



IFCA Monthly Information March 2021



Diversity, Communications, Training, Education, Safety

Illinois Fire Chiefs Association

From President Don Shovelin, Harlem-Roscoe FPD;

Has spring sprung? Next Saturday night don't forget to jump ahead one hour. I was honored to attend the retirement of Ed St. Louis on behalf of the IFCA last week. Congratulations on your years of service and all your accomplishments. I am extremely glad you will be staying on as co-chair of the IFCA funeral committee. Also, congratulations got out to Chief Ford of the Chicago Fire Department who will be retiring at the end of the month. We continue to move slowly, methodically, and safely forward to some sense of normalcy as we once knew. We are moving forward with not one plan for our annual symposium but 3. Thank you to the committee for their hard work along with everyone who responded to our symposium survey. Our conference committee is meeting with the intent of being able to hold our conference. Our IFCA committee has been meeting weekly on a regular basis. I ask if you have concerns, questions or information to share, please reach out to any committee member, John Buckley or myself. Lastly thank you all for all you do in the fire service and reach out to me with ideas or suggestions to assist us in providing the best service we can to the Fire Chiefs in the state.

From Executive Director Jim Grady

Symposium: we are moving forward. Survey revealed the let's do this, with proper safety-distance planning in mind. The registration flyer will be out shortly, we hope you can attend the symposium, baseball game and hear some great speakers. Mark the dates of May 12 – 14, 2021 for The IFCA 2021 Symposium. I would like to thank the representatives and directors for their help with distribution of the length of years/service pins. On a personal note – I had surgery to repair a muscle tear and clean up arthritis in my right shoulder, the get-well wishes were greatly appreciated. I expect to be back in full swing mode shortly – but please never hesitate to call, text, email or stop by.

Legislation

Legislation by IFCA-JB;

The spring legislative session is in full swing. Currently the 102nd General Assembly is in the midst of the Committee Hearing part of the session. The House continues to operate virtually, while the Senate is in session, however the hearings will be broadcast virtually as access to the Capitol is limited. We have identified 238 bills that may impact our members and, from this list, 90 that we are closely watching. You can see the list of the bills that we are watching on our website under the legislation [watchlist](#). If you would like to read the synopsis on all 238 bills, it is located under the legislative [additional resources](#) link.

Some of the major issues we are working on include limiting restrictions on firefighting foam containing PFAS, changes to mental and behavioral transport, emergency response equipment for volunteer and POC Deputy and Assistant Fire Chiefs, stopping the legalization of fireworks and a number of labor related bills. While it is too early to know which direction any of these issues will go, we continue to make our position known. We will have a better idea as we approach the initial committee deadline later this month.

If you have questions regarding pending legislation, please contact John Buckley at jrbuckleyjr@gmail.com.

IT Update MemberClicks ---

up and running along with expanding the scope & use so, please visit, update and use. Any questions/comments please contact JB, Maureen or me. Welcome Courtney Williams to our 'IT-TEAM' assisting us with Facebook postings and information sharing.

VCOC Programs & News:

Apply Now for Rural EMS Training Grant

The deadline to apply for the FY 2021 Rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Training Grant program has been extended to March 18. The purpose of the grant is to recruit and train EMS personnel in rural areas. Rural EMS agencies operated by a local or tribal government and nonprofit EMS agencies can apply. **Read the funding opportunity announcement.**

<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-21-005> The grant program is administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

VCOS Fire Equipment collection:

If you are doing end of the year cleaning of closets and storage areas don't forget - The VCOC Committee is collecting equipment to donate to departments in-need throughout the state. Contact Chief David Weiss – dweiss@westmont.il.gov for additional information.

Looking for Additional Committee Members

VCOC Committee is looking for more committee members, go to: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/who-we-are/intro-for-committee-form/> or email dweiss@westmont.il.gov.

Assessment & Consulting

For information on the IFCA Assessment & Consulting Services please contact: dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org

Be Prepared for Promotion & Leadership Workshops

The March series of workshops is **full**.

