



**Monthly Meeting
Minutes-DRAFT
February 6, 2025 10:00 AM
REMOTE ZOOM**

Members Present:

Arlington Fire Chief Kevin Kelley
Boston Fire Commissioner Paul Burke
Brookline Fire Chief John Sullivan
Burlington Fire Chief Andrew Connerty
Cambridge Fire Assistant Chief Brian Gover
Chelsea Fire Chief John Quatieri
Dedham Fire Chief William Spillane
Everett Fire Chief Joseph Hickey
Lexington Fire Chief Derek Sencabaugh
Lynn Fire Chief Dan Sullivan
Malden Fire Chief Stephen Froio
Medford Fire Chief Todd Evans
Melrose Fire Chief John White
Needham Fire Chief Tom Conroy
Newton Fire Chief Greg Gentile

Randolph Fire Chief Ron Cassford
Reading Fire Chief Greg Burns
Revere Fire Chief James Cullen
Saugus Fire Chief Michael Newbury
Somerville Fire Chief Charlie Breen
Stoneham Fire Chief Matt Grafton
Waltham Fire Chief Andrew Mullin
Watertown Fire Chief Ryan Nicholson
Wellesley Fire Chief Steve Mortarelli
Weston Fire Chief Justin Woodside
Weymouth Fire Chief Keith Stark
Winchester Fire Chief Steven Osborne
Winthrop Fire Chief Scott Wiley
Woburn Fire Chief Clark Kenton

Executive Director David L. Frizzell

Guests:

Welcome: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Newbury at 10:08 AM.

Health and Wellness:

- For our members and families who are sick or recovering from illness

Moment of silence for those mentioned above and thoughts and prayers for those who are suffering, those serving in public safety, those serving in the military, and our family and friends.

Introductions, New Members & Retiring Members:

- Medford Fire Chief Todd Evans was sworn in on February 24, 2025. There will be a public ceremony on Wednesday March 12, 2025 at 5 PM City Hall.

Introduction of Guests: Assistant Chief Rick Nelson Reading Fire. Asst. Chief Brian Gover Cambridge Fire.

Secretary's Report: Executive Director Frizzell

The Draft Minutes from the February 6, 2025 monthly meeting were sent out via email prior to this meeting.

Motion: "Moved to approve the February 6, 2025 minutes as revised distributed prior to this meeting."

Motion seconded, no discussion. Motion passed.

Financial Report: Executive Director Frizzell

Financial Report for the Month January 2025

Collective Accounts: Statement Balances February 1, 2025	\$ 478,844.83
Income February 2025	\$ 1,451.37
Expenses February 2025	<u>\$ (13,535.31)</u>
Account Statement Balances February 28, 2025	\$ 466,760.89
Outstanding Liabilities February 28, 2025	<u>\$ (1,109.99)</u>
Available Balance February 28, 2025	\$ 465,650.90

Motion: *"Moved to approve the February 2025 financial reports as submitted."*

The motion was seconded. There was no discussion the motion passed.

Executive Director's Report

1. Attended the Boston Sparks Meeting which led to a discussions with Commissioner Burke on the issue of Metrofire Dispatch remaining with Boston Fire Alarm. The issue has been resolved. Will be meeting with the Commissioner and his staff in the near future about expected duties.
2. 2025 Operational Plan (Run Cards) updated. New formatting on cards. Issued and went into effect on March 3, 2025 at 0800 hours. There will be a mid-year plan update due to the new Fireground Channels and other radio updates. The new "Public" version of the Run Cards is on the website at www.Metrofire.us.
3. Attended the FCAM Professional Development show. Lined up a few speakers and few prospects.
4. Thank you to everybody for the quick response on the Apparatus Order/Delivery Survey
5. Prepared for the Special Networking event during the Professional Development Conference
6. Worked on cohosting 2 radio programming events with NERAC.
7. Working on updating the minimum radio channel plan. Departments have until the end of March to submit changes. Those changes will take effect on July 1, 2025. Any submissions after March 31st will not become effective until January 1, 2026
8. Continuing to work on the private side of website.

9. The Director will be out of State from March 9 until late on March 18th. He will be checking emails but responses maybe delayed.

