

AROUND THE STATE



A Word from our Fire Service Partners

From the Editor: The following column is intended to provide our readers an update on fire service activities from around the state.

Illinois Fire Chiefs Association

This year's IAFFPD Conference in my opinion was another success: great sessions, events and planning. I would like to thank Cheri, Kerrie and Samantha who the moving force behind the scene are along with our conference committee for all the hard work – guess what it paid off. Our speakers Randolph Mantooth and Rick Lasky we excellent and complimented all speakers at the sessions. To those who took time to attend thank you for your commitment. Me I had a great time teaming with Jim Sinclair and look forward to seeing you all again.

Did you know that The IFCA assessment team is ready to serve the members of the fire service with promotion testing, new hire interviews and consulting services? If you are currently using our services, we thank you and we will continue to bring you a professional process. If you have not used our services, please give us the opportunity to provide you with our services. We feel we will deliver you quality and professionalism in every aspect. Contact Dave Slivinski our Consulting Manager. dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org The Medal of Honor Committee along with many others celebrated our 25th anniversary on May 8th, 2018. As a proud committee member and on behalf of the entire committee a thank you to the IAFFPD Team who had tremendous representation at the program and to all who attended. This is OUR day, a day when the Fire Service of Illinois takes time to



come together to remember and thank those who serve.

The IFCA Education-Research Foundation continues to host a variety of Fire Officer Class and new Chief Officers programs. Information is available on our website. www.illinoisfirechiefs.org

If you are interested in IFCA apparel and or novelties, please look at Eagle Engraving web-site and go to the at the top of the page Chief Corner for IFCA items. www.eagle-engraving.com

The Illinois Fire Chiefs Association Day at the State Fair is Sunday August 12, 2018. The Illinois Fire Chiefs are holding the following events:

9th Annual VCOC Conference, Bloomington/Normal

September 08 & 09, 2018

68th Annual Conference, Peoria IL

October 14–16, 2018

new this year at our annual conference: The National Fallen Firefighter Stair Climb

Tuesday session is with the IFCA Executive Board
“We are here for you”

Information & registration will be available soon so, please refer to our website for information

Our website operates under the guidance of Maureen Griseto, Chief John Buckley and Chief Larry Moran. Please look at our site to obtain information related to the IFCA and The IFCA Education Research Foundation. www.illinoisfirechiefs.org

If you have any questions or need information, please do not hesitate in contacting me or our IFCA office. Jgrady3@illinoisfirechiefs.org 1-847-966-0732.

Jim Grady III
Executive Director

Illinois Fire Service Institute

Mark Your Calendar

- **Leadership Development and Decision Making** - October 1st – 5th, 2018
- **IFA Down and Dirty Weekend** - October 19th – 21st, 2018
- **NFPA Firefighter 1 Challenge Exam** - November 3rd -4th, 2018.
- **IFSI Winter Fire School** - January 26th & 27th, 2019



I just returned from the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts 75th Annual Conference and I will unequivocally say it was a terrific learning experience. The IAFFPD hit this one out of the park with the **Focus on the Mission** backdrop. From the keynotes of Randolph Mantooth's inspirational presentation on what we do and remembering it's about the people we serve to Chief Rick Lasky leadership program it was all focus on the mission. Combined with the legal insight of the many of best Lawyers in Illinois on issues critical to the Fire Service it was an exceptional educational opportunity for Fire Protection Districts across the state.

As IFSI ended May, we completed our first Advanced Technician Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter II course and the reviews are in and based on student evals the new ATF is a hit.

The Advanced Technician Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter II course exceeds all requirements outlined by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal and NFPA 1001. This course provides the student with the knowledge and skills necessary

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to operate under general supervision during firefighting operations. This course focuses on an intense hands-on approach to advanced firefighting skills. Students will experience advanced lectures to promote critical thinking, practical skills evaluations to promote competency and live fire scenarios to promote teamwork and coordinated fire attack.

