



# IN THE NEWS

# IN MEMORY



**Illinois Firefighters Association** kicks off **Go Green Clean campaign** at their Annual Conference at Illinois Fire Service Institute. The Go Green Clean campaign supports the Lavender Ribbon Report and the Best Practices for Preventing Firefighter Cancer.



Congratulations **Chief David Riddle** from **Plainfield Fire Protection District** on the decision to retire after 45 years of fire service at the end of the year. Chief Riddle has been with Plainfield for the last 10 years, serving as chief since 2015 and Deputy Chief for 6 years prior. He came to Plainfield after serving 12 years as Chief for Channahon FPD and another 25 years served with Harvey Fire Department where it all started. Riddle is a proactive member with IAFFD and board member for IFCA Research & Education Foundation, the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance and Past President of MABAS-15 and Will County Fire Chiefs. We thank him for his dedicated service and commitment to the fire service



## Assistance to Firefighters Grant Awards | FEMA.gov

**FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG)** allocated more than \$345 Million to Fire Departments across the country. The primary goal of the AFG program is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations. This year (for FY 2017) and ten rounds later, more than \$12.5 Million to 78 fire service agencies throughout Illinois. Congratulations to the following 40 Fire Protection Districts received an AFG Grant during this period. Visit: <https://www.fema.gov/assistance-firefighters-grant-awards>. This page contains a list of Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) grants awarded for Fiscal Years 2001 - 2017. AFG grants are awarded to fire departments, state fire training academies, and emergency medical service organizations. The intended audiences are AFG stakeholders, which include, but are not limited to, award recipients and the communities they serve.



**John Paul Kilanski** (38) of Algonquin passed away on July 22, 2018. Veteran of U.S. Army Reserves serving as a SGT. serving overseas during Operation Iraqi Freedom for 435 days in the 300th Military Police Unit. He also was part of the 822nd Military Police Company and Firefighter/Paramedic for the **Algonquin - Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District** with 16 years of dedicated service.

Kilanski was a drill captain with the Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois Honor Guard and a member of the fire department's technical rescue team. He recently successfully completed the lieutenant's examination and was in line for a promotion in the near future.

He also was set to receive a lifesaving award for administering an EpiPen to a person who got stung by a bee and went into anaphylactic shock while Kilanski was off-duty at a softball game two weeks prior to his death. Kilanski will be honored posthumously during a ceremony in October.

Kilanski is survived by his wife, Jennifer, and sons Hunter, 8, Gunnar, 6, and Cannon, 4.



**Jerome L. "Jerry" Berry** (63) of Streator passed away on July 18, 2018 after a courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Mary Ann Berry, their four children, their spouses, six grandkids, two siblings and their spouses and several nieces and nephews.

He was a member of the **Reading Volunteer Fire Department** starting out as a Junior Firefighter as a teenager. He held many positions throughout the years serving as President, Treasurer of the Social Fund, and Trustee. He also served as assistant chief to his father's role as chief along with his two sons.



**James E. Seerup** (78) of Mazon, passed away on October 5, 2018 at his home surrounded by family.

In addition to a 41-year career at Caterpillar as a Prove and Design Mechanic, Jim was a member of the Mazon Fire Protection District for 42 years and served as Chief for 10 years. He was an instructor for the Chief Shabbona Firefighter's Training Academy, a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, and a founding member of the M.V.K. Ambulance Service.

A huge history buff, Jim took pleasure in reading and also held a great interest in flying. He belonged to the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and enjoyed attending the annual Fly-In held in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In his free time, he was a true outdoorsman and loved to both deer hunt, as well as fish in Minnesota.

Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Linda, their four children, their spouses, thirteen grandchildren, four great grandkids, two siblings and several nieces and nephews.



