescue, or EMS department/company, either living or deceased.
3. Names of individuals for nomination to the Hall of Fame may be submitted by:
   A. The nominee’s home fire, rescue or EMS department/company, or
   B. Any individual in good standing with a fire, rescue or EMS department/company, or
   C. A member department/company in good standing with the MSFA, or
   D. An individual member(s) of the Hall of Fame Committee
4. Nominees must have a minimum of ten (10) years of service to be eligible for consideration.
5. Nomination to the Hall of Fame should be based upon distinguished service to the MSFA. Distinguished service to the nominee’s individual service, either living or deceased.
6. All nominations must be received, in writing, by the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee, by **April 15th of each year** to be considered. Until selected, a letter of nomination for an individual must be submitted each year, nomination letters will not be carried over from year to year. All nomination letters must be signed.

7. Selection of nominees to the MSFA Hall of Fame will be made annual by the members of the Hall of Fame Committee.

8. All individuals selected to the MSFA Hall of Fame will receive two (2) certificates, (one for the individual and one for their station,) a pocket card, a lapel pin, shoulder patch, decal and a hat. Each inductee will also receive the Hall of Fame Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is red/white/blue and the gold medal is inscribed as “Hall of Fame” and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center. Induction and presentations will take place at the Annual Convention and Conference.

9. The names of individuals selected to the Hall of Fame shall be published in the Annual Proceedings Book of the MSFA along with the year the selection was made.

10. A permanent plaque may be installed in the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland, College Park, and the MFRI Regional Training Center. These plaques will list the individuals that have been inducted, along with the year the selection was made. The plaques at the Regional Training Centers will list only inductees from the geographical area.

11. Submission of nominations shall be mailed to:

   Benjamin W. Kurtz  
   9912 Fox Hill Road  
   Perry Hall, MD 21128

**Previous Recipients:**

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<td>Gov. J. Millard Tawes, PP</td>
<td>Crisfield</td>
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<td>G. Mitchell Boulden, PP</td>
<td>Singerly</td>
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<td>John W. Smith, PP</td>
<td>West Annapolis</td>
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<td>Ted C. Gardner, PP</td>
<td>Riverdale Heights</td>
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<td>Philip H. Beard, PP</td>
<td>Walkersville</td>
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<td>James N. Jarman, PP</td>
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<td>Sandy Spring</td>
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<td>Benedict</td>
<td>Charles</td>
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<td>Hebron</td>
<td>Wicomico</td>
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<td>Dr. James P. Swing</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<td>Bowie</td>
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<td>John Meech</td>
<td>Avalon Shores</td>
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<td>George R. Lindsay</td>
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<td>Cromwell C. Zembower, PP</td>
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<td>Joseph R. Robison, PP</td>
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**1981**

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Leslie B. Thompson, PP
Hon. Louis L. Goldstein
A. Marvin Gibbons, PP
William A. Chenoweth
William W. Fox
Robert C. Byrus
Richard J. Mooney
George W. McCullough
Edward M. Dunn Sr.
Lewis C. Graybill
George W. Colburn Jr., PP
Clair Loughmiller
Charles B. Burton, PP
William M. Moore, PP
John A. Hornberger

Damascus/Chestertown
Prince Frederick
Hillandale
Pikesville
Landover Hills
University of Maryland MFRI
Lansdowne
Lansdowne
Powhatan Beach
Gaithersburg-Washington Grove
Princess Anne
Morningside
Landover Hills
Frederick
Water Witch
Montgomery/Kent
Calvert
Montgomery
Baltimore
Prince George's
Baltimore
Anne Arundel
Montgomery
Somerset
Prince George's
Prince George's
Frederick
Anne Arundel

1982
Charles W. Havens
Charles N. Ringer, PP
Joseph Shuhart Sr.
John J. Barth
Severn H. Cooper
Charles Mumma
John F. Stevens Jr.
Chester S. McCarthy
Paul F. J. Lepore
Edgar M. Snyder
Gerald A. Glaubitz, PP
Howard A. Kellar, PP
J. Edward McClain III
William L. Williams
John H. O'Lexey
Joseph C. Stuckey
Robert E. Wood
Charles Edwin Turner Sr., PP
Bernard D. “Buck” Gladhill
C. Robert Entwisle

Westminster
Hagerstown
Barton
Cambridge
Mardela Springs
Rocky Ridge
Annapolis
La Plata
Savage
Hampstead
Morningside
Pikesville
Delmar
Salisbury
Jessup
Corrigansville
Glen Echo
Centreville
Damascus
Forestville
Carroll
Washington
 Allegany
 Dorchester
 Wicomico
 Frederick
Anne Arundel
Charles
Howard
 Carroll
 Prince George’s
 Baltimore
 Wicomico
 Wicomico
 Anne Arundel
 Allegany
 Montgomery
 Queen Anne’s
 Montgomery
 Prince George’s

1983
Harry C. Walters
Lawrence D. Beardmore
D. Edgar Hurlock Jr.
Kyle I. Lenahan
Sterling M. Frock

Corrigansville
Morningside
Church Hill
Elkridge
Pleasant Valley

Allegany
Prince George’s
Queen Anne’s
Howard
Carroll

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**1984**

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**1985**

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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

James Lee Deskins
Jack V. Reckner, PP
Albert D. “Mickey” Harris

Accokeek
Earleigh Heights
Glen Echo

Prince George’s
Anne Arundel
Montgomery

1996

Joseph B. Carroll
John Crisman
Hartwood H. Cornell
John T. Ferguson
John O. Gatton Jr.
William R. Huttenloch
Charles J. Mattingly III, PP
Roger A. Steger Sr., PP
Richard B. Thomas Jr.
Richard L. Yinger, PP

Seventh District
College Park
Woodsboro
Rockville
Hollywood
Forestville
Hollywood
Ocean City
Sandy Spring
Citizens Truck

St. Mary’s
Prince George’s
Frederick
Montgomery
St. Mary’s
Prince George’s
St. Mary’s
Worcester
Montgomery
Frederick

1997

George Anderson
Elwood H. Banister
Richard K. Brooks III
George A. “Fred” Cross Jr., PP
Vernon M. Pessell
James E. Cross
R. Keith Fairfax
Ronald B. Graf
Hon. Roland E. “Fish” Powell
James Benny Shelton

St. Leonard
Cockeysville
Norrisville
Chestnut Ridge
Braddock Heights
Marlboro
Bay District
Riviera Beach
Ocean City
Sudlersville

Calvert
Baltimore
Harford
Baltimore
Frederick
Prince George’s
St. Mary’s
Anne Arundel
Worcester
Queen Anne’s

1998

James T. Ferguson Jr.
Patti Gordy
George W. Hardy
David C. “Rusty” Leftwich
James B. Lions III
John M. Murphy
Paul B. Lewis Jr.
Lee N. Sachs, PP
Ronald J. Siarnicki
Stephen D. Cox, PP

