

The **Bulletin**



Publication of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

Volume 71, Number 3

May-June 2017

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

Representative Swanson Attends Blackhawk Firefighters Association Fire School



Illinois State Representative Swanson attended the Blackhawk Firefighters Association Fire School, the location was Lawrence Brothers Industrial Site that was used to train 150 firefighters on RIT, Coordinated Fire Attack, Truck and Engine Companies. In addition, a 1st Rung training program was put on for cadets, recruits and new firefighters at the same location.

IFA was a sponsor for the event via an annual grant.

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The Bulletin

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Table of Contents

Chaplain's Corner.....	8
Conference Class Registration..	11
Conference Classes	10
Conference Registration	13
Credentials.....	14
Hospitality Room Chairman	21
Legal Issues - Can Volunteers Sue for Wrongful Termination.....	19
Legislative Update	4
President's Message	3
State Fair Workers Needed	18
Terri Hopper Retirement	15
Tool Sweepstakes	16

Index of Advertisers

AEC	24
Alexis.....	6
California Casualty	18
California Casualty Conference Giveaway	9
Charity Fundraiser	22
Conference Sponsors.....	23
Continental Western Group ...	17
NIFSAB	7
SCBAS.....	5
VFIS.....	22

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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,

We are off and running full speed with this year's agenda. By the time you receive this issue, Fire College will be over and many of you may have attended. If not, you should try to make it next year. As you may know our Fire College is the oldest and longest running Fire College in the nation. No where are you going to get this caliber of training as you would at your State Fire Academy. We need to be very proud of the accessibility of training available to all firefighters in this state. Most of the time, it is the time that hinders your attendance for these training events. I have passed the word along to our state leaders in the Fire Service and legislators that time restraints is one of the biggest issues. The other issue is the cost for travel, hotel, meals and

tuition that adds up to a great deal of expense for each firefighter. Many fire departments can not afford to send their firefighters to Fire College because of those restraints. It is my hope that we are going to be able to address some of these issues over the next year. Until then, you still have one of the best means in receiving this type of training through your Cornerstone and On-line Training Programs. Our State Fire College is a leader in this nation that will deliver training to you door, all you have to do is ask and provide the firefighters to attend.

With all the trouble were having with our State's budget, the Fire Service has been funded until the 1st of July. I will be going to the Fire Marshal's Advisory Board meeting next week. I hope to hear good news that we are funded again for another year. It would also be nice to hear that the programs have been appropriated for all the small equipment, fire truck/ambulance and fire house grants. Our legislative initiatives are going well. Margaret has been working hard in our behalf to follow the process along. It is our hope that the Tire Bill and our Fire Protection Bill gets passed this session. The Governor will still need to sign them before they would go into effect. We have a bright future and we must continue to gain as much recognition as we can to make things happen. Emergency services has been high priority, but our funding has had some issues. Marketing ourselves at a local, state and federal level will keep our citizens and representatives aware of our needs. It shouldn't be from a major event that takes place that costs us all dearly. If we are going to continue providing our service that will protect us and our citizens, we must be more pro-active.

Looking at ourselves, we have not been very vigilant about ourselves in the past. When I started forty years ago, they called us smoke eaters. We fought fires without the proper protection and smoke a cigarette after we put the fire out. Not too many of those firefighters are around any longer. Mostly because they have passed on and many of them died from heart disease and cancer. It just wasn't recognized back then, what it was doing to our body. We now know most of the implications that go along with not wearing the proper PPE. We also know, we are not doing enough to protect ourselves. Are we decontaminating ourselves after a fire? Are we washing and cleaning our gear? Are we following a annual health screening program? There is a whole list of things we should be doing to protect ourselves and our families that haven't been done in the past.

Cancer and heart disease is at the forefront in recent years and it should be. Let's take the next step and protect ourselves and our families properly. The National Volunteer Fire Council has been doing a survey on Cancer in the Fire Service and now has been working with Congress on the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act (H.R. 931/S. 382). Hopefully, this will document the findings we already know and get the action we need to benefit us all. Remember the sixteen life safety initiatives, we all want to come home after the call!

In closing, again "Train Smart, Be Safe"

God Bless

John Swan President IFA



Legislative update

By Margaret Vaughn, IFA Legislative Lobbyist

At press time there is still no budget but for the first time in months the four legislative leaders and Governor are all on speaking terms and have actually had some face to face meetings. Stay tuned...

Our three main priority bills have been moving along well:

HB 773 DISCOUNTED TIRE PURCHASE BILL

HB 771, which would will allow volunteer firefighters to purchase tires at the state discounted purchasing rate, passed the House unanimously on February 23rd and 17 additional state representatives became co-sponsors. The measure is being sponsored by Rep. Terri Bryant and Sen. Paul Schimpf, both of Murphysboro. The bill passed the Senate Local Government Committee and now will go before the full Senate for a final vote.