Motion: *"Moved to accept the Executive Directors Report as presented"*

There was a second. No discussion motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Civil Service Committee: Chief Stark)

CIVIL SERVICE

Exam	Application Deadline	Exam Administered	Scores Released	Eligible List Established
2024 Municipal Firefighter	Closed	10/17/2024 - 10/26/2024	TBD	TBD
2024 Statewide District and Deputy Fire Chief	Closed	11/16/2024	1/3/2025	2/15/2025
2024 Fire Alarm Operator	Closed	12/7/2024	1/30/2025	03/15/25
2025 Senior & Principal Fire Alarm Operator	Closed	2/15/2025	TBD	TBD
2025 Fire Lieutenant and Captain	Closed	4/12/2025	TBD	TBD
2025 Boston District Fire Chief	Closed	4/12/2025	TBD	TBD
2025 Statewide Fire Chief	2/11/2025 – 3/4/2025	5/7/2025	TBD	TBD

- Numbers dropping on entrance exam.
- Watertown and Hull are the only two departments that are in the process of establishing a local list under the Civil Service Reform Act.

Communications Committee : Executive Director Chief Frizzell (Ret)

- The NERAC Metrofire North District Common platform Project equipment has now been fully funded by NERAC. The equipment is going through the ordering process. Once it arrives there will be an additional cost to install.
- After attending Motorola APX 101 course it is clear that the needs were not met by the available seats in the class. Will be looking at putting on a multiple session class on programming the APX radios and discussing some best practices for operation and programming.

EMS (FCAM): Chief Nicholson February 19, 2025

- Chief Norris spoke about recent ambulance inspection last week. Inspector focused on the three areas: vaccines, Nero's Law, and the CLIA waiver. Inspector had the RedCap information and just verbally verified that we had signed exemptions on file- did not ask to see them. Inspector asked if CLIA application was completed and received- verbally verified that it was but did not ask to see it. Finally, Nero's Law training documents were requested and verified that all personnel had completed the two-year didactic training requirement.
- Conversation about Nero's Law training and who is required to complete the training. Only personnel working for an ambulance service need to complete this training. If your department does have a fire-based EMS ambulance service, you do not need to complete the training requirements as outlined in AR 2-270 dated 8/10/2022 (see attached).
- Written Policy Medical Director Options- reminder that OEMS protocol 6.0 states services must have a written policy adopting the use of procedure for any medical director option utilized under the statewide treatment protocols. Discussion followed on if one policy can cover multiple procedures. Some departments have one policy some have multiple policies for each option. Chief Sirois will send out draft template to review.
- Protocol updates- Conversation that updates will be coming out shortly potentially May, but unknown what changes will be rolled out.
- Community Paramedic Programs- Chief Norris spoke about community paramedic programs and ensuring all services keep this topic on their radar. Through FCAM, the goal is to get departments to better understand what community paramedic programs are options and also ensure departments are positioned for any potential funding sources that may become available for such programs in the future. Many departments are doing some form of community paramedic program as listed on the DPH website such as car seat installations and/or vaccination programs.
- Chief Flannagan spoke about the ongoing planning process occurring for the Boston Marathon. Given many of the planned events this year on that weekend (Easter weekend), it may involve more resources utilizing the statewide mobilization assets.
- Chief Russell spoke about the lack of funding from DPH for the regional EMS councils and the potential that Region 3 may not have the ability to continue services to that region after July 1st. Discussion followed on the funding this year again for each region at 50% (\$100k / region) and the challenges that continually has posed for the regional councils to meet the scope of services.
- Next meeting: March 11, 2025- 9AM via Zoom

FCAM / IAFC: Chief Stark

- PDC update. Show was last week. Great attendance. Looking at the same time frame next year.
- Meeting Schedule –Next -General Membership Meetings:
 - March 19, 2025 – Stonehill College, Easton
 - April 9, 2025 - Firefly's BBQ- Marlboro
 - May 21, 2025 – TBD
 - June 18, 2025 – Crumpin Fox Golf Clun – Bernardston

- Due to schedule conflicts on the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations Chief Newbury is unable to attend and will be looking for replacements. The BFPR meets the same day as the Metrofire monthly meeting.

Government Affairs Director- Chief Bill Scoble, Ret.

