



## IFCA Monthly Information April 2021



### Diversity, Communications, Training, Education, Safety

#### Illinois Fire Chiefs Association

##### **From President Don Shoevlin, Harlem-Roscoe FPD;**

On behalf of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, I am thrilled to extend an invitation for you to attend our **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the IFCA Symposium being held this coming May 12–14, 2021. Excitement fills the air, after a year that was interrupted, as plans are made to hold it once again with safety precautions throughout being a top priority. The Symposium Committee has done an outstanding job again to assure that we have an event offering recognition, education, social networking and more.

There have been several items of legislation that have landed before us, one item of concern is that of Fireworks and expanded sales and used of by the public. As President I do not support this expansion of use and we will continue to voice our concerns against the use of Fireworks by the general public. I have testified and will testify again voicing the concerns we have and saying Leave Fireworks to the Licensed professionals. I thank all who gave me their thoughts, comments and support as we fight this together.

In closing I look forward to seeing you at the symposium. If you ever need anything from me as IFCA President, please do not hesitate in contacting me. Stay Safe.

**From Executive Director Jim Grady** Spring is here, baseball is being played and our annual symposium is planned and ready to go. This year we will have a special recognition for our Chief Fire Officer graduates. The committee has planned a great program to include USN Seal Chad Williams who will talk about overcoming adversity within his program called “Forged by Adversity”. Here is the link for registration. The committee is also working with the hotel to insure a safe environment. <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education/annual-symposium/>. At the symposium we will have several sponsor and vendors on site. One will be Eagle Engraving. Please see their insert below for the latest line of IFCA Apparel.

I would like to thank Maureen, John Buckley and Dave Slivinski for their help with the daily day to day activities plus several specialty projects that we have going. The IFCA will continue to evolve as a team to make sure that our future is secure at all levels where efficiency and professionalism is the priority while providing personality in supporting the association in all our endeavors. We are continuing to investigate all workings of the association and foundation to make sure that we are current and providing you with what is needed. I will go over more of the projects in the next issue of the Gong plus during general announcements at the symposium. I thank you for your support and look forward to our in-person gatherings. Stay Safe and Stay Healthy.

#### **50<sup>th</sup> IFCA Symposium**

Please visit our website for complete program and online registration. Hotel block rate deadline is April 20, 2021.

<https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education/annual-symposium/>

#### **Legislation**

##### **Legislation by IFCA-JB;**

The Legislature is currently on spring break, returning to Springfield on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully, you received the Legislative Update emailed March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you did not, you can find it with our [legislative additional resources](#). We encourage you to contact your local State Representative or Senator to let them know how this legislation will impact you.

Each year, legislation to legalize some type of firework is introduced. The IFCA, along with many other fire service organizations, has successfully opposed the expansion of fireworks sales in Illinois. This year is a little different. In the past, while concerning, the fireworks legislation did not have significant support in Springfield. Now, fireworks expansion has increased support, has made it out of a House committee and will be voted upon by the whole House of Representatives in the coming weeks.

We strongly encourage you to contact your local Representative and ask them to **vote against** the passage of [HB2898](#) (as amended). The devices that will be legalized are being mischaracterized as simple sparklers. The fact is they are one step below a professional firework. They are dangerous and, if this bill becomes law, would be completely unregulated in the State of Illinois. Click [here](#) to see a retailer’s demonstration video. Legalization would effectively allow their sale and use anywhere. As a Chief Fire Officer in your community, your local Representative should value your professional opinion. Make sure that your Representative is well informed. Again, **now is the time to contact your State Representative and ask for opposition to [HB2898](#)!**

We continue to work on legislation that impacts the fire service on a daily basis. As we get closer to the end of May (and the spring legislative session) we will have a much better idea of what legislation will be moving forward. If you have legislative questions, feel free to reach out to John Buckley at [jrbuckleyjr@gmail.com](mailto:jrbuckleyjr@gmail.com).

## **IT Update MemberClicks ---**

Second notices for 2021 Membership Renewal have been emailed. We appreciate your attention to the payment of the invoice.

## **VCOC Programs & News:**

### **VCOS Fire Equipment collection:**

If you are doing end of the year cleaning of closets and storage areas don't forget - The VCOC Committee is collecting equipment to donate to departments in-need throughout the state. Contact Chief David Weiss – [dweiss@westmont.il.gov](mailto:dweiss@westmont.il.gov) for additional information.