HB 2778 - FIRE PROTECTION IN UNPROTECTED AREAS

Rep. Kathleen Willis (D-Addison) sponsored legislation for IFA in the form of HB 2778 to address the problem of areas of the state which have been assigned coverage by 911 system but are not on the tax roll of either a fire protection district or municipal department. The legislation would give fire protection districts the ability to vote for an ordinance to annex in these properties. The legislation passed the House and is now in the Senate and is sponsored by Sen. Emil Jones (D-Chicago), Chairman of the Senate Local Government Committee.

HB 3773 – 10 YEAR BATTERY SMOKE DETECTORS

HB 3773 passed the House with 102 votes. The measure amends the Smoke Detector Act to require homes built before 1988, which are still using removable battery alarms, to replace them with long 10 year non-removable battery over the next five years. I was able to dig up a lot of convincing stats including the fact that Illinois is now second in the nation with the number of residential fire deaths for 2017, second only to New York. Last year there were 77 residential fire deaths in Illinois and we were ranked 10th in the nation and in May were already at 45 deaths. Both the Realtors and Governor's office ultimately removed their opposition. The bill is being sponsored by Rep. Kathleen Willis (D-Addison) and Sen. Martin Sandoval (D-Cicero).

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At Alexis Fire Equipment, each and every fire apparatus that rolls out of our facility is uniquely designed and built for our customers. No standard options or cookie cutters to choose from. It's putting you in the driver's seat and being part of the experience, the process and the design of your fire apparatus. From pumpers and aerials to tankers and refurbished apparatus. We have you covered. Incredible service, exceptional quality, and the bragging rights to say it's not only yours, but you brought it to life.



TECHNICAL SPECS

- Spartan Metro Star LFD 20" raised roof Chassis
- Cummins ISL9, 450-HP Diesel Engine
- Allison 3000 EVS Automatic Transmission
- Six (6) Man Seating with Five (5) SCBA seats
- Heavy Duty 3/16" Aluminum Body with ROM painted Roll Up Doors
- Custom EMS Compartment and Map box, cab
- 28" Front Bumper Extension with Preconnected Extrication tools
- One (1) Reese type rear hitch/winch receiver with electrical connections
- Two (2) Winch points with electrical connections, one (1) each side
- One (1) Warn 10-S Multi-Mount Winch
- Three (3) Triple bottle Air bottle compartments, one left and two right side
- Custom Tool box, (2) Vertical Pull out tool boards and Tarp storage area
- Four (4) Upper storage compartments, two (2) each side body roof
- One (1) stainless steel Top Access Ladder, rear mounted
- One (1) Oil Dry Hopper, left side
- One (1) Carefree Mirage Electric Awning, right side
- Four Pike pole tubes, transverse compartment and two brackets, walkway
- David Clark Intercom System
- Four bottle 6000-PSI Cascade System with control panel and fill enclosure
- One (1) Hannay Air hose reel with 200-ft of 3/8" hose, upper right side
- One (1) Norcold built-in Refrigerator, right side
- Federal Q2B mechanical Siren, front bumper
- Audiovox Back-Up Camera system with 7" color monitor and side camera
- Kussmaul on-board Battery charger with Auto Eject shoreline connection
- Whelen Electronic Siren with 200-watt Federal Signal speaker
- (1) Onan 25,000-watt Generator with 120-volt system and change-over relay
- (1) Akron Electric Cord reel with 150-ft of 10/3 cord and junction box
- (1) Night Scan Powerlite Light tower with Four (4) FRC Spectra LED lights
- Whelen LED Scene light Package
- Whelen LED Warning Light Package
- Chevron pattern SceneDots, rear
- 11' 1" Overall height
- 37' 7" Overall length
- 237" Wheelbase
- 169.5" Cab to Axle
- 21,500 FAWR
- 27,000 RAWR
- 48,500 GVWR



Spring is already here. **Have you begun** your 2017 **Fire Sprinkler Testing program** yet?

Ensure code and ISO compliance by sending notices to building owners. A third-party inspection company can help you carry out your fire sprinkler testing program.

Chapter 9, Fire Protection Systems of the 2015 International Fire Code requires water based fire protection systems to be inspected, tested and maintained at regular intervals in accordance with NFPA 25: Standard for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems.

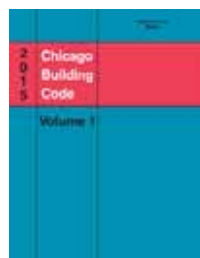
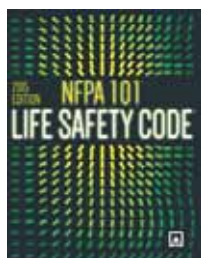
Regular testing is also required through the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal's adoption of NFPA 101: Life Safety Code, Section 9.75 (2000 edition). All automatic fire sprinkler systems, standpipe systems and fire pumps must be inspected and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25.



Regular Fire Sprinkler Testing is Required by the International Fire Code, State Code & Chicago Code

Illinois state law requires a copy of all fire sprinkler system inspection reports to be submitted to local fire officials having jurisdiction. Also, all inspectors are required to be NICET II certified or trained through an approved apprentice program.

Are you checking these items before work begins? Stop any job violating this state law and/or call the state fire marshal.