St. Michaels
Caroline County ALS
Denton
Norrisville
Joppa-Magnolia
MIEMSS – University of Maryland
Citizens Truck
Pikesville
Prince George’s County
Bel Air

Talbot
Caroline
Caroline
Harford
Harford
Harford
Frederick
Baltimore

1999

John T. Baker
Wylie L. Donaldson Jr.
Wayne F. Fretterd

Takoma Park
Odenton
Denton

Montgomery
Anne Arundel
Caroline

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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

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2003

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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Clarence “Smiley” White
Jerry A. Poland
John Allen
James A. Adkins
Guardian Hose/Citizens Truck Co.
Volunteer Firemen’s Insurance Services
Regional Vice President, Delmarva Power
Major General – Maryland Military Department

2015
Richard C. Blair
Leon A. Cullison
Essel T. Farlow
Barry Glassman
Warren D. Gott
Robyn Sheldon Hahn
S. Darron Long
Robert E. McClelland, Sr.
Thomas W. Musgrove, Sr.
William “Bill” Sparrow
Barbara Goff
Margaret “Peg” Mooney
Allison Nicodemus
Clear Spring Ambulance
Ridge VFD
Pittsville VFD
Level VFC
Prince Frederick VFD
Hacks Point VFC
Damascus VFD
Capital Heights VFD
Takoma Park VFD
Pocomoke City VFC

2016
Dale A. Budnick, Sr.
Rev. Marvin C. Jackson
Dale Kline, Sr.
Donald L. Strine
Ralph E. Starkey
Thomas W. Scott III
James P. Seavey, Sr.
Joseph H. Cooper
Rev. Frederick B. Bahr
Oley G. Griffith
Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.
Karen E. Doyle
Tra Reed Carison
Aberdeen VFD
Rising Sun
Rocky Ridge
Marlboro
Goodwill/Centreville
Prince Frederick VFD
Cabin John Park
Ridge VFD
Tilghman Island
First Hose Co. Boonsboro

2017
Gene Aaron
James A. Bair
Eric N. Bernard
William H. “Bill” Lewis, Jr.
Brian Lowman
Charles Dewayne Rogers, Sr.
Russell J. Strickland
John R. Sullivan
Hurlock
Jarrettsville
Rockville
Odenton
Williamsport
Odenton
Singerly
Trappe
Dorchester
Harford
Montgomery
Anne Arundel
Washington
Cecil
Talbot

411
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John W. Wathen, Jr.</td>
<td>Ridge VFD</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley J. Williams, Jr.</td>
<td>Hollywood VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Harry E. Hickey</td>
<td>Charter Member, National Fire Heritage Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Thomas M. Scalea</td>
<td>R. Adams Cowley, Shock Trauma Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nolan Scully</td>
<td>Nolan Strong</td>
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</table>

**2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Bryne</td>
<td>Joppa-Magnolia</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Chornock</td>
<td>Germantown</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy C. Jones</td>
<td>Rockville</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee A. Lutz</td>
<td>Glenn Dale Fire Association</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Wayne Powell</td>
<td>Vigilant Hose Company</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas R. Simpkins, Jr.</td>
<td>Arbutus</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles J. Simpson, Jr.</td>
<td>Pleasant Valley</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L. “Bob” Rose</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey H. Thompson</td>
<td>Chestertown</td>
<td>Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julian R. “Jay” Tucker</td>
<td>Marlboro</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence W. Hogan, Jr.</td>
<td>Governor – State of Maryland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph J. Giorgi, Jr.</td>
<td>Regional Vice President – VFIS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher May</td>
<td>Montgomery County Fire &amp; Rescue Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Josiah A. Hunt EMS Person of the Year Award

Purpose of Award: Recognition of the Outstanding EMS individual of the year

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Emergency Medical Services Committee and the Convention and Conference Committee

Background: The Josiah A. Hunt, M.D., (EMS Person of the Year) Award was established in 1991 and accepted by the Executive Committee. Doctor Hunt was a local physician in Harford County who was very instrumental in the establishment of ambulance service in that area. He often would leave his practice to ride on the local ambulance providing quality emergency medical service to the communities of Harford County. The original award was donated by the Delta-Cardiff Volunteer Fire Company of Harford County to honor Dr. Josiah A. Hunt.

The award was established to recognize outstanding individual accomplishments by an EMT/A, or above. The award is considered to be the highest award conferred upon an individual within the Maryland Emergency Medical Services community.

Award Rules:
1. The nominee must be from a member company of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
2. The nominee must be submitted by an active member company of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA).
3. The nominee must be submitted on an individual basis only and the nomination must be on official letterhead or company stationary and signed by at least two (2) officers of the company.
4. Only one nominee may be submitted from any one member company.
5. Nominations and letters of resume must be submitted to the Chair of the MSFA Emergency Medical Services Committee, No Later than April 30th.
6. The nominee must be a Maryland certified EMT or above.
7. The nominee must have a minimum of fire (5) years service to the Maryland Emergency Medical Service Community.
8. Recipient of the award will receive the EMS Person of the Year Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is blue and white and the gold medal is inscribed as “Josiah Hunt EMS Person of the Year”, with the MSFA Seal in the center.
9. Submit nominations to: William Dousa
   Chairman, MSFA EMS Committee
   600 Rivershore Court
   Edgewood, MD 21040
## Previous Recipients:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Josiah A. Hunt, MD</td>
<td>Harford</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Sharon Eskins</td>
<td>Calvert ALS</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Leon Hayes</td>
<td>Waldorf</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Charles W. Wills</td>
<td>Potomac Heights</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Barbara Knippenburg</td>
<td>Midland</td>
<td>Allegany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Dr. Frank Baranco</td>
<td>Lutherville</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Richard K. Brooks</td>
<td>Norrisville</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Paul M. Fabiszak</td>
<td>Hereford EMS</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Lee N. Sachs, PP</td>
<td>Pikesville</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Rose M. Murphy</td>
<td>Eldorado-Brookview</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Margaret E. Wedding</td>
<td>Ironside RS</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Joan W. Williams</td>
<td>Hollywood RS</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Steve J. Kesner</td>
<td>Cresaptown</td>
<td>Allegany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Linda A. Dousa</td>
<td>Abingdon</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Jackie Carey</td>
<td>Ocean Pines</td>
<td>Worcester</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Vernon C. Monday</td>
<td>Waldorf</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>William Deer</td>
<td>Indian Head</td>
<td>Charles</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Susan Hubble</td>
<td>Mt. Airy</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Bernice Arnold</td>
<td>Seventh District VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>William J. “Bill” Dousa</td>
<td>Abingdon</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Mary H. Grussing</td>
<td>Kent &amp; Queen Anne’s Rescue Squad</td>
<td>Kent</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Amy Smith</td>
<td>Leonardtown VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Richard Farrington</td>
<td>Delta-Cardiff</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Reginald Donald Thomas</td>
<td>Darlington</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Michael J. Young</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>Talbot</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Susan M. Tingler</td>
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<td>Harford</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Joan F. Raley</td>
<td>Seventh District VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Barbara J. Wible</td>
<td>Hollywood VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Elizabeth (Beth) R. Larimore</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Sherrie M. Sauers</td>
<td>Darlington</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIRE PREVENTION AWARDS

Purpose of Award: Recognition of Department Prevention Efforts

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Volunteer Firemen’s Insurance Services, and Individuals

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee and Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office

Background: The Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) sponsors an annual contest to recognize fire, rescue, and EMS department’s efforts in promoting fire prevention in their communities. Contest awards are provided for companies who participate in a year-round fire prevention program as well as departments who participate in special projects, such as an open house or other fire prevention activities. An additional category recognizes departments who have shown an outstanding overall contribution to fire prevention and fire safety education activities. Starting in 1977, a seventh class in both Year Round Projects, and Single Projects was added. This will be for County Fire Prevention Committees to enter.

