



IAFC

International Association of Fire Chiefs

What's Happening at the IAFC?

Strategic Direction Update

August 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

IAFC Strategic Direction

The [2018-2020 Strategic Direction](#) is a declaration of the IAFC's priority strategic goals to **LEAD**, **EDUCATE** and **SERVE** the fire and emergency service in North America and abroad. It was created in the spring of 2018 in a collaborative, face-to-face environment with participation of nearly 100 members holding leadership positions in the major components, including the IAFC Board of Directors, divisions, sections and other groups. This report, *What's Happening at the IAFC*, captures completed tasks directly relevant to the IAFC strategic direction. It is intended to capture the depth of the IAFC's overarching accomplishments at a high level.

LEAD

To LEAD by being the preeminent global advocate for the fire and emergency service on leadership, policy, management, and service delivery.

Goal 1a. Engage current/future fire and emergency service leaders to address the evolving and emerging challenges and opportunities.

- On November 6, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Tony Falwell (DC Fire and EMS) represented the IAFC on Capitol Hill when visiting Congressional Offices to talk about the High-Rise Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act (HR 4685).
- On November 6-8, a Metro Chiefs delegation (President Mike Duyck, Past President Otto Drozd, Treasurer Robert Rocha, and Board Member Eric Tade) attended the Mexico Fire Chiefs Conference in Guadalajara along with U.S. Fire Administrator, Chief Keith Bryant.
- On November 14, Chief Ed Smith, DC Fire & EMS Department, joined IAFC staff in attending the confirmation hearing for Peter Gaynor to be the FEMA Administrator. Mr. Gaynor currently is Deputy FEMA Administrator and spoke at FRI. The IAFC endorsed him.
- The IAFC's Volunteer Workforce Solutions (VWS) team received a FEMA SAFER recruitment & retention grant award slightly above \$1.2 million over a 3-year performance period with a start date of December 2019.



Chief Gary Ludwig is sworn as IAFC president at Fire-Rescue International.

- Jeremy Taylor, Wildfire Mitigation Program Administrator at Colorado Springs Fire Department, represented the IAFC on a Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) assignment in Alpine Fire District, Wyoming, in late October. CMAT deployments are a national interagency resource designed to help communities build sustainable local capacity for wildland fire mitigation during high-risk times before, during, or after a wildland fire when awareness of the need for risk-reduction is highest.

Goal 1b. Provide forward-thinking leadership that recognizes and responds to emerging trends and opportunities.

- IAFC wildland fire programs were awarded a one-year cooperative agreement to further its work and partnership with the USDA Forest Service to leverage its connection with local government fire service to introduce and provide resources that lead to impactful, wildland fire risk-reduction in local jurisdictions. The IAFC will provide leadership through its wildland fire programs as well as furthering interaction, engagement and education through the Ready, Set, Go! (RSG) Program. The IAFC seeks to enhance the positive social outcomes toward enhanced community resiliency and promote fire-adapted key elements at local, state and regional levels.
- In September 2019, the IAFC was awarded a FEMA Fire Prevention & Safety grant. This two-year grant will enhance IAFC's wildland fire programs to assist fire departments operating in high-risk areas. IAFC will target these communities and provide direct assistance to facilitate community risk reduction by utilizing platforms of existing community fire adaptation efforts like the Ready, Set, Go! (RSG) Program. RSG is complementary to FEMA's 'Fire is Everyone's Fight' and will be expanded to create materials for currently underserved stakeholders and vulnerable populations. Educational materials and community-wide events/exercises would assist communities in taking a comprehensive approach to wildland fire risk reduction. These resources and tools would be designed to ensure that all age groups are targeted as well as culturally diverse and vulnerable populations to ensure the whole community is involved in addressing the wildland fire threat.
- Chief Will May, Wildland Fire Policy Committee and representative to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCWG) Executive Board, participated in monthly in-person meetings in Boise (Idaho) and conference calls to represent the voice of the local government fire service as it pertains to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Executive Board.
- On August 8, Wildland Fire Policy Committee members participated in a workshop on America Burning WUI. The America Burning WUI lead partners met at IAFC on August 27 to begin phased project planning. On November 14, America Burning WUI partners participated in a meeting in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The purpose is to further discuss building upon the original America Burning to emphasize the issue, ensure understanding of impacts from wildland fires in and around the wildland urban interface and develop a call to action.
- On September 21-22, Demond Simmons, IAFC Professional Development Committee member, and Company Officers Section board member, attended the National Fire Academy's Professional Development Symposium.

