

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.

Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal



The OSFM has proposed amendments to our administrative rules that updates the adopted state fire prevention and life safety code from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101, *Life Safety Code* (2000 edition) to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101, *Life Safety Code* (2015 edition), with additional modifications.

While many of the requirements for existing occupancies under the newer provisions of NFPA 101 remain the same as those contained in the 2000 edition, using an outdated NFPA 101 may negatively impact the design and construction of new buildings. The updated edition of NFPA 101 benefits from new methods, technologies, and lessons learned from real-life incidents resulting in refined and improved life safety-related requirements, which sometimes have the added benefit of being less expensive than current requirements. The updated NFPA 101 also considers evolving social concerns associated with delivery of both acute care and long term health care, security, and accessibility. OSFM personnel are active participants in the NFPA codes and standards development process, particularly with respect to fire and life safety as addressed in NFPA 101. The staff has submitted proposals that were successfully included in newer editions of the NFPA 101, generating a positive outcome for many new and existing occupancies, as well as Illinois' residents and visitors.

Our proposed rule changes were published in the Illinois Register on

Friday, Jan. 4, 2019. Links to the text of our proposed rules, as well as fact sheets that relate to the proposed rule changes that we encourage everyone to review can be found on our website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/Resources/Pages/Proposed-Rule-Changes.aspx>

To get a better sense of the impact that these proposed changes may have on your community, we specifically direct you to the following OSFM fact sheets: *What is the Life Safety Code? And Why is the OSFM updating the Life Safety Code?* and *Where Does the Life Safety Code Apply?*

Authority and Applicability

The Fire Investigation Act (425 ILCS 25) gives the OSFM the authority to adopt a statewide fire prevention and life safety code. This statute was enacted by the State legislature in 1909, and since that time the OSFM has either prescribed fire prevention and safety requirements under the old "Gray Book" or those identified in NFPA 101. NFPA 101 was first adopted by the OSFM in 1988. The currently adopted 2000 edition was adopted on January 1, 2002. Local units of government are responsible for enforcing the rules adopted by OSFM, except in those localities that have adopted rules or standards that are "equal to or higher" than the rules adopted by the OSFM.

*A note about statewide applicability – the OSFM does not believe that the Fire Investigation Act requires local units of government to follow OSFM's code if they have asserted their home rule exemption status (via ordinance). For further clarification, see the OSFM fact sheet *Where Does the Life Safety Code Apply?*

Comments

If you have a specific comment or question on the rule-making that you wish to make, you may send that to:

Office of the State Fire Marshal
Attn: Cathy Stashak
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 4-600
Chicago, IL 60601 or by facsimile,
Attn: Cathy Stashak, to 312.814.3459.

Please review the information at the website prior to sending in questions or comments, as the available fact sheets should answer the most frequently posed questions.

Matt Perez
State Fire Marshal

Illinois Fire Chiefs Association



Hello – on behalf of the IFCA here are just a few news items: first and foremost, I want to thank the IAFPD membership and Administrative Team at the IAFPD for your support and continued partnerships. To that, we the IFCA will be presenting a scaled down version of our Recruitment & Retention program specifically for the Trustees. Our goal is to help you understand the challenges and opportunities that your Fire Chiefs have identified and are working on to improve. These will be delivered at the weekend (Saturday) sessions over the next few months.

We will be meeting with you in Plainfield, O'Fallon, Champaign, Cherry Valley and Fulton. Thank you to Cheri & the IAFPD Education Committee for the opportunity.

Continued on page 19

Around the State

Continued from page 18

The IFCA is working on two specific projects: #1 is the Ground Emergency Medical Transport funding enhancement that will hopefully bring to all EMS Providers within the fire service some additional funding. President Mark Puknaitis is our lead man on this and would be happy to explain this program to you and the benefits of this.

Our next program is the Community Risk Reduction Program, this program is being designed as a state program initiative where inclusion of public and private entities work together to prevent, to support, to educate and to reduce hazards when & wherever possible. Dave Slivinski is our liaison to the national team which has reached out to Dave for his assistance in developing a national program that can be fitted to any state and or fire department/district. We will be meeting in March for input and design. Much more to come on this project.

Trainings and information series: if you are looking for some help or for a shoulder to lean on give us the IFCA a try. We have several trained and energetic professionals that possess skills that just might be able to help or at least give you things to think about. We are very cost conscious and will work with you to help.

Training opportunities: we have our annual symposium in East Peoria in May. A complete program guide will be out shortly. WE will have some great speakers, and this is a great venue to visit with fellow professionals. If possible we would like to see you in East Peoria this May.

In September we will hold our annual VCOC conference which is directed at volunteer and combination departments. Please watch for information as this one is not only a big hit but filled with helpful information for small to mid-size districts.

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. We have had conversations with several Trustees from small volunteer FPD's and are trying to help them with a service that will assist them into the future. 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.

