

The **Bulletin**



Publication of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

Volume 68, Number 4

July - August 2014

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS



Illinois Firefighter's Association 124th Annual Conference

Firefighter Down & Dirty Firefighting Weekend

**October 17-19, 2014
Champaign-Urbana, Illinois**

**New classes
Certified Firefighter testing**



July - August 2014 Vol. 66 Number 4

The Bulletin is published every other month at Highland, Illinois

Subscription rate - \$15.00 per year

Please send address changes or articles to:

The Bulletin

Kerry Federer, Editor

PO Box 77

Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Office/Fax 618-882-4783

Home 618-654-3852

Cell 618-830-3961

editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

www.illinoisfirefighters.org

Bulletin Deadlines:

**January 15, March 15, May 15, July 15,
September 15, and November 15**

Table of Contents

Chaplain's Corner.....	7
Conference Class Registration..	10
Conference Classes 2014	9
Conference Credentials	19
Conference Registration	12
IFSI Update	17
Legal Issues - Divorce.....	25
Legislative Update	4
NVFC Share the Load	20
Notice of Annual Meeting.....	8
President's Message	3
Scholarship Application.....	21
Shcolarship Thank You.....	19
Troy Fire Protection Dist	14

Index of Advertisers

AEC	28
Alexis.....	20
California Casualty	23
Low T Center	16
NIFSAB	8
SCBAS, Inc.	6
Sentinel Emergency Sol.....	27
Tri State Emer Resp Conf ...	13
VFIS.....	23

IFA Officers, Directors, Support Staff and Consultants

Officers

President (2014)

John Swan

23288 Green River Rd.

Colona, IL 61241

309.792.3011-work

309.792.4551-fax (work)

309.792.3231-station

309.792.3250-fax (station)

309.792.2793-home

309.314.0939-cell

Colonachief@AOL.com

Vice-President (2014)

Terry Ford

1214 Douglas Street

Alton, IL 62002

217.785.7487-work

618.977.2843-cell

618.463.5701-home

tlford9@yahoo.com

Secretary/Treasurer (2015)

Kerry Federer

70 Arbor Crest Dr.

Highland, IL 62249-3899

618.654.3852-home

618.830.3961-cell

federer@charter.net

IFA Office

PO Box 77

Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Phone/Fax 618-882-4783

editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

Directors

Ed Allsman (2016)

1314 Gonterman St

South Roxana, IL 62087

618.781.4630-cell

618.254.1088-station

618.254.8802-fax (station)

eallsmn@srfire.org

Joe Heim (2017)

341 Gramercy Street

East Dubuque, IL 61025

563.599.3356 cell

edfire18@yahoo.com

Garrick (Gary) Kasper (2015)

Benton Fire Dept

PO Box 771

Benton, IL 62812

618.439.2511 office

618.435.0437 cell

garrickkasper@att.net

Joseph Mandarin (2017)

24403 Arrowhead Dr.

Manhattan, IL 60442

815.680.6020 home

708.935.2893 cell

Corky2700@aol.com

Ronald Mulach (2014)

304 Wolf

P.O. Box 26

Hamel, IL 62046

618.633.2376-home/fax

618.973.5871-cell

samrjm10@aol.com

Edward Myers (2015)

2171 E. 221st Street

Sauk Village, IL 60411

708.983.9102-cell

708.758.2225 xt. 430-work

708.753.0901-work fax

acmyers502@comcast.net

Bill Offerman (2016)

600 Beattie St.

Elwood, IL 60421

815.423.6967-home

815.423.5224-station

815.423.6323-fax

BillCh601@krausonline.com

Robert Reason (2014)

55 North Street

East Peoria, IL 61611

309.694.6678-home

309.699.5252-fax

breason@sbcglobal.net

Michael A. Simmons (2017)

9985 W. Council Hill Rd.

Galena, IL 61036

815.238.0988 - cell

simmlawn@sbcglobal.net

Kevin Schott (2015)

17739 Macoupin Club Road

Carlinville, IL 62626

217.854.2179-home

217.971.8196-cell

schottd@frontiernet.net

G. Michael Stoffa (2014)

350 Pierce Street

Elburn, IL 60119

630.365.6301-home

630.417.3860-cell

Jocko521@aol.com

Jeff Stuck (2017)

404 Partridge Lane

Carterville, IL 62918

618.985.8060-work/fax

618.925.4915-cell

stuck915@hotmail.com

Gary Turnbaugh (2016)

506 Maple Avenue

Roxana, IL 62084-1017

618.254.9820-home

618.531.2480-cell

greyhounds1947@sbcglobal.net

Support Staff

and Consultants

Chaplain

Kevin Coffey

1117 N 1000 East Road

Onarga, IL 60955

815.457.2007 - home

ke9526@yahoo.com

Legislative Lobbyist

Margaret Vaughn

9211 Waterfall Glen Blvd.

Darien, IL 60561

217.280.0206-cell

630.908.7311-fax

mvaughn@springnet1.com

Attorney

Robert J. Britz

OBKCG&D, LTD

303 N. Main St.

Elburn, IL 60119

630.365.6441 Phone

630.365.6451 Fax

rbritz@ottosenbritz.com

www.ottosenbritz.com

Mission Statement

Dedicated to the advancement of the Fire Service by providing leadership. The Association will proudly support the community of firefighters in Illinois through education, training, benefits and information networking at the local, state and national levels.

President's Message



Dear Fellow Firefighters,

Our conference is rapidly approaching and the Down & Dirty training is scheduled. All of the conference brochures have been sent mailed to all the fire departments around this state. Now is the time to get registered for the training you wish to take before it is booked. Over the last year, there has been a dramatic rise in attendance for the training at our fire academy. I hope that this increase carries over to our conference. Our association is picking up a large portion of those training costs, so that you may benefit from those savings. The savings don't stop there. For every three registrants from the same organization, the department will receive a fourth member's registration at no cost.. The registration form can be found in this copy of *The Bulletin* or by visiting our web site at www.illinoisfirefighters.org.

Our state fair is also approaching and we provide firefighters to help in the Fire Services Tent. We are always looking for extra help during this time. The Fire Marshal and Fire Services Association tent is the largest and best attended exhibit at the fair. It is filled with interactive fire safety training devices for all ages to learn and enjoy. If you would like to help during this time, we would greatly appreciate your help. You can call me or anyone of our Directors listed in *The Bulletin*.

In the last issue of *The Bulletin*, I mentioned HB 3287, the instructor liability law, and the possible impact that may have on the Fire Service. Since then, that bill passed the House and our Governor has signed it into law. This all involves third party training and liability that may involve from that training. As you already know, a major portion of the fire service receives training from each other and instructors from other departments. We did have limited liability for our instructors and now we may see added risks to instruct training to outside fire department members. It looks like money and power has won over this issue again. The trail lawyers pushed this legislation through to solve a problem that doesn't exist in the Fire Service.

We did win a good piece of legislation, sponsored by our chairman of the Fire Caucus. Representative Donald Moffitt was able to get added funding to the Fire Truck Revolving Loan Fund. Not only added funding, but was able to get the loan limit from \$250,000 to an increase of \$350,000 dollars. We all know the cost of fire apparatus and the savings in interest that can be gained from this increase. Thank You representative Moffitt and all that helped get this legislation passed.