A project may be submitted by an organization within the department as long as it is verified by the president or chief. The awards are presented each year at the annual convention and conference for the following categories:

Year-Round Program or More Than One Project
(Classified by population of first due area)

Class I  0 – 1,500
Class II  1,501 – 2,500
Class III  2,501 – 5,000
Class IV  5,001 – 10,000
Class V  10,001 or more, volunteer personnel
Class VI  10,001 or more, career personnel
Class VII  County Fire Prevention Committees

Single Project Programs
(Classified by Population of first due area)

Class I  0 – 1,500
Class II  1,501 – 2,500
Class III  2,501 – 5,000
Class IV  5,001 – 10,000
Class V  10,001 or more, volunteer personnel
Class VI  10,001 or more, career personnel
Class VII  County Fire Prevention Committee
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

Overall Activities

1st Place - $200.
2nd Place - $100.
3rd Place - $75.
4th Place - $75.
5th Place - $50.
6th Place - $50.
7th Place - $50.
8th Place - $50.
9th Place - $50.
10th Place - $50.

(Award monies must be spent by the winning department/organization in the area of fire prevention)

Award Rules:

1. The department/company must be a member in good standing of the MSFA.
2. A cover letter on department letterhead is required to accompany all entries.
3. Any book entered, including scrapbooks, photo albums, or loose-leaf binders, cannot exceed 12 x 15.5 inches. The thickness of the book is not limited.
4. Slide presentations, slide/tape presentations and video tape presentations are acceptable.
5. Photographs and newspaper clippings must be dated and the sources indicated.
6. Entries must be in the hands of the State Fire Marshal’s Office by April 30th and must be marked with the proper entry classification (Area and Class).
7. All materials submitted should reflect activities of the previous calendar year (Jan. through Dec.)
8. Judges shall be appointed by the State Fire Marshal’s Office and the decision of the judges shall be final.
9. Any evidence of material from previous years will automatically disqualify the entry.
10. Any department/company entering any contest must have a representative at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference.
11. Auxiliaries and Junior Companies may submit entries for their department as long as the president or chief forwards a cover letter as verification.
12. Send or deliver all entries to:

MSFA Fire Prevention Contest
State Fire Marshal’s Office
1201 Reisterstown Road
Pikesville, MD 21208
MISS MSFA FIRE PREVENTION CONTEST

**Purpose of Award:** To select a spokesperson for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention

**Award Sponsor:** Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee

**Award Administered By:** Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee with Out-of-State Judges

**Background:** The Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) sponsors an annual Miss Fire Prevention Contest at the Annual Convention and Conference. The individual selected will represent the MSFA at fire prevention, public education, and other activities throughout the State of Maryland, acting as a spokesperson for the fire prevention and fire safety activities.

**Award Rules:**

1. Contestant must be single, never married, have no children or be pregnant.
2. Must be between 16 thru 24 years of age. Contestants under the age of 18 must have a parent/guardian consent form signed and must be chaperoned to all events by a parent/guardian, representative of her County Association or Fire Company.
3. If seeking college or advanced education, the contestant must reside within a reasonable distance of the state and in the event that her schooling interferes with her ability to attend events and functions, her sash, crown, and other properties will be turned over to her runner-up.
4. One contestant per county, Harford-Cecil Firemen’s Association and the Maryland Fire Chief’s Miss Fire Prevention. If your county does not have a Miss Fire Prevention Contest, a decision will be endorsed at your county level as to who will represent your county. A letter of endorsement from the county association must accompany your application.
5. MSFA Miss Fire Prevention is allowed to hold this position for one year. Once you hold this position, you will not be able to compete for this position again. A previous MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner-up is allowed to run again.
6. A panel of judges in the preliminaries will interview contestants. These judges will officiate the stage portion of the contest.
7. Judges are not associated with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Ladies Auxiliary, or members of Maryland Companies or Departments.
8. Preliminary judging will be held on the morning of the contest. The contest will be held during the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference in Ocean City. Information regarding the date and time of the contest will be provided as it is finalized.
9. Preliminary judging will be calculated in the same point system as stage judging, with a total of 100 points. Contestant’s preliminary judging consists of the following:
   A. Fire prevention questions selected from list included in the packet.
   B. Presentation on a fire prevention related subject (limited to 5 minutes).
   C. Interview questions by judges.
10. Stage judging will be calculated in a point system, with a total of 100 points.
   a. Fire Prevention knowledge 0-50 points
   b. Speaking ability and poise 0-40 points
   c. General appearance 0-10 points
11. Applications must be received by May 1. If your county contest occurs after this deadline, then the current Miss Fire Prevention is eligible. All applications must be sent to contest chairperson by certified mail, return receipt requested. APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ANY OTHER WAY. Any applications that are received other than certified mail, returned receipt requested will be deemed ineligible and will be returned to the contestant.
12. This is not a talent or beauty contest.
13. The contestants selected at MSFA Miss Fire Prevention and First Runner-up are required to attend the following activities:
   • Convention activities on day and times designated (a tentative schedule is enclosed)
   • Awards ceremonies; various events and times
   • Selecting winners of the $10,000.00 Raffle
14. The newly elected MSFA Miss Fire Prevention and First Runner-up must vacate any previously state or county titles unless the term of the title will be completed within two months of her reign. In the event her county is unable to obtain a representative, the MSFA Miss Fire Prevention may continue her County role for a two-month period.
15. Miss MSFA Fire Prevention and the First Runner-up will take an Oath of Office immediately after they are crowned.
16. If MSFA Miss Fire Prevention is unable to attend any functions, it is her responsibility to contact the MSFA First Runner-up to fulfill her commitment.
17. A monthly activity report must be submitted by the last day of each month to the Miss Fire Prevention Committee Chairperson.
18. A quarterly written report (summary of events and input) must be submitted to the Fire Prevention Committee Chairperson at the quarterly fire prevention meeting. 10 copies of this report must be brought to each executive committee meeting.
19. The annual written report (summary of year’s events) must be submitted by May 1 for printing in the MSFA Convention Book. This report must be submitted to the Fire Prevention Committee Chairperson, the Miss Fire Prevention Chairperson.
20. A packet of information will be given to the MSFA Miss Fire Prevention and
A. Name, Address, and phone list of the following:
   a. MSFA President
   b. MSFA 1st Vice President
   c. MSFA 2nd Vice President
   d. LAMSFA President
   e. Executive Committee Chairperson
   f. Fire Prevention Committee and Chairperson
   g. Transportation (ADC Books) will be passed down each year