# IAFPD ONLINE LEARNING LIBRARY

**Thank you to our Online Learning Library Sponsor:  
Illinois Fire Sprinkler Coalition**

## **Board Secretary's Workshop**

*(Presented by James Sinclair)*

This program offers training on the duties of the board secretary and answers some of your most frequently asked questions.

## **Down & Dirty For Fire Protection District Trustees**

*(Presented by Jim Sinclair, IAFPD Counsel)*

Staying on top of Fire Protection District obligations means identifying who is responsible for completing required tasks and establishing an appropriate timeline for completion. IAFPD Counsel presents the "Down & Dirty" summary of the Calendar and Checklist of Annual Responsibilities. It is important for every District trustee to know and understand how to fulfill the responsibilities of their position with their district.

## **Grant Writing Tips & Techniques**

*(Presented by: Stephen Spraker, McHenry Township FPD)*

In today's climate, where there is sometimes less funding and more need, it's important to know how to increase your organization's chances of securing grants. The program presents an opportunity to benefit from Steven Spraker's 15 years and more than 20 million dollars experience in securing grants for fire departments. He will share his knowledge of the AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant) application process; including tips for developing a winning narrative, filling out the application and updates to the AFG scoring method. Equally important, you will learn some of the common mistakes made when filling out the AFG application, and where to look for other potential funding sources outside of the AFG.

## **How to Run a Legal and Efficient Meeting**

*(Presented by: Andrew Carruthers, Hepler Broom)*

Major problems and dysfunction can arise with a board of trustees that is not functioning properly. This program will review governance principles and techniques to run an effective meeting of your board of trustees. It will address and consider methods to ensure a well-run, peaceful meeting where all viewpoints can be heard and considered without the meeting becoming chaotic and unproductive.

## **Local Government Sexual Harassment Policy**

*(Presented by: Maureen Lemon, Ottosen Britz)*

This webinar provides an overview of recently enacted statutory requirements relating to sexual harassment policies in local units of government. While your district likely has a sexual harassment policy, this webinar identifies the specific provisions that must now be in your policy, the manner in which the policy is adopted, and best practices in implementing your policy.

## **What Am I to Bid? - Dealing with Section 11k**

*(Presented by: John T. Brady)*

The competitive bidding rules of Section 11k became mandatory and trustees continue to have questions and concerns about the statute that requires fire districts to seek sealed bids for most purchases over \$20,000.00. Trustees still wonder: "How Does it work?" "What are the rules?" "How do we do it?" "Are there any exceptions to the law?" "Are there any penalties if we don't comply?" "Do even small districts with small budgets need to comply?" and "If we do need to comply, exactly what do we need to do?"

## **When Covering Your Assets Isn't Enough: Identifying Liability Risks**

*(Presented by: Dave Broz, RAILSIDE CITRUS)*

You see the coverage all over the news: active shooters, opioids, cyber threats, drones, pensions and the erosion of immunity. Does your district's insurance policy offer you the same coverage? Join us for this timely webinar, which will help you identify today's liability risks faced by fire protection districts and help you make sure your district is protected. With recent budget challenges and changes in the legal climate, you won't want to miss out on this easy to understand no-nonsense overview of risks and the importance of an annual review of coverage.

## **Fundamentals of Pension Fund Administration**

*(presented by: Carolyn Clifford & Lt. J.D. Bruchsaler)*

*(2-hours of CE credit for pension trustees)*

In Part One, you will get an overview of the legal authority and State oversight of firefighter pension funds, as well as an introduction to fund membership and legal aspects of the control and management of the fund. A short overview of the legal issues in benefit administration and funding will also be addressed. In Part Two, a veteran pension fund trustee will provide a firsthand account of the responsibilities for administering a pension fund, from learning your role as trustee to what has worked (and not worked) in overseeing responsibilities as a trustee and fiduciary to the fund. A focus on the importance of communication with the membership, as well as the municipality and union, will also be explored.

## **COMING SOON!!**

- **President's Workshop**
- **Treasurer's Workshop**