1. The Legislature is finally starting to make some moves – the Chairs of Committees and Committee Assignments were made last week. With the many retirements of senior members this session there were spots to be filled including the Senate Chair of Public Safety, and surprisingly the House Chair Changed as well. The new Senate Chair is John Cronin from Fitchburg, the House Chair is Dan Cahill from Lynn. The Senate Vice Chair is Bill Driscoll from Milton, who just moved up from the House to take Senator Timilty's place. The House Vice Chair is Christopher Worrell from Boston. Other Committee members include Michelle Chicolo-Lexington,(S) Peter Durant- Spencer(R),(S) Jamie Eldridge – Acton, Rodney Elliot-Lowell, (S)Dylan Fernandes – Falmouth, Homar Gomez-Easthampton (N), David Paul Linsky – Natick, Michael Moore – Millbury, Bridget Plouth (N)– Plymouth, Amy May Sangiolo – Newton (N), Alan Sylvia – Fall River, Ken Sweezey(R) (N) - Pembroke, Marcus Vaughn – Wrentham (R), Jon Velis – Westfield, Richard Wells – Milton (N), Steven Xiarhos (R) – Barnstable. Also, Bills can now receive a number and be assigned to Committees, and then Hearings can be scheduled.
2. As reported last month, the Governor's Budget has been released, and it includes an outside section to rescind the provision we got passed last year to provide for the "pop-up" provision for ambulance payments. We discussed this with Senate Chair of Ways and Means Mike Rodrigues last month, and Bill Cass had a meeting with House Chair of Ways and Means Aaron Michlewitz last week to try to keep it out of the working budget. To that end, Bill has written a letter that he wants all members of the Ambulance Coalition to sign that will be forwarded to both Chairs. We had a zoom meeting last Friday morning to go over the issue as well as to discuss the Ambulance reimbursement Bill. There was also a discussion over the OEMS proposal to require portable C-MED radios for all ambulances.
3. There will be a meet and greet for the Senate President hosted by the Suffolk Group on March 12th. The President will be attending.
4. The Essex County Legislative Breakfast was on February 7th – there was great attendance as always from Chiefs and Legislators. The Lieutenant Governor attended and spoke about the brush fires last fall and the MBTA zoning issue. She was very clear the withholding of grant money will continue and urged the Chiefs to make that clear to their communities.
5. MetroFire is looking to set a date for a Breakfast at the State House.
6. The CFSI Event went well. There was concern about cancellations due to the weather, but everything came together as scheduled. The entire IAFC E-Board attended the Breakfast event. Meetings were held with most of the Representatives, and with Senator Warren. Senator Markey attended the Breakfast, as did Reps. Lynch and Auchincloss. Following our meeting, Senator Warren filed an Amendment to the Budget to protect the AFG and SAFER Grants. Next year's CFSI will be March 18 and 19.

7. One of the subjects that Senator Warren wanted to talk about is the issues surrounding the increasing costs of fire apparatus and ambulances. While we were at the PDC in Worcester, her staffer emailed a request for information asking for specifics that Chiefs have faced recently. I spread the word and got phenomenal response, that information was collated and sent back to the staff. We received a detailed response thanking us for the details we provided. Subsequent to that, I received a call from Ken LaSala of the IAFC to discuss the issue, and he said that they have a working group studying the problem. He has asked for a Massachusetts representative to join that group.
8. We also had discussions regarding the single stairway building code issue.

FIRE MARSHAL

- Safe and Senior Safe Grants have been sent to EOPSS for approval and should be out soon.
- Firefighter Equipment Grant has closed and the awards are being finalized by DFS.
- DFS will be sending out information for Chiefs about the upcoming onboarding process for the new NERIS reporting system
- Upcoming white powder training:
 - Sturbridge on 3/12
 - Western, MA 3/21 & 3/22
 - Mansfield on 4/14

IAFC Chief Stark

- Have firefighters register for the National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer. See attached Information.
- Community Risk Reduction Leadership Conference May 13-15 Phoenix-Glendale, AZ
- Wildland Urban Interface Conference March 27-29 Kansas City, MO
- Call for candidates for the 2025 UIAFC FLSS Election if interested look at the link <https://www.iafc.org/about-iafc/sections/fire-life-safety>

Fire Safety House: Chief Burns

- No report it still away for the winter.