B. Itinerary of Mid Atlantic Fire Prevention Conference, parades, banquets, carnivals, etc.

C. Upcoming seminars: subjects and expenses

D. Proceeding book

21. THE MSFA CONTEST RULES EFFECTIVE FOR THE YEAR 2012
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

**MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Application**

Name ____________________________________________

Date of Birth ________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________________________

Phone ( ) __________________ Email __________________ County __________________________

Escort __________________________________________________________________________________

Parents __________________________________________________________________________________

Present School/College/Job ________________________________________________________________

Hobbies or activities you participate in ____________________________________________________

Date chosen as Miss Fire Prevention ______________________________________________________

The winner of the contest MUST attend the convention events as outlined in the contest rules and as listed in the agenda which will be given to all contestants. You must also give full support to the MSFA and LAMSFA during your reign by attending State and County functions when requested, to the best of your ability. If you win and you hold another State or County title and the term of those titles exceeds two months, you agree to give up those titles upon becoming MSFA Miss Fire Prevention.

If chosen, I agree to all of the above.

Signature ____________________________________________________________

All applications must be returned by **May 1st** unless your county president has made previous arrangements.

Mail applications to: Current Miss Fire Prevention Chairman

MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Contest
Parental/Guardian Consent Form

MSFA Miss Fire Prevention

The MSFA Miss Fire Prevention will give her full support to all State, County and local functions by attending and participating to the best of her ability as the representative of the MSFA. She will be chaperoned to all events by a representative of her county association or fire company.

I agree to all of the above.

Signature __________________________________________
Date of Birth ______________________

Parent/Guardian Signature ________________________________________________
Date ______________

Contestants under the age of 18 years must submit consent form with application. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Previous Recipients:


SENATOR WILLIAM H. AMOSS MEMORIAL
LEGISLATIVE AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of an individual’s contributions and determination in promoting the betterment of Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services through successful legislation and the legislative process.

Award Sponsor: Harford-Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Legislative Committee

Background: The Senator William H. Amoss Memorial Legislative Award was created to honor an individual who served over 20 years actively representing the Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services, throughout the State, in a legislative capacity both in the House of Delegates and the State Senate. In 1998, the Maryland General Assembly recognized Senator Amoss’ dedication to the Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services by renaming Senate Bill 508, the “Senator William H. Amoss Fund.” Introduced in 1985 by Senator Amoss, the 508 Bill was created to financially assist the Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services departments on an annual basis. This award was presented by the Harford-Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association and accepted by the Executive Committee in 1999.

Award Qualifications: In order for a candidate to be considered for this award, he/she must meet at least (1) one of the following criteria:

1. Be a duly elected legislative official representing a Maryland municipality, a Maryland county, the State of Maryland or the Federal Government.
2. Be a member of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Legislative Committee
3. Be a member of a county emergency services association’s legislative committee that is recognized by the MSFA.
4. Be a member of a regional emergency services association’s legislative committee that is recognized by the MSFA.
5. Be a state citizen who is not a member of a fire/EMS/rescue department or company.

Award Rules:

1. All nominations must be submitted by a representative of an active member company or department, in good standing, of the MSFA.
2. All nominations must be in written form, on an individual basis, and submitted on company or department letterhead or stationery. A photograph of the
nominee shall also be submitted.

3. All nominations must include the following:
   A. A letter of recommendation/resume
   B. Accomplishments of the nominee

4. All nominations must be received by **May 1st** of each year.

5. The judges shall be the MSFA Legislative Committee

6. All nominations are to be submitted to:

   Chairman
   MSFA Legislative Committee
   17 State Circle
   Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1904

**Previous Recipients:**

1999  Senator William H. Amoss – Harford County  
2000  Delegate Norman Conway – Wicomico County  
       Charles W. Riley, PP
2001  Senator Thomas M. Middleton – Charles County
2002  Delegate John F. Wood – St. Mary’s County
2003  Bernard J. Smith, PP
2004  Delegate Richard B. Weldon Jr. – Frederick County
2005  C. Daniel Davis Jr., PP
       Pat Gainer – Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System  
       James Brown – Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System
2006  Delegate Norman Conway – Wicomico County
2007  Delegate James Malone – Baltimore County
2008  Delegate Norman Conway – Wicomico County
2009  Senator Barry Glassman – Harford County  
       Senator James DeGrange – Anne Arundel County
2010  Delegate Norman Conway - Wicomico County
2011  Senator Roy Dyson - St. Mary’s County
2012  William E. Barnard - State Fire Marshal  
       Senator Roy Dyson - St. Mary’s County  
       Delegate James Malone - Baltimore County  
       C. Daniel Davis Jr., PP  
       Richard L. Yinger, PP
2013  Delegate John L. Bohanan Jr., - St. Mary’s County
2014  Delegate Norman Conway, - Wicomico County
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Delegate/Delegate</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Town/City</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Senator James N. Mathias, Jr.</td>
<td>Dist. 38</td>
<td>Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Delegate Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.</td>
<td>District 23</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Delegate Dana M. Stein</td>
<td>District 11</td>
<td>Baltimore County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Marvin E. Holmes, Jr</td>
<td>Delegate District 23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sheree Sample-Hughes</td>
<td>Delegate District 37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Richard Smith</td>
<td>Oxford FC – Talbot</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Del. Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.</td>
<td>District 23B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delegate Deborah Ray</td>
<td>District 29B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Senator Edward J. Kasemeyer</td>
<td>Howard County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delegate Maggie L. Melntosh</td>
<td>Baltimore City</td>
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ROBERT H. SHIMER ADMINISTRATIVE
PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of the Outstanding Fire, Rescue or EMS Administrative Person

Award Sponsor: Shimer Family

Award Administered By: Robert H. Shimer Administrative Person of the Year Award Committee

Background: The Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year award was established by the Shimer family and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee on February 22, 2004. The award was established to honor Robert H. Shimer, for the years of dedicated service he gave the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and EMS Service as a President and a Trustee of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, President of the Allegan-Garrett Counties Fire and Rescue Association, President of the Allegany County Fire-Rescue Board and President of the Potomac Fire Company. Mr. Shimer was also an active member of the State Fire Prevention Commission, Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission, the Governor’s Emergency Management Advisory Council and the Emergency Numbers Service Board. This award has been established in honor of Mr. Shimer for his many years of dedicated service to the community of Westernport, Allegany County and the State of Maryland.

