



What's Happening at the IAFC?

Strategic Vision Update
August 15, 2013 – October 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.

- Leadership and staff met with Vice President Biden's Office and Speaker Boehner's office to discuss the impact of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on volunteer firefighters.
- IAFC government relations and policy staff worked with Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) to support introduction of S 1405, the Medicare Ambulance Access Act of 2013.
- The Chair of the Homeland Security Committee testified before the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Homeland Security. The hearing covered issues relating to the nation's preparedness for acts of terrorism and other hazards.
- An IAFC Wildland Fire Policy Committee member testified before the Congressional Bicameral Climate Change Task Force on the potential connection between climate change and increased wildland fire.
- IAFC submitted comments to the following federal agencies:
 - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Studies (CMS) on ways to improve ambulance reimbursements.
 - Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in response to a notice on the issue of indoor location technology for 9-1-1 calls. The IAFC recommended that the FCC issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to update existing regulations on indoor location. The IAFC further recommended that location technology must be readily deployable and easy to use for public safety; indoor location technology must be cost-effective for public safety to use.
 - Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on the IAFC's concerns about how the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) may negatively impact volunteer and combination fire departments.
- The IAFC participated in the Congressional Fire Services Institute's National Advisory Committee (NAC) meeting. The NAC adopted two IAFC-sponsored resolutions regarding the PPACA's effects on the fire and emergency services and 9-1-1 indoor location technology.
- President Metcalf created the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Task Force to examine the impact of the PPACA on the fire and emergency services.

- The IAFC Communications Committee has formed a working group of members from the various IAFC components to work on broadband applications that the fire service and EMS needs to have on a public safety broadband network.
- The IAFC submitted a written statement on new challenges in the transportation of hazardous materials and incident response to the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). PHMSA and FRA held a two-day public hearing on possible changes to their regulations on rail transport of hazardous materials.
- IAFC participated in a U.S. Department of Homeland Security-sponsored SAFECOM meeting in San Diego. Topics of discussion included FirstNet and the role of SAFECOM in light of the broadband network. As a result of this meeting, the IAFC is participating with the DHS Office of Emergency Communications staff and other SAFECOM representatives to determine the role of SAFECOM going forward.
- The IAFC, along with the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), met with congressional offices, the PHMSA deputy administrator and the National Propane Association on the issue of odor fade.
- The IAFC endorsed bipartisan legislation introduced by Representative Raul Ruiz (D-CA) the Wildfire Prevention Act (HR 3333). This legislation would allow communities that receive Fire Management Assistance Grants to also receive post-fire hazard mitigation assistance.
- The EMS Section issued a survey to measure the impact of Medicare Ambulance Add-On payments for IAFC members.
- IAFC sections and committee members represented the IAFC at the following meetings and events:
 - National EMS Advisory Council (NEMSAC)
 - Wildfire Safe Sound and Code Smart Workshop
 - Fire Adapted Communities Coalition meeting
 - National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) Fire Adapted Communities weekly fire calls
 - International Association of Fire and Rescue Services (CTIF) - HazMat Commission
 - ICC Code Hearing
 - Fire Code Action Committee
 - NFPA Committees (National Fire Alarm Code and Standard on Organization and Deployment of Fire Prevention Inspection and Code Enforcement, Plan Review, Investigation, and Public Education Operations)
- The IAFC took action on four association-proposed position papers:
 - Adopted: Active Shooter and Mass Casualty Terrorist Events
 - Adopted: Human Dignity (updated existing policy)
 - Adopted: Wildland Fire (updated existing policy)
 - Introduced: Fire Marshal Certification

EDUCATE

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

- Fire-Rescue International was held August 13-14, 2013 in Chicago, IL with participation of 442 exhibiting companies, 9,209 attendees, and offered over 130 core educational sessions. The majority of IAFC components and programs contributed to the education program with education and exhibits.
- The Ready, Set, Go! Program presented to the WUI and Wildfire Prevention Exchange for the Southern Region and Mid-Atlantic Forest Fire Compact.
- IAFC hosted five webinars during the fourth quarter. Topics included technology, ethics, community engagement, and social media.
- The IAFC was able to contribute a 70-year old research report issued by the association in the 1940s to a university research project. The paper was thought to be one of only 10 published findings on water trajectories.
- IAFC members and staff are doing an increasing amount of education surrounding the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and its effects on volunteer firefighters, including:
 - Joint National EMS Leadership Forum meeting
 - Prince George's County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association's annual conference
 - Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association annual conference
 - Media requests