Fire Service Commission: Chief Burns met February 20, 2025

- Credentialed and recredentialed Fire Chiefs.
- DFS budget is moving through the budget process.
- Fire Equipment Grant Notice of Funding releases
- SAFE and Senior SAFE Grants are at EOPS.
- NERIS National Emergency Response Information System is replacing NFIRS. Every Department will be required to participate. It will include fire station and apparatus data. The Marshal will be providing assistance and it will be providing us with more usable data that includes an internal and external dashboard.

Fire Training Council: Chief Madden Not Present report submitted by email.

- Fire Academy Director's Position. Conducted 3 interviews for the 2nd round for the vacant Academy Director position. Background checks are being done and should have more information in a few months.
- Policy Subcommittee will be looking into cadet program qualifications. We might have something to forward to Civil Service in the next few months.
- DFS/MFA website now has the openings and dates for the career recruit classes. It is updated weekly.
- Several coordinator positions have been filled. Will have contact information in the future.

Hazmat Steering Committee: Chief Nicholson

- Newton Fire Chief Greg Gentile has been appointed to the Hazmat Steering Committee.
- There is one vacancy on the Team and will be following the process to fill the vacancy

Divisions

Apparatus/Mechanic-Chief Matt Grafton:

- Meeting March 27 Woburn
- Looking to see the needs and future of the Apparatus Division.
- Meetings will be quarterly

EMS-Chief Nicholson. 2/13/2025 at 10:00 AM Lexington

- Up date on Metro Fire Website with EMS Division "in the works" should be up and running soon
- Nero's Law update
 - Departments are having troubling finding local Veterinarians to do the training. Mass Vets can do Training.
 - Make sure departments have a Decon procedure S.O.P.
- Changes to B.L.S. equipment requirements starting 3/13/2025
 - Unsure why an Ultrasound Machine is required for B.L.S. ambulances
 - CO meter and Glucometer were thought to be already required
- Changes to A.L.S. equipment requirements starting 3/1/2025 (see hand out with changes)
 - IV pumps discussion
 - Lexington uses and passed around the Eithan Medical Sapphire (best price seemed to be Boundtree medical)
 - EtCO2 reports must have a way to print not just upload
- There is a letter regarding I.C.E.agents requesting information on patients. Follow HIPPA Law guidelines
- Reports on recent Inspections
 - Updated S.O.P.s

- Weight stickers on shelves in ambulance
- FLU/ Covid shot Documentation by May 15th
- “Run” reviews
 - Reading; “frequent flyers” at short term assisted living facilities. What can we do if a patient's needs are beyond what the facility is designed to be? IE short term vs long term care, and the frequency of the patients calling 911. Others communities ran into similar situations suggested the they discuss with their medical control doctor
 - Burlington is starting the paperwork to authorize charging for Lift assists at medical facilities
 - Waltham started on Feb. 3rd new running system from Armstrong Ambulance. Will now run 3 B.L.S. ambulances, 1 P.B. Truck, 1 double medic double equipment fly car, and 1 field supervisor. Armstong vehicle tracking software is in Waltham Fire Dispatch
- Next meeting is April 10th no location yet possible Reading, Winchester, or Watertown

Fire investigation-Chief Sencabaugh.

- Met this week. Did a class of accelerant detection with dogs.
- Reminder that members cannot take pictures of incidents or victims unless explicitly allowed by policy. Pictures on social media should only be pictures that could have been taken by the general public and not by firefighters who may have taken pictures in a restricted or no public place. Victims have both criminal and civil recourse.
- About 30 attended

Training-Dan Sullivan

- Meeting held on 2/20/2025 at 10:00 AM in Burlington
- Had a couple of speakers lined up but canceled.
- Quincy has 4 underwater handheld “Aqua Eye” sonars for finding drowning victims. Quincy is willing to do a demonstration for the group. (Stoneham has a side scan sonar available).
- Looking to bring a person in from OSHA to discuss the impacts on fire departments.
- Quincy Fire is looking to train with other departments heavy rescues.
- Next meeting March 20 in Burlington

Fire Prevention-Chief Woodside.

- Code Red, Jen Hoyt will present on changes to the 10th edition building code, specifically related to lab. Meeting will be on 3/12/20245 at 10:00 AM at the City of Newton Fire HQ EOC 1164 Centre St. Newton.
- Chelsea NFPA Risk Reduction at a future meeting.