Goal 1c. Provide innovative solutions to emerging trends.

- On August 1, the IAFC endorsed the Protecting Firefighters from Adverse Substance Act (S. 2353), which would create educational resources to protect firefighters from exposure to PFAS.
- On August 23, the IAFC submitted comments to the chairmen and ranking members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce outlining our requests for legislation re: the deployment of autonomous vehicles.
- On September 19, IAFC staff, joined by members of the IACP, NASEMSO and NSA, briefed members of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau about public safety communications priorities including preventing auction of the T-Band, establishing a +/- 3 meter vertical location accuracy metric for 9-1-1 calls using mobile devices, and protect spectrum in the 5.9 GHz and 6 GHz band from interference and auction.

- On September 24, the IAFC collaborated with the International Association of Fire Fighters to submit formal comments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on their proposed process to collect financial and operational data from ground ambulance agencies.
- On September 27, the IAFC President Gary Ludwig submitted testimony to the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology discussing the importance of repealing the federal statutory requirement to auction public safety spectrum in the T-Band.
- On September 30, the IAFC co-signed a letter with industry requesting that the Senate consider a surface transportation bill by September 30, 2020.
- On October 15, the IAFC worked with Representatives Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) and Peter King (R-NY) to support the introduction of the High-Rise Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act (HR 4685).
- On October 26, Ajit Pai, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), met Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Chief John Butler at Station 404 in Herndon, Virginia. The Chairman was there to promote a draft rule that would give first responders the vertical location accuracy of wireless 911 callers as soon as 2021.
- On October 28, the IAFC signed a letter with the National Safety Council, NSA and other traffic safety groups asking the FCC not to auction the 5.9 GHz band, but instead preserve it for vehicle-to-vehicle communications to prevent traffic accidents.
- On October 31, Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) reintroduced the Don't Break Up the T-Band Act of 2019 (S. 2748). Senators Charles Schumer (D-NY), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), and Bob Casey (D-Penn.) co-sponsored the bill. The IAFC is working with other public safety allies to secure Republican support for this important legislation.
- On November 12, FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr visited Station 440 with Assistant Chief Jason Jenkins. While there, he learned from responders about how vertical location accuracy will help them save the lives of county residents and first responders.
- On November 12, the IAFC submitted comments to the NHTSA asking NHTSA to eliminate the proposal to change the nomenclature for EMS personnel.
- On November 15, House Democrats introduced the SAFER Pipelines Act of 2019 (H.R. 2150). The legislation contains important provisions that will encourage communication between pipeline operators and local emergency response and planning entities. The IAFC endorsed this legislation.
- Chief Ray Reynolds, Fire & Life Safety Section, participated on a conference call with the Child Safety Task Force addressing child window falls. The group is working to address windowsill height requirements of 42 inches from the floor to prevent falls in HUD and DOD houses. Participants included pediatric and neurosurgeons' groups and kid safe groups.

Goal 1d. Advance the profession, advocate for inclusiveness, and improve the effectiveness of the fire and emergency service through communication and education.