The **94th Annual Fire College** was held **June 7th – 10th** and offered greater flexibility in course topics and scheduling than any Fire College prior. Students could select from twenty-seven class options to create their own training schedule to meet their personal and professional needs. Each course delivered information at the forefront of national training standards. Watch for the more information and the results of these changes in the next Fire Call!

The Illinois Fire Service Institute was proud to offer the **16th Annual Explorer Cadet Fire School** Right after Fire College **July 12th – 15th 2018**. This unique training program delivered hands-on, live fire training to Explorers, Cadets, and Junior Firefighters between the ages of 15-20 years old. IFSI Field Instructors carefully designed each course to include skill-building exercises, practical application evolutions, and multiple immersive training scenarios that will challenge all skill levels.

Driving Simulator Program Briefing Program Overview

The IFSI fire apparatus driving simulator program allows students of differing skill levels to develop their driving capabilities through realistic training exercises and simulation experiences. These exercises range from normal defensive driving and crash avoidance exercises to abnormal circumstances and emergency response scenarios in heavy traffic with a variety of weather conditions and environments. The ability to develop good driving behaviors in realistic simulated scenarios with differing equipment setups capable of demonstrating identical handling properties of real vehicles, provides not only emergency handling training, but can familiarize the driver with what can

go wrong and allow them to experience failure in a safe environment.

The purpose of introducing simulated driver training into the Fire Service Vehicle Operations (FSVO) program at IFSI is to provide realistic experiential learning in a safe environment with scenarios specifically designed to elicit natural behaviors from the student.

The fire apparatus simulator is equipped with an extensive recording system that allows the instructor and the student the opportunity to engage in one-on-one discussions about the student's behaviors and actions, identify the good behaviors, point out areas in need of improvement, and allow students the opportunity to practice the improved behaviors in additional exercises.

Due to students' varying levels of experience, we have developed three initial course offerings with plans to expand the program in the future. The initial course levels are: New Driver Simulations, New Emergency Driver Simulations, and Driver Skill Development Simulations. These courses serve as entry level courses for students who participate in the driving simulator program. After completing a short prior experience questionnaire, students will be placed into the appropriate entry level course. Once the student has successfully completed their first level course, the student can continue to successive level courses that will build on the previous training to further enhance the skills of the student.

Course Overviews

Driver Simulations: The goal of this course is to familiarize the student with the operation of a large emergency vehicle. Students will learn the features unique to large emergency vehicles, how those features affect the operation of the vehicle, including the physical size of the vehicle and how to maneuver the large vehicle in confined areas, and the utilization of safe driving principles and defensive driving techniques.

Emergency Driver Simulations: The goal of this course is to familiarize the student with the operation of a large emergency vehicle while incorporating the complexities of emergency response. Students will review defensive driving techniques and safe driving principles,

then apply these techniques during emergency response simulations, incorporating decision making and behavioral responses.

Driver Skill Development Simulations: The goal of this course is to develop the advanced skillsets of experienced emergency vehicle drivers. Students will practice decision making skills, defensive driving skills, and crash avoidance skills during emergency response in varying traffic and weather conditions.

Program Delivery and Scheduling: Each course will begin with instruction delivered in an online format. Once the student has successfully completed a short assessment, the student will receive an email inviting them to an online system where the student will sign up for a 1-hour practical session at a time, date, and location provided. During this 1-hour session, the student will participate in strategically designed simulated driving exercises and scenarios that will provide the student the opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills in a safe high fidelity environment, with one-on-one instructor interaction.

Research: Apparatus safety as well as training and certification, along with behavioral change, remain among top concerns of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF). However, there have been no studies to date providing empirically pertinent data regarding the use of simulated training toward improving firefighter driving skills or providing enhanced decision making and situational awareness that can improve firefighter behaviors. While we know from other industries that simulator training is beneficial, it is critical we study the use of this technology toward mitigating risk and developing standards for practice and policy in the Fire Service.

