

I am running for the VCOS Board because of my passion for the volunteer fire service and my belief that the IAFC and VCOS should be our leadership organization, a belief that has been reinforced over the last 3 years serving on the board. That experience along with my background and skills is why I ask for your support to serve another term as an at-large board member.

First and foremost, I want to continue what the board has accomplished over the last three years to move the section forward and provide partnerships and products that our members need. Ribbon reports on canine involvement in the fire service and the soon-to-be-published report on data, along with educational programs like the Critical Thinking Academy, are examples of tools we have produced that help you. Combining that with partnerships, both internal with the IAFC divisions and sections and external with organizations like the National Volunteer Fire Council, have made the section stronger, and I'm proud to be a part of the team that has made that happen.

I am uniquely able to represent both all-volunteer and combination departments. My upbringing in Western Pennsylvania, as the son of a volunteer chief, taught me about how dedicated all-volunteer departments can serve their community and the challenges they face. Serving now as a volunteer chief myself, but operating in a large complex combination system, adds a unique perspective that allows me to represent and advocate for all our members. Combined with my over 20 years' experience fostering national fire service policy at all levels of government, I am positioned to represent you and bring the skills needed to help lead the section into the future.