In closing, we are at mid-year and in the heat of the summer. Remember to stay hydrated and drink plenty of water. At fire calls, watch out for heat exhaustion and more importantly prevent heat stroke.

Be your brothers keeper and help prevent accidents before they happen. Our mission, also, should be to bring everyone home after the call. So

God Bless and be Safe

John Swan President IFA



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Margaret Vaughn, IFA Legislative Lobbyist

IFA Leads Press Conference to Change Safety Training Liability Law

Though IFA fought vigorously against SB 3287, an initiative of the IL Trial Lawyers Association which will make any entity providing safety advice or recommendations liable in a workers comp case by the employee unless it is done in-house, the measure was signed into law by the Governor. However the IFA held a press conference the next day to make the public aware of the implications the new law could have on rescue victims if first responders don't get the proper training and also to urge the Governor and lawmakers to consider making changes to the new law so safety training is not comprised. The press conference was well attended by the media and the story was reported in news outlets throughout the state. Special thanks to IFA Board President John Swan and IFA Board of Director Mike Stoffa for making the special trip to Springfield to attend the event and visit with Statehouse offices afterward.

We plan to continue to make legislators and agency officials aware of the impact of this law in the hopes of getting it amended when the legislature comes back to session.

Pictured at right at press conference to urge legislators to amend new Safety Liability Law: IFA Board of Director Mike Stoffa, Springfield Fire Chief Ken Fustin, IFA President John Swan, Margaret Vaughn, Executive VP of the Grain and Feed Association Jeff Adkisson and Carroll Fire Protection District Treasurer Tom Hansberger.



FIRE SERVICE AVOIDS BUDGET CUTS

Though there were not enough votes to maintain the state income tax at its current rate come January, fortunately the Fire Service did not suffer any major budget cuts nor were there any raids from the Fire Prevention Fund. Cornerstone Funding also remained intact which is vital to IFA's membership. The income tax extension issue is not going away and will have to be addressed again during the fall veto session scheduled for November 19-21st and December 2-4th.

Below is an overview of the legislation on IFA's Watch list which passed both Chambers.

HB 3724 HIGH SCHOOL CPR/AED TRAINING Sponsored by Rep. Daniel J. Burke-Sen.

The Bulletin

John Mulroe - Requires CPR and AED to be taught to all high school students. This was a Fire Caucus bill that was spearheaded by George Laman whose daughter died after suffering a cardiac arrest at a high school event because nobody knew how to use the AED.

HB 4418 - FIRE DEPT-DISSOLUTION - Sponsored by Rep. Jay Hoffman-Sen. William Delgado - Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Prohibits a city or village that owns, operates, or maintains any fire department or departments from ceasing the operation and maintenance of that fire department or those fire departments unless the proposed cessation is first submitted to the voters by referendum. Further amends the Fire Protection District Act. Provides that where any city, village, or incorporated town is in fact owning, operating, and maintaining a fire department or fire departments located in whole or in part within or adjacent to the corporate limits of a fire protection district organized under this Act, such city, village, or incorporated town shall not cease operating and maintaining the fire department or fire departments unless such proposed cessation of services is first submitted by referendum to voters. Sets forth requirements and referendum language. Further provides that the rights of the employees of the dissolved fire department or departments provided by the Personnel Code, any applicable collective bargaining agreements, or under any pension, retirement, or annuity plan shall not be affected by this amendatory Act. Limits home rule powers. **SIGNED INTO LAW 6/25/14**

HB 4462 SERIOUS TRAFFIC VIOLATION FEE EXTENSION - Sponsored by Rep. Donald L. Moffitt- Sen. Martin A. Sandoval - Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Extends the \$35 additional fee for serious traffic violations to January 1 2020. \$15 goes to the Fire Prevention Fund, \$15 to the Fire Truck Revolving Loan Fund and \$5 to cover Circuit County Clerk Operations and Administrative Fund. This revenue source has been generating approximately one million dollars per year to help purchase new fire trucks, fire equipment, provide training for firefighters and fire safety training for the public. **SIGNED INTO LAW 6/23/14**

HB 4523 RURAL AMBULANCE SERVICE UPGRADE - Sponsored by Rep. Donald L. Moffitt-Sen. John M. Sullivan - Amends the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act. Provides that if the Department of Public Health approves a service upgrade for an ambulance service provider that serves a rural population of 7,500 or fewer inhabitants, then the ambulance service provider is authorized to operate at the highest level of EMT license as well OR Pre-Hospital RN certification held by any person staffing the ambulance. **SENT TO GOVERNOR 06/19/14**

HB 4616 SCHOOL INSPECTIONS - Sponsored by Rep. John D. Cavaletto-Sen. Andy Manar, - Amends the School Code. Allows a school board to use remaining funds on hand in the Fire Prevention and Safety Fund for required safety inspections. Effective immediately. **SENT TO GOVERNOR 06/27/14**

HB 4741 FIRE PROTECTION DIST-AGE REQUIREMENT - Sponsored by Rep. Donald L. Moffitt- Sen. Chapin Rose - Amends the Fire Protection District Act. Provides that an individual who turned 35 while serving as a member of the active or reserve components of any of the branches of the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard of any state, whose service was characterized as honorable or under honorable, and is currently under the age of 40 is eligible to take an examination for a position as a firefighter. Effective immediately. **SENT TO GOVERNOR 06/19/2014**

SPERIAN FIRE

Self-contained breathing apparatus sales and service
Nationwide Factory Authorized Warranty Service Center



*Serving the
Fire Industry
Since 1974*

EAGLEAIR.



Breathing air compressor systems and fill enclosures
Factory Authorized Warranty Service Center



Other Products Offered

- High-pressure booster pumps
- Breathing air cascade systems
- Individual storage cylinders
- Custom 6000 PSI hose
- Regulators
- Fill hoses
- Hundreds of fittings and adapters
- Check, shut-off and relief valves
- Gauges and much much more



Other Services Offered

- Hydro-testing cylinders
- Cylinder valve repairs
- On site quantitative SCBA facepiece fit testing for all Survivair®, all Scott® and MSA Millinium®

SCBAS INC.

Helping You Breathe a Little Easier

403 Peoria Street
Washington, IL 61571
800/747-7442 or 309/444-7442
309/444-3180 Fax • scbas@omnilec.com



Chaplain's Corner

Kevin Coffey - IFA Chaplain

A PRE-BRIEFING PRAYER

In the fire service we know that it is much better to pre-prepare ahead of time than to re-pair after things have gone wrong. Knowing that fires will happen, we train in very targeted ways to prepare ourselves to extinguish them. Knowing that auto accidents will happen, we train to prepare ourselves to extricate and remove victims. Knowing that smoke detectors save lives, we train public education teams to prepare the community by educating and promoting their installation and use. And so on it goes in every area of our fire service work – preparing for emergencies knowing that they are going to happen.