- For the eighth year, the IAFC [received a grant from Motorola Solutions Foundation \(MSF\)](#) to fund another year of the Fire Service Executive Development Institute (FSEDI). FSEDI is a program developed by the IAFC to provide new and aspiring chiefs with the tools they need to have a successful and productive tenure. The members of the previous seven sessions have been very successful in achieving promotions, fire chief positions, and industry appointments.
- Leaders and members of the EFO Section participated in several activities:
 - On September 21-22, Chief Steve Achilles attended the 2019 National Professional Development Leadership & Strategy Workshop at the NFA
 - Chief Jo-Ann Lorber participated in monthly SEAFD Diversity & Inclusion Working Group conference calls
 - Chief Joe Pulvermacher presented on the New/Interim Fire Chief Guide at FRI along with the VCOS Section
 - Submitted the following article to iCHIEFS News:

- August: Chief Jo-Ann Lorber – The Way We’ve Always Done It
 - September: Chief Pat Kelly (ret.) – Retirement – Are you Prepared?
 - October: Chief Jo-Ann Lorber – Humility for Leaders
 - November: Chief Pay Kelly (ret.) – The Senior Man
 - November: Chief William Hyde – EFO Section Membership Values
 - December: Chief Trisha Wolford - It Only Takes Two Questions
- Fire Chief Trisha Wolford, Professional Development Committee, participated in several events, including presenting during new fire chief panel discussion at FRI, presenting “Are we effectively supporting those who support us” at FRI, and the FRI 2020 site visit in Phoenix, Arizona.

EDUCATE

To EDUCATE current and future fire and emergency service leaders by providing training, education, and professional development opportunities.

Goal 2a. Make the knowledge, experience, and resources within the IAFC easily accessible for research and problem solving.

- The Hazmat Center released its Roundtable and LEPC Questions videos for year one of the Community Safety Grant. These videos are resources for the LEPCS to inform their communities about what they do and recruit future members. You can find the videos [here](#).
- The IAFC Digital Center launched the new customer relationship management (CRM) platform, IAFC Helix, including an updated IAFC member join/renew process, and a more streamlined single-sign-on (SSO) into IAFC resources, KnowledgeNet, IAFC Academy and conference registration experiences where members qualify for discounts. This has led to a decrease in support calls, and we've received positive feedback from membership on the improved digital member experience. The improved system will help IAFC leadership, staff and IAFC members and customers by allowing streamlined integration across other applications (conferences, IAFC Academy, programs, etc.) to eventually lead to personalized web content and business intelligence capabilities for making smarter data-driven decisions.
- The IAFC Digital Center launched an integration with a marketing automation tool and the upgraded IAFC Helix. This enables IAFC groups to better communicate with members and customers using IAFC Helix data and a powerful tool that brings automation into the email communication process.
- The IAFC Digital Center, in collaboration with the Professional Development and Marketing teams, launched a rebranded FRI 2020 website, including teaser content on the event improvements and countdowns to important event milestones helping build excitement for the IAFC's biggest event experience of the year.
- From August 1 through October 31, approximately 87,500 users visited IAFC.org. Top IAFC.org content viewed (aside from the homepage) include the FRI registrant page, IAFC Events page, Search, Active Shooter Toolkit and the Firefighter's Prayer (the prayer is consistently one of the top pages visited on the IAFC website each year). Top documents downloaded include Interim Chiefs 100 Day Guide, PHMSA Hazmat ERG, Firefighters Prayer, Firefighter to Supervisory Fire Officer Transition plan, and the Firefighter Code of Ethics.



Goal 2b. Supplement, develop, enhance, and effectively deliver education, training, and professional development programs relevant to the membership.