Award Rules:

1. The nominee must be a volunteer from a member company that is in good standing with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
2. Names of individuals for nomination for the Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year Award may be submitted by:
   A. The nominee’s home fire, rescue, or EMS department/company on official letterhead, or
   B. Any individual in good standing with a fire, rescue, or EMS department/company, or
   C. A member company in good standing with the MSFA, on official letterhead, or
   D. An individual member of this committee or a Past President of the MSFA.
3. The nominee must have no less than ten (10) years of service with his/her department or company.
4. The nomination must be submitted for an individual’s effort only and, therefore, submission of the nomination is to recognize the one individual and not a group, department or company.
5. The nomination must be submitted in the form of a resume/bio. Including information on his/her department or company activities, administrative positions held within the company or department, county, regional or state association. Information should also be included on job achievement, establishment of programs, fund raising, community activities, and the reason the nominee should be selected.

6. Time Period - Although it is realized that to be fully effective, an award should be timely, it is not necessary that the service or performance be rendered within the year of the award, however an accumulation of the previous five years of accomplishments may be added.

7. The nomination must be mailed and received by the Shimer Award Committee no later than May 1st at the following address:

   Robert W. Jacobs, Chairman
   Shimer Award Committee
   410 East Ninth Street
   Frederick, MD 21701

8. The Award will be presented at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference. Upon selection of the winner of the award, the Shimer family shall be notified no later than May 20th of said selection. This will allow preparation of the award that will be given.

Previous Recipients:

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
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<td>Kenneth “Ken” May</td>
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<td>Robert W. Jacobs, PP</td>
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<td>Rivera Beach VFC</td>
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<td>Craig B. Harman</td>
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<td>Wylie D. Donaldson</td>
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SILVER SPRING TROPHY

Purpose of Award: Recognition of fire prevention efforts by an individual

Award Sponsor: Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee and Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office

Background: The Silver Spring Trophy was established in 1981 by the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department and accepted by the Executive Committee. This award is presented each year at the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Annual Convention and Conference to an individual who does the most in fire prevention for his/her community. The award is for an individual effort and, therefore, submission on the entry must be for one individual rather than a group or department effort. The intent of the award is to recognize fire prevention activities which the individual performs within his/her community. The trophy is held by the individual for one year and then passed on. The winner will receive an individual plaque for permanent possession. The individual will also receive the Silver Spring Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is silver/blue and the silver medal is inscribed as Silver Spring Fire Prevention and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

Award Rules:

1. The recipient must be a volunteer firefighter
2. The individual must be nominated by his/her fire department.
3. The fire prevention work shall have been done by the firefighter acting in the capacity of a volunteer.
4. The nomination must be in the form of a resume indicating complete detailed information on the work done by the nominee. Photographs and newspaper clippings must be dated and the sources noted.
5. The nomination and related information must be in the hand of the State fire Marshal’s Office on later than April 30th.
6. Nominees are subject to investigation by the judges.
7. Dates of the fire prevention activities should cover the previous calendar year (January – December).
8. Judges shall be appointed by the State Fire Marshal’s Office in accordance with the MSFA Fire Prevention Committee’s procedures.
9. The decision of the judges shall be final.
10. Nominations must include the nominee’s name, title, fire department name, and other pertinent information.

### Previous Recipients:

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<th>Company</th>
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<td>Vincent Napoli</td>
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<td>1958</td>
<td>Edgar Young</td>
<td>La Vale</td>
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<td>Charles Forwood</td>
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<td>Guardian Hose</td>
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**SMITH N. STATHEM JR., PP**
**MEMORIAL SAFETY AWARD**

**Purpose of Award:** Recognition of an individual’s contributions toward firefighter/EMS safety.

**Award Sponsor:** The family of Smith N. Stathem Jr. “Smitty” as he was affectionately known was a Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), Past President of the Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen’s Association, and Past Chief of the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company.

**Award Administered By:** MSFA Safety Committee

**Background:** The Smith N. Stathem Jr. Memorial Safety Award was established in 1998 by the MSFA Safety Committee and the family of Past President Stathem. The award was accepted by the Executive Committee in 1997. This award is to be presented each year at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference to an individual who does the most to promote firefighter/EMS safety within his/her department/company and or the State. The award is for an individual effort. The intent of the award is to promote safety within the member department and to encourage the safety officer program. The trophy is held for one year and relinquished at the following MSFA Annual Convention and Conference. At that time, the past-year recipient will receive an individual plaque for permanent possession. The winner of this award will also receive the Smith N. Statthem Jr. Safety Award Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is green/white/green and the gold medal is inscribed as Smith N. Statthem Jr., Safety Award and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

**Award Rules:**

1. The nominee must be a member of an organization that is a member of the MSFA.
2. The submission must be on the official MSFA Nomination Form and include the name and contact information on the person recommending the nominee in the space provided. The Company Chief or President must sign the “endorsed by” line of the form.
3. The nomination must include complete detailed information on the efforts performed by the individual during the previous calendar year. Supporting exhibits and documentation must be submitted in detail.
4. The nomination package must be submitted to the MSFA Safety Committee no later than May 1st.
5. Judges appointed by the Safety Committee, shall be comprised of non-
affiliated representatives from the safety industry.

6. All nominations are subject to investigation by the Safety Committee and Judges.

7. A Safety Committee member can nominate any member of MSFA.

8. MSFA Safety Committee members are not eligible to be nominated for the award.

9. Submit your nominations to Chairperson of the MSFA Safety Committee.

Previous Recipients:

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>James E. Jarboe</td>
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<td>Montgomery</td>
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</table>
ZEMBOWER FIRE SERVICE TRAINING AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of a Department’s Participation in Formal Training

Award Sponsor: Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Zembower in Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Cromwell Zembower

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Training Committee

Background: The Zembower Fire Service Training Award was established in 1976 by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Zembower in memory of his late parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell Zembower of LaVale and accepted by the Executive Committee. Cromwell Zembower was a Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) and a member of the Training Committee for many years. The Zembower Fire Service Training Award is based on the average number of formal training hours per active member for fire and rescue training completed in the fiscal year prior to the award. The original award was based solely on the formal training offered by MFRI, however, in 1995 the award will be based on formal training offered by other recognized agencies.

The award consists of a trophy which is presented to the winning department at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference. The department is permitted to display the trophy until the next convention. The trophy is then returned for presentation to the next recipient. The department surrendering the trophy is then presented with a plaque for permanent display. First and second runner-up awards are also presented. The first runner-up award is sponsored by the Daniel J. and Bobbi Stevens in honor of former Bay District VFD Treasurer Bob Stevens. The second runner-up award is sponsored by the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company in honor of former Chief Herman Dill.

Award Rules:

1. This award is to the department which has the highest average number of formal training hours per active member. Formal training include:

   - All courses and seminars sponsored by MFRI
   - Formalized courses sponsored by local training academies which are members of the Maryland Council of Fire and Rescue Academies
   - Courses and seminars sponsored by MIEMSS
   - Courses sponsored by the National Fire Academy
   - Refresher training classes in the following areas:

In order for the training to be considered, it must be validated by a pocket
card or certificate and verifiable by the organization providing the training. The training year will be from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the year prior to presentation of the award.

