

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Vision 2020



By Cheri Breneman
Association Administrator

The new buzzword you will be hearing from IAFFPD this year revolves around Vision 20/20. Not necessarily in terms of your eyesight prescription, but a reality check on your Fire Protection District's current vision and stability at the start of a new decade. The material provided in your membership dues renewal packet, the topics addressed in the feature articles in this publication and presented at our educational programs throughout the year are all focused on helping you evaluate and determine what your district's future holds. Our goal as an organization is provide useful resources to help you succeed going forward this year and beyond.

Found in this issue of *The Fire Call* Mr. Sinclair has covered the new laws that took effect this year, our lobbyist has summarized the draft report of the Property Tax Task Force, there are two features addressing Marijuana issues in Illinois and a there is a recap on the Pension Consolidation bill. The information provided in this issue are important resources to help you, a fire protection district official, to better understand new legal requirements, new challenges to anticipate, and provide a new understanding of the vision of other officials.

Your Association kicked off 2020 in the same manner it has for 34 years, with our informative educational programs! Over the next few months we will hold Continuing Trustee Education at five locations across the state which includes the Winter Conference in O'Fallon. As this

session, we present a two-day event that expands the legal program content, adds an open forum, includes a couple break-out sessions and showcases a 15-vendor display. We encourage fire chiefs to join their trustees at this session as the IFCA VCOC will be joining us to bring timely topics on Firefighter Training and Wellness for the leadership benefit. All five IAFFPD programs present agency reports by the OSFM, IFSI and IFCA, address Firefighter Resiliency and discuss how to prepare for an IDOL inspection.

I am excited to invite you to find out: ***Is Your Fire District's Vision is 20/20*** at our Annual Conference in Peoria this June. Featured this year are two great speakers that will help your check your "vision". Chiefs Bashoor & Bouvier will take the stage for a few general session time slots.

Presenting: Friday, June 19
"Mission & Value: If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you"

Chief Marc Bashoor is the FireRescue1 and Fire Chief Executive Editor. He has served 37 years in emergency services, and is currently the Highlands County, Florida, public safety director. Chief Bashoor also spent six years as chief of the Prince George's County, Maryland, Fire/EMS Department and five years as emergency manager in Mineral County, West Virginia. Chief Bashoor assisted the NFPA with fire service missions in Brazil and China, and has presented at many industry conferences and trade shows.



He has contributed to several industry publications. He is a member of the editorial advisory board.

Presenting:
Friday, June 19 – "School Shootings: Is Your Department Ready?" and "Organizing Chaos"

Saturday, June 20 – "Active Shooter Incident Response Scenario"

Ken Bouvier, (Boo-V-A) is a true Louisiana Cajun from New Orleans, LA, and has been actively involved in EMS since 1975 and is recognized both nationally and internationally as a professional speaker in the EMS profession.



Bouvier is a Nationally Registered EMT-Paramedic and serves as the Deputy Chief of Operations for New Orleans EMS. He serves as the EMS Commander for most major events including Mardi Gras and previous Super Bowls in New Orleans. Chief Bouvier assumed command of New Orleans EMS and Mutual Aid Ambulances days following Hurricane Katrina. He also is responsible for managing the cast and sometimes appears on the A&E Television show *Nightwatch*. Chief Bouvier retired as an Industrial Fire Chief after serving 37 years and served as President of the NAEMT from 2004–2006.

My hope is that through the resources mentioned above you recognize the value in being a member of IAFFPD. We are honored to help you check your "vision" and look forward to a great year for your fire district! ■