



What's Happening at the IAFC?

Strategic Vision Update
October 15, 2013 – December 31, 2013

The following is a record of milestones achieved in moving toward the IAFC vision. It captures completed works directly relevant to the IAFC strategic vision. It is intended to capture the depth of the association's overarching accomplishments at a high-level.

LEAD

To LEAD by being the preeminent voice and advocate for the fire and emergency service on national policy and in government.

- The Honorable B. Todd Jones, the new Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, met with the IAFC's Executive Committee.
- The IAFC submitted comments to the U.S. Departments of Labor and Homeland Security and the Environmental Protection Agency making recommendations on the new Executive Order concerning the improvement of chemical facility safety and security.
- The IAFC attended and participated in a seminar on the transportation of hazardous materials by rail at the Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Conference hazardous materials conference held in Baltimore, MD.
- The IAFC attended a workshop held by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C. on the issue of standards for technology to help first responders locate 9-1-1 callers within buildings. The IAFC had previously filed comments on this issue.
- The IAFC participated in a meeting of the Land Mobile Communications Council held in Washington, D.C. Discussion focused on a number of spectrum issues including frequency coordination and a proposed agreement among frequency coordinators.
- The IAFC attended a two-day meeting of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications SAFECOM program. The meeting was held jointly with the National Statewide Interoperability Coordinators. The meeting was held at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick Georgia. Members and staff of the FirstNet Board were also in attendance and discussed the broadband network.

- The IAFC attended a meeting of the National EMS Advisory Council in Washington, D.C.
- The IAFC supported passage of the three-month extension of the Medicare ambulance bonus payments (P.L. 113-67) which President Barack Obama signed.
- The IAFC supported passage of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (P.L. 113-66) which transferred seven C-130H and twenty-two C-23B airplanes from the Department of Defense to the U.S. Forest Service. The C-130s will likely be used as air tankers, while the C-23's will likely be used to move personnel and equipment.
- The IAFC attended and participated in the Fire Code Action Committee Meetings and the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code Committee meetings
- The IAFC participated in a meeting hosted by the USFS regarding Public Policy Fire Management in light of the tragedies of the 2013 fire season.
- The IAFC attended the WFPC at the WUI-Mitigation Committee meeting in Salt Lake City Utah on November 12-13, 2013.
- National Programs' participating members represented the IAFC on or at:
 - Propane odor – participation in the National efforts to identify issues related to un-odorized propane in the market place.
 - Propane Education Training Proposal – As part of outreach to the propane gas industry, National Programs has proposed a multi-level training concept with the National Propane Gas Association.
 - Electronic Shipping Paper – to provide a new platform for responders to access HM Shipping paper information electronically to properly respond to an HM incident after arriving at the emergency incident. The IAFC is working through national shipping companies (Label Masters) to evaluate potential program and delivery systems.

- Chemical Safety-- National Programs' staff, with the HAZMAT Committee, responded with written comments to the Presidential Directive on Chemical Safety.
- Ethanol Proposal – National Programs' staff continues work with the Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) to roll out the updated information related to Ethanol and has submitted an initial concept to conduct a train-the-trainer program for instructors for the RFA on Ethanol Emergencies.
 - National Programs' staff is assisting the RFA Leadership in reestablishing and updating the EERC Ethanol Emergency Response Coalition
- Rail Proposal -- National Programs' staff submitted a proposal to the Federal Rail Administration to build and conduct new training and outreach on rail incident management and current issues like the Bakken Crude Oil transportation on the rail system.
- HAZMAT Committee and National Programs' staff worked with the Institute of Makers of Explosives to provide guidance on the National level for proper response to incidents involving Ammonium Nitrate AN. This Guideline covers a single hazardous material – Technical Grade Ammonium Nitrate (TGAN).
- The FSTAR program conducted a stakeholder meeting with fire service leaders from across the nation to discuss and develop training content based on fire dynamics research by UL and NIST.
- The FSTAR program was part of the Safety Health and Survival Section's call to action on new science and tactics for the fire service.
- The IAFC took action on one association-proposed position paper:
 - Adopted: Fire Marshal Professional Standards Certification

EDUCATE

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

- The IAFC will again provide a full scholarship to participate in the Harvard Kennedy School's Strategic Management of regulatory and Enforcement Agencies (SMREA) session.
- The IAFC issued a Firefighter Call to Action: New Research Informs Need for Updated procedures, Policies in December.