Well, there are other fire service experiences that we often neglect to prepare for, but they are just as inevitable as those mentioned above. For example... we know that we will see human suffering and death, and at times even children will be the victims – or our own neighbors and friends, that will leave us questioning how we ever got into this type of work. We know that we will tire of attending training and at times will develop a negative complaining attitude that hurts our fire department team. We know that sometimes we will find ourselves criticizing citizens whose emergency was the result of their own ignorance or lifestyle. We know that there will come times when we will be faced with the risk of personal harm and will have to make instantaneous choices that impact our own safety, or that of our fellow firefighters or civilians. We know that we will occasionally gather in an emergency room waiting for word from the doctors on the condition of our injured brother/sister firefighter. And, at times (may they always be more infrequent), we know that we will gather at the church for a line-of-duty-death funeral.

We also know that all the experiences mentioned above – and more – produce an accumulated stress on each of us that negatively impacts ourselves, our families, and our fire departments. We hear much these days about de-briefing and post-traumatic stress disorder, but I want to offer you a gift for pre-briefing that I'll call **pre-traumatic stress faith**. It's going to happen, we know that...so God has given a tremendous gift as a strength to be prepared – and that gift is our faith. In debriefing we talk to our fellow man, but in **pre-briefing** we talk to God. For post-traumatic stress disorder we get counseling, but in **pre-traumatic stress faith** we place our fire service experience in the context of faith in a God who is there. If you don't have your own, I offer you the following prayer as a tool for **pre-briefing**. Employ it often and feel free to share it with others:

O God, You have called us to the fire service for Your own redemptive purposes and Your presence is always with us.

You provide us with equipment and training to accomplish our mission.

You bless us with our fire service family to support us with a heartfelt bond of camaraderie.

You love the people that we are called to selflessly serve and so You send us to their aid in times of emergency need.

God, give us humble hearts and strong hands that we might reflect You in all that we say and do.

Grant us the faith to cast our accumulated stress upon You and the grace to ask for help when needed.

Give us courage and wisdom to both face risk and to act safely.

And if we are injured or even lose our lives in the line of duty, we must trust in Your perfect will and eternal love and pray that our brothers and sisters left behind will benefit by our sacrifice.

Amen.

Kevin Coffey, IFA Chaplain (815-457-2007, kc9526@yahoo.com)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Annual Meeting and Election held

Friday, October 17 at 9am Holiday Inn, Urbana, Illinois
in conjunction with the

Annual Down & Dirty Firefighting Training Weekend

Training held Friday, October 17 from 1 to 5 pm and
7:30 to 9 pm and Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm

Breakfast and Lunch provided both days.

Basket Auction Friday Night

Free Entertainment Saturday Night

Registration info and conference brochure available
online at www.illinoisfirefighters.org

D I D Y O U K N O W ?

The National Fallen Firefighters
Foundation's Firefighter
Life Safety Summit developed a
national program to reduce
firefighter line-of-duty deaths.



www.firehero.org

In 2004, the Summit developed 16 initiatives aimed at achieving a 25% reduction in firefighter fatalities over the next five years and a 50% reduction over the next 10 years, including:

Initiative 15: "Strengthen advocacy for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home fire sprinklers."

To find out more about the Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives and home fire sprinklers, please visit www.HomeLifeSafety.com.



NIFSAB
NORTHERN ILLINOIS FIRE SPRINKLER ADVISORY BOARD

FireSprinklerAssoc.org

Tom Lia, Executive Director
Phone: 708-403-4468
Email: sprinktoml@aol.com

©2014, Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board.
All rights reserved. A not-for-profit organization.



2014 Conference Classes

Hands-On Firefighting Classes

Down & Dirty Basic Firefighter - Limited to 50 students

Are you ready to get in there and fight the fire? This hands-on class is designed for the new firefighter and covers extensive fundamental firefighting skills necessary to function on a fire ground. Subjects include some, but not all, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), small tools, hose, ladders, fire stream management and basic fireground operations. Students from this class will participate in the live-burn exercise as members of a fire fighting crew.

Down & Dirty Basic Pump Operations - Limited to 40 students

This class covers the mechanical principles of pumps, operation of a pumping engine and hands-on pumping activity. Students practice computing the friction loss for a variety of evolutions and receive hands-on training in operating different types of pumpers with municipal and tender water supplies. This is a valuable class for those who have recently been promoted to driver/operator, or are seeking a better understanding of how a pump moves water from hydrants, tanks and static sources through the pump to extinguish the fire.

Myths and Realities - Limited to 30 students

The class returns this year by popular demand. Observe and experience first-hand fire behavior, proper stream application, plus the effects of straight and fog streams. Techniques for easily handling 2-1/2" hose and hand tools will be demonstrated. Note: this class may be taken in addition to Friday's classes at hotel.

Down & Dirty Rapid Intervention Team - Basics

Limited to 50 students

This Cornerstone version introduces students to the basics of Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) operations and tactical and strategic operations related to downed firefighters. Discussion covers firefighter case studies, RIT tools, staging, RASP, size up, accountability, equipment demonstrations, victim extrication/disentanglement, and managing the "Mayday." Preventive or proactive methods of avoiding situations where fire fighters are trapped are highlighted. Practical reactive techniques or mitigation of a downed responder are demonstrated and practiced as a part of this "hands on" class.

Equipment Requirements For All Hands-On Classes

All firefighters participating in the three hands-on classes and Friday night's Myths and Realities MUST have an SCBA (with current hydrostatic test date and a complete set of their own, properly fitting, protective clothing (as prescribed in NFPA 1971, 1972, 1973, and 1974).

Classroom Firefighting Classes

Chaplain's Workshop - Friday and Saturday at the hotel

A Chaplain at the scene of a fire can play a number of significant roles – from providing information to bewildered onlookers and family members through delivering comfort and guidance to fire victims. This 12-hour workshop focuses on what you can do at the scene.

- Psychological first aid
- Fireground communication and culture
- An introduction to Technical Rescue
- What the Chief expects of the Chaplain
- L.O.D.D. review and ICFC update
- Case Studies, if time is available

Getting to know OSFM and IDOL

This Saturday afternoon program will focus on the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) and how the agencies interact with fire departments throughout Illinois. The class takes a close look at current issues and recent developments in areas such as code enforcement; fireworks regulation; life safety code adoption efforts; minimum training standards and inspection practices of IDOL. Fire department programs offered by OSFM and IDOL will be highlighted. Kevin Schott of the OSFM and Cheryl Neff of IDOL will make the joint presentation.

New This Year:

Understanding Today's Dynamic Fireground

Firefighters responding to structure fires today are faced with many challenges – from building construction to operating with limited manpower. They are challenged by changes in fire behavior, but will gain much from the research that has gone into making the fireground safer for all. We will look at the testing that UL and NIST have conducted and its relation to fire attack, building construction, legacy and modern furnishing, along with what needs to be relayed for size up. This class is beneficial for all members of the fire service from the newest firefighter to the chief officer. This class will be held on Friday and Saturday from 1-5 pm at the hotel.

Traffic Incident Management & Responder Safety Workshop - Limited to 40 students

This six-hour hands-on training workshop is based on the National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management and provides an overview of the safety hazards at highway incidents. Topics include strategies and tactics designed to help save lives and prevent injuries of emergency response personnel. The class is taught by Brad Sprague, Deputy Chief of Operations for Minooka Fire Protection District and a Sergeant with Illinois State Police District 05. This class will be held on Saturday from 8am - 4pm at the hotel.

