



***IFCA Monthly Information
April 2018***



Diversity, Communications, Training, Education, Safety

From President Christian;

As we head into the Month of April, I want to again extend an invitation for you to attend the 48th Annual IFCA Symposium to be held May 16-18, 2018. Much work has gone into the planning of this event and I know it will be a tremendous educational and networking experience for everyone. You can find out more information and register on our website at www.illinoisfirechiefs.org. On a separate note, I encourage everyone to look at the evaluation and assessment services that are provided through the IFCA. The assessment center process offers a professional, cost-effective analysis of each candidate's ability to perform in a demanding, supervisory role based on highly-predictive and job-related simulations. Years of research have shown a high correlation between how well a candidate does in the Assessment Center and his/her success in the supervisory role. Please reach out to our Program Director Dave Slivinski at dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org for more details and information.

Illinois Fire Chiefs Association

SAVE THE DATE & PLAN TO ATTEND
Illinois Fire Services Legislative Day
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
A Day at the State Capitol
An Evening Reception at the Doubletree Hotel
Springfield, IL

The flyer features a central text block with event details. On the left side, there is a photograph of a modern, multi-story brick building at night, identified as the Doubletree Hotel. On the right side, there is a photograph of the Illinois State Capitol building, showing its iconic dome and classical architecture.

Save the date for the 2018 IFCA Springfield Legislative Day on April 11th. If you have never been to our annual event, please consider joining us. We begin early in the morning and conclude with a reception for the legislators in the evening.

Also in April is the fire service lobby day (days) in Washington, DC. This has been a great opportunity to discuss Illinois issues with the Illinois Congressional Delegation. For more information on either of these legislative lobby events, email John Buckley at jbuckley@plvw.org.

If you have legislative concerns that you feel the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association should champion or questions on the IFCA legislative process, email Chief John Buckley at jbuckley@plvw.org.

IFCA Legislative Update: Reminder - This year we are taking a little bit of a different approach. You may recall that in past years, we would ask our members to “slip” many bills heading to committee.

After working with our lobbyist and talking with some legislators, we have decided to slip many of the bills on behalf of the IFCA and not ask all our members to slip these bills. Typically, this will be done by President Christian. If you feel strongly on a particular bill, please remember that you can slip any bill on your own. Although we anticipate asking for your help less frequently this year, we will undoubtedly still be asking you to act when certain situations arise. Sometimes this will be slipping a bill, sometimes it might be contacting your Legislators directly (through email or by phone) and we might even ask our members to show up in Springfield for a hearing. Each situation is different, and we will be watching carefully to determine the best response.

The key to all this is, **when we ask for your help, please take the time to help.** We will try not to ask too often, but when we do, we need **your** help.

IFCA Web Information: We continue to work hard on the new website. Doing some moving and tweaking of pages to make it more user friendly. Chief Larry Moran from Forest View is making the changes and maintaining the site. Watch for updates!

Illinois Fire Chiefs recognition: **Chief of the Year** application will be out in April with an August deadline. More to come on this. Please take time to think about a worthy recipient and fill out the application. This year's application will be a revised version so please follow the new and improved format.

48th Annual Symposium – May 16-18, 2018. Visit the website www.illinoisfirechiefs.org to register. This is a great educational and networking opportunity

VCOC Programs

Save the Dates - The VCOC Committee will be sponsoring a **Fire Rescue Organizational Guidelines (FROG)** class, April 13-15, 2018 at the Harlem Roscoe FPD, Roscoe IL.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: If you are a leader in your department (Fire Chief, Chief Officer, Company Officer, Senior Leader), you need to be here!

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN: Participants work together to develop solutions to common leadership challenges through scenario and facilitated-based discussions. Topics include analyzing and understanding the fire department's people, processes and culture. At the conclusion of the course, participants will have practical guidelines, customized to their organization, which can be immediately implemented upon returning home.

Visit [http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/](http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org) to register for this outstanding program.

Save the Date: Recruitment and Retention hosted by the Litchfield FD June 9 & 10, 2018. This two-day course provides chiefs and officers with the knowledge, tools and resources to begin a more successful recruitment program. You will also learn valuable tips on how to retain those quality volunteers. This course is offered at **NO CHARGE**. Visit www.illinoisfirechiefs.org for registration.