- FRI 2019 was a huge success in Atlanta. FRI 2019 saw 8,651 fire service professionals from across the globe gather in Atlanta, Georgia, for training, education, and networking. This year FRI offered 323 sessions for attendees to choose from and saw 403 attendees complete a track in the Officer Development Program (ODP).
- November 20-22 - The Program Planning Committee (PPC) met to continue the reimagining of FRI 2020.. FRI 2020 promises to have a different feel and look to it that will continue to make FRI the premier leadership conference for fire and EMS professionals.
- August 5-7 - The Safety, Health and Survival Section conducted the Bullying Prevention: Train-the-Trainer in Atlanta, Georgia. Thirty-three students participated in the course, led by Dr. Gary Namie with the Workplace Bullying Institute, to discuss ways to combat firehouse bullying and how to implement a successful bullying prevention program within their departments.
- October 14 – The Safety, Health and Survival Section hosted a PPE Summit. Representatives from LION, Globe, Veridian, FireDex, Dupont, the IAFF, and NFPA attended the meeting, as did Chiefs Scott Kerwood, Dan Kerrigan, and Matt Tobia. Chief Tom Jenkins, past president of the IAFC, facilitated the conversation.
- PHMSA renewed the Hazmat Center's Community Safety Grant (CSG) for a second year. The CSG will help communities work together through a Local Emergency Planning Committee to implement emergency planning, response, and outreach to prepare their residents for over-the-road, rail, and pipeline hazmat incidents, especially in rural areas. This year, the Hazmat Center will provide Whole Community trainings to LEPCs around and engage LEPCs located on the US/Canada and US/Mexico borders. Additionally, we will collaborate with LEPC members to be featured in podcasts showcasing LEPCs around the country.
- The Hazmat Center received the Assistance for Local Emergency Response Training (ALERT) grant awarded by US DOT and PHMSA. The ALERT grant program focuses on emergency response activities involving the transportation of crude oil, ethanol and other flammable liquids by rail. Through this grant, the Hazmat Center and its partner, the Short Line Safety Institute (SLSI), will provide hazmat trainings for volunteer and remote emergency responders. The IAFC previously received the ALERT grant in 2015 and 2017.
- The IAFC expanded its partnership with TC Energy (formally TransCanada) into Mexico. The Hazmat Center will conduct natural gas pipeline emergency preparedness and response training/awareness sessions with civil protection agencies from the states of Veracruz and Hidalgo, Mexico. A second phase of the program is expected in mid-2020.
- The Hazmat Center received the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) Outreach and Marketing Initiative contract from the United States Fire Administration (USFA). This project will develop an effective NFIRS outreach and marketing plan for the USFA and other organizations, with the goal of improving NFIRS awareness, driving NFIRS participation, improving data quality, and increasing the use of NFIRS data by analysts and decision-makers.

In October, the IAFC received the America Burning contract from the USFA. During this project, the Hazmat Center will take the lead to conduct a nationwide study based on the previous findings of past America Burning research and relevant information. This study will be the foundation to help set potential priorities for future direction and activities working with USFA and partners.

Goal 2c. Facilitate career progression, mentoring, and succession management at all levels.

- The Tennessee Volunteer Workforce Solutions SAFER grant program, which the IAFC managed, officially ended October 31. Over the last three years, about 2,000 volunteer firefighter interest forms were received, 741 new volunteers joined the 19 participating departments, and over 60,000 promotional materials were distributed statewide. In addition, an online course focused on mentoring was released (available to anyone through the IAFC Academy).

Goal 2d. Support leadership development throughout the fire service.

- In its first event and with the collaboration of IAFC's Company Officer Section, Fail Fest, held during Fire-Rescue International, was a celebration of mistakes and mishaps and more importantly, recognizes failure as a key part to innovation, growth, and improvement.
- [conneXions](#) was held November 4-6, in Columbia, Maryland, with 10 departments and 11 companies. The top challenges discussed during the Shakers session were Budget, Recruitment/Retention/Diversity, Officer/Leadership Development, and Technology/Communications.
- Fire-Rescue International 2019 corporate support was as follows:
 - 400+ Exhibitors (1,209 booths)
 - 69 Sponsors
 - 22 Gem Partners
 - 43 Corporate Partners
- The FRI Research Symposium featured forward-thinking presentations on the latest fire-based research and how it can be applied at the local level to improve fire service effectiveness. Leading researchers from around the world that presented on topics that focus on health, leadership, operations, training, and learning.

SERVE

To SERVE by providing relevant and timely services, products and resources to our membership, affiliates, and partners.

Goal 3a. Increase membership and participation through expanded opportunities.

- The VCOS provided two scholarships to attend FRI in Atlanta. The winners were Chief Darin Needham, Lewisville (North Carolina) Fire Department, and Chief Billy Gibson, Crosswell (South Carolina) Fire District.
- Between VCOS and VWS, 18 scholarships were awarded for people to attend Symposium in the Sun.
- The VCOS provided multiple scholarships for individuals to attend Symposium in the Sun the premier event for members of volunteer and combination departments:
 - Chief James P. Seavey Sr. Scholarship recipient was Chief Paul Sullivan, Middle River (Maryland) Volunteer Fire & Rescue
 - Chief Robert T. Bettenhausen Scholarship recipient was Chief Mike French, Meaford Municipality (Ontario) Fire Department
 - Emerging Leader Alumni Scholarship sponsored by The Gasaway Consulting Group, LLC and Emerging Leader Scholarship Alumni went to Captain Todd Weber, Beaver Lake Fire Department
 - Emerging Leader Scholarship sponsored by The Gasaway Consulting Group, LLC Lieutenant Chris Halliday, Manlius (New York) Fire Department

Goal 3b. Promote and foster a culture of inclusivity to the IAFC membership.

Goal 3c. Provide IAFC products, resources and services that are both relevant and timely to existing and emerging issues, and topics important to the target audiences, affiliates, and partners.

- As part of a cooperative agreement with the USDA Forest Service, the 2018-2019 RSG! Program Wildfire Mitigation Grants distributed a total of \$424,424 in support of mitigation projects to 13 organizations resulting in 608 acres treated and risk reduction of 932 structures. The 2019 RSG! Program Community Fuels Reduction Projects distributed a total of \$81,026 to support mitigation projects to 18 organizations across 11 states, which resulted in treating 416 acres and reducing risk to 1,169 structures

- The IAFC business development team created a formal Fire-Rescue International Retention Plan that launched on November 15, that focused on increasing retention rates and providing educational value to exhibitors that expand beyond FRI.
- The IAFC has partnered with Association Revenue Partners (ARP) to offer additional digital assets for corporations to expand brand awareness through web advertisements on IAFC website.

Goal 3d. Strengthen the IAFC role in the global community as a resource for sharing best practices and knowledge based in real-world experience. Develop an effective international presence and delivery of value through the Association.

- Our 17 graduated cohorts of the International Fellowship Program (IFP) in collaboration with Saudi Aramco have seen many successes: life-saving awards, unit accolades, fireground rescues, individual milestones, and successful open firehouse days and off-duty group events. All cohorts have fostered life-long professional relationships and personal friendships.
 - The 17th Cohort (Atlanta Fire Department) is no different. The group graduated the IFP on December 5.
 - The IFP has identified the next four cohorts, the first of which will begin in February/March of 2020.
 - The IFP will be expanding and will launch three new courses beginning in January/February of 2020.



- The 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Awards (WMA) application was announced. The IAFC, in partnership with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) and the United States Forest Service (USFS), recognize and honor those who are implementing effective mitigation through the Wildfire Mitigation Awards. Awards will be presented at the Wildland Urban-Interface 2020 Conference in Reno, Nevada, on March 25, 2020. A WMA video can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/IAFCTV/videos>
- The Ready Set Go! program compiled a report showing results for the past five years. On the last page of The WHAT Report, you can view a quick, easy-to-read summary of results showing the value of the program.

Goal 3e. Increase awareness and accessibility of the IAFC as the “go-to resource” for policy, advocacy, subject matter expertise, and support.