For more information:





Chaplain's Corner

Firefighter Soul Care

I've never much enjoyed taking the defensive position out on the street – unless safety dictated it – watching the fire leap from window to window and floor to floor. Likewise I am increasingly unsatisfied with a weak and defensive position of faith out on the street of the fire service experience while inside the hearts, souls, and minds of firefighters succumb to increased mental and behavioral health struggles including addiction, depression, relational difficulties, and suicide. So I'm taking a charged line inside on this one with an offensive tactic I call "Firefighter Soul Care" chaplaincy - and I'm hoping to attract an army of faith-filled chaplains and firefighters to join in and heel the line with me. Firefighter Soul Care in any fire dept. would be built upon a framework of faith including the following beliefs and four faith components:

I believe that God is personally and powerfully at work in the life of ever member of the fire service...every member of my fire department...every firefighter in my station...every firefighter on my company.

I believe, therefore, that faith must be applied, invited, and affirmed in and through the experience of all firefighters.

I believe that the increased incidence, awareness, and growing alarm concerning firefighter mental health is a call to Christian firefighters and chaplains to provide Firefighter Soul Care to a fire service largely stripped of faith.

I believe the redeeming and transforming power of God for firefighters flows through faith-focused relationships, the Word of God/Bible, prayer, and the testing of faith through the experiences and circumstances of their lives.

It is these beliefs – these convictions – and others like them, that draw me to answer the call to provide Firefighter Soul Care to my fire department, inviting firefighters to access and experience faith as the gift of God in their fire service experience:

FAITH FRIENDSHIP – Each firefighter must have personal access to a Soul Care relationship focused on exploring his/her faith journey.

FAITH CONTENT – Each firefighter must have access to the Bible and its applications to his/her fire service and life experience.

FAITH TALK – Each firefighter must be prayed for, prayed with, and encouraged to practice private and personal prayer.

FAITH RESOURCES – Each firefighter must have access to faith-based resources and interventions for particular personal needs and circumstances. Examples: debriefing, grief/loss, marriage/family, addiction, depression/counseling, hospital visitation, local church connection, etc...

The Bible declares the default or "normal" position of the heart, mind, and soul of the firefighter without faith as "*without hope and without God in the world*". But, good news...though firefighters may be normal, God has provided the means to fix that. Through faith in Christ "*we have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure*". If you sense the call to provide Firefighter Soul Care to your fire dept. please contact me and we can address the specifics of your context for doing that.

Kevin Coffey, IFA Chaplain (815-457-2007)

ENTER TO WIN Free Registration & Hotel Stay at the
2017 IFA Annual Conference from California Casualty!



**THUR, OCT 19
THROUGH
SAT, OCT 21**



Join fellow Illinois Firefighters at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Urbana and the Illinois Fire Service Institute in Champaign for hands-on training, keynote speakers, time with exhibitors and an opportunity to connect with fellow firefighters from across the state of Illinois.

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representative to schedule a visit to your station today!**



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2017 IFA Conference - Classroom Classes

Reading Smoke Friday 1pm – 5pm at IFSI *Limited to 30 students*

Choose one of the following classes and register in advance to assure your spot in the class. Because skills build upon each other, when you choose a Down & Dirty class, you must participate in all portions of that class and you must have your gear, including SCBA, with you for all portions of the class.

Down & Dirty Small Department Strategy and Tactics Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – 5pm at IFSI *Limited to 50 students*

Make better decisions. From this class students get an understanding of the Incident Command (IC) system, utilizing strategic and tactical objectives, risk management, pre-incident planning, and accountability. The class also covers personnel safety, hazard identification, and the variables of fire department responses. This class is designed for those responsible for commanding one to two companies at the scene, such as Company Officers and Chief Officers of small fire departments.

Firefighter Rehab and Heat Stress Management Friday 7pm – 9pm at IFSI

This class discusses the relationship between heat stress and cardiovascular strain and how this is likely to impact firefighter injuries and fatalities. Instructors review recommendations for on-scene rehabilitation and discuss methods for implementing effective programs. Examples of recommended rehab policies and best practices will be provided or referenced.

Building Construction Saturday 8am – Noon at IFSI *Limited to 30 students*

This class provides an understanding of construction types from fire-resistant materials such as brick, concrete and steel, to wood frame structures. The structures of floor and roof systems are discussed and what they do under live and dead loads during fire and suppression activities. Openings such as windows, doors, skylights and ventilation shafts are discussed as they relate to the firefighting, search and rescue profile.

Fire Behavior Saturday 1pm – 5pm at IFSI *Limited to 30 students*

Students will learn about the relationships between fuel, oxygen, heat and the chemical chain reaction, physical properties, heat transfer from ignition through flashover and their associated hazards.

AWR-140 Introduction to Radiological/Nuclear WMD Operations Friday 1pm – 5pm at hotel

This class presents a radiological/nuclear WMD overview consisting of ionizing radiation fundamentals, terminology, health effects, and recognition factors. This information is requisite knowledge for responders performing the interdiction/prevention mission and others who are likely to be the first to arrive at a radