



IFCA Monthly Information JULY 2020



Diversity, Communications, Training, Education, Safety

Illinois Fire Chiefs Association

From President Greg Earle, Centralia FPD

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer! The IFCA Presidents have been busy meeting on a regular basis via Zoom where we have looked at 2020 as a year of interesting events and are focused on 2021 with anticipation of seeing each other at the symposium, golf outing and conference. This year has given us the opportunity to look at operations internally where we have made some changes that will benefit our organization. We have a strong slate of candidates for the 2020/2021 terms with individuals committed to carrying our message to you the membership of the IFCA.

We are reviewing all committees to insure effectiveness and involvement.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or our administrative team. Stay safe, enjoy the summer and let's look forward to better things to come. IFCA Greg Earle

From Executive Director Chief Jim Grady, III (retired)

This year we will see a major change in how we elect our IFCA Board. Electronic by way of our new system (which will go live in August) Member-clicks. Ballots will be sent electronically and tabulated in advance of October 1st, 2020. This system will be utilized in the future for elections to assist you the members of the IFCA with on-line opportunities for voting. Some administrative changes will take place, but my / our goal is a transparent and open line of communications to include voting. This new system will also (with your help) help us update all membership and recruit new members plus additional involvement within committees and to the board. John Buckley and Maureen have been instrumental with helping me with this project and I feel that by this time next year we will see the benefits of the changes.

With the cancelling of our conference we will hold a small transition and swearing in program for the 2020/2021 IFCA Board in October. A change that has taken place and will continue is that our IFCA Directors will continue to meet on a monthly basis sharing ideas, gathering information and passing information along to our membership.

For 2021 we will have three (3) scheduled meetings for the full board as in-person/face to face. January our annual planning, Symposium May and Annual Conference in October. The board will meet monthly by way of Zoom, call in and small group in person until the gathering restrictions are lifted and all feel comfortable in meeting. Our IFCA Board meets in many ways on a daily, weekly basis by way of calls and zoom meetings, this also goes for committees.

Changes have caused us to look at how we do business and the changes made, proposed and yet to be determined will be made with the decision process of improving our organizations communications, member involvement and accessibility of the executive board. I consider it an honor to serve and look forward to our future together.

Recruitment and Retention for Volunteer and Combination Department Webinar

July 14, 2020, 6pm – Limit 15 participants. Registration Link: [form http://i4a.illinoisfirechiefs.org/i4a/forms/index.cfm?id=34](http://i4a.illinoisfirechiefs.org/i4a/forms/index.cfm?id=34)

This course provides chiefs and officers with the knowledge, tools and resources to begin a more successful recruitment program. There will be valuable tips on how to retain those quality volunteers. Even though this course is primarily set up for volunteer/combination departments, it is open to all. The course can offer valuable suggestions on other marketing strategies to attract qualified candidates.

IFCA Annual Elections

Attached to this newsletter are the positions to be elected. Letters of intent & support have been received by the candidates listed as of this date.

If you are interested in running for office, please send your letter of intent; short bio and a letter of support from your supervisor to: puknaitism@naperville.il.us by September 1, 2020 to ensure you are on the ballot.

WE HAVE GONE VIRTUAL WITH OUR STAIR CLIMB

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Illinois Fire Chief's Annual Conference, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Stair Climb has also been cancelled. That is the bad news! The good news is, it has gone virtual!

Beginning September 11 through December 31, 2020, you will have the opportunity to climb the equivalent of the 110 stories of the World Trade Center at a location of your choice, (2200 stairs). This could be your local high school football stands or gym, park district or training tower. Not a stair climber? Then do a 5k run/walk. Form a team, get your family members to join, have a competition between shifts or departments! Registration is open to anyone and you have three months to complete your event.

Registration is simple, go to www.firehero.org, click on the events tab, 9/11 stair climb then stair climbs by state. Registration is \$30.00 and you will receive a shirt, honor badge and other NFFF swag, the more you raise, the more you receive. All proceeds go to assist the families of fallen firefighters. In 2019, the golf outings and stair climbs raised over 1 million dollars, please register so we can achieve that number again.

For question please contact Chief John Kachanuk at 309-543-2153 or j.kachanuk@havanail.gov.