During the practical sessions, student demographic data and practical exercise results will be collected. We will quantify individual differences of those with successful outcomes to those with unsuccessful outcomes and the subsequent effects of remedial training. We will attempt to find any correlations between specific demographic information such as age, years of experience driving emergency vehicles,

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and driver's license classification and the outcomes of the practical exercises such as reaction time, situational awareness, and successful completion. The goal is to identify behaviors that lead to positive driver outcomes. Through quantifying skill attainment and retention, we can build scientifically sound training and education programs that diminish risk associated with unpredictable firefighter driving behavior.

We will also use control groups to evaluate the use of the simulator as an instructional tool and its effect on driver performance and learning retention over time. Is the performance of students who have experienced training in the driving simulator better than the performance of those who have not experienced it? Is there value to short, regular "quick hit" simulator training sessions to maintain skills versus longer, less frequent simulator training sessions?

This information will expand our existing knowledge of driver training and the advantages of using simulated exercises. Outcomes of our research will be used to continually improve our training scenarios, driver behaviors, and course offerings. We will also broadly share our research outcomes with the Fire Service so that rigorous scientific data can be used to develop and adjust guidelines for apparatus training and situational awareness.

Feedback into Current Course Offerings - In addition to benefitting students who have the opportunity to attend practical exercises in the fire apparatus driving simulator, our goal is to use the simulator to benefit all students who attend all of IFSI's driver training courses. We will incorporate the results of our research into our other course curriculum to teach good behaviors and driving habits to students' minimum requirements.

Jim Keiken
Deputy Director

Illinois Fire Safety Alliance

Vision 20/20's Jim Crawford to Present at Annual Fire Prevention Week Luncheon



Join nearly 500 members from the fire service at the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance's Fire Prevention Week Luncheon, presented by the Illinois Fire Sprinkler Coalition. The 78th annual event will take place on Thursday, October 11th in Woodridge and will include lunch, networking, and guest presenter, Jim Crawford, from Vision 20/20. Mr. Crawford will be providing an overview of an integrated approach to Community Risk Reduction (CRR) – where emergency operations and prevention strategies are coordinated to improve outcomes in public safety. He will cover the process of CRR from the Vision 20/20 perspective, and discuss some model case studies from around the U.S. and internationally that demonstrate how CRR works in the real world.

The Fire Prevention Week Luncheon also provides an opportunity to highlight and honor those who have gone above and beyond in fire safety and burn prevention, as each year the IFSA receives nominations and presents awards to those deserving individuals, groups, or businesses. Nominations can be submitted at any time, but must be received no later than August 15th to be considered for this year's event.

For complete information on the Fire Prevention Week Luncheon, the award nomination form, and online registration, visit www.IFSA.org/FPWL.

Philip Zaleski
IFSA Executive Director

Illinois Fire Inspectors Association



Our Annual Combined Conference in East Peoria in March was huge success. We had approximately 150 people in attendance – the most in over 20 years, to hear some outstanding speakers.

The IFIA is in the planning stages for the 2019 annual conference in East Peoria. The dates are March 20 – 22, with a free preconference the afternoon of the 19th. Mark your calendar now, and watch

for additional details regarding topics and registrations. If you know someone who would like to present a topic, they can fill out a call for presentation for at: tinyurl.com/y89qb8f6. If you have a subject that you would like to see presented, contact the IFIA office at ifiafire@illinoisfireinspectors.org.

The Inspectors are taking a summer hiatus for the months of July and August. We will return to regular activities on September 28th. The morning seminar that day will be on a subject that should be of interest to everyone, whether at work or at home – cyber security. Make plans to attend this class, as we anticipate a full house that morning.

At the 2018 NFPA Conference in Las Vegas, a proposal on the floor to remove the AHJ's ability to state where they want remote station fire alarm monitoring was upheld by a 2-1 vote. This should be reflected in the new edition of NFPA 72. Check with your governing body on any impacts this might have on your organization.