2. The number of active members in your department as reported on the Statistical Report provided to the MSFA Statistical Committee for the most recent fiscal year will be used to compute the average number of training hours per active member. The Statistical Report submitted by each member company should reflect the actual number of members responding to calls and taking training. Accurate and up to date training records can prove to be an asset in legal decisions and ISO rating. If you did not submit a report to the Statistical Committee, this information cannot be verified and your application will not be considered.

3. To be considered for this award, complete the attached application and submit it to the following address no later than April 15<sup>th</sup> to:

MSFA Training Committee  
c/o Maryland Fire Rescue Institute  
University of Maryland  
College Park, Maryland 20742
APPLICATION FOR ZEMBOWER FIRE SERVICE TRAINING AWARD
IN MEMORY OF MR. & MRS. CROMWELL ZEMBOWER
TRAINING YEAR JULY 1, ____ THROUGH JUNE 30, ________________

Department Name: _________________________________________________
Mailing Address: City _____________ County ____________ Zip Code ________

On an attached sheet, list all courses and seminars sponsored by MFRI, formalized courses sponsored by local training academies which are members of the Maryland Council of Fire and Rescue Academies, courses and seminars sponsored by MIEMSS, and courses sponsored by the National Fire Academy which your department has participated in during the training year noted above. Enter all information as requested and be as accurate as possible to ensure eligibility. Formula for Computing Points:

1. Multiply number of hours for each course or seminar by the number of students successfully completing that course or seminar to determine the number of student hours for that course or seminar. The training information will be based on information provided by the sponsoring organization.
2. Total the student hours for all courses and seminars.
3. Divide the total number of student hours (in #2 above) by the number of active members in the department from current Statistical Report.
4. The result is your training hours per active member.
5. Enter training hours per active member:
6. Layout for Course List to Quality for the Zembower Fire Service Training Award – Enter all information in columns using the following format:

   Full Name of Student; Social Security Number; Location/Host Co.; Ending Date; Class Title; Course Hours; and Total Student Hours ______. Total Number of Active Members from MSFA Statistical Report _____. Number of course hours for MFRI courses ____. The hours should be similar for courses sponsored by local academies.

   Emergency Medical Technician – Basic 165
   Emergency Medical Technician - Re-fresher 24
   EMT I 540
   EMT I to P Bridge 442
   Emergency Medical Services Officer I 48
   Emergency Medical Responder 51
   Emergency Medical Technician Skills 12
   Emergency Medical Technician On line Continuing Education 12
   Paramedic Refresher 40
   Emergency Medical Responder Refresher 15
   Aerial Apparatus Operator 24
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership III</td>
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<td>LACK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courage to be Safe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protective Envelope &amp; Foam</td>
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<td>Pumps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Truck Company Fire Grounds Operations</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>Engine Company Fire Grounds Operations</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firefighter Survival and Rescue</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Vehicle Driver Refresher</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Vehicle On-Line Course</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Vehicle Skills for On-line Students</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Vehicle Operator Course</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue Tech. Site Operations</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue Tech. V&amp;M</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue Tech. Structural Collapse</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue Tech. Rope Rescue</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue Tech. Trench Rescue</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue Tech. Confined Space Rescue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue Tech. Swift Water Rescue</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructor Training I</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructor Training II</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Inspector I</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Inspector II</td>
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<td>Fire Inspector III</td>
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<td>Hazardous Materials Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision Making for Initial Company Operations</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategy and Tactics for Initial Co. Operations</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICS for EMS</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICS for Fire Service</td>
<td>16</td>
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</table>
Shipboard Firefighting for Land Based Firefighters 63
Strategy & Tactics for Initial Company Operations 45
NIMS 100 3
NIMS 300 24
NIMS 400 16
NIMS 700 3
NIMS 800 3
ACLS 8
PALS 16
PTLS 16

**Refresher Classes - (annually)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>SCBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blood Borne/Airborne Pathogens</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPR/AED</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trench Rescue</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confined Space Rescue</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One day seminars are considered 6 hours and two day seminars are considered 12 hours. Seminars may include Executive Development Seminars, Chief Officers Seminar, Hazardous Materials Training, Confined Space, Rescue Weekends, Water Supply Drills, etc. CPR training and other classes offered in stations must be documented with the number of hours of all students. Documentation could include AHA or ARC pocket cards, or a signed letter from a certified instructor. All courses will be reviewed by the Training Committee for verification and acceptance of the appropriateness of the training for award consideration.

The following list of National Fire Academy courses is not an exhaustive list, but are those that are routinely offered and are 12 hours each: IRHMIBC, IRHMICI, MCTO: Decision Making, MCTO: Preparation, MCTO: Tactics, Incident Safety Officer, Health & Safety Officer, Conducting Basic Fire Prevention Inspections, and Basic Life Support-Hazardous Materials.

**Previous Recipients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Station</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Huntingtown VFD</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Huntingtown VFD</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Prince Frederick VFD</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Deer Park VFD</td>
<td>Garrett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1980  Bay District VFD    St. Mary’s
1981  Bay District VFD    St. Mary’s
1982  Potomac Heights VFD    Charles
1983  Leonardtown VFD    St. Mary’s
1984  Community Fire Company of Millington    Kent
1985  Bay District VFD    St. Mary’s
1986  Bedford Road VFD    Allegany
1987  Church Hill VFC    Queen Anne’s
1988  Bay District VFD    St. Mary’s
1989  Glen Burnie VFD    Anne Arundel
1990  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
1991  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
1992  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
1993  Church Hill VFC    Queen Anne’s
1994  Lineboro VFD    Carroll
1995  Blue Ridge Summit VFD    Pennsylvania
1996  Lineboro VFD    Carroll
1997  Savage VFC    Howard
1998  Fifth District – Clarksville VFD    Howard
1999  Fifth District – Clarksville VFD    Howard
2000  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2001  Bay District VFD    St. Mary’s
2002  Rockville VFD    Montgomery
2003  Indian Head VFD    Charles
2004  Urbana VFC    Frederick
2005  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2006  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2007  Walkersville VRS    Frederick
2008  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2009  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2010  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2011  Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad    Montgomery
2012  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2013  St. Leonard VFD    Calvert
2014  Ellicott City    Howard
2015  Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company    Frederick
2016  New Market District VFC    Frederick
2017  New Market District VFD    Frederick
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
FAMILY APPRECIATION PROGRAM AWARD

Purpose of Award: To recognize the family of a Volunteer Fire or EMS members, sacrifices their time with the member, for the good of the community.