- On September 18, IAFC staff (Amber Wells, Jenn Dietz, and Evan Davis) met with congressional offices to educate them about the Ready, Set, Go! Program, and the program’s impacts on communities across the United States.
- The VCOS released their [fall newsletter](#) in September 2019.
- The VCOS released their [winter newsletter](#) in December.
- The VCOS and NVFC’s [Lavender Ribbon Report](#) was presented to the NATO Fire Crash Panel in June with representatives from 24 NATO nations.

- For the second time this year, the Tennessee VWS program conducted a statewide TV ad campaign with major TV networks in four big cities within Tennessee: Memphis, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Nashville. All ran two weeks of 30-second recruitment PSA TV ads including interview spots for the volunteer firefighters with the stations. The statewide TV campaign has brought in many interest forms and the participating departments are pleased with the results. The links to the [PSA videos](#) and [interviews](#) from our previous statewide campaign ads are available on our [campaign website](#).
- Members of the IAFC Hazmat Center went to Mexico to discuss its expanded partnership with TC Energy to conduct natural gas pipeline emergency preparedness and response training with civil protection agencies in Mexico from November 2020 to June 2020.
- On October 8, the IAFC business development team attended FAMA/FEMSA in Toronto, Canada, to collaborate with corporate stakeholders.



Goal 3f. Expand recognition to those showing exceptional or extended service to their organizations or the industry.

- The VCOS-TargetSolutions Training Officer Award that includes travel and FRI registration was awarded to Chief Lee Whitner, South Adams County (Colorado) Fire Department. The award honors exemplary conduct and dedication by a training officer. Whitner displayed those qualities at her combination department by developing and implementing several innovative processes and programs, including the “Volunteer Extreme” training curriculum. [Full Article available in the VCOS Fall Newsletter](#).

Inside the IAFC

Association News

- On October 2-3, IAFC President, Chief Gary Ludwig, kicked off his “If You Don’t Feel Well, Don’t Make it Your Farewell” campaign with a planning meeting at IAFC headquarters.
- Florida signed a contract to become the largest state to join the IAFC National Mutual Aid System.
- The renewal contract with Saudi Aramco for the International Fellowship Program has been executed by the IAFC, and scheduling for the 2020 cohorts began in November.
- The FEMA National Integration Center (NIC) has invited the IAFC to become a member of the NIMS Coordination Group (NCG). The NCG is an overarching emergency management and incident management working group focused on encouraging and facilitating conversations and consensus-free collaboration between key associations and state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) stakeholders.
- The IAFC is contracted to manage the study and deliver findings for the “Study of the American Fire Problem based on America Burning.”
- Two new official IAFC publications were launched:
 - [iCHIEFS News](#) is the new digital newsletter, published 24 times per year. It replaces On Scene, which has been retired.
 - The first issue of [iCHIEFS – The Official Magazine of the IAFC](#) debuted at FRI. The full-color glossy magazine is published in partnership with Matrix Group Publishing at no cost to the IAFC. It will be mailed to all IAFC members three times per year.
- The VCOS celebrated its 25th Anniversary at FRI in Atlanta. The VCOS Board handed out commemorative challenge coins to VCOS members at FRI and Symposium in the Sun.
- The IAFC business development team reports that VCOS in the SUN was sold out and doubled exhibit and sponsorship budget expectations.