**Get a free registration for every three
from the same organization**

**Testing for Firefighter Certification will take
place on Thursday and Friday nights**

The Bulletin
Registration Form
IFA Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend
October 17-19, 2014

Step 1

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
(Please print clearly or type)

Driver's License No. _____

State of issue _____

Social Security No. --

SID # (FEMA Student ID) _____
(required for NFA class)

Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ Sex: Male _____ Female _____

First Name _____ MI _____

Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home/Eve Phone (_____) _____

Day/Work Phone (_____) _____

Student e-mail address _____

Name of your local library _____

Dept./Organization _____

Dept. Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Dept. Phone # _____

Dept. e-mail address _____

Years of Service _____ Rank/Title _____

In case of emergency, notify: _____

Phone # _____

Step 2

REGISTRATION FEES

IFA members before October 3 \$ 50
Non-IFA members before October 3 \$ 75
Received after October 3 and at door \$100
Non-IFA members after October 3 \$125
Get a free registration for every three from the same organization.

Signature Required

All registration forms **must** be signed **on the back side** ► by chief, training officer, or department head, regardless of who is paying the registration.

Step 3

CHOOSE YOUR CLASS

FRIDAY/SATURDAY CLASSES

Please rank your preference for these two days of training from 1 to 3, with number 1 being your first preference. If you choose a Down & Dirty class, you must participate in all portions and have your gear with you. (Maximum number of students per class)

HANDS-ON FRIDAY/SATURDAY CLASSES

___ Basic Firefighter (50)
___ Basic Pump Operations (40)
___ Rapid Intervention Team - Basics (50)

FRIDAY EVENING CLASS AT IFSI

___ Myths and Realities (30) Note: class can be in addition to Friday class

HOTEL CLASSES

___ Chaplain's 2-day Workshop (Fri 1-5/Sat 8-5)
___ Getting to Know OSFM/IDOL (Saturday 1-5)
___ Understanding Today's Fireground (Friday 1-5)
___ Traffic Incident Management & Responder Safety Workshop (Saturday 8-4)
___ Understanding Today's Fireground (Sat. 1-5)

ALL HANDS-ON CLASSES HAVE LIMITED ENROLLMENT, PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE OCTOBER 3

For more information, contact:
Joe Mandarino, Conference Director
24403 Arrowhead Drive
Manhattan IL 60442
708-935-2893 corky2700@aol.com

Mail registration form with registration fee to:

Illinois Firefighter's Association
c/o Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77, Glen Carbon IL 62034 618/882-4783

Make checks payable to Illinois Firefighter's Association
Call treasurer to charge your registration on credit card.

You must be 18 years old or older and sign the form on the back side ► of this page to participate in hands-on training.

Acknowledgement of Risks and Release of Responsibility

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, through its Illinois Fire Service Institute, attempts to conduct its training programs in a safe and efficient manner. However, it is not possible to eliminate all of the potential hazards to a student's safety. Before any student participates in an Institute training program involving the teaching of emergency response skills, he/she should be familiar with the level of physical stress and other hazards involved. Please read the following explanations of the physical and mental requirements of this course and sign the form to acknowledge that you have read and understand the information. Students who cannot comply with these requirements will not be allowed to participate in parts of the training involving physical exertion, or the use of protective equipment. They may attend lectures and observe evolutions from a safe distance.

I acknowledge:

1. Practical skills training of all disciplines can be a physically and mentally stressful activity, requiring physical exertion; exposure to high temperature and humidity levels; toxic atmospheres; working at heights and in confined spaces; the possibility of elevated body temperatures, increased pulse, respiration, and blood pressures; and the ability to react quickly to emergency situations.
2. Persons with known heart or lung disease, hypertension, who are pregnant (Note: spontaneous abortion will occur with pregnant females when core temperature elevates), or have other medical or mental conditions which may affect their health and safety under these conditions, are advised to check with their personal, or fire department, physician before participating in the activity. The ability to meet the Illinois Department of Labor Respirator Wearers physical evaluation is the responsibility of the sponsoring department/agency and is a requirement for any course requiring the use of a self-contained breathing apparatus.
3. Protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus meeting the appropriate NFPA standards, at the time of manufacture, must be worn during most practical exercises and live fire training as directed by the instructor in charge. Protective equipment must be in serviceable condition.
4. Individuals with facial hair, jewelry, or other impediment to the proper seal of the face-piece on self-contained breathing apparatus will not be allowed to participate in evolutions where the atmosphere is toxic or may become so.
5. The use of alcohol, and other drugs, which affect mental or physical reactions, immediately preceding, or during training, is prohibited.
6. I am 18 years of age, or older, and an active member of a public or private fire department, public sector agency or authorized private corporation pre-approved by the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI).
7. For purposes of promoting the IFSI, I agree to allow IFSI unlimited use of my image, with no compensation.
8. By the signature of the Chief/Training Officer, the department acknowledges extension of its Worker's Compensation coverage to the student. In the event of injury during training, the student is responsible for notifying his or her department to initiate the process. IFSI does not provide insurance coverage for students. Any and all injuries, no matter how minor, will be reported to the IFSI staff who will have the final say in selecting the treatment disposition for the student. This may range from on-site treatment to ambulance transportation to a local emergency department or occupational medicine agency. If a student or department does not accept these terms, or refuses to comply with IFSI's treatment decision and disposition, the student will be dropped from the remainder of the class (or program) and will not be eligible for any refund.
9. IFSI will not sell nor distribute your email to any outside agency, except to Parkland College, as outlined in number 12, below. IFSI will, from time to time, provide you with organization updates, newsletters, surveys and the like. Providing your email address will serve as your approval for these periodic distributions.
10. **In order for the students, or their agency, to avoid being billed for the usual course fees, notifications of withdrawal must be made no later than 30 calendar days prior to the start of the course. This notification must be in writing. Failure to notify the Institute, as noted above, will result in you or your department being billed, regardless.**
11. No unauthorized cameras are allowed at IFSI training or IFSI sponsored training events. The unauthorized use of cameras may lead to confiscation of the camera.
12. IFSI has partnered with Parkland College to provide Vocational Skills and/or Academic Credit for courses attended, where applicable. Formal enrollment information and transcript information will be available for courses delivered by IFSI after July 1, 2010, at the Parkland web site: www.parkland.edu.

