



What's Happening at the IAFC?

Strategic Vision Update
January 1 – April 15, 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.

- IAFC leadership participated in a White House conference on *Creating Model Emergency Management Plans*. The program discussed gun violence events and featured several IAFC members as presenters.
- The IAFC partnered with the International Association of Chiefs of Police and federal agencies to host a results-driven meeting on responding to gun violence. The meeting identified several action items and issues that law and fire must work together to address.
- President Clemmensen submitted written testimony to the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies concerning the need to fund medical countermeasures development for first responders.
- The Fire and Emergency Service Image Task Force released *Taking Responsibility for a Positive Public Perception*, a frank discussion and toolkit on the issues surrounding the image of the fire service was released in February.
- The IAFC joined with other local government and fire service organizations to oppose an amendment by Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) to restrict certain personnel costs and equipment from the use of UASI grant funds. The Senate rejected the measure by a vote of 51-48.
- President Obama signed the Fiscal Year 2013 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act (P.L. 113-6). The legislation funds the federal government, including USFA, FIRE and SAFER, and wildland firefighting programs, through September 30.
- Senators Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Susan Collins (R-ME) and Al Franken (D-MN) re-introduced the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Reauthorization Act (S. 501). The bill would exclude from federal taxation all property tax benefits and up to \$600 per year in other state and local benefits for volunteer firefighters through 2016.
- Members of the EMS Section spoke with the General Services Administration to encourage adoption of *NFPA 1917: Standard on Automotive Ambulances*.

- EMS Section Executive Board Members sent comments to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to express the concerns of fire-based EMS systems for the GAO's upcoming study on drug shortages, separately it sent comments to the FDA on the proposed Drug Shortage Mitigation Task Force.
- The IAFC participated in Government Accountability Office review of wetlines and tankers.
- The IAFC Terrorism and Homeland Security Committee represented the IAFC at a meeting with FEMA's grants program division to urge DHS to end its effort to try and consolidate the homeland security grants into a single program.
- IAFC staff attended the first meeting of the U.S. Department of Justice's new PSOB National Partners Group. The meetings are expected to take place quarterly.
- Members and staff represented the IAFC at two congressional fly-in events in support of:
 - The Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act (Common Voices)
 - Campus fire safety legislation (Campus Firewatch)
- IAFC Communications Committee and staff represented the association at a number of national events regarding improved responder communication:
 - Land Mobile Communications Council's meeting with the Federal Communications Committee regarding issues arising out of the narrowband rules
 - DHS' Office of Emergency Communications teleconference to update the National Emergency Communications Program
 - DHS SAFECOM executive committee meeting
 - International Wireless Communications Expo and the accompanying meeting of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC)
- The EMS Section represented the IAFC at the following meetings concerning EMS response capabilities:
 - National Association of State EMS Officials
 - National EMS Advisory Committee
 - Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for Emergency Medical Services Professionals
 - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security meeting to discuss ways to improve the U.S. trauma system
 - Joint National EMS Leadership Forum
 - Center for Public Safety Excellence, Committee on Professional Credentialing

- Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association leadership attended an international conference on presumptive cancer.
- The Safety, Health and Survival Section (SHSS) represented the IAFC at the following meetings:
 - IAB Stakeholder Workshop on Hazards and Operations in the Post-Fire Environment
 - The national roll out of the NFFF's new behavioral health program
 - NFFF's company and command officer checklist project meeting
- VCOS, with the support of the Human Relations Committee, kicked off an effort to create a resource and toolkit to support diverse and inclusive fire departments. The working group is comprised of organizational representatives from national fire service organizations as well as individual fire service leaders.
- IAFC and NVFC introduced the theme for the jointly-sponsored International Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week (June 16-22) as "Saving Our Own...An Inside Job" with a focus on behavioral health.
- The IAFC hosted a working group meeting for the behavioral motivation on reduction of risk taking behaviors project in March.
- The IAFC participated on the NFPA Wildland Fire Operations Division Advisory Committee meeting in Denver, CO.
- The IAFC, under the leadership of the SHS Section, proposed and supported the successful passage of a temporary interim amendment (TIA) to the NFPA 1001 Technical Committee on Firefighter Training. The measure ensures that candidates participating in an NFPA 1001-compliant training program are physically capable of doing so through the completion of an NFPA 1582 medical exam.

EDUCATE

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

- The Fire Service Executive Development Institute was implemented with a grant from the Motorola Solutions Foundation. A cohort of 20 students was selected and attended a six-day residency in leadership training. The program students will engage in self-study until they reconvene at FRI in August.
- In February, VCOS partnered with ISO to produce a seminar on the revisions to the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) and the Public Protection Classification (PPC).
- Numerous IAFC members and staff joined their counterparts from the IAFF to contribute to a successful Labor-Management Initiative, which attracted a record-breaking 550 attendees. Those components participating included the EMS Section, the Human Relations Committee and the government relations staff. The New Chief Leadership Symposium was co-located with the event.

- Wildland Urban Interface was held March 2013 in a new venue with participation at a record high of nearly 400 participants.
- EMS Section Executive Board members taught the *Managing Fire-based EMS Systems* class at the EMS Today Conference.
- The IAFC hosted webinars on the topics of wildland fire and relationship building in the first quarter. IAFC webinar archives are downloadable at www.iafc.org > Education and Development > eLearning.
- The Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association conference was April 6-10 in Phoenix.
- The Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association (CFCA) Volunteer Workforce Solutions (VWS) team held a two-day leadership symposium in Connecticut focusing on recruitment and retention.
- The IAFC Wildland Fire Policy Committee and Ready, Set, Go! (RSG) program hosted a summit at WUI 2013 in conjunction with the Insurance Institute of Business and Home Safety and its member insurance companies. The purpose of the summit was to introduce the insurance companies to the Fire Adapted Communities concept and coalition, and to create a dialog of how the fire service and the insurance industry can work together.
- The Spanish language translation of the Ready, Set, Go! program's National Wildfire Action Guide is available to registered program participants on the Ready, Set, Go! website at www.wildlandfirersg.org.
- The IAFC received federal approval of the *Developing and Sustaining Regional Collaboration Training* course, also known as the Training for Regional Collaboration (TReC) program. Twenty training sessions, two in each FEMA region, have been set up.

SERVE

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

- The IAFC conducted a survey and call to action on active shooter response protocols, and developed a repository for sharing SOPs on IAFC KnowledgeNet.
- The Virginia Fire Chiefs Association (VFCA) Volunteer Workforce Solutions team and its partner, George Mason University, submitted the program's Phase I final report which outlines the statistical findings of the IAFC-managed program and highlights best practices for recruitment and retention. The project team also attended a Virginia Recruitment and Retention Network meeting to share the findings and best practices from the program.
- VFCA VWS team attended the VFCA Mid-Atlantic Expo and Symposium in Virginia Beach in February to kick off the acceptance of applications for Phase II of the program.
- Ready, Set, Go! (RSG) completed a successful grant program which distributed more than \$36,000 to 35 fire departments in 11 states to assist them in implementing RSG in their communities.

- Ready, Set, Go!, the Colorado Fire Chiefs and the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety partnered to provide an RSG train-the-trainer program to fire departments in Colorado to help them implement RSG and other wildland fire preparedness messages in their communities.

LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

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

- The FRI Site Selection Task Force finalized future locations of Fire-Rescue International 2017-2022. The IAFC announced four new host-cities: San Antonio, Charlotte, Salt Lake City and Phoenix.
- IAFC leadership reaffirmed the IAFC's priority strategic goals of *Lead, Educate and Serve* and further defined the future direction of the association through a strategic direction meeting.
- The IAFC passed the milestone of 10,000 followers on Facebook.
- Since the IAFC Board of Directors meeting in January, the CEO/Executive Director has participated in the following meetings:
 - 9 meetings with other association executive directors
 - 20 meetings with IAFC members and fire chiefs
 - 15 allied organizations
 - 6 federal agencies or organizations
 - 12 corporate partners or corporations interested in working with the IAFC
 - 11 conference meetings

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Chief John Buckman III, IAFC President 2001-2002, was honored with the National Volunteer Fire Council's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Chief Kevin Brame was honored with 2013 James O. Page Award by the IAFC EMS Section.

The **Tulsa (OK) Fire Department** and **East Pierce (WA) Fire/Rescue** were awarded the EMS Section's Heart Safe Community Awards.

STAFF UPDATES

Vicki Lee, program manager, was recognized with a 2013 Metro President's Award of Distinction for her work with the Metro section over the years, and for her dedication to the fire service and to professional development.

Two current IAFC staff members have been elevated to new roles and responsibilities. **Cathy Collins**, formally the office coordinator, has been elevated

to A/P office specialist. **Ann Davison**, strategic information manager, is now the assistant director of strategic services.

Each spring the IAFC welcomes interns from a local high-school political science intern program. **Erica Rome** and **Shruthi Shyamala**, seniors at Chantilly High School, are supporting the membership and external relations team.

What People Are Saying...

"Thanks for the trip down memory lane."

--Reaction to 140th Anniversary article in IAFC On Scene.

"[The video] is very well done and would be a benefit to our fire prevention training classes."

--Reaction to the Smart Choices in Smoke Alarm Placement video

"As a member of the IAFC for over 10 years now, I want to complement the IAFC [...] for providing me as a Fire Chief a credible, current, and detailed resource, as we all struggle to move the fire service over the coming years. I have long said it is these types of resources that the IAFC provides to members which justifies my wanting to be a member of this organization."

--Reaction to Taking Responsibility for a Positive Public Perception

"I have been fortunate to attend many conferences and seminars relating to the fire service but have never been as impressed as I was with the 2013 LMI Conference. All of the instructors were informative and leaders in their field. I also found the IAFF and IAFC staff to be professional and courteous. Thanks for putting on a great conference."

--Feedback from a participant of from the 2013 LMI Conference

"[The IAFC Board of Director's] basically summarized the key points my organization are working on as we move forward. It was well written and organized very nicely and I have shared it with my City Management team. Keep up the great work!"

--Reaction to the Board of Director's findings in the IAFC On Scene article, "Defining Relevance for the Fire and Emergency Service in 2013"