The IFCA Education-Research Foundation continues to host a variety of Fire Officer Class and new Chief Officers programs. The Foundation also sponsors many scholarships every year, so please get the word to the members of your organization to apply for funding that will assist them with certifications and college funding. Scholarship information and applications are on line at our web-site SO please take time to look at the information and apply.

A continued work in progress is The Blue-Ribbon Report. The Committee has finished our updated survey under the guidance of Chief Al Yancey and Executive Director Cheri Brenneman. Deputy Director from IFSI Jim Keiken is helping us with a major update to the report. Jim has offered his help to us as a continued show of support from IFSI to and for the Fire Service of Illinois. We will then be developing the new/updated report that will go to the Governor and all elected officials in the spring 2019.

2019 will be a busy year with legislation as we will see a major turnover in Springfield. The Fire Services Associations is voice of the Illinois Fire Service as well as our individual organizations pressing issue that promote the Fire Service in Illinois. Collectively the organizations have very good lobbyists that understand the Fire Service and have been a great voice for us. We will be holding several meetings and gathering in Springfield to educate and update our elected officials. BUT we need help at the local levels and that is where we all need to meet with and visit our local representative and senators. Success and recognition starts at the grass roots level, so visit those who represent you!

The Illinois Fire Chiefs are holding the following events:

- **49th Annual Symposium East Peoria IL** - May 15-17, 2019
- **69th Annual Conference Peoria IL** - October 2019

We have updated our website with the help and direction of Chief John Buckley, Chief Larry Moran and Maureen Griseto. I am sure you will find it useful and very

informative. 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 Inspectors Association



Our Office has sent out membership dues invoices and the annual fee will remain at \$95. This fee has not gone up for many years, although many of the expenses we incur have. Our goal is to provide the best education possible at the lowest rates. You have help keep the cost stable by promptly paying the invoice when it arrives.

I would ask you to see if you are a member of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association. We work hard as a volunteer organization to provide legislation, training, our yearly Fire and Life Safety Conference, OSFM required continuing education and certification classes by experts in their fields, which continues to make Illinois a leader in the area of fire prevention and public education. It is your membership that provides this opportunity for us to provide great resources but we need to increase our membership to continue to do so. If you are a member, please ask your neighbors to join the IFIA so that we can continue to be a strong voice and provide quality educational opportunities.

Due to an increase in of people registering for classes and not showing up, we must requiring payment, or a P.O., prior to the beginning of the class for all future OSFM certification classes, full day seminars, etc. offered by the IFIA. In some cases that makes the difference in running a class or not.

The IFIA has three fire sprinkler trailers that are available for use. They can be rented by any Illinois fire department. To secure any of them just contact our office at 224-387-3340. If you have never used them a **short** review of the operation may be required. The rental of any unit is \$150, **however, if you are a current member of the IFIA we will reduce the rental**

Continued on page 21

**DRIVER SIMULATOR
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**



The Illinois Fire Service Institute is proud to offer new training opportunities with our Driver Simulator. The Driver Simulator will be traveling across the State of Illinois throughout the year, bringing state-of-the-art, hands-on training to a location near you.

JANUARY 12-20, 2019

Carbondale Fire Department
401 North Glenview
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

Saturday, 1/12 0830-1730
Sunday, 1/13 0830-1730
Monday, 1/14 1800-2200
Wednesday, 1/16 1800-2200
Saturday, 1/19 0830-1730
Sunday, 1/20 0830-1730

JANUARY 22-31, 2019

Metropolis Fire Department
213 W. 7th Street
Metropolis, Illinois 62960

Tuesday, 1/22 1800-2200
Thursday, 1/24 1800-2200
Saturday, 1/26 0830-1730
Sunday, 1/27 0830-1730
Monday, 1/28 1800-2200
Thursday, 1/31 1800-2200

*We will not be having class on 1/29/19

FEBRUARY 2-12, 2019

Harrisburg Fire Department
100 South Main Street
Harrisburg, Illinois 62946

Saturday, 2/2 0830-1730
Sunday, 2/3 0830-1730
Tuesday, 2/5 1800-2200
Thursday, 2/7 1800-2200
Saturday, 2/9 0830-1730
Sunday, 2/10 0830-1730
Tuesday, 2/12 1800-2200

FEBRUARY 16-28, 2019

Centralia Fire Protection District
805 South Poplar Street
Centralia, Illinois 62801

Saturday, 2/16 0830-1730
Sunday, 2/17 0830-1730
Tuesday, 2/19 1800-2200
Thursday, 2/21 1800-2200
Saturday, 2/23 0830-1730
Sunday, 2/24 0830-1730
Tuesday, 2/26 1800-2200
Thursday, 2/28 1800-2200



Around the State

Continued from page 19

price to \$50. To become an IFIA member department, for only \$95, contact our office at 224-387-3340.