Chief/Training Officer Signature: _____
Title & Signature Printed Name

Participant's Signature: _____
Title & Signature Printed Name

Date: _____

*Use of Student Social Security numbers: Furnishing a Social Security number (SSN) is voluntary and not required for enrollment. However, the University of Illinois is required by federal law to report to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) the name, address and SSN for persons from whom class fees and related expenses are received. Federal law also requires the University to obtain and report to the IRS the SSN for any person to whom compensation is paid. Failure to provide such information may delay or even prevent your enrollment. The University will not disclose a SSN for any purpose not required by law without the consent of the student. 1



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 77, Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034 (618) 882-4783

Registration Form – 2014 Annual Conference *Firefighter Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend*

October 17-19, 2014

**Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center
1001 Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801-1036
217-328-7900**

Name _____

Department _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

County _____

Check one ☐ Guest ☐ Delegate (Please complete delegate credentials form)

Conference fees (if received before 5 pm October 3, 2014)

IFA Member \$ 50

Non-IFA Member \$ 75

Conference registration fees (if received after 5 pm October 3, 2014 and at the door)

IFA Member \$ 100

Non-IFA Member \$ 125

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Early registration must be received by 5 pm October 3, 2014

NOTE: GET A FREE REGISTRATION

FOR EVERY THREE REGISTRATIONS FROM THE SAME ORGANIZATION

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION FORM

Registration can be paid by credit card - Credit Card # _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration Date _____

Authorization signature _____ CVV _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Mail completed form with your payment to:

Illinois Firefighter's Association
Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77
Glen Carbon IL 62034
Phone/Fax 618-882-4783

Questions about the conference, contact:

Joe Mandarino, Conference Director
24403 Arrowhead Drive
Manhattan IL 60442
708-935-2893
Email: corky2700@aol.com

Hotel reservations may be made by contacting: Holiday Inn and Conference Center, 217-328-7900. Be sure to mention Illinois Firefighter's Association when making reservations. Rooms have been reserved for \$70 single or double per night (plus 5% city and 6% state hotel taxes).

For Americans with Disabilities: If you plan to attend the IFA Conference and need an accommodation, please contact Joe Mandarino at 708-935-2893 by October 3, 2014.



Tri-State Emergency Responder Conference



October 17-18, 2014
Grand River Center
Dubuque, Iowa
www.nicc.edu/fireems



Fire Speakers



John
Norman



Forest Reeder



Mary Otting



Debra
Von Seggern



Jamie
Temple

EMS Speakers

REGISTER AND LEARN MORE AT www.nicc.edu/fireems



Friday, Oct. 17, 2014

- **Fire Track** (John Norman) or **EMS Track** (Mary Otting and Jamie Temple)
- National, local and regional vendors
- Network with fire and EMS colleagues from IA, IL, WI and MN
- Concert: Swing Crew
Mississippi Moon Bar-Diamond Jo Casino

Saturday, Oct. 18, 2014

- **Fire Track** (Forest Reeder) or **EMS Track** (Debra Von Seggern and Jamie Temple)
- National, local and regional vendors
- Network with fire and EMS colleagues from IA, IL, WI and MN
- Concert: Autograph
Mississippi Moon Bar-Diamond Jo Casino

"The subject areas covered in the conference have all been beneficial to our operations, especially when delivered by such experienced and well-known instructors."

Michael Fredericks, Training Chief
Cedar Rapids Fire Department



Conference Fee:

Before Sept. 1: \$79/one day or \$138/two days
On or after Sept. 1: \$99/one day or \$178/two days

- ☒ NATIONAL SPEAKERS
- ☒ ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDED
- ☒ SNACKS AND MEALS INCLUDED
- ☒ FREE ACCESS TO VENDOR EXHIBIT HALL
- ☒ NO HIDDEN CHARGES

**Earn continuing education hours in
Fire or EMS by attending.**

Earn more CEHs with FREE Pre-Conference Course on Thurs., Oct. 16: Intro to Firefighter Rehabilitation



Troy Fire Protection District (Troy, Illinois)

The foundations of the Troy Fire Protection District date back to the late 1800's when members of the community got together and formed a fire brigade after a devastating fire destroyed the business district along with residential homes in downtown Troy. In 1905 Troy purchased its first engine for approximately \$600, a 60 gallon Obenchain & Boyer chemical engine that gave the department 10 to 12 minutes of continuous firefighting capability. The first motorized vehicle was an American LaFrance 25 gallon chemical tank costing \$6766 obtained in 1920. After many changes, going from a Department to a District and back again - and along with being relocated a number of times – finally, in May of 1957, a permanent home at its current location was found and the Troy Fire Protection District was formed. From that day to the present the Department has



been fully staffed by volunteers and has grown to cover over 63 square miles composed of rural, commercial, industrial and residential areas, as well as coverage of three Interstate highways. Today the district operates out of a centrally located station with 5 double bays which has recently been renovated to accommodate a paid ALS service which in the past had been contracted by the district. This new endeavor came online March of 2014 providing the community with a state-of-the-art EMS service.

The Troy Fire Protection District runs out of one station with 3 engines, 2 ALS ambulances, 1 100 ft. aerial platform, 1 heavy rescue squad, 1 brush truck, 1 tender, 1 utility pickup and a 1929 REO Speedwagon. The District covers 63 square miles and a population of 14,000. It runs an average of 265 fire calls annually and has an operating budget of \$1,000,000. Along with fire suppression and EMS, the District provides auto extrication and trench rescue services. There is an average of 24 hours of training available to members each month. Each member is required to complete his or her Firefighter II certification by their third year. The Troy Fire Protection District maintains a live burn building for training purposes which it makes available to surrounding departments and it consistently trains with its surrounding MABAS 35 partners so that each may provide the quality service their respective communities deserve. Personnel include: Chief Rick McCurdy, Assistant Chiefs Rob Hancock and Kevin Manso, and EMS Director Darrin Hartman; Captains Greg Becherer, Ed Smith, Chad Evans, Mike Lienfelser, and Darren Davis; Recruitment Officers James Daniels and Dawn Elliott; along with 26 additional firefighters. There are also 25 paid part-time EMS staff. Five trustees include Bud Klaustermeier, William Brown, Carl Strom, Phil Hogue, and Terry Taake. In 2014 the Troy Fire Protection District welcomed Dawn Elliott, the first female firefighter in the history of the department. The Troy Fire Protection District consistently promotes and pursues its core values of courage, integrity, and honor in its service to the community of Troy, Illinois and beyond.





Sheriff, Police & Fire
Departments

RECEIVE **\$50** CO-PAY
CREDIT

It all starts with a *simple* blood test

It *only* takes 45 minutes

Most insurance accepted

Burr Ridge

11S250 Jackson St., Suite 102
Burr Ridge, IL 60527
(630) 581-5171

Schaumburg

1033 E. Woodfield Rd.
Schaumburg, IL 60173
(224) 653-9736

Glenview

2601 Compass Rd, Suite 140
Glenview, IL 60026
(847) 730-3342

Warrenville

28369 Davis Pkwy, Suite 402
Warrenville, IL 60555
(630) 791-9391

www.LowTCenter.com



Illinois Fire Service Institute Updates

Jim Keiken, Deputy Director



Mark Your 2014 Training Calendar

- Fall Fire Academy begins September 8th 2014
- Fire Prevention Principles September 8 -12 – Carol Stream
- Fire and Arson Investigation I begins September 16th 2014 – Orland Park
- Fire Instructor I September 22 – 26, 2014 IFSI and Carol Stream
- Fire Instructor II October 6 - 10, 2014 Carol Stream
- Fire Service Women of Illinois Training Weekend November 8 - 9, 2014

For more information on upcoming classes visit our web site @ <http://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>

As professional firefighters (both Volunteer and Paid), we are responsible for our knowledge and mastery of skills. What have you done to commit yourself to achieving the mastery of skills and knowledge to keep yourself safe, to provide quality service to your community and to assure you come home after every call to your family? Gordon Graham talks about “High Risk/Low Frequency” events and the danger of not being ready for what you are called to deal with in the dynamic and dangerous environment we work in. Don’t kid yourself the fire service is always a dangerous environment, we can’t completely change this. We can reduce the risk we face by solid fundamental knowledge and mastery of basic skills that may be needed to solve the problems we are faced with.