IFCA Legislation Committee Update

To follow up on the June Hot Sheet, here is an update on legislation passed during the abbreviated Special Session that ended May 24th. Obviously, this has been a very different legislative session. It should be noted that all the bills passed this year were part of the special session, meaning they needed to relate to the very narrow qualifications the special session was called to address.

Here are some of the highlights that pertain to the fire service.

HB2096 – Allows certain bids to be opened electronically. **(Public Act 101-0632)**

HB2174 – Extends the 9-1-1 Act. Moves NG9-1-1 deadline from 7/1/2020 to 12/31/2021. Moves surcharge deadline from 12/31/2020 to 12/31/2021. Extends the sunset date to 12/31/2021. **(Public Act 101-0639)**

HB2455 – Adds Covid as presumptive under workers compensation. For FF/EMT, must have worked during the 14 days prior to contracting Covid. Adds Covid presumption to the Chicago Police and Fire pension articles. **(Public Act 101-0633)**

SB0471 – For Public Employees (including firefighters) extends the one-year period to return to work by 60 days if the physical recovery from an injury was hindered by Covid occurring on or after 3/9/2020 and on or before 12/31/2020. **(Waiting for Governor's Signature)**

SB0685 – Allows for Counties to delay penalties and interest for property taxes up to 120 days or the month after the Governor's emergency declaration ends. Note: many Counties have already acted on this **(Public Act 101-0635)**

SB2135 –Codifies current electronic meeting ability for local (not State) government and adopts certain rules. Limited extensions on adoption of municipal appropriation ordinance and annual budget. **(Public Act 101-640)**

Of the twenty-two bills sent to the Governor, he has signed all but three as of this writing. The Governor is expected to sign all of the bills.

The chambers adjourned the Spring Session, with the next scheduled date on November 17th (veto session) or by special call. The Legislature did not pass legislation allowing for their own electronic meetings, so any further legislative action would need to take place in person in Springfield. While this was a very interesting end of session, it will be just as interesting to see where this goes in the next few months.

Information Technology:

As we have previously indicated, we are in the process of updating our member management systems. With the help of our Directors and Area Representatives, we have been reviewing and updating member information. In addition to that assignment our Area Representatives will be looking for help in delivering our message. We can have multiple representatives, so don't be surprised if you are asked to help us help all of us. We will soon begin staff training on the new program with a planned rollout this summer. Stay tuned for additional details! For more info: jgrady3@illinoisfirechiefs.org jrbuckleyjr@gmail.com

GEMT Webinar

A video of the GEMT Webinar presented June 11, 2020 is now available on our website for you to watch at your convenience. The webinar focuses on the history of the GEMT program; Steps to achieve success; Teamwork necessary for program implementation; Cost reporting; Communication process between Local, State and Federal agencies; Ongoing resources necessary to maintain eligibility. Link to webinar <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/resources/gemt/>

VCOC Programs & News:

Training: VCOC will be hosting a Recruitment/Retention Webinar program on July 14, 2020 at 6pm. Limit 15 participants. For more information <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/events/recruitmentretention-workshop-webinar/>

VCOS Fire Equipment collection:

The VCOC Committee is collecting equipment to donate to departments in-need throughout the state. Contact Chief David Weiss – dweiss@westmont.il.gov for additional information.

Looking for Additional Committee Members

VCOC Committee is looking for more committee members, go to: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/who-we-are/intro-for-committee-form/> or email dweiss@westmont.il.gov .

Assessment & Consulting

We are now rescheduling Assessment Centers along with lining up many new projects. Every Assessor Team is using social distancing protocol where/when necessary. We are making good progress in developing our assessment centers and written examinations on a virtual platform. Traditional and virtual assessment center options will be available on our menu soon. Please do not hesitate to contact me for updates, information and future endeavors.