Homeland Security:

UASI-Chief J. Sullivan, Brookline Fire

- About a million has not been able to be expended by the end of the grant period . Money was moved to Boston Police for the purchase of portable barriers .
- Still waiting to here if Federal Budget to be passed. Federal budget has funding but not sure. Current awarded grants send in reimbursement as soon as possible because continued reimbursement is not know.

NERAC: Chief Sencabaugh, Lexington Fire

- Next meeting is next week.

South: (No Report)

Unfinished Business

1. CFSI, Chief Derek Sencabaugh. If you haven't attended it is an event that is well worth attending in the future. Expected to be in March of 2026.
2. FDIC Chief Kelley, Breen, & Mortarelli are attending the conference this year.
3. Open Positions Need nominations
 - a. Fire Service Commission- Chief Matt Grafton has been nominated as the primary and Chief Justin Woodside as the alternate. The Names will go to DFS and then forwarded to the Governor's Office for appointment. Will take effect after the Governor makes the appointment.
 - b. FCAM District 13 Board of Director's seat. Chief Randy Mullin was appointed to be the next District 13 representative to the FCAM Board of Directors.

Motion to support the endorsement of Chief Randy Mullin for the position of Fire District 13 Director for the Fire Chiefs of Massachusetts Board of Directors.

Seconded. No discussion. Passed Unanimously

- c. FCAM Representative to Civil Service. Chief Greg Gentile was endorsed by the Board of Directors to fill the position of Civil Service Representative from FCAM which will become available when Chief Stark retires..

Motion to support the endorsement of Chief Greg Gentile as the FCAM Civil Service Representative.

Seconded. No Discussion. Passed Unanimously

New Business

1. Special Election for Vice Chair in May. Nominations will open in April.
2. Cambridge Fire Civil Service Preferential Selective Service Certification. Issue of employees trying to drop their preferential status. Please respond to Chief Cahill if you have anything
3. Any issues not otherwise on the agenda
 - a. Lynn Chief Dan Sullivan. Fire Chief Summit July 16-18 have to get selected to go. Encourage people to go. If you are interested contact Chief Sullivan.
 - b. Chief Sencabaugh on ATV's for 250 th. Will be reaching out to those on the list.
 - c. IAFC symposium on health and welfare on March 18, 2025

Remarks for the Good of Association:

Next monthly meeting is Thursday April 3, 2025 at 10:00 AM at the Lexington Fire Headquarters
Presentation by Station Smarts Policy Builder.

Motion: "motion to adjourn the meeting"

- Motion and Seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 AM

Respectfully Submitted
Chief David L. Frizzell (Retired)
Executive Director
Metrofire Inc.

Attachments:
Calendar Update 02/07/2025
National Firefighter Cancer Registry
IAFC Health Symposium



NEHWS 2025

First Responder Health & Wellness Symposium

Advancing Safety and Wellness in Emergency Services

Join us for an impactful symposium bringing together experts and leaders in first responder health, wellness, and safety. This essential gathering will provide valuable insights and strategies for protecting our most valuable resource - our personnel.

Hosted by: The New England Association of Fire Chiefs Division of the IAFC

Date: March 18, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: Florian Hall

55 Hallet St, Boston, MA 02122

Open to: Police, Fire, and EMS Personnel

Admission: \$10 (includes lunch catered by Fasano's Catering)

Invest in your department's future by joining fellow leaders in addressing critical health and wellness challenges.

[Health & Wellness Symposium by New England Association of Fire Chiefs Tickets, Tue, Mar 18, 2025 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Space is limited - Reserve your spot today

Proudly Sponsored by: United Diagnostic Services LLC



UDS provides proven ultrasound-based early detection screenings to nearly 25,000 first responders across 300 departments/locals, including partnerships with IAFC, IAFF, and FOP. Our non-invasive tests identify conditions like cardiovascular disease and occupational cancers, with 68% of participants needing follow-up or immediate care.

Our screenings cover nine critical areas, including the heart, carotid arteries, thyroid, liver, kidneys, and more. The service includes onsite delivery, detailed reports from specialists, and follow-up consultations.