News About Our Members

- [Chief Gary Ludwig was installed as IAFC President](#), Chief Richard Carrizzo as First Vice President, Chief Ken Stuebing as Second Vice President and Chief Steven Locke as IAFC Treasurer. Chief Donna Black, International Director for VCOS, was appointed as International Director-at-Large.
- 2018-2019 IAFC President Dan Eggleston presented three President's Awards of Recognition at FRI to recognize three individuals from the fire service who have contributed in a significant way during the president's term.
 - Chief Dennis Compton, chairman of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, for Outstanding Leadership and Contributions.
 - Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell, president and CEO of the International Public Safety Data Institute, for Outstanding Contributions in Public Safety Data.
 - Mr. Evan Davis, IAFC Government Relations Strategic Manager, for Outstanding Professional Service.
- The following members were appointed to the Wildland Fire Policy Committee: Chief Brian Schaffer of Spokane Washington; Ms. Jennifer Hansen of Utah Division of Forestry; Deputy Chief Keri Martens of Canmore Fire Rescue, Canada; Deputy Chief Richard Elliot of Kittitas Fire & Rescue (reappointment).
- Assistant Chief Jo-Ann Lorber, EFO Section chair, was re-certified as a Certified Emergency Manager from the International Association of Emergency Managers.
- Chief Chad Roberson, EFO Section, was elected to second vice president of the Southwestern Division.
- Captain Joe Powers (Henrico County, Virginia) has been appointed to fill the IAFC seat on Vision 20/20 steering committee.
- [California Fire Chief David Hawks](#) was honored at FRI with the IAFC Ben Franklin Award for Valor for rescue mission during 2018 "Camp Fire."
- The IAFC in partnership with Pierce Manufacturing announced the winners of the [2019 IAFC Fire Chief of the Year awards](#). Volunteer Fire Chief, John Morrison, of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department in Vienna, Virginia, and career Fire Chief, James Clack, of the Ankeny Fire Department in Ankeny, Iowa, were honored at FRI.

Chief Ken Stuebing, left, is sworn in by IAFC President Gary Ludwig (center) as IAFC Second Vice President.

News About Our Staff

New hires, job changes, certifications and degrees, work-related awards and other news:

- Mark Light retired from the IAFC; Rob Brown was appointed interim CEO and executive director.
- Jenny Bragiel Cozad and Catherine Lugo moved to Wildland Fire Programs but stayed within the Community Solutions Center.
- In July 2019, Caitlin McGuire, Program Manager, shifted roles to include exhibit sales and sponsorships for the WUI Conference and AHIMTA Symposium.

What Others Are Saying

- "FRI was a huge success and a great experience. IAFC knocked it out of the park" and further stated that the IAFC staff was very communicative and that she was in awe of IAFC staff efforts given how many clients we have.
— Maggie Rosen, FirstNet Built with AT&T
- "Such a testament to your team and mine to be able to pull this off so quickly (last minute contract for increased investment to include mobile app and escalator cling). The IAFC continues to impress us with being a true PARTNER. Look forward to seeing all our assets (escalator clings, column clings, app, booth, data advisory, board meeting, IAFctv) all come together!"
— Shannon Smith of PulsePoint Foundation prior to FRI
- "Feedback from FRI was overwhelmingly positive. We had the most badge scans ever on the show floor. We received good recognition as well as time and exposure with winners through the Ben Franklin Award for Valor."
— Peter Jorjorian of Motorola Solutions