Registration is open for the Workshops - April 13-15, 2021 at Homer Township FPD, Lockport. Please note: To maintain social distancing each workshop will be limited to 20 attendees. Registration at www.illinoisfirechiefs.org

Basic Assessor Certification Course Scheduled

The **Joint Labor Management Committee** plans to offer a **BASIC ASSESSOR CERTIFICATION COURSE** commencing on June 7, 2021 and ending on June 9, 2021. The class will be held at the Normal Fire Department located at 606 S. Main Street in Normal, Illinois 61761. For more information and registration: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/ilmc-approved---basic-assessor-certification-course-scheduled/>

IFCA Educational & Research Foundation

Scholarship Application Period Open –LAST CHANCE Please help spread the word that the **APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 15, 2021**. Chiefs, the applicants will need your help. A letter of recommendation is needed from the **Chief Officer** to complete the application process. For the Chief Officer, a letter of recommendation is needed from your superior (i.e., Trustee, Mayor, Village Mgr., etc.). The application will be posted January 1 on our website at www.illinoisfirechiefs.org. Good Luck to all.

Fire Officer Course Offerings - Upcoming Fire Officer Courses

To register <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/fire-officer-courses/>

Incident Safety Officer (ISO)

May 10-14, 2021, North Palos FPD, \$300

Company Fire Officer (CoFO)

April 26, May 24-28, June 7-11, 2021, Pleasantview FPD, \$1000

Training Program Manager (TPM)

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021, Plainfield FPD, \$300

For additional class dates visit www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education

IFCA Foundation Fundraising Updates

Inaugural 5K, Hometown Hero's Hustle in cooperation with the VFW and American Legion. **9:00am May 22, 2021** at 645 S. River in Batavia (Batavia VFW Post 1197). Stay Tuned!

Fishing Tournament June 12, 2021 at Waukegan Harbor. 5am to Noon. Cost \$150/person, 6 to a boat. Ten boats reserved. Watch the website for additional information and registration info.

Sporting Clays – Looking at a June shoot South Event, watch for information.

Golf Outing – July 7, 2021 – Gleneagles Golf Course – Lemont IL.

Upcoming Blood Drives

Mount Prospect April 1, May 6, July 1

Mundelein April 3, July 3

Elmhurst Fire April 10

Homewood May 1

Gurnee Fire June 19

Cary Fire Protection June 26

Shirts/Sweatshirts - The Foundation is again taking online orders for the **IFCA Foundation "We're In This Together Sweatshirts and Shirts"**. New offerings and new colors. The shirts will be available from March 1 to March 31, 2021, \$10.00 from each item sold will benefit the IFCA Foundation. The link to order: <https://ilfcf.itemorder.com/sale>

Officer Development Seminar Class

Oak Forest Officer Development Seminar April 14, 2021 – Registration Open

Oak Forest FD will be hosting a one-day seminar on April 14, 2021 at South Suburban College, Oak Forest Campus. Topics included are: *Mental Health and Safety for Firefighters; Legal Requirements; Officer Leadership: Buddy to Boss; Training Awareness and Conflict Resolutions.* For more info and registration: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/events/officer-development-for-the-21st-century/oakforest/>

*It is a new decade, and the Foundation has updated and restructured the Senior Officer Development program. It is now being offered as a **one or two-day** program with topics chosen by the Host Department, so it is relevant to your department's area.*

Interested in hosting – contact DC Tim Leidig, West Chicago FD. tleidig@wegofpd.org

Shopping?

The IFCA Foundation is registered with AmazonSmile. Go to www.smile.amazon.com and select Illinois Fire Chiefs Association Educational & Research Foundation as the charity you would like to support. A percentage of your purchase will be sent to the Foundation. Thank you.

Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals (IFSAP)

About Us

The Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals (IFSAP) was founded in September 1980, when a group of ten secretaries from across the State of Illinois gathered for the purpose of determining the educational needs of the Fire Service Secretary.

IFSAP has since developed into a professional organization built around the Fire Service and the needs of the administrative support staff that operate within it. Our belief is that it is necessary and advantageous for us to network, share ideas and train together whenever possible.

Is your Administrative Professional a member of this group??? Please visit www.ifsap.org for more information and membership application.

For the Good of the Association

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Information is constantly changing. Visit the following websites for up-to-date information. Stay Safe.

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/first-responders.html>

EMS: <https://www.ems.gov/>

IAFC: <https://www.iafc.org/>

IDPH: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/>

IFCA: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/>

Illinois Coronavirus Response: <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/>

IFSI: <https://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>

OSFM: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/Pages/default.aspx>

US Fire Administration: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/>

IFCA - Chiefs Corner – One Stop Shop for all your IFCA Apparel



IFCA has partnered with **Eagle Engraving** to sell a variety of apparel and other items with the IFCA logo. Please visit Eagle Engraving website. Go to www.eagle-engraving.com then click on Chief's Corner and shop or head right to the page at: https://eagle-engraving.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=133_134. Check out the "NEW" variety of apparel – Tall sizes now available.

You are receiving this correspondence as a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association

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