[UDS Program Overview](#)

[Testimonial Video](#)



Ray Lankin – Founder & CEO, United Diagnostic Services, LLC providing ACR, ICAEL, and AIUM-accredited diagnostic imaging services across 42 states and Canada. UDS specializes in hospital-grade imaging services including Ultrasound, CT, MRI, Digital Mammography, and cardiovascular testing. The company serves major healthcare networks like Montefiore and NYU hospitals while pioneering early detection programs for first responders. UDS combines

AI-enhanced technology with highly trained technicians to deliver accurate diagnostics in hospital, remote, and mobile settings, supported by flexible equipment leasing options.



Captain Ron Kuley (ret) Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department served 31 years with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue, specializing in hazardous materials response. As President of IAFF Local 2068, he represented 2,000 firefighters and paramedics and served on Virginia Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue. A Harvard University Executive Leadership graduate, he led the IAFF-MDA program from 2000-2014, increasing annual fundraising from \$6M to \$30M. Currently, he serves as Executive Officer to the International Association of

Fire Chiefs President and consults through Kuley Strategic Advisors, LLC, helping organizations achieve sustainable growth through strategic partnerships.

How Full is Your Bucket? mental & career survival for public safety professionals

This will be a quick hit discussion on how to mentally survive today's public service professions. Topics covered will include but are not limited to: the unavoidable physiological and psychological impact of a long-term public safety career, the avoidable stuff you're doing to yourself and how to start fixing it, sleep, sex, good food and other things you're not getting enough of, healthy relationships with family, coworkers, command, etc, compassion fatigue/burnout, booze and bad habits that aren't working.



Nicole L Sawyer, PsyD is a licensed clinical psychologist in Exeter, New Hampshire. She has been in clinical practice since 2005 and works exclusively with public safety professionals and first responder agencies. Dr. Sawyer currently serves as the supporting psychologist for the NH State Police Peer Support Unit, she provides clinical support for various Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) teams across the state and is an instructor for the NAMI-NH Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) program. She is the professional crisis intervention specialist for the Seacoast Emergency Response Team (SERT), the Strafford County Regional Tactical Operations Unit (SCRTOU), and the NH State Police SWAT (NHSP-CNU), responding alongside law enforcement and Crisis Negotiation Teams (CNT). In addition to her field roles, she provides psychological consultation, assessment, and evaluation for state and local agencies across NH. Dr. Sawyer is known best for her straight-talking and candid trainings and workshops; taking a direct approach to the psychological challenges faced by public safety professionals and first responders over the course of their careers, as well as the challenges of crisis intervention in the community.



Jennifer Taylor, PhD, MPH, CPPS

Director of the Center for Firefighter Injury Research and Safety Trends (FIRST)

Dr. Jennifer Taylor is the Director of the Center for Firefighter Injury Research & Safety Trends (FIRST) and Professor of Environmental & Occupational Health. FIRST is a research, education, and practice enterprise at the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA, comprised of data scientists, epidemiologists, organizational scientists, and psychologists. FIRST supports first responders through objective data collection and analysis on safety culture, stress, mental health, and injury. Dr. Taylor received her PhD in Health Policy and Management from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and holds the Certified Professional in Patient Safety board certification. She is both a country girl and a city kid, having a small farm on rural Maryland's Eastern Shore, and a townhouse close to the best cheesesteak place in Philadelphia, PA. Jenn is known for her military precision in packing people, dogs, and stuff into her F-150 for all-day beach excursions, and is actively seeking therapy for what is becoming an unhealthy love affair with John Deere.



Bart McCool End Use Marketing Manager, TenCate Protective Fabrics USA . – Innovative look at Thermal Protection

Bart McCool began his career as a firefighter-paramedic with the City of Springfield Fire and Life Safety Department in 1993. Following his promotion to Captain he led the department's PPE program, ensuring compliance with NFPA 1851 standards and advocating for firefighter education on protective gear.

After leaving the fire service, Bart continued his advocacy as a PPE Specialist for L.N. Curtis & Sons and the Department of Defense Fire Department. In 2015, he joined TenCate Protective Fabrics as a Business Development Manager, conducting risk assessments and helping fire departments select the best PPE for their operational needs. Recognized as a leading expert on firefighter protective gear, he is widely sought after for his PPE selection, maintenance, and safety presentations.