- “You guys did a wonderful job. We appreciate it.” (re: Fire Chief of the Year dinner at FRI)
— *Fire Chief Doug Eggiman, Midway Fire Rescue, Pawleys Island, South Carolina*
- “Thanks Terri! You and your team were wonderful in coordinating all the logistics behind the scenes. It was a truly enjoyable experience, and I'm incredibly grateful!” (Fire Chief of the Year, Volunteer Honoree)
— *Fire Chief, John Morrison, Vienna (Virginia) Volunteer Fire Department*
- “Terri, thanks for all your work to set this all up. I know it can be hard to get people to respond, but you have been great through this whole process!” (Fire Chief of the Year, Career Honoree)
— *Fire Chief James Clack, City of Ankeny (Iowa)*
- “Terri, thank you so much for everything! We had a great time and will remember this honor for the rest of our lives... all of the IAFC staff and Motorola team were wonderful to us! ” (Fire Chief of the Year, Career Honoree)
— *Thom Porter, Director, CAL FIRE (Ben Franklin Award for Valor honoree)*
“IAFC conneXions was a wonderful event that allowed both the fire department and the vendors to work together to improve products that will improve the fire service of the future.”
— *Dan Sullivan, Division Chief, Lynn Fire Department, Massachusetts*
- “Low pressure - high impact. Great interaction.” (conneXions)
— *Joseph Gregory, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department (New York)*
- “Great leads that I see turning into sales in the next year or two.” (conneXions)
— *Travis Hedlund, Sleep Number Corp. (New Company)*
- The following are just a few quotes from 2019 Chief's Edge Scholarship recipients:
 - As the Deputy Chief of a small volunteer fire department and as a career firefighter, I am incredibly grateful to be given this opportunity to help grow as a leader and to expand my network of peers for ongoing support!
 - The scholarship that I was awarded will allow me access to innovative training at FRI that would otherwise not have been possible. I realize that this scholarship is an investment in my entire department.
 - I am excited for this opportunity, particularly as a newly promoted deputy chief. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone who will be or has just recently been promoted to a chief level position.
 - I am honored to attend Chief's Edge as I have never attended this or any event like this before. I am excited for the opportunity to build new networking resources and expand my knowledge and experience FRI firsthand. I have heard great things about this event from my chief.

IAFC Wildland Fire Programs by the Numbers

RSG! Program Membership

Top 10 Membership States:

1. Texas
2. Colorado
3. California
4. New Jersey
5. Florida
6. New Mexico
7. Washington
8. Arizona
9. Utah
10. Montana

653 organizations joined RSG through the course of the agreement for a total of 1,906 organizations with representation from all 50 states.

Most popular organization types:

1. Fire Department
2. Emergency Management Organization
3. Support Organization
4. Local Government

RSG! Program Grants

Over the course of the agreement, the IAFC has provided \$685,448 in funding for direct assistance through partnerships with IBHS, AIG Insurance and the U.S. Forest Service.

2019 RSG! Program Community Fuels Reduction Awards

\$81,026 in direct assistance

- 18 organizations awarded with 11 states represented
- 416 acres treated
- 1,169 structures with reduced risk

2016 American International Group Inc. Awards

\$107,038 in direct assistance for fuels mitigation

- 26 organizations awarded in 11 states

\$42,960 in direct assistance for outreach and education

- 42 organizations awarded in 13 states.

Fuels Reduction Reporting from RSG Members, including grant winners

178,278 fuels reduction/treatment hours recorded in AMS

561,135 cubic yards of vegetation removed

26,516 acres treated

Fire-Adapted Communities for the Fire Service

46 organizations are represented by the 93 people who have completed the training.

24 states are represented, as well as Canada and Puerto Rico.

2018-2019 RSG! Program Wildfire Mitigation Grants

\$424,424 in direct assistance

- 13 organizations awarded with 7 states represented
- 608 acres treated
- 932 structures with reduced risk

Institute for Business and Home Safety Phase II Grants

\$30,000 in direct assistance for outreach and education

- 30 organizations awarded in 14 states.



Time Logged in the Achievement Management System

349,937 total hours were logged in AMS by RSG members over the course of this agreement. 50.28% of those hours were recorded as fuels reduction/treatment efforts.

\$8,521,246.03 is the total value of recorded hours, using the volunteer rate.



	Activity	Hours
1	Fuels Reduction/Treatment	178,278
2	Civic Event	45,030
3	Department Training on Program/WUI	25,658
4	Home Assessments	24,559
5	Other	19,500
6	Partner Collaboration	19,345
7	Department Open House	16,276
8	Presentation to Resident Meeting (HOA)	5,618
9	Presentation to Local Civic Group/Conference	5,165
10	Youth Outreach	4,457
11	Door-To-Door	3,347
12	Fire Department Exchange (FDX)	1,676
13	Mailing Outreach	863
14	Program Material Localization	724
15	RSG Grant Application	309
16	CWRE	68
17	RSG Award Application	64