IFSI provided both Certification programs and continuing education program across the state to assist you and your department in reducing the risk we face. When was the last time you attend a class? In the fire service we tend to get complacent, we did that last year (or three years ago), why should I review/practice that again, “I got it”? The fact of the matter is we need to review, refresh and practice our trade all the time to achieve mastery of knowledge and skills.

The Cornerstone program provided no cost training to firefighters at local fire department. These foundation programs can be used to augment ongoing department training. To bring in outside expert instructors to reinforce previously delivered information or to provided expertise in areas needing development within your department. The Cornerstone program is an ideal method to review and train on those High Risk/Low Frequency skills or information to develop yourself and your department, combined with the other IFSI programs available at the Illinois Fire Service Institute and throughout the state are the prefect method to improve and develop yourself and department. There is no reason not to commit yourself to achieving the mastery of skills and knowledge that are needed to be the best you can be, it time to “Step Up Your Game”

June Instructor of the Month

Mark Clapp, June’s Instructor of the Month, has worked with IFSI since 1993. He has taught more than 600 classes since 1996 and coordinated an additional 902 classes since 1997. Mark was IFSI’s first facilitator for HazMat classes and now serves at the institute’s Program Manager for LP, Oil and Gas Programs. He is a regular instructor for Fire College, Firefighter II Academy and Explorer-Cadet Hands-on Training weekend.

Clapp began his fire service career in 1985 as an Explorer with the Champaign Explorer Post and as a volunteer on the Bondville Fire Department. He served on the Danville Fire Department from 1990 until 1992 when he joined the Urbana Fire Department. Currently, Mark holds the rank of Lieutenant on that department.



Illinois Fire Service Institute Regional Representatives:

Northeast Region:	Randy Schlichter,	847-343-4039
Northwest Region:	Ray Palczynski,	563-468-8385
Chicago Metro Area:	Richard Stack,	773-988-0259
East Central Region:	Tim Meister,	217-202-4760
Central Region:	Jim Vaughn,	309-275-2499
Southwest Region:	John Nichols,	618-973-2059
South Region:	Tim Bragg,	217-962-1597



Thank you from Scholarship Recipient

Sir,

I just wanted to thank you and the Illinois Firefighter's Association for the scholarship that I was awarded last year. I have won thousands of dollars toward my education from this great organization and I felt it appropriate to send this as proof that your money was not in vain!

I graduated from SIUC, with honors, with my Bachelor's in Fire Service Management.

Again, thank you all for everything and I look forward to making the trip to Champaign for this year's conference!

Matt Preston

State Testing Site Available at 2014 Conference

We are having a state testing site at the 2014 conference. Testing will be available on Thursday and Friday night. Testing time will be in the brochure.



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 77, Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034 (618) 882-4783

OFFICIAL FIRE DEPARTMENT CREDENTIALS 2014

To the Officers and Members of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

This certifies that _____ and _____ are

Members of the _____ FIRE DEPARTMENT in good standing and that they were duly elected as delegates to represent the above department at the 2014 Annual Conference of said Association in Urbana, Illinois.

Dated this _____ day of _____ A.D. 2014

Secretary (signature)

Fire Chief (signature)

124th Annual Conference Firefighter Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend

October 17-19, 2014

**Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center
1001 Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801-1036
217-328-7900**

Mail completed form to:

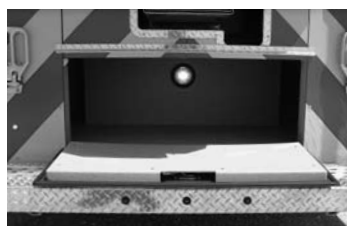
Illinois Firefighter's Association
Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77
Glen Carbon IL 62034



SPEC IT OUT.



SIDE CONTROL PUMPER #2215
ST. ELMO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
ST. ELMO, ILLINOIS
DOWNLOAD SPEC SHEET WITH CAD DRAWINGS
► ALEXISFIRE.COM



At Alexis Fire Equipment, each and every fire apparatus that rolls out of our facility is uniquely designed and built for each department with our mission in mind: build better quality fire apparatus than the competition. And we've delivered on that promise since 1947. It's about putting you in the driver's seat and being part of the experience, the process and the design of your fire truck. Incredible personal service you won't find anywhere else, exceptional quality, and the bragging rights to say it's not only yours, but you designed it. ***DEMAND TO BE DIFFERENT.***



BEFORE



AFTER

ALEXIS REFURBISHMENT SERVICE

Contact Doug at 1-800-322-2284 or e-mail doug@alexisfire.com to learn more.


since 1947

ALEXISFIRE.COM | 1 800 322 2284 |



[FB.COM/ALEXISFIREEQUIPMENT](https://www.facebook.com/ALEXISFIREEQUIPMENT)



Illinois Firefighter's Association Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 77 Glen Carbon, IL 62034

2014 Scholarships

Regional Firefighter Association*: 1 - \$2000 Reverend Weidlich Memorial Scholarship

*Must be an IFA member association

INDIVIDUAL –

DECLARED FIRE DEGREE

1 - \$2,000 Marvin Behrhorst Memorial Scholarship

1 - \$1,000 Clifford Lee Memorial Scholarship

1 - \$1,000 Robert Rogers Scholarship

Fire Department: \$1,000
\$1,000
\$1,000
\$1,000
\$1,000

Individual: \$500
\$500
\$500
\$500
\$500

IFA Scholarship Selection Process

1. Scholarship Applications will be reviewed at the conference by the scholarship committee
2. Scholarship applications must clearly define the **Scholarship being applied for from the selection above and indicated in the box below**. Departments may apply for 1 (one) Scholarship only. Individuals may apply for 1 (one) Scholarship only.
3. Individual Declared Degree Scholarships to be awarded to individual firefighters that have declared their studies in Fire Service degree studies only. **Bachelors to Masters Degree.**

2014 Scholarship Application

CHECK ONE: ☐ Regional Firefighter's Association ☐ Fire Degree ☐ Fire Department ☐ Individual

Name of Organization: _____

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Scholarship Category

(Please mark all applicable categories.)

Education ____ Training ____ Degree ____

Applicant shall follow the rules of the Scholarship Program set by the Illinois Firefighter's Association Foundation, Inc.

1. Eligible applicants include **regional firefighter associations** (must be IFA member associations), fire departments, or active members of a fire department in good standing with the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

The Bulletin

2. Applications are available in *The Bulletin*, on our website www.illinoisfirefighters.org, or by contacting the Secretary Treasurer by email at editor@illinoisfirefighters.org
3. All scholarships are awarded for fire service related programs and shall be used only for the purposes indicated by the applicant on this application.
4. Regional organizations may only submit one application per organization; departmental organizations may only submit one application per department; individual applicants may submit one application per active firefighter *as further detailed in paragraph number 1 above*.
5. Original application must be submitted on this Foundation form (or copy) and must be fully completed, and POSTMARKED no later than September 15, 2014. ***(Email or fax applications will not be accepted.)*** *(Additional information may be provided on additional sheets attached to this form)*
6. Secretary/Treasurer and Credentials/Scholarship Committee will verify that the applicant is a member in good standing (all current annual dues paid on time), that the application is fully and legibly completed, and complies with scholarship award guidelines.
7. Qualified applications will be announced during the Annual Conference General Membership Meeting.
8. PAID Invoice/receipts for scholarships awarded must be submitted to the IFA Foundation Treasurer for payment. ***(you must pay for all classes before scholarship money is provided)***
9. All Scholarships awarded will expire one year from award date.

Briefly describe your personal career in the fire service, departmental history or regional firefighter association history.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Title of education or classes requested: _____.
2. Number of anticipated persons attending: _____.
3. Anticipated starting and end dates: _____.
4. Describe certification or college course and credit hours attained after completion of course:

_____.
5. Name of College or Certifying agency providing classes _____
6. Anticipated cost: _____.

Print Name of Applicant: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Print Name of Fire Chief or Assoc. President: _____ Phone #: _____

Signature of Fire Chief or Association President: _____ Date: _____

IFA2014



Always ready.

You never know when the call will come in - you just know that you need to be ready when it does. As the largest provider of insurance to over 15,000 emergency service organizations throughout the United States and Canada, we look at it the same way. We're ready to help when the need arises.

- Insurance
- Benefits
- Education and Training



VFIS/Midwest
Ideal Insurance Agency
100 W. 22nd St., Suite 101
Lombard, IL 60148
(800) 422-1431 • (630) 889-3512
www.idealinsil.com

Our promise:

To be responsive to our nation's first responders.

That's why we've partnered with The Illinois Firefighters' Association to provide access to **auto and home insurance** designed exclusively for you and your fellow firefighters.

For 100 years, California Casualty has delivered trusted, personalized insurance.

Because at California Casualty, it's our policy to do more for the people who give more, starting with you.

Exclusive Discounts

Fallen Hero Benefit

Turnout Gear Reimbursement*



For a free, no-obligation quote,
call 866-680-5137
or visit www.CalCas.com/IFA



CA Lic#0041343 *Coverages described are subject to availability and eligibility. ©2013 California Casualty



Supporting Those Who Serve

Fire Prevention Week is Approaching – Enhance Your Efforts with Fire Corps By the National Volunteer Fire Council

Fire Prevention Week is coming up on October 5-11, and fire departments around the country will be conducting activities and outreach to spread important fire prevention and safety messages in their community. Fire Corps can assist with these efforts and help the department keep fire prevention programs going all year long.

Administered by the National Volunteer Fire Council, Fire Corps is a national program that is implemented at the local level. Departments bring in community members to help with non-emergency tasks, such as fire prevention and safety education. This helps expand what the department can offer while allowing the first responders to focus their attention on training and response activities.

There are currently over 1,500 Fire Corps programs in 49 states. Starting a new Fire Corps program is easy – simply go to www.firecorps.org and register for free. This will give you access to a myriad of resources to help you start, implement, expand, and recruit for your local program. A series of online training modules is also available through the Fire Corps Academy; view courses and descriptions at www.firecorps.org/academy.

The theme of the 2014 Fire Prevention Week is “Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month.” Activities Fire Corps can specifically assist with regarding fire prevention education and smoke alarm safety include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Coordinate an open house at the department
- Conduct fire prevention education programming in schools, at senior centers, and among other high risk populations
- Staff an information booth at local events or fairs
- Perform home safety checks and smoke alarm installations in the community
- Maintain department web sites and social media to disseminate information
- Answer non-emergency phone calls to the department
- Help with disaster preparedness efforts

To assist local Fire Corps teams with these efforts, the national Fire Corps program offers many resources, including:

- Fire Corps Academy courses such as FC-303: Fire Corps in Public Education and FC-304: Conducting Home Safety Checks
- Fire Corps Guide to Fire and Life Safety Education
- Home Safety Checklist
- First Alert Smoke Alarm Donation Program, in which registered Fire Corps programs can request free First Alert smoke alarms to install in their community
- Customizable outreach materials promoting a smoke alarm check/installation program
- Fire prevention tips sheets

Find all of these resources and more on the Fire Corps web site at www.firecorps.org. Learn more about Fire Prevention Week at www.fpw.org.

Divorce Fire Service Style:

Gardner Fire Protection District v. Gardner Volunteer Fire Department

by Brian J. O'Connor

Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd.

Divorce is not a happy event. A recent ruling by the Third Appellate District in *Gardner Fire Protection District v. Gardner Volunteer Fire Department*, 2014 IL App (3rd) 120916-U, provides insights on pitfalls to be avoided to ensure continued harmonious relations between fire districts, fire departments and firefighters. While the court ruling is of limited use for legal purposes, as it is an unpublished court decision, it nonetheless can be very beneficial if its lessons and insights can help maintain positive working relationships within the fire service.

Background

The Gardner Fire Protection District ("District") was formed in 1967 and was and is a unit of government organized under Illinois law including the Fire Protection District Act (70 ILCS 705/0.01 *et seq.*). The Gardner Volunteer Fire Department ("Department") predated the District, being first formed in 1958 as a volunteer fire department organized and registered with the Illinois Secretary of State as a Not For Profit Corporation.

In 1997, the District and the Department entered into a contract requiring the Department to provide fire protection and emergency ambulance services in the District. The District agreed to pay the Department tax revenues and TIF funds for services rendered to the District. In 2002 the parties executed an addendum to the contract clarifying the Department's intent to be and remain a not for profit volunteer fire department serving the community, and detailing a contract termination process.

Things began to go bad in 2010. The District proposed a second contract addendum imposing additional obligations on the Department, including submission of an annual list of scheduled regular payments for District approval, as well as monthly requested operational expenditures, transferring Department accounts to the District, and agreeing not to incur financial obligations without District approval. The Department rejected the District's proposal. When the Department did not receive District payments under the contract, the Department sued, getting a court order requiring the District to pay the Department TIF funds but not property tax revenues.

In 2011, the District notified the Department of its intent to terminate the contract. The Department sued, seeking a court determination that the contract was still in effect. Before the effective termination date or entry of a court order in the matter, the District adopted a resolution alleging misappropriation of funds by the Department, and citing several specific instances supporting the District's allegations and contract termination decision. The District and Department met but failed to resolve their differences. The District countersued later in 2011, and amended its claims in 2012, seeking a court determination, among other claims, that the contract had been properly terminated. The Department filed an amended claim the following day seeking, among other claims, that the District had improperly terminated the contract.

In late 2012, the trial court determined that the District had validly terminated the contract. The Department appealed in early 2013. The appellate court affirmed the decisions of the circuit court in its ruling issued in February 2014.

The Bulletin
Major Issues of Note

Contract termination. The 2002 contract addendum provided that either party could terminate the contract without cause after providing a six-month written notice to the other party. The District's initial notice of termination without cause provided in May 2011 and effective November 2011 seemingly complied with that provision. But in October 2011, the District terminated the contract for cause based on allegations in its resolutions citing to fraud and misappropriation of funds. The appellate court determined the District was within its rights to terminate the contract.