For information on the IFCA Assessment & Consulting Services please contact: dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org

Be Prepared for Promotion & Leadership

2020 Fall Offering –

Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3
Overview/Structured Oral/In-Basket	Emp Counseling/Citizen Interaction	Tactical Exercise
Sep 30–Homer Township FPD, Lockport	Group Problem Solving/Writing Oct 1–Homer Township FPD, Lockport	Oct 2-Homer Township FPD, Lockport

2021 Winter Offering –

Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3
Overview/Structured Oral/In-Basket	Emp Counseling/Citizen Interaction	Tactical Exercise
Mar 23–Homer Township FPD, Lockport	Group Problem Solving/Writing Mar 24–Homer Township FPD, Lockport	Mar 25-Homer Township FPD, Lockport

For further information [Be Prepared](#)

To Register: [Be Prepared Registration](#)

Fire Chief of the Year Application Period Open – Deadline August 7, 2020

We encourage you to consider nominating a Chief Officer from your area as the Illinois Fire Chief's Association's Chief of the Year. Information is available on our website. Applications are also available on the website and are due August 7th. There are four different categories for the award based on population (under 25,000, 25,000 or more) and type of chief (full-time, part-time & Volunteer). Please consider nominating a deserving Chief Officer for this prestigious award.

Cancellation/Postponements

IFCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 11-14, 2020

IFCA Educational & Research Foundation

★ **New Fundraising Event T-Shirts for Sale – Support the IFCA E/R Scholarship Program.**

The shirts will be ordered through our partner, Unique Apparel Solutions in Elk Grove Village. CEO Jim Clifton donated his website, production and shipping departments to assist the Foundation in raising funds in the absence of our regular Foundation fundraisers. Jim and his team worked on the custom design in the development of the RED Fundraising, "We're in this Together" shirt. Jim works with over 200 fire departments and is the nationwide apparel provider to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in Emmitsburg, MD.

To order your shirt(s), select the link <https://ifcftshirt.itemorder.com> to see the shirt and place an order. You can also access the site by going to the IFCA website: www.illinoisfirechiefs.org The Foundation will receive \$10.00 for each shirt ordered. Thank you for your participation.

Fire Officer Course Offerings

An updated schedule has been released for classes. Classes will be limited to 24 students. Registration is available on the IFCA Website:

Course	Dates	Location	Cost
Fire Service Instructor			
Instructor I	Oct 19-21, 26-27	North Palos FPD	\$300.00
Instructor 2	Sep 21-23, 28-29	Pleasantview FPD	\$300.00
Incident Safety Officer (ISO)			
Incident Safety Officer	Sep 21-25	Huntley FPD	\$300.00
Incident Safety Officer	Nov 16-20	West Chicago FD	\$300.00
Company Fire Officer (CoFO)			
Company Fire Officer	Jul 20, Aug 17-21, 31-Sep 4	Tinley Park FD	Grant Funded
Advanced Fire Officer (AdFO)			
Advanced Fire Officer	Oct 26, Nov 30-Dec 4, 14-18	Elk Grove Village FD	Grant Funded

Training Program Manager (TPM)			
Training Program Manager	Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	North Palos FPD	\$300.00
Training Program Manager	Oct 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov 2	Plainfield FPD	\$300.00

1-Day Officer Development Seminar Class

It's a new decade and the Foundation has updated and restructured the Senior Officer Development program. It is now a **One-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

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.

Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals (IFSAP)

2020 Blanket Fundraiser - The fundraiser for the IFSAP Education Fund has remained popular with over **6,900** blankets sold. Join the hundreds of departments that have already purchased custom knit blankets for their bunk rooms, their homes, or as gifts. For further information visit <http://www.ifsap.org>

Our Partners

Office of the State Fire Marshal

OSFM Cooperative Agreement with CPSE for Chief Fire Officer Certification

The OSFM is excited about a cooperative agreement with the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). A graduate of The OSFM's Chief Fire Officer Program, with full certification, can now gain the Chief Fire Officer Designation (CFO) from the CPSE's Commission on Professional Credentialing. If you are a graduate from the OSFM program from 2012 to June 1st, 2020, you have until **December 31st, 2020** to complete and turn in the application for CFO Designation. The current class and future OSFM classes will also be eligible to apply, only when receiving full certification from the program. Completing this process allows you to join more than 1400 Chief Fire Officers Designees world-wide and these professional designations are international and recognized as the minimum standards for fire chiefs.

For an application email rmason@cpse.org

Illinois State Fire Marshal Awards \$3.5 Million in Grants to Illinois First Responders.

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal and Governor JB Pritzker have announced the recipients of the Small Equipment Grant Program. A total of \$3.5 million was awarded to 154 fire departments/districts and EMS providers. The OSFM received 540 applications, requesting around \$12 million in funding during this grant period.

For the full Press Release and Awards list <https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/news-item.aspx?ReleaseID=21757>

Illinois Fire Service Institute

Please check out our website for news and happenings with our state training academy <https://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>

For the Good of the Association

National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Weekend

The NFFF has postponed the annual Fallen Firefighter memorial weekend as per NFFF Chair Troy Markel. While disappointing, it is important to know that the nation's fallen Firefighters will not be forgotten. On October 4, the NFFF will broadcast a National Tribute with details to follow on that as well as the 2021 plans.

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/>

National Firefighter Registry Website Now Active

Reprinted: www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

The National Firefighter Registry website is now active. Please take time to click the below to learn about it and how every firefighter-*every firefighter* - should be made aware of and participate in this important project.

To better understand the link between on-the-job exposure to toxicants and cancer, Congress directed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to create the National Firefighter Registry (NFR). The NFR will be used to track and analyze cancer trends and risk factors among the U.S. fire service to help the public safety community, researchers, scientists and medical professionals find better ways to protect those who protect our communities and environment.

DETAILS HERE:

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/firefighters/registry.html>

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



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 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. 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

IFCA Representatives for your Area

Area «Area»

Director

«Director»

«Director_Department»

«Director_Phone»

«Director_Email»

Area Representative(s)

«Area_Rep»

«Area_Rep_Department»

«Area_Rep_Phone»

«Area_Rep_Email»

«AR_2»

«AR_2_Dept»

«AR_2_Phone»

«AR_2_Email»

«AR_3»

«AR_3_Dept»

«AR_3_Phone»

«AR_3_Email»



IFCA Annual Election For 2020-2021

Due to the cancellation of the IFCA Annual Conference, the election process for all but the position of Retired Director will be done by electronic ballot. More information will be forthcoming.

The Illinois Fire Chiefs Association will be electing officers to serve on the Associations' Board of Directors.

Position's open for election this year are: President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President, two (2) Directors for Two Year Terms; 1 retired Director and 1 Director assigned to VCOC, Area Representatives for Areas One through Twelve. Area Five's Representative will be appointed on recommendation by the Fire Commissioner of the Chicago Fire Department.

Historically the position of President and 1st Vice President has been filled by the move up of the 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President, but the positions are open to other candidates. Job descriptions of the various positions are available through the IFCA office or on the IFCA website at www.illinoisfirechiefs.org.

As this issue goes to press, the IFCA office has received letters of intent and all necessary requirements to run from the following individuals. If you are interested in running for office, please send your letter of intent; short bio and a letter of support from your supervisor to: puknaitism@naperville.il.us by September 1, 2020 to ensure you are on the ballot.

President

Chief Don Shoevlin, Harlem-Roscoe FPD

1st Vice President

Chief John Kachanuk, Havana FD

2nd Vice President

Chief Richard Mikel, Elk Grove Village FD

Directors (elect two – 2-year terms)

- 1) Chief Tom Styczynski, Alsip FD
- 2) Chief Joe Henning, Quincy FD

VCOC Director 2-year term

Chief Al Yancey, Minooka FPD

Retired Director 2-year term

Chief Tom Deegan, Schiller Park FD (retired)

Area Representatives

Per the IFCA by-laws up to four (4) representatives for each area may be elected or chosen to serve on the board.

Area 1

Chief Sid Aurand, Dixon Rural FPD

Area 2

Deputy Chief Nick Asta, Barrington-Countryside FPD
Chief Tony Huemann, McHenry Township FPD

Area 3

Deputy Chief Craig Hanson, Batavia FD

Area 4

Division Chief Paul Macaluso – Palatine FD
Chief Brian Kolosh, South Holland FD
Chief Jim Walters, Schaumburg FD

Area 5

1st Deputy Commissioner Annette Nance-Holt
Appointed by Fire Commissioner, Chicago FD

Area 6

Chief John Knapp, East Peoria FPD
Assistant Chief Greg Hurd, Chillicothe Comm. FPD

Area 7

Chief Damon Schuldt, Kankakee FD

Area 8

Deputy Chief Steven M. Salrin, Quincy FD

Area 9

Chief Mick Humer, Normal IL
Chief Chuck Lauss, Urbana FD

Area 10

Deputy Chief James Whiteford, Edwardsville FD

Area 11

Chief Robert Tutko, Effingham FD

Area 12

Chief Shawn Priddy, Herrin FD