## **Assessment & Consulting**

For information on the IFCA Assessment & Consulting Services please contact: [dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org](mailto:dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org)

### **Be Prepared for Promotion & Leadership Workshops**

Registration is open for the Workshops - April 13-15, 2021 at Homer Township FPD, Lockport. Please note: To maintain social distancing each workshop will be limited to 20 attendees. Registration at [www.illinoisfirechiefs.org](http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org)

### **Basic Assessor Certification Course Scheduled**

The Joint Labor Management Committee plans to offer a **BASIC ASSESSOR CERTIFICATION COURSE** commencing on June 7, 2021 and ending on June 9, 2021. The class will be held at the Normal Fire Department located at 606 S. Main Street in Normal, Illinois 61761. For more information and registration: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/jlmc-approved---basic-assessor-certification-course-scheduled/>

## **IFCA Educational & Research Foundation**

### **Fire Officer Course Offerings - Upcoming Fire Officer Courses**

To register <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/fire-officer-courses/>

#### **Incident Safety Officer (ISO)**

May 10-14, 2021, North Palos FPD, \$300

#### **Company Fire Officer (CoFO)**

April 26, May 24-28, June 7-11, 2021, Pleasantview FPD, \$1000

#### **Training Program Manager (TPM)**

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021, Plainfield FPD, \$300

For additional class dates visit [www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education](http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education)

### **IFCA Foundation Fundraising Updates**

**Inaugural 5K, Hometown Hero's Hustle** in cooperation with the VFW and American Legion. **9:00am May 22, 2021** at 645 S. River in Batavia ( Batavia VFW Post 1197). Check out the IFCA website for more information. Online Registration <https://raceroster.com/events/2021/46887/hometown-heroes-hustle> Entry fee: \$45.00

**Fishing Tournament June 12, 2021** at Waukegan Harbor. 5am to Noon. Cost \$150/person, 6 to a boat. Ten boats reserved. Watch the website for additional information and registration info.

**Sporting Clays** – Looking at a June shoot South Event, watch for information.

**Golf Outing** – July 7, 2021 – Gleneagles Golf Course – Lemont IL.

#### **Upcoming Blood Drives**

Cary Fire Protection District - June 26

Elmhurst Fire Department - April 10

Gurnee Fire Department - June 19

Homewood Fire Protection District - May 1

Mount Prospect, May 6, July 1

Mundelein Fire Department - July 3

**SALE EXTENDED - Shirts/Sweatshirts** - The Foundation is again taking online orders for the **IFCA Foundation "We're In This Together Sweatshirts and Shirts**. New offerings and new colors. The deadline has been extended through **May 31, 2021**. \$10.00 from each item sold will benefit the IFCA Foundation. The link to order: <https://ilfcf.itemorder.com/sale>

### **Officer Development Seminar Class**

**Oak Forest Officer Development Seminar April 14, 2021 – Registration Open**

Oak Forest FD will be hosting a one-day seminar on April 14, 2021 at South Suburban College, Oak Forest Campus. Topics included are: *Mental Health and Safety for Firefighters; Legal Requirements; Officer Leadership: Buddy to Boss; Training Awareness and Conflict Resolutions.* For more info and registration: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/events/officer-development-for-the-21st-century/oakforest/>

*It is a new decade, and the Foundation has updated and restructured the Senior Officer Development program. It is now being offered as a **one or two-day** program with topics chosen by the Host Department, so it is relevant to your department's area.*

*Interested in hosting – contact DC Tim Leidig, West Chicago FD. [tleidig@wegofpd.org](mailto:tleidig@wegofpd.org)*

## Shopping?

The IFCA Foundation is registered with AmazonSmile. Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and select Illinois Fire Chiefs Association Educational & Research Foundation as the charity you would like to support. A percentage of your purchase will be sent to the Foundation. Thank you.

## **Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals (IFSAP)**

### **About Us**

The Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals (IFSAP) was founded in September 1980, when a group of ten secretaries from across the State of Illinois gathered for the purpose of determining the educational needs of the Fire Service Secretary.

IFSAP has since developed into a professional organization built around the Fire Service and the needs of the administrative support staff that operate within it. Our belief is that it is necessary and advantageous for us to network, share ideas and train together whenever possible.

Is your Administrative Professional a member of this group??? Please visit [www.ifsap.org](http://www.ifsap.org) for more information and membership application.

## **For the Good of the Association**

### **Congressional Fire Service**

**The 2021 National Fire & Emergency Services Symposium will be held virtually - April 27-29!**

No Travel Required – *Stay Home! Stay Safe!*

Attendance is free!

Register today and remember to mark your calendars to join your favorite sessions!

Visit [www.cfsi.org](http://www.cfsi.org) for complete information

### **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

Information is constantly changing. Visit the following websites for up-to-date information. Stay Safe.

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/first-responders.html>

EMS: <https://www.ems.gov/>

IAFC: <https://www.iafc.org/>

IDPH: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/>

IFCA: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/>

Illinois Coronavirus Response: <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/>

IFSI: <https://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>

OSFM: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/Pages/default.aspx>

US Fire Administration: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/>

### **IFCA - Chiefs Corner – One Stop Shop for all your IFCA Apparel**

**Special Symposium Offer: Order shirts by April 16 and receive 10% off your purchase. Free pick up at Symposium, May 12-14. Use coupon code: IFCA10**



IFCA has partnered with **Eagle Engraving** to sell a variety of apparel and other items with the IFCA logo. Please visit Eagle Engraving website. Go to [www.eagle-engraving.com](http://www.eagle-engraving.com) then click on Chief's Corner and shop **OR** head right to the page at: [https://eagle-engraving.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=133\\_134](https://eagle-engraving.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=133_134). Check out the "NEW" variety of apparel – Tall sizes now available.

*You are receiving this correspondence as a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association*