

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Michael Dillon, President  
Braidwood FPD*

**T**hank you to all our members for renewing their membership. Your support is the lifeblood of the organization. If you are aware of a nearby fire district that may not be a member or using the educational resources, please encourage them to contact the association office. We want to make sure those unfamiliar are informed on the wealth of membership benefits.

I want to welcome and congratulate our new State Fire Marshal James Rivera to the Illinois Fire Service. I look forward to working with him and helping him get more familiar with the 600 fire protection districts we represent across the state.

In other news, I extend my sincere condolences to the Chicago Fire Department on the loss of two firefighters in recent weeks. While the CFD is not a member of IAFFPD, on the behalf of the IAFFPD, we share our sympathies to the each of the families and fire department crews coping with the tragic line of duty deaths of Lt. Jan Tchoryk and firefighter Jermaine Pelt.

The 103<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly has been very active with new bills passing as the session nears adjournment. If you have not visited the Advocacy page of the IAFFPD.org website, I encourage you

to do so. It is there where you can find our lobbyist's weekly updates on bills we have introduced as well as other impacting the fire services. There may be times we send an email message requesting a 'call for action' and can subscribe (join) that email list from that page also. Thank you Brittan Bolin for the work you do on our behalf.

The 2023 Continuing Trustee Education (CTE) have been completed. Thank you to all the outstanding attorneys who presented, the members who attended, the hosts for their assistance, support and participation and our staff and devoted volunteers who help coordinate these educational programs. I am proud of the IAFFPD Education Committee and the work they put into this plan every year!

The time has come where the IAFFPD and IFCA's 1<sup>st</sup> Illinois Annual Fire Service Conference (IFSC) is happening! This exciting collaboration will take place downtown Peoria June 14-17. The event partnership opens attendance to all fire departments and presents great opportunities for those who attend. The conference theme is "Coming Together Driven by Leadership, Service & Dedication" and has taken the work of many from both associations. It will be a return to the

city of Peoria for many of our members and we hope we can count on your support in this new endeavor with many educational offerings paired with a larger tradeshow. The event committees have worked very hard to bring this together and I extend my appreciation to all who are helping us work together.

The IAFFPD will hold its Annual Membership Meeting in conjunction with the IFSC on Friday, June 16, 2023. If you have a conflict with attending please complete and return the Credentials and Proxy forms that were mailed to your fire district in April. If your plans change and can attend our conference the proxy can be "pulled" and you can express your vote in person.

Conference details are included with this publication and registration links are on the home page of both IAFFPD and IFCA websites. You should also be on the look for a few emails from our office with deadlines and new developments.

I do hope I will see you in Peoria in June! ■

Best Regards  
Michael Dillon, Braidwood FPD  
IAFFPD President

## Notice to IAFFPD Members

The **Annual Membership Meeting** will be held in conjunction with the 1st Annual Illinois Fire Service Conference on Friday, June 16, 2023 at 5:00 pm at the Peoria Civic Center, Peoria, IL. Membership Credentials Certification is required to vote at the Annual Meeting. These forms were mailed directly to your fire protection district in recent weeks. One vote per District by Credentials or by Proxy.