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Recruitment and Retention Committee

Award Administered By: Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Committee

Award Rules:

1. Open to the family of volunteer members of the Fire/EMS Service.
2. Member MUST be an active volunteer and his/her Company or Department in good standing of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
3. Family nomination must be endorsed by the President or Chief of the member’s Department or Company.
4. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association Recruitment and Retention Committee will base their selection on the following criteria:
   - Exhibit consistent positive effort towards training, response to incidents, fundraising, etc.
   - Exhibit overall effort to support team concepts.
   - Active member for a minimum of 5 years.
   - Nominations must be submitted by NO LATER THAN April 30th, to:
     Joe Chornock, Chairman
     MSFA Recruitment and Retention Committee
     65 Bralan Court
     Gaithersburg, MD 20877
     josephchornock@gmail.com
   - Awards will be presented at the Annual Convention and Conference.
   - Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Volunteer Recruitment & Retention Committee, Members of the MSFA Executive Committee and the Presidents of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association are not eligible for the award.

Nominee must:
   - Exhibit positive effort toward Department or Company and family member and have clear understanding of member’s commitment.
   - Exhibit overall effort to support team concept.
   - Nominator must be an active member of a Department or Company.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 126th Annual Convention and Conference

for at least one year.

- A narrative of 250 words or less describing community support and consistent effort towards the fire/rescue service.
- No attachments

Name of Nominee: 

Address: ________________________________ City __________________

State _______________ Zip _______________ County _______________

Phone: Day ________________ Evening __________________

Other __________________

Company/Department/Squad ________________________________

NOMINATOR:

Name and Title ________________________________

First Middle Last Title

Address ________________________________ City __________________

State _______________ Zip _______________ Phone: Day ________________

Evening/Mobil __________________

NARRATIVE OF RECOMMENDATION:


Endorsed By: Name: ________________________________

Title __________________

Signature ________________________________

Previous Recipients:

2012    Charles M. Kelso III    Laurel    Prince George’s
2013    The Logore Family    Winfield & Community    Carroll

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GOVERNOR’S FIRE PREVENTION TROPHY

Purpose of Award: Recognition of the best fire prevention entry in the line of parade at the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Annual Convention Parade

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention Committee and Fire Prevention Committee

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention Committee, Fire Prevention Committee and the Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office

Background: The Governor’s Fire Prevention Trophy is awarded each year at the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Annual Convention and Conference for the best fire prevention float, demonstration, or entry in the line of parade. The award is in the form of a large permanent trophy. Awards are also awarded for second through fifth places.

Award Rules:

1. Clowns and commercial participants in the parade will not be eligible for this award.
2. Any individual, group, unity, float, etc., are eligible as long as they are in the line of parade and have been pre-judged.
3. Judging will be done by the Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office.
4. Entries will be prejudged prior to the parade at a pre-announced location.
5. The decision of the judges will be final.
6. Judging will be on the following point system:
   A. Theme and originality – (0 – 25 points) – Within a fire prevention subject area such as Fire Prevention Week, Home Inspections, Halloween, Christmas, Fire Safety, Spring Cleaning, Sparky, Smokey, Sweepy, Smoke Detectors, Etc.
   B. Uniqueness in presentation – (0 – 25 points) – Construction aspects such as neatness, stability, occupant safety, and fire-safe materials.
   C. Overall appearance – (0 – 25 points)
   D. Conduct of participants – (0 – 25 points) – General conduct of, and how well participants carry out the theme of the entry.
7. Size, cost, and elaborateness are not a criteria.
PARADE RULES

ALL Participants in the Maryland State Firemen’s Association’s Convention Parade

Parade Monitors will be monitoring the entire parade route. They are authorized to remove any company or unit that is not behaving in a proper manner. Listed below are examples of some of the conduct that WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!

1. Public drinking
2. Pulling of hose or other equipment from apparatus
3. Blowing of sirens or air horns
4. Backing of apparatus
5. Throwing of any type of material from apparatus
6. Discharging of water or other agents from apparatus
7. Drilling in front of the reviewing stands that does not maintain forward progress
8. Stopping or not maintaining forward progress in line of parade other than for safety purposes
9. Majorette groups stopping to perform during the parade route
10. Personnel on apparatus in an unsafe position or over crowded positions
11. Excessive non uniform personnel on apparatus
12. Individuals reviewing the parade, jumping into the line of parade march of a unit or interfering with bands, queens, majorette groups, etc.
13. Operation of any vehicle in an unsafe or reckless manner
14. If seatbelts or other safety devices are provided they must be worn in their proper manner
15. All “Jake Brakes” or like equipment will be turned off during the entire parade route.

Let’s ALL try to cooperate by abiding by the above rules so that we may ALL have a good time, make a positive impression on the public we serve, and have a parade we can ALL be proud of - - NOT one to be ashamed of because of the performance of a few!

FREE FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED, TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PARADE PRIOR TO THE PRESENTATION OF AWARDS.

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION, FROM YOUR CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Parade line-up will be first come – first in line, unless your jurisdiction comes in as a group after forming together before the Route 50 Bridge.
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
126TH ANNUAL CONVENTION
TROPHIES AND AWARDS LISTING

Maryland Company Making Best Appearance
Upperco VFC
Chief Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award

Maryland Company Making Second Best Appearance
Huntingtown VFD

President’s Award
Clear Spring VFD – Washington County
Western Enterprise Fire Company

Company Coming Longest Distance
Goodwill VFC No. 1 of Lonaconing

Company Coming Second Longest Distance
Christiana, PA

Best Appearing Fire Department Marching Unit
Easton VFD
(10 or more personnel)

Second Best Appearing Fire Department Marching Unit
MD Combined Bagpipes
(10 or more personnel)

Third Best Appearing Fire Department Marching Unit
N/A
(10 or more personnel)

Company with Most Uniformed Emergency Service Personnel
Easton VFD

Fire Engines – 1500 GPM
Huntingtown VFD E-61
and Over Making Best Appearance

Second Best Appearance
Solomons VRS & FD E-34

Third Best Appearance
Upperco VFC E-852

Honorable Mention
Rising Sun E-813
Boonsboro E-61
Bay District E-91
Independent Hose E-12
Dunkirk E-51