Department assets. The 2002 contract addendum included language in the termination provision that if the contract was terminated without cause, then the Department would retain ownership of Department assets. If the contract was terminated for cause then the Department's assets were to be transferred to the District. The court, having determined the contract was properly terminated for cause, affirmed the passing of the Department's assets to the District by the express terms of the contract.

Lessons Learned

Parties to a contract, including service contracts between a fire district and a volunteer fire department such as those in *Gardner*, need to pay close attention to the language of and in the contracts. Parties entering into a service contract, both as the receiver of services as well as the provider of services, should have the contract reviewed by legal counsel. Contracts, like the one in *Gardner*, are potentially fraught with peril when improperly prepared or incomplete. Issues like pay and compensation tend to take center stage in negotiations, but less glamorous matters such as termination provisions may prove fatal to a party, as was the situation in *Gardner*. In addition to the issues of compensation and termination, attorneys regularly scrutinize public service contracts for issues such as indemnification and notice provisions. Fire service professionals, regardless of whether representing districts, departments or associations, need to be attuned to these same issues as well as the need to consult with legal counsel.

Parties to a contract need to acknowledge reasonable requests for information from the other party. For example, in *Gardner*, the court noted the Department's refusal to provide the District with a statement from credit card charges amounting to slightly over \$47,000 in spite of repeated District requests. And, certainly as the court noted, when a contract calls for one party to provide certain reports or documents to the other party, such as detailed budgets or audited financial statements, the party required to provide the documents needs to comply with the terms of the contract.

Fire service representatives negotiating a contract need to prepare and propose language carefully and correctly in the first place in order to avoid the unhappiness of a *Gardner*-style divorce.

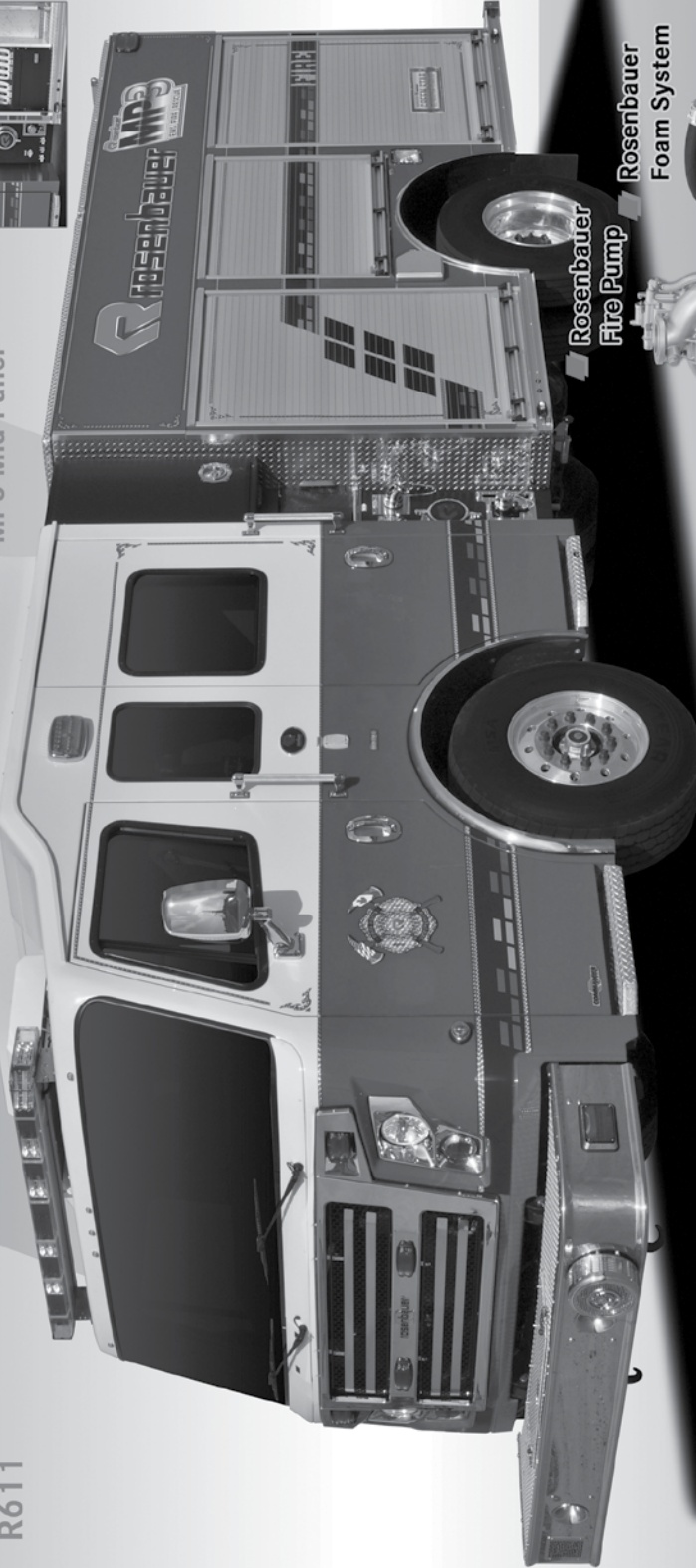
Brian O'Connor has been an attorney with Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd. since 2004. Mr. O'Connor works closely with Bob Britz, who is the current general counsel for the IFA. Mr. O'Connor has presented at various fire service events such as Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts and the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts conferences and training sessions, as well as to a variety of local fire service related organizations. Additionally, he has authored many articles for various fire service publications and organizations. Mr. O'Connor can be contacted by email at boconnor@ottosenbritz.com.

Rosenbauer, Your True Single Source Innovator



**Rosenbauer
Commander Chassis
R611**

**Rosenbauer
Aluminum Body
MP3 Mid-Panel**



■ Top-Panel



■ Rear-Panel



■ Mid-Panel

**Rosenbauer
Fire Pump
Rosenbauer
Foam System**



Visit Us Online: rosenbaueramerica.com | Question Our Apparatus Experts: 605-543-5599



SENTINEL EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS - WWW.SENTINELES.COM - 800-851-1928



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

PO Box 77
Glen Carbon IL 62034

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #426
Highland IL



FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

FERRARA

Why wait a year for your new Fire Truck?

You don't have to!

*Call us today to see how you can
customize your new apparatus, your way!*

Delivered to you in 60 to 90 Days!

*Heavy Duty Extruded Aluminum Pumpers,
Aerials, Aerial Platforms and Rescues*



Hickory Point FPD - Forsyth, Illinois



FERRARA

www.ferrarafire.com www.aecfire.com www.ferrarafire.com www.aecfire.com

3/16" thick marine grade aluminum cab, tested to ECE-29 standard
4200 square inch windshield for outstanding visibility
Six-place cab headlamp/warning light bezels
Large polished cast aluminum grill



EMBER



1-800-422-2144

www.aecfire.com

3003 Stanton Ave.

Springfield, Illinois

1-800-422-2144 IL & MO

217-529-3233 Fax