Ed Ashegh Sales Manager at Industrial Protection Services

Program Description:

This will be a brief discussion focusing on two important considerations relating to Bunker Gear Selection: Heat Stress and PFAS-free Moisture Barriers. Topics will include:

1. How Heat Stress affects the user
2. Understanding Composites Performance Metrics
3. New PFAS-free Moisture Barriers.

Ed has been with Industrial Protection Services for the past 25 years, transitioning from a service technician to a sales representative, and currently holding the position of Sales Manager. He is deeply passionate about collaborating with all members of the IPS Sales Team and delivering high-quality solutions to our valued customers.



The National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer



**NATIONAL
FIREFIGHTER
REGISTRY**
for Cancer
Understanding &
Reducing Cancer



The NFR for Cancer came about through an act of legislation – the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018 – with broad support from fire service organizations.

The NFR for Cancer is the only national registry of firefighters that makes it possible to investigate the link between firefighting and cancer.

Mission

To generate detailed knowledge about cancer in the fire service through a voluntary registry that reflects our nation's diverse firefighters.

Vision

To equip the fire service and public health communities with the knowledge they need to reduce cancer in firefighters.

Why we need the NFR for Cancer

In all 50 states, if you were to be diagnosed with cancer, your cancer diagnosis is reported to your state health department. However, states do NOT collect detailed information about your occupation. And many states do not collect any occupational information. This makes it hard for researchers to study the relationship between occupational exposures and cancer.

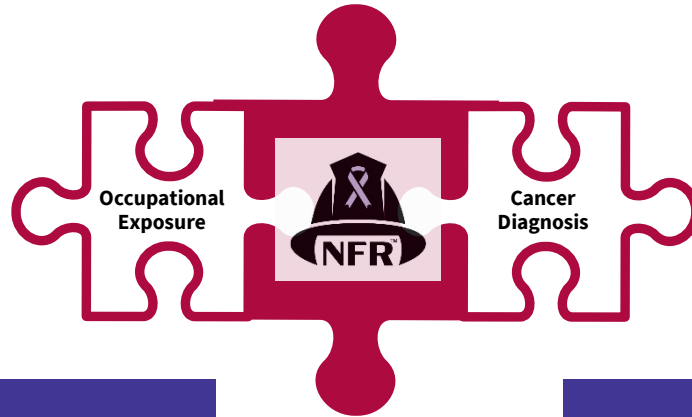


We know firefighting can cause cancer, but there are still unanswered questions about firefighters' risk factors for cancer: How does firefighting and cancer affect women, men, career firefighters, volunteer firefighters, and wildland firefighters ?

State cancer registries collect information about cancer diagnoses, but they do not collect detailed information about occupations.

Why we need the NFR for Cancer

The NFR for Cancer is an effort to fill this knowledge gap by providing firefighters with opportunity to register and tell us about their work as a firefighter. That way, if a firefighter is diagnosed with cancer, the NFR team has details about their occupation. This makes it possible to study the relationship between firefighting and cancer.



By registering for the NFR, firefighters can provide the missing link for researchers to study the relationship between occupational exposure and cancer.

Ultimately, the NFR for Cancer can help us learn what is increasing firefighters' cancer risk and how to prevent cancer in the first place.

Who can join?



The NFR for Cancer is open to **all U.S. firefighters, with or without cancer, active or retired**, no matter their length of service. You do not need to have cancer to enroll. In fact, it's just as important for firefighters without cancer to enroll as it is for those with cancer.

The goal is to enroll 200,000 firefighters, making the NFR for Cancer the largest cohort of firefighters ever assembled.

Firefighters who have been underrepresented in research are also a priority, including:

- Female firefighters
- Volunteer firefighters
- Wildland firefighters
- Other specialty areas like fire investigators and fire instructors



Why does the NFR need firefighters **without** **cancer** to join?

The **NFR for Cancer** needs firefighters *who do not have cancer* to enroll, in addition to those who do have cancer, because their information will allow researchers to study why some firefighters develop cancer and others do not. Without all firefighters participating, researchers will not be able to identify differences in occupational exposures between firefighters with cancer and firefighters without cancer.

How to Join

Signing up for the NFR for Cancer involves 4 steps:

- 1 Create your account
- 2 Give informed consent
- 3 Create your profile
- 4 Complete the NFR questionnaire

If you get interrupted or want to complete steps 3 and 4 in two sittings, your responses will be saved. Login again to continue. You will receive an email to verify your enrollment once finished.



NATIONAL
FIREFIGHTER
REGISTRY
for Cancer
Understanding &
Reducing Cancer

Confirm eligibility and then click “Login.gov” below to create account or sign in.

☐ I am at least 18 years of age *

☐ I have served or am currently serving as a US firefighter *

Login.gov

Supported by IAFF, IAFC, NVFC and [more](#)
Want more information? Visit [our website](#)
Need help signing up? View our [Tip Sheet](#)



Join the NFR for Cancer - hear fire service members share why joining the NFR is important.



How does the NFR for Cancer work? - learn how the NFR will help researchers investigate the link between firefighting and cancer.

Below are specific stages of the NFR for Cancer. Through these steps, we can support cancer prevention policies and procedures.

Enroll Firefighters

The NFR for Cancer will collect self-reported information on workplace & personal characteristics through NFR.CDC.gov. Joining the NFR for Cancer is voluntary and takes about 30 minutes.

Obtain Records

The NFR for Cancer will obtain records from fire departments or agencies to track trends and patterns of exposure.

Link with Databases

The NFR for Cancer will link with health information databases including state cancer databases.

Provide Data

The NFR for Cancer will make de-identified data available for external researchers.

Firefighters' identifiable information will always be protected.

The power of data



Privacy and data security



**Logging into web portal
requires multi-factor
authentication**

Email, password, and another
form of authentication (e.g.,
text message passcode)



**Data uploaded to an
encrypted database
each time the firefighter
clicks “save and
continue” or logs out**

Logging out saves progress



**Privacy protected by an
Assurance of
Confidentiality**

Identifiable information will
not be shared outside of
NIOSH



Thank you!

Questions? Email the NFR for Cancer at NFRegistry@cdc.gov

Metrofire Important Dates

2024-2025

(Updated March 5, 2024)

March 6, 2025 10:00 AM Metrofire Monthly Meeting Lexington Fire

March 12, 2025 10:00 AM Fire Prevention Division Meeting. Newton Fire EOC Presentation by Code Red on 10th Edition of Building Code changes for Labs.

March 18, 2025 9:00-3:00 PM IAFC First Responder Health & Wellness Symposium Florian Hall. Registration required.

March 19, 2025 10:00 AM FCAM General Membership Meeting Stonehill College

March 27, 2025 10:00 AM Apparatus Division Meeting Woburn Fire Headquarters

April 1, 2025 Metrofire Arson Investigators 10:00 AM Location TBD

April 3, 2025 10:00 AM Monthly Meeting Lexington Fire, Presentation by Station Smarts on their Policy Builder product.

April 7-12, 2025 FDIC International Indiana Convention Center

April 9, 2025 10:00 AM FCAM General Membership Meeting Firefly's BBQ Marlboro

May 1, 2025 10:00 AM Monthly Metrofire Meeting Lexington Fire Presentation by Capital Strategic Planning

May 6, 2025 Metrofire Arson Investigators 10:00 AM Location TBD

May 21, 2025 10:00 AM FCAM Annual and General Membership Meeting -Installation of Officers Location TBD

June 3, 2025 Metrofire Arson Investigators 10:00 AM Location TBD

June 5, 2025 10:00 AM Monthly Metrofire (Annual Meeting) Budget Lexington Fire

June 18, 2025 10:00 AM FCAM General Membership Meeting Crumpin Fox Golf
Bernardston, MA

August 13-15, 2025 Fire Rescue International 2025 Orlando Florida

September 2, 2025 Metrofire Arson Investigators 10:00 AM Location TBD

September 4, 2025 10:00 AM Metrofire Monthly Meeting Lexington Fire

October 2, 2025 10:00 AM Metrofire Monthly Meeting Lexington

October 7, 2025 Metrofire Arson Investigators 10:00 AM Location TBD

October 29, 31, 2025 New England Division of IAFC Conference and Expo Mohegan
Sun Connecticut.

November 4, 2025 Metrofire Arson Investigators 10:00 AM Location TBD

November 6, 2025 10:00 AM Metrofire Monthly Meeting Lexington

December 2, 2025 Metrofire Arson Investigators 10:00 AM Location TBD

December 4, 2025 10:00 AM Metrofire Monthly Meeting Holiday Luncheon Location
TBD