FREE FIRE PREVENTION MATERIALS

The Volunteer Firefighter Alliance is a national non-profit organization dedicated to providing Fire Departments, schools, and at-risk groups with education materials for their communities.

We would love to be able to assist your organization by providing you with **free fire prevention materials**.

We currently have an 8-page fire safety activity book that we can send out to your organization.

Just fill in your organization's information at:

<http://www.volunteerfirefighteralliance.org/education.html>

Once the information is submitted you should receive your materials in 10-14 days.

While visiting the VFA website, please check out our other programs that can assist you and your department.

Thank you,

Robert Kesterson, Development Director, Volunteer Firefighter Alliance

Assessment & Consulting:

- Our Consulting Services provide expert analyses for you to identify a new station location; consolidation feasibility or measure your organizations response performance.
- Mount Prospect Fire Station Location Study, March, 2018– click this link to view the completed report: <http://www.mountprospect.org/home/showdocument?id=11680>.
- Harper Community College “Preparing for Fire Department Entry” scheduled for April 27th, 2018
- Assessment Centers: contact us if you are interested in receiving a custom proposal to conduct your next promotional examination.

SEATS STILL AVAILABLE Final: “Be Prepared Workshops” scheduled for Spring 2018: Class offered: Addison April 11-13, 2018. Registration available at: <http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/>

JLMC Basic Assessor Course: at The Plainfield Fire Protection District April 3-5, 2018

Registration information available at: <http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/>



IFCA Clothing Line: Please visit Eagle Engraving website and click on The Chief’s Corner for some great IFCA items and deals. Starting in 2018 please see our pre-order set up for the symposium and conference. Go to www.eagle-engraving.com then click on Chief’s Corner and shop.

IFCA Symposium – please see attached for details on the Symposium, but take time to look at the Eagle Engraving site for some IFCA Symposium specials.

Mental Health Support/Services

Where would you turn if one of your firefighters came to you needing help. Your department should have this information readily available to you and your personnel. Make sure your department is in a position to help. There are many resources and training available to you and your personnel. Be prepared, don’t let your employee down. Here are a few.

Illinois Firefighter Peer Support:

Illinois Fire Fighter Peer Support is defined as assistance provided by a trained individual or group of trained firefighters and emergency responders who answer the call to their brothers and sisters in need, regardless of the need.

Call Toll Free 855-90-SUPPORT (855-907-8776)

<http://www.ilffps.org/self-help/>

The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) has also developed a Firefighter Resiliency Program to address firefighter mental health. Please contact your cornerstone representative to have a course delivered:

<https://www.fsi.illinois.edu/content/courses/programs/resiliency/>

There is also free online awareness training available through the NFFF Fire Hero Learning Network:

https://www.fireherolearningnetwork.com/Training_Programs/Stress_First_Aid_for_Fire_and_Emergency_Medical_Services_Personnel.aspx

FHLN Launches New Emergency Services Certificate Program

<https://www.fireherolearningnetwork.com/>

Tax Reform Act & Fire Sprinkler Incentives

reprinted courtesy of NFSA

In December, Congress passed the most sweeping tax reform legislation since 1986. Included in this legislation (P.L. 115-97) are two provisions that will greatly incentivize the installation of fire sprinklers. The National Fire Sprinkler Association appreciates the efforts and work that happened for 14+ years prior to this passage that allowed fire sprinklers to be included. A special thank you to Congressman Jim Langevin, who has championed this inclusion since the beginning as a result of the Station Nightclub fire being in his district. We also thank all of our fire service partners – Congressional Fire Services Institute, International Fire Chiefs Association, International Fire Fighters Association, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, National Fire Protection Association, Common Voices, National Volunteer Fire Council, Security Industry Association, Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors and many others. Understanding the costs of fire is important to business owners across America, and NFSA now shifts our work to sharing this information with our fire service allies and stakeholder groups that are directly affected.

For further information visit the NFSA website at: www.nfsa.org.

