



What's Happening at the IAFC?

Strategic Direction Update
April 16, 2014 – July 15, 2014

The following is a record of milestones achieved in moving the IAFC forward as directed by the Board of Directors. It captures completed works directly relevant to the IAFC strategic direction. 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 Fire Life Safety Section (FLSS) Code Participation member's representatives on the ICC Fire Code Action Committee (FCAC) are preparing positions on proposed changes to the International Green Construction Code to ensure the requirements are not added that unduly impact fire safety for occupants and emergency responders.
- FLSS established committee to start discussing and developing possible code changes for the Building and Fire Codes.
- Programs and Technology members represented the IAFC on or at:
 - Propane Outreach Training and Education
 - Electronic Shipping Paper – Project Description for Electronic Shipping Papers.
 - Crude Oil paper – Attended Sen. Warner Briefing on Lynchburg, Va. Rail incident with Chief Edinger. NTSB conducting investigation and PHMSA and others are working on lessons learned.
 - Ethanol Proposal – The Renewable Fuels Association (RFAO). Ethanol Train the Trainer program proposal under review at the RFA, five incidents reviewed lessons learned are common to all five. Report due end of month.
- The Senate passed H.R. 3979, the Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act. The IAFC endorsed this legislation, which would codify the IRS decision to not count volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel as employees under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (P.L. 111-148) Employer Shared Responsibility Provision. The Senate included unrelated legislation regarding the unemployment insurance, so the House basically ignored the bill when it received it from the Senate.
- Chief Metcalf testified at a House Homeland Security Committee hearing about the "Stakeholder Assessments of the Administration's National Preparedness Grant Program Proposal."

- A representative from the IAFC's Hazardous Materials Committee testified before the National Transportation Safety Board Forum on "Rail Transportation of Crude Oil and Ethanol."
- A representative from the IAFC's Terrorism and Homeland Security Committee testified before the House Homeland Security Committee about "The Critical Role of First Responders: Sharing Lessons Learned from Past Attacks."
- At the request of the IAFC, Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine) filed an amendment to help clarify the rules governing taxation of volunteer firefighters as part of legislation to extend expiring tax preferences. The Senate was unable to reach agreement on consideration of the overall bill.
- The IAFC submitted testimony to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs about the needs of the fire and emergency services in responding to wildland fires.
- The IAFC submitted comments in support of the Federal Communications Commission's proposed regulations to improve the accuracy of 9-1-1 indoor location technology in cellular phones.
- An IAFC representative attended the National EMS Advisory Council in Washington, D.C.
- Both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees introduced draft Fiscal Year 2015 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bills (H.R. 4903/S. 2534) that would fund the U.S. Fire Administration at \$44 million and the FIRE and SAFER grant programs at \$340 million each, as the IAFC recommended. Both bills also would accept the IAFC recommendation to extend the waivers to the requirement for the SAFER grant programs for an additional year in order to allow fire departments to re-hire or retain firefighters.
- Members of the IAFC leadership attended the National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner. While in Washington, they also met with the U.S. Secretaries of Homeland Security and Transportation; Senators and Representatives; and important Congressional legislative staff, including staff from the House Appropriations Committee.
- Chief Will G. May, National Wildland Fire Coordinator, represented the IAFC at the Wildland Fire Leadership Council meeting and press event on the release of the final phase of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy in early April.
- WFPC Chair Chief Bob Roper, WFPC Member Joe Stutler and federal and state partners hosted an interactive session on the benefits of the National Wildland Fire Cohesive Strategy during the Congressional Fire Service Institute events on April 30.
- The Virginia Volunteer Workforce Solutions program recently ended its 12 month recruitment campaign data collection period. Preliminary results show that about 1,000 volunteer member applications were received in the participating 14

departments with over 600 new volunteers joining those departments. A final report will be produced outlining all of the program's results and findings.

EDUCATE

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

- The 2014 Fire-Rescue Med conference was held in Arlington, VA.
- The International Hazardous Materials Response Team Conference was held in Baltimore, Md.
- The Hydrogen IAFC LMS transitioning program over to IAFC Academy system – On Hold due to technical issues with LMS member registration.
- Several site visits occurred as part of the planning process for FRI. Two were conducted in Dallas, Texas for FRI 2014 and another occurred in San Antonio, Texas for FRI 2016.
- The first session of the Fire Service Executive Development Institute 2014 was held in May at the National Conference Center in Leesburg, Va. Twenty-two fire chief officers convened for the first of three sessions. The candidates will attend FRI in Dallas and hold their second session in October.
- Harvard Kennedy School Scholarship awarded to Marc Sampson Fire Protection Engineer of City of Longmont Colorado. Mr. Sampson is also a current FLSS board member.
- The Government Relations and Policy Department hosted a webinar on legislative issues to prepare IAFC members for their lobbying on Capitol Hill during their time in Washington for the National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner.
- The IAFC Communications Committee met during the Congressional Fire Services Institute events. The committee had speakers from FirstNet providing updates on progress toward building the nationwide broadband network; and company representatives from NextNav and T-Mobile providing differing perspectives on the technology development for indoor location technology for next generation 9-1-1.
- The Ready, Set, Go! Program offered a webinar on May 1 titled "It's Here – Are You Ready? Preparing Your Department and Personnel for Wildland-Fire Season."
- VCOS delivered leadership training throughout the country, including six Beyond Hoses and Helmets courses and one You and ISO class while also continuing with its monthly On-Fire Leadership webinar series.