We are hosting three OSFM certification classes this fall, Fire Inspector 1, Fire Inspector 2, and Public Fire and Life Safety Educator (PFLSE). Inspector 1 will be in September in Oak Forest. Inspector 2 will be held in October in Oak Forest, and PFLSE will be held in September in New Lenox. Remember, our instructors are people with extensive expertise in their fields, some of who teach and have received recognition at national levels.

For the Fire Inspector series we are trying something different. These two classes will be held in a Monday – Friday format for those who would like to complete the class in a single week. Additionally, these classes will be held at a new facility for us – the Cook County Emergency Operations Center, in Oak Forest. This building was the former Oak Forest Hospital.

We have some social events that are a great deal of fun. First, on July 22 we hosted a Day at the Races, at the Arlington Park Racetrack. Second, we have a golf outing with the Illinois Automatic Fire Alarm Association on August 22. Several changes were made to this event this year. We moved the event to Ruffled Feathers in Lemont, and are having the start time at 1:30. The later start time allows

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those who cannot take a full day off of work, to go in, do necessary work, and then have the afternoon for relaxation. Registration for this, or any of our events, can be done on our website at ifafire@illinoisfireinspectors.org.

Upcoming events:

State Fair Aug 19
Golf Outing Aug. 22
Fire Inspector 1 Sept. 10 - 14
Fire Inspector 2 Oct. 15 - 19
Fire Prev. Luncheon Oct. 26
PFLSE Sept 19 - 21 and 27 - 28
Holiday Luncheon Dec. 14

Additional information is available on our website at: www.illinoisfireinspectors.org.

Robert Morris

Executive Director, IFIA

Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals

The Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals (IFSAP) held their 2018 Annual Conference in April. The Conference Committee acquired great speakers for this event. This year's topics included Powerful Presence, Blast Away Procrastination, Clutter-Busting and Computer Crime. Everyone in attendance was able to take away information and ideas to help them both in their fire service career and their personal lives. Attending the Annual Conference is a benefit to administrative support professionals not only for the training opportunities, but for the networking experiences as well. IFSAP offers scholarships to those departments and districts whose administrative staff would like to attend, but have budget constraints.

The Board meets on a monthly basis and is working hard to continue to set goals and objectives in order to keep current with the ever-growing fire service industry. The Membership Committee is working to secure additional members in our organization. The Professional Program Committee has been busy planning training opportunities. Classes were recently held on ICS 100, 200, 700



and 800. The next training opportunity will be a tour of MABAS and RED Center. The Fall Seminar will be held on September 21, 2018 at the Doubletree Hilton in Alsip. Attorneys from Robbin Schwartz will present the class. The Committee is also busy researching speakers and topics for the 2019 Conference.

The IFSAP membership volunteer regularly at fire service events. On June 13th, 16 members of IFSAP gathered at the Tinley Park FD to make posters for the cabins at Camp "I Am Me." Several members helped with registration and throughout the week at Camp. Members have volunteered to help staff the Illinois State Fair fire tent on Sunday, August 12, 2018. Member Laura Haiden, is very busy working on the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation 10th Annual Chicagoland Memorial Golf Tournament being held September 7, 2018. For more information on the event contact Laura at lhaiden@glensidefire.org.

IFSAP continues to partner with Bob Smith on the custom knit blanket fundraiser. Added in 2018 is a custom flag blanket. IFSAP has received close

to \$25,000 for the Education Fund. If you would like to receive a free custom knit blanket with your logo or for more information on the blanket fundraiser program contact ifsapblankets@outlook.com.

I am very proud of all the dedicated and talented ladies involved with IFSAP, and I would like to thank them for all that they do throughout the year. I would also like to thank the Fire Chiefs and Board of Trustees that allow us to pursue excellence in our careers. Being a member of IFSAP opens a variety of educational opportunities. If your administrative staff is not a member, please consider allowing them to join.

I look forward to serving my term as president of IFSAP. If you have any questions on what IFSAP has to offer, please feel free to reach out to me.

For more information on IFSAP visit our website at www.ifsap.org.

Janice Gumprecht

IFSAP President - Bartlett FPD

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