The annual Fire and Life Safety Conference is progressing, and we already have people registered and securing their hotel rooms, so register now. The conference will be held in East Peoria at the Par-a-Dice Casino/Hotel. A full detailed schedule is available at our website www.illinoisfireinspectors.org. Here you will find detailed information on the classes that will be provided. We will again be doing a half-day preconference on Tuesday afternoon, which is **free** to IFIA members. The non-member cost is \$25. The keynote for Tuesday is "Human Behavior in Fire". Our Wednesday keynotes will be two survivors from the Seton Hall fire in 2000, who will talk about going from Fire Survivors to Fire Safety Educators. To get a feel for what they will talk about, check out this link <https://www.alvaroandshawn.com>. On Thursday, we will have Sara Gura who will talk about firefighter mental health.

There is a national campaign going on that talks about closed doors protecting you from fire. In the fire service we know that to be true, but it is also one part of a bigger message. Many news shows are stating that a closed door will protect you from fire. To the general public the implication of this is that it is safe to stay in a fire, you can simply close the door. What we say is important. When talking to groups it is important to talk about the whole message. While the closed door does buy you some time, working smoke alarms, proper placement of smoke alarms, having two ways out, feeling the door, staying low in smoke, and many other fire safety points must also be said. The idea that needs to be stressed is to have a plan, and closed doors is just one part of that plan.

We had a nice turn out for our awards luncheon in October – thanks to all that attended. We'd like to recognize this year's winners. For corporate awards there was from Kankakee: Domino's, Pepsi Beverages, and Jewel Osco; From New Lenox: Dunkin Donuts; Adult Hero: from New Lenox: Jerry Reeves; from Plainfield: Lesley Ebel, Amy LaJeunesse, Karen Rabe,

Kevin Marin; from Channahon: Ryan Sorg; Chief's Award: D/C Patrick Brenn from the Tri-State Fire Protection District

OSFM certification classes: Fire Inspector 1 class will be offered in Palatine on Feb 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12. The PFLSE class will be held in Downers Grove on April 22 – 24, 29, 30. These classes are taught by experts in their fields. Make sure you go to the IFIA website www.illinoisfireinspectors.org and sign up now to guarantee a seat. IFIA members get preference.

Thank you to all who attended our holiday event in December. At our luncheon, our tradition has been to swear in the newly elected board members. That was again done by Forest Reeder, Chief of the Tinley Park Fire Department. The new IFIA officers are Jack Janozik, Tinley Park – President; Bill Schmidt, Streamwood – Vice-President; Jamie Brown, New Lenox – Secretary; and new to the Board, Jay Atherton, Palatine - Treasurer. Welcome them the next time you see them they have volunteered to give many, many hours of time over many years to make the IFIA the best it can be.



Jay Atherton, Jamie Brown,
Bill Schmidt, Jack Janozik

We continue to evaluate our legislative positions in Springfield. The Board will continue to work with Mike Toika, our legislative representative to find amicable solutions to get our proposals before the General Assembly.

Check the website for the following upcoming events:

- Feb 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12 – Inspector 1 in Palatine
- Feb 22 - mini-sem and meeting
- Mar 20 – 22 - Combined Conf in East Peoria
- April 22 – 24, 29, 30 – PFLSE in Downers Grove
- April 26 – mini-sem and meeting

Robert Morris
Executive Director, IFIA

Illinois Fire Safety Alliance

2019 Camp "I Am Me" Dates Set



The 29th annual Camp "I Am Me" will be held June 16-22. Since 1991, the IFSA has been hosting this week-long, life-changing event for young burn survivors, originally known as "Burn Camp." The Fire Apparatus Parade and Appreciation Day are scheduled for Wednesday, June 19th. Departments from across the entire state are encouraged to attend! Visit www.IFSA.org for details on how to participate. Also, if departments have new child-sized FD t-shirts that can be donated to young burn survivors, contact the IFSA office!

Boot Day Rally Dates: May 3-5

For more than 25 years, Boot Day for Burn Survivors has helped provide much needed support to those that have been affected by burn injuries. As a result of Illinois fire service support, the IFSA has expanded upon its signature program, Camp "I Am Me," and has further developed new programs and events to assist burn survivors of all ages! Join members of the fire service by signing up, schedule dates and locations, grow community support, and enjoy your event while shaking your boots! Find more details at www.IFSA.org/bootday.

Dates to Remember

- Camp I Am Me Shirt Day – Feb. 5
 - Chicago Wolves Fundraiser – Feb. 24
 - Volunteer/Donor Recognition Breakfast – April 5
 - Boot Day for Burn Survivors Rally Dates – May 3-5
 - Camp "I Am Me" – June 16-22
 - Camp "I Am Me" Fire Apparatus Parade & Appreciation Day – June 19
 - IFSA Day at the IL State Fair – Aug. 16
 - Fire Prevention Week Luncheon – October 10
- Information on all IFSA events and programs can be found at www.IFSA.org.

Philip Zaleski
IFSA Executive Director