

VCOS 2020 Elections

Byron F. Andrews, III

Deputy Chief

Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad, Sterling VA

Southeastern Division

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination representing you and your department's interest on the VCOS Board. Let me take a moment to introduce myself and explain my commitment to the board and to the challenges we face as Fire Service leaders.

I am a fifth-generation member of America's Fire Service. I joined Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad when I was a sophomore in high school and still active 42 years later. I have served as a chief officer for 32 years, 28 of them as Chief. After graduation from high school I went to work for City of Alexandria, VA Fire Department where in January of this year I retired as Deputy Chief after nearly a 37-year career.

I am active with Fire/EMS at local, state, and national levels, including faculty at the local community college, adjunct instructor for the state, executive committee member to the Loudoun County Combine Fire and Rescue Executive committee, member of the state's EMS Advisory Board, chairman of the state's local agency grant funding program, member of the Virginia State Fire Association Executive Committee, and member of the IAFC's Emergency Management Committee and its representative to the NFPA 450 and 451 committees.

Today's volunteer combination organizations are facing all kinds of challenges. I am keenly aware and have faced many of these challenges myself or while working with other stakeholders. I will continue to advocate and acknowledge the positive attributes of those members who serve their communities, assist in strengthening our organizations' membership through recruitment and retention activities, and provide for the health and wellness of our members through cancer reduction and mental health education and programs.

With over 40 years in America's Fire Service, my unique qualities and experience will enhance the future of our Volunteer and Combination Fire Departments.