Fire Engines – 1250 GPM Making Best Appearance
Mechanicsville VFD

Second Best Appearance
Hollywood VFD E-72

Third Best Appearance
Wise Avenue E-272
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Honorable Mention</th>
<th>Second Best Appearance</th>
<th>Third Best Appearance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Fire Engines – 1000 GPM and Under Making Best Appearance | Landsdowne VFA E-362
                                    | Easton VFD RE-68                   | Bryans Road E-112               | Smithburg VFC E-71              |
|                                              | Newark VFC E-505                    | Pittsville VFD                  | Sudlersville VFC                |
| Rescue Pumper Making Best Appearance         | Deal Island Chance VFD             | Easton VFD                      | Glenn Dale Fire Association     |
|                                              | Girdletree VFC                     | Frankford VFD                   |                                |
| Pumper Tanker Making Best Appearance         | (1500 gallon capacity tank and over)| Grasonville D                   |                                |
|                                              | Nanjemony VFD                      |                                |                                |
| Tanker Making Best Appearance                | Independent Hose Company          | Delmar VFD                      |                                |
| (1500 gallon capacity tank and over)         |                                    |                                |                                |
| Second Best Appearance                       |                                    | Hoopers Island VFC              |                                |
| Brush Unit – Making Best Appearance          |                                    | Berlin Fire Company             |                                |
| Second Best Appearance                       |                                    | Upperco VFC                     |                                |
| Third Best Appearance                        |                                    | Independent Hose Co.           |                                |
| Honorable Mention                            |                                    | Goodwill                        |                                |
| Aerial Truck Making Best Appearance          |                                    | Solomons VRS & FD              |                                |
|                                              |                                    | Gaithersburg-Washington Grove VFD|
| Elevated Platform Making Best Appearance     |                                    | Pittsville VFD                  |                                |
|                                              |                                    | Solomons VRS & FD              |                                |
|                                              |                                    | Berlin Fire Company             |                                |
|                                              |                                    | Easton VFD                      |                                |
Second Best Appearance  Independent Hose Co.
Third Best Appearance  Riverdale VFD
Squad Truck Making Best Appearance  Singerly Fire Company
Second Best Appearance  HuntingtoVFD
Third Best Appearance  Wheaton Rescue Squad
Ambulance Making Best Appearance  Newburg VRS & FD
Second Best Appearance  Solomons VRS & FD
Third Best Appearance  North Beach VFD
Honorable Mention  Brandywine VFD
              Vigilant Hose Co.
              Upperco VFC
              Prince Frederick VRS
              Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad
Command Unit Making Best Appearance  Independent Hose Co.
Second Best Appearance  Chestertown VFC
Third Best Appearance  Leitersburg VFC
Marine Rescue Unit Making Best Appearance  Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Second Best Appearance  N/A
Third Best Appearance  N/A
Emergency Service Special Unit Making Best Appearance  (Canteen, Forestry, Hazmat, Jeep, Gator, Etc.)
Gaithersburg-Washington Grove VFD – U708
Second Best Appearance  Uperco VFC – Unit 859
Third Best Appearance  North Beach VFD – Unit 1
Honorable Mention  Uperco VFC – ATV 85
              Sandy Spring VFD – Canteen 740
              Solomons VRS & FD – ATV 3
              Goodwill VFD of Lonaconing – Brush
              Parsomburg VFC – Brush 606
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winning Company</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best Appearing Company from Delaware</td>
<td>Frankford VFD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearing</td>
<td>Millville VFC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Appearing Company from Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Christiana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antique Emergency Apparatus Making Best Appearance (Over 25 Years or Older In Service)</td>
<td>Delmar VFD – Pierce 75’ Quint TK 74</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>Huntingtown VFD – 1993 Jeep Brush</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Best Appearance</td>
<td>Deal Island Chance VFD – 1976 Chev/Pierce Engine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antique Emergency Apparatus Making Best Appearance (25 Years or Older Not in Service)</td>
<td>Easton VFD – 1919 American LaFrance Triple Combo Pumper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>Berlin FC – 1924 Mack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Best Appearance</td>
<td>1987 Hahn SU 1 – Mike Davis</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>Georgetown, DE – 1922 American LaFrance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1976 Kenworth Pierce – Clinton VFD</td>
<td>1931 Ford Model A - Ron Siarnicki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antique Automobile Making Best Appearance (25 Years or Older)</td>
<td>1955 Cadillac Ambulance – Millville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hand Drawn Antique Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>1893 Holloway Hose Real Independent Hose Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Appearing Maryland Fire Auxiliary In Uniform</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auxiliary In Uniform Coming The Longest Distance</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Service Color Guard Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Easton VFD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>Southern Maryland Honor Guard</td>
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<td>Third Best Appearance</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non Fire Service Color Guard Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Westminster Marching Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</table>
Fire Prevention Entry Making Best Appearance  
Easton VFD

Governors Award

Fire Prevention Entry Making Second Best Appearance  
Upperco VFC

Miss Fire Prevention Making Best Appearance  
Madeline Moore – Harford-Cecil

Second Best Appearance  
Sierra Hawkins - MFCA

Third Best Appearance  
Kerrigan Spencer – Miss Carroll County Runner p

Fourth Best Appearance  
Shelby Simpins – Miss Easton VFD

Honorable Mention  
Marlee Wink – Lower Eastern Shore
Choe Milligan – Miss Trappe VFC
Cassedy Messily – Miss Cordova VFA
Katilyn Bus – Miss Ridgley VFD
Ashley Nalboroczyk – Miss Frederick County
Breanna Readon – MFCA Runner Up
Mikealia Keely – Miss Chesapeake City
Carrie McHenry – Miss Montgomery County
Chelsey Roberts – Miss Glen Burnie
Taylo Blizzard – Carroll County

Junior Miss Fire Prevention Making Best Appearance  
Bethany Wadkins – Chesapeake City

Second Best Appearance  
Marissa Rampmyer Ridgely VFD

Third Best Appearance  
Jocelyn Furman – MSFA Southern Maryland

Fourth Best Appearance  
Marlee Wink – MSFA Lower eastern Shore

Honorable Mention  
Ashlyn Plato – Cecilton VFC

Little Miss Fire Prevention Making Best Appearance  
Lanna Bea Blessing – Trappe VFD

Second Best Appearance  
Cmeron Kennedy – Easton VFD

Third Best Appearance  
Bridget Reardon – Singerly FC

Forth Best Appearance  
Cameron Lewis – Sharptown VFD

Honorable Mention  
Carleigh Zontti – Cordova VFA
Lainey Childress – MFCA
Jada Robinson – MDFC
Releigh Cunningham – Chesapeake City VFC

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Alexs Abrams – Rising Sun
Leigha Blake – Frederick County

Junior Fire Chief Making Best Appearance  Gage Long – Rising Sun
Second Best Appearance  Bean Gowl – Easton VD
Third Best Appearance  Cody Bland – Cecilton VFC
Fourth Best Appearance  Jackson Jewitt – Harford
Honorable Mention  Jacob Nalborrczyr – Frederick County
Best Appearing Junior or Cadet Company  Williamsport Junior
Second Best Appearing  English Consul
Marching Ban Making Best Appearance  Westminster Municipal Band
Second Best Appearing  Maryland Pipes and Drums
Best Drum and Bugle Corp  N/A
Best Musical Group Leading Majorettes  Twirling Majorettes – Elkton, Va
Majorettes Making Best Appearance  Boonsboro Fire Company Silver Starlets
Second Best Appearance  Twirling Majorettes
Pom Pom Squad Making Best Appearance  Elite
Comic Entry Making Best Appearance  N/A
Mascot Making Best Appearance  Flash Max & Blaze
Hard Luck Award  Boonsboro Silver Starletle/Sleeping Starlette
Judges Awards (10)  Maryland Forestry- Brush Unit
Independent Hose Co. 1 – Cart Brigade
Grasonville ET
Elkridge Juniors Cadet
Allison Little – Miss Fire Prevention – Elkton
Emily Cobs – MSFA 1st Runner Up
Independent Hose Co. 1 – Reue Squad
Millville Ambulance
Christian VFD – PA
Upperco VFD – Hand Drawn Chemical 1909