SERVE

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

- The Connecticut Volunteer Workforce Solutions program (a partnership between IAFC and the Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association) was completed in September. During the program, 150 new members were added to the participating departments. A final report with detailed programmatic results and lessons learned was submitted to FEMA.
- Departments in phase two of the Virginia Volunteer Workforce Solutions program (a partnership between the IAFC and the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association) officially kicked-off their volunteer recruitment campaigns. In the first three months, the 14 participating departments have added 181 new volunteer members.
- An updated version of the Ready, Set, Go! Program's National Action Guide was issued with new information on Fire Adapted Communities. Additionally, the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department created a localized version of the Guide to support their outreach efforts; it was distributed as part of the 10-year anniversary of California's largest wildland fire to-date.
- The Ready, Set, Go! Program collaborated with other wildland fire programs and a private sector association to create a combine education exhibit opportunity at FRI. This joint effort permitted the stakeholders to show a cohesive front on Fire Adapted Communities messaging and appeal.

- The Fire & Life Safety Section (FLSS) has begun partnering with the NFPA Foundation's False Alarm Reduction Efforts pilot program.
- The FLSS developed a working group to create a tool kit for implementation of the Cooktop Safety Action Plan.

LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

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

- FRI Program Planning Committee met in November to finalize educational sessions for Fire-Rescue International 2014.
- Since the IAFC Board of Directors meeting in August, the CEO/Executive Director has participated in the following meetings:
 - 8 meetings with other association executive directors
 - 13 meetings with IAFC members and fire chiefs
 - 5 allied organizations
 - 6 federal agencies or organizations
 - 16 corporate partners or corporations interested in working with the IAFC
 - 6 conference meetings

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

- **Chief Thomas O'Donohue** received the Benjamin Franklin Award for Valor at FRI.
- **Battalion Chief Sean DeCrane** received the Excellence in Fire & Life Safety Award issued by the FLSS at FRI.
- The following we recognized with Safety, Health and Survival Section awards:
 - **Chief Steven Cover** Alan Brunacini Fire Service Executive Safety Award
 - **Orange County Fire Authority (Chief Keith Richter)**: Billy Goldfeder Fire Service Organizational Safety Award
 - **Richmond Department of Fire and Emergency Services (Chief Robert Creecy)**: Billy Goldfeder Fire Service Organizational Safety Award
 - **Violet Township Fire Department (Chief John Eisel)**: Billy Goldfeder Fire Service Organizational Safety Award
 - **Chief Todd LeDuc**: Garry Briese IAFC Safety Performance Award
 - **Battalion Chief Bryan Kleskie**: Safety Officer of the Year

STAFF UPDATES

- Two long-time staff members have been promoted to fill/restructure vacant staff positions:
 - **Caitlin McGuire**, has been named the new program manager assigned to the Ready, Set, Go! (RSG!) program,

- **Cathy “Mac” Feyh**, has been named member relations manager.
- **Evan Sawyer** was welcomed as the customer and office services assistant.
- **Tim Hopkins**, IAFC digital content manager, was named a finalist for the Digital Communications Leader of the Year based on his work over the past year with the IAFC. The award is sponsored by a public relations industry trade publication.

What People Are Saying...

"...I was not fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend FRI 2013 in person, but the excellent FRI 2013 app for my Android phone made it easy to attend the conference in a virtual mode. I particularly liked the Twitter posts throughout the day with information, quotes and links associated with the various sessions and their speakers. I was also able to see a list of speakers and attendees and set up some Twitter lists so that I could have some 'digital facetime' with friends and colleagues."

"The Conference Workshops and programs were excellent! Also enjoyed the opportunity to meet with many of the sponsors and tour the exhibit area."

--A few reviews of FRI 2014 and its app

"A very happy birthday to all my colleagues around the world... This is a marvelous organization that has helped me to grow on a daily basis."

"And what a history...developing leaders and providing leadership on a level unsurpassed. We at CPSE owe our own success to the vision and support from IAFC. So here we go, working towards the next 140!"

"Happy Birthday to such a professional association; an association that prepares its members for tomorrow, while focusing on the issues at hand today."

--Members and friends from around the globe joined the IAFC's 140th online celebration on October 20, posting messages on the website and Facebook.

"I can't thank [IAFC] enough for your enthusiastic support towards ending homelessness amongst Veterans."

--U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs staff

"The mentoring program has been a great asset to me and my department. My mentor and I have set educational goals and he is helping me as I prepare for my Fire Officer Credentialing... Thank you for such a great program."

"Not sure who puts together the bugle brief, but if you could send a note of thanks for their good work I would appreciate it. I was able to utilize the "How Millennials Will Lead" article to talk about the OFCA Company Officer inclusion; very timely information!"

--Members react to new IAFC programs