SERVE

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

- FLSS is reviewing concerns with long life (10 year) smoke alarm battery regulations along with battery testing criteria and anticipates providing a recommended update to the IAFC smoke alarm position paper for consideration by the IAFC board.
- FLSS continues work on cooktop safety work group is working to implement recommendations included in the January 2013 IAFC cooktop safety report. This includes coordinating efforts with Vision 20/20, IFMA, NASFM, NFPA, NIST, USFA, NFPA, the Fire Protection Research Foundation, and other stakeholders. This committee's work may also produce code changes for the building and fire codes.

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

- Derrick Sawyer FLSS Director at Large, appointed as the Fire Commissioner to the Philadelphia Fire Department. Through the course of his career, he has served in every officer rank from Lieutenant to Deputy Chief. In addition to serving in some of the busiest companies in the city, Chief Sawyer has served in staff positions as a Lieutenant in the Technical Support Unit and Battalion Chief in the Fire Prevention Division. In December 2013 he was appointed to Deputy Commissioner of Operations.
- California Fire Marshal Tonya L. Hoover awarded with the 2014 Excellence in Fire and Life Safety Award for her history of courage, determination and dedication to fire and life safety. Sponsored by ICC and FLSS.
- Shane Ray was awarded the HD Crossnine Award by the SEAFIC for his service in fire prevention and code development.
- Chief Jason Catrambone of Williston (N.D.) Fire Department was appointed to a one-year term as an at-large VCOS board member. The following people were elected to three-year terms on the VCOS board: Deputy Chief Randy Larson of Upper Pine River Fire (Colo.) Protection District, Chief Charles Flynn of Suffield (Conn.) Fire Department, and Chief Norvin Collins of Sauvie Island (Ore.) Fire District.

STAFF UPDATES

- Shawn Kelley, director of Conferences and Education Department, announced his retirement effective in September. Numerous resumes have been submitted and interviews have been conducted for his replacement. It is anticipated that the new director will start after FRI.
- Lexie Coulson and Katie Reilly were welcomed as program assistants in the Community Solutions Center, working on Wildland Fire Programs.

- Sara Stehle joined the Conferences and Education team as conference planner.
- Diana Rothe-Smith joined the Community Solutions Center as program manager of the Whole Community Program.
- Rena Willey was welcomed as program coordinator of Wildland Fire Programs in the Community Solutions Center.

What People Are Saying...

- "Outstanding webinar. I have recommended that my entire department watch it. I look forward to viewing more webinars through the IAFC."
- "Good class overall. I didn't really hear any new info but I have 10 years of supervision. This is a must for new company officers though. I did see new resource locations that I didn't know about so that's a plus. Thanks!"
- "Interesting....first time partaking in such an event. Thanks for taking the time to share your insight and years of experience."
- "We really appreciate this [RSG] program. It's making our job a lot easier." -Lt. Paul A Branson, LVFPD, RSG member since January 2012.
- "As a result of your support I believe the seeds are now planted to develop a County Chiefs Association RSG meeting. This will jump start RSG in the entire county and maximize resources." - Chief Kurt Latipow, City of Lompoc, RSG member since October 2012, as a result of our action guide support in Santa Barbara Calif.
- "RSG has been the cure all and it's been the best wildland fire preparedness message program for this community." - John Cowie – Barnegat Volunteer Fire Company, RSG member since August 2011, RSG award winner 2014 on sharing is thoughts on how the fire service fits into the FAC concept.
- "A simple program which any fire department can use in their community or assigned jurisdiction.
 - A program proven to work
 - A program with many partners, federal, state, local, tribal
 - There's no cost to join"- Assistant Chief Steve Deffinbaugh, Princeton Fire Department, RSG Member since November 2011.
- "We continue to increase the situation awareness of our residents and Ready, Set Go! makes it easy on us with a straight forward, clear set of messages and information." - Fire Chief Bruce Evans, Upper Pine River Fire Protection District, Colo., RSG Member since September 2012.
- "First step in RSG is helping our communities become READY. We plan on contacting the new members as they enlist to ensure that they have a Wildfire Action Guide Plan or volunteering to help them create one." - Chief Eric Mosley, GA Forestry Commission, RSG Member since April 2011.

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