IFCA Educational & Research Foundation

“Everyday Heroes” Blood Drive Program is alive and going strong through The IFCA Foundation. If your department is interested, please contact the IFCA office and your request will be directed to the committee. We thank you for your past support and appreciate your future support of this program.

Scholarship Competition: The application period has closed, and we thank all of those who took the time to apply. Applications will be reviewed during the month of April with notification in May.

Fire Officer I & II

Seats still available for the following Fire Officer I & II classes to end the Spring term.

Instructor I	April 23-25, 30-May 1, 2018	North Palos FPD, Sta. 1
Instructor II	May 14-16, 21-22, 2018	Downers Grove, Sta. 2

For more information and registration forms visit the IFCA website:

<http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/>

Senior Officer for the 21st Century

The Foundation continues the Senior Officer Development Classes. There is no cost for the class but due to the OSFM being unable to offer grant assistance, hotel costs will be the responsibility of the student. These classes are appropriate for all officers who wish to increase their knowledge and prepare for future job responsibilities. The last program until fall is being held in Centralia IL, April 7-8, 2018. If you are interested in hosting a class in the fall, please send an email to mgriseto@illinoisfirechiefs.org

Shopping? The IFCA Foundation is registered with AmazonSmile. Go to 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.*

SAVE THE DATE for our 2018 Fundraising Activities:

- ❖ Fishing Trip - Saturday, June 2nd - Waukegan Harbor & Marina
- ❖ Golf Outing - Wednesday, July 11th - Gleneagles Golf Club, Lemont
- ❖ For Information on the LifeSource Blood Drive Program, please contact Chief Tracy Kenny: tkenny@broadview-il.gov

For the Good of the Association

IFCA State Fair Day is Sunday August 12, 2018. More information to be out soon!

OSFM & IFSI News:

OSFM Firefighter 25th Annual Medal of Honor Ceremony is May 8th, 2018 in Springfield.

IFSI – Staff is helping with the 2018-19 Fire Services revamped Blue Ribbon Report. The committee thanks Deputy Director Keiken for his time and efforts with this task, which is one of a collaborative effort by all members of the Fire Service Association.

Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors News:

Congratulations to Chief Mac McCastland as the Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors – Instructor of the Year & Life Time Achievement Recognition.

Promotions/Retirements:

Retirement – D/C Rick Johnson, Lake Zurich Fire/Rescue

Retirement - Chief William Sohn, South Elgin/Countryside FPD

Promotion – A/C Steve Wascher to Chief, South Elgin/Countryside FPD

Promotion – Captain Roger Traver to Chief, Washington Volunteer FD

Congratulations to all!

Dates to remember:

April 11, 2018 Illinois Legislative Days

Apr 13-15, 2018 – Fire Rescue Organizational Guidance, Harlem-Roscoe FPD, Roscoe
Apr 17-18, 2018 – Congressional Fire Service Caucus, Washington DC
May 8, 2018 – Illinois Firefighter Medal of Honor 25th Annual Ceremony, Springfield
May 16-18, 2018 – IFCA 48th Annual Symposium, East Peoria
Jun. 2, 2018 – Fishing Trip, Waukegan Harbor
June 9 & 10, 2018 Recruitment & Retention Seminar Litchfield FD
Jun 21-23, 2018 – 75th Annual IAFFPD Conference, Peoria IL
Jul. 11, 2018 – Golf Outing, Gleneagles Golf Club, Lemont
Aug 2, 2018 – Anthony LaRocca Memorial Golf Outing, Bloomingdale
Aug 8-11, 2018 – IAFC-FRI Conference, Dallas TX
Aug 12, 2018 – IFCA Day at the State Fair
Sep 6, 2018 – Survivor’s Retreat, Carol Stream IL
Sep 7, 2018 – Chicagoland NFFF Tournament, Glendale Lakes, Lemont IL
Sep 8-9, 2018 – IFCA VCOC 9th Annual Conference, Bloomington/Normal
Oct 14-17, 2018 – 68th Annual Conference, Peoria IL

The monthly information will be sent to Area Representatives, Directors and Presidents as general announcements at monthly meetings. We will also post to our web-site.