- The IAFC is reviewing the "Ten Year Smoke Detector" to evaluate battery operations, operations of sealed units, fire prevention messaging, and the cost to consumers for 10-year sealed units.
- The Volunteer Workforce Solutions program conducted a firefighter recruitment/sales training class and open discussion forum in December in Virginia. Representatives from departments around the state participated and learned how to incorporate proven sales tactics into volunteer firefighter recruitment
- Over 550 chief officers from throughout the country attended the VCOS Symposium in the Sun in November. The Symposium allowed opportunities to network, learn from inspirational speakers, and enjoy the new venue at the Hilton in Clearwater Beach, Florida.
- In December, 19 new fire chiefs and aspiring chief officers completed the FSEDI professional development program sponsored by the IAFC with a grant from Motorola Solutions Foundation. During the 10 month program the following achievements were made by some of the cohort's members.
 - 3 accepted positions as fire chiefs
 - 1 accepted the appointment by the state's governor as head of the state's fire program
 - 1 accepted the position as Deputy Director of a state training program
 - 1 accepted the position as Director of Public safety for a major university
- The IAFC received funding from Motorola Solutions Foundation to coordinate a second FSEDI group in 2014.
- Chief Dave Driscoll and Chief Will May participated in a Cohesive Strategy meeting on November 12-13, 2014 and presented Cohesive Strategy at the Backyards and Beyond Conference in Salt Lake City Utah on November 14-15, 2013.
- The Hydrogen E-Learning program continues to operate and will be transitioned over to the new IAFC Academy system in first quarter of 2014. To date, 7,250 first responders have taken the program.
- The FSTAR team has partnered with ISFSI in an effort to update current NFPA Training Standards to include the new fire dynamics research currently taking place.
- The IAFC announced the 2014 Firefighter Safety and Health Week will be June 15-21.
- The RESCUES (Researchers Creating Usable Emergency Solutions) program has distributed two separate on-line questionnaires to fire/EMS departments

nationwide, as well as to research institutes, to gather important data which will help direct the topic areas of this FEMA grant funded initiative. The surveys are now complete, and the IAFC will be seeking input from FEMA to select 3 research projects that have been funded by Research and Development grants.

- The IAFC signed a contract with U.S. Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration to raise awareness of the National Traffic Incident Management Responder Training (TIM training) within the fire service community. TIM training is a multi-disciplinary training program that promotes a shared understanding of the requirements for safe, quick clearance at traffic incident scenes; prompt, reliable and open communications; and motorist and responder safeguards.
- The IAFC's Ready, Set, Go! (RSG) Program offered an online panel discussion with fire service and telecommunication industry representatives about landline and mobile-based push notification systems on November 5, 2013

SERVE

To SERVE by providing services and products of value to our membership, affiliates and partners.

- President Metcalf attended an event, sponsored by the BuildStrong Coalition, at the IBHS facility in South Carolina in support of H.R. 1878/S. 924, the Safe Building Code Incentive Act.
- Representative Lou Barletta (R-PA) and Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) introduced H.R. 3685/S. 1798, the Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act. This bipartisan legislation would clarify that fire departments do not have to provide health care to their volunteers under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148).
- The IAFC and the Safety, Health, and Survival Section participated in a stakeholder meeting hosted by the U.S. Department of Justice regarding the Public Safety Officers' Benefits program.
- The IAFC participated in a Capitol Hill event in support of H.R.1609/S. 750, the Campus Fire Safety Education Act. The event was sponsored by the students of South Lakes High School, which is located in Reston, Virginia.

- IAFC National Programs team completed a short term project with Fields Consulting Group, Inc. for which a local fire department contracted with us to develop test questions for an upcoming promotional exam.
- The IAFC's Ready, Set, Go! Program presented at the VCOS Symposium in Clearwater Florida on November 7-9, 2013, Backyards and Beyond Conference in Salt Lake City Utah 11/15/2013, the Nevada Fire Chiefs Association on November 22, 2013 and at the Colorado State Fire Chiefs meeting in Denver on December 5, 2013.
- The IAFC's Ready, Set, Go! "Your Personal Wildland Fire Action Guide" for residents is now available in Spanish. This frequently used document is now available, free of charge, in print form for distribution to RSG members.
- Several states have recently customized the Ready Set Go! Program Action Guide for their states. These include Barnstable and West Barnstable Massachusetts, San Diego California, as well as Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana.

LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

Major activities that support the capability to enact the strategic goals.

- Since the IAFC Board of Directors meeting in August, the CEO/Executive Director has participated in the following meetings:
 - meetings with other association executive directors
 - meetings with IAFC members and fire chiefs
 - allied organizations
 - federal agencies or organizations
 - corporate partners or corporations interested in working with the IAFC
 - conference meetings

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

- Deputy Chief **Derrick Sawyer** of Philadelphia has been recommended to replace Chief Alan Perdue on the Vision 20/20 project group.
- Retired Chief **Alan Perdue** is the new Executive Director of the Build Strong Coalition.
- Chief **Mike McEvoy** was appointed to be the IAFC representative to the National Registry of EMTs board of directors.

Deputy Chief of Operations John Tippet (Charleston, SC) was named the IAFC representative to the Federal Highway Administration Executive Leadership Group (ELG) on Traffic Incident Management. The ELG provides recommendations to accelerate and expand the national deployment of traffic incident management programs.

Assistant Chief of Operations W. Mike Cox (Henrico Division of Fire, VA) was named the IAFC representative to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)'s Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Subcommittee. Under the direction of the IACP Highway Safety Committee (HSC), the TIM Subcommittee addresses safety, operations, training, and outreach initiatives related to TIM nationally.

- The following we recognized with VCOS Awards:
 - **Chief Charles Addington, II:** John M. Buckman III Leadership Award
 - **Chief Monti Arrington:** Retention & Recruitment Award Winner
 - **Chief Mark L. Barnes,** Oshtemo Township (Mi.) Fire Department: Vehicle Safe Operations Award
 - **Deputy Chief David Hodges and Chief David Weiss:** Symposium in the Sun Scholarships
 - **Captain Brian Taylor:** "Emerging Leader" Scholarship

STAFF UPDATES

Ann Davison, assistant director of strategic services, has left the IAFC to pursue an opportunity to advance her communications career.

- **Stephen Boensel** was elevated to a program specialist in National Programs.
- **Jennifer Dietz** was elevated to a program specialist in National Programs.
- **Joelle Fishkin** retired after 13 years with the IAFC. Her dedication and passion for the IAFC and the fire and emergency service were inspiring, and she will be missed by all.
- **Kelly Ameen** is now the staff liaison for VCOS.

What People Are Saying...

"Very well presented. I feel confident that I now have the tools necessary to successfully recruit volunteers the right way."

"Please continue to provide this type of training. Sales tactics for recruitment is a talent that we need to further develop."

--A few reviews of the VWS training program

"By far the best experience I have ever had at any fire conference. Thank you!"

"VCOS and the planning committee did an excellent job, AGAIN, in providing a wonderful environment with meaningful information for us to digest. This is an excellent opportunity for the fire service leaders to grow and you all do a great job to ensure that happens."

--A few comments from the VCOS Symposium

"We found the Wildland Fire Action Guide provided by IAFC to be a template that can be easily modified to fit our particular circumstances. By introducing our own photos and copy that reflects our codes it became not only a guide but a resource to which we can refer citizens' questions. The completion of our Guide coincided with the tenth anniversary of the Cedar Fire, the largest wildfire in California history. We were able to leverage media interest in the advances made in firefighting since the Cedar Fire to introduce the Guide and make the public aware of its availability."

Fire Chief Javier Mainar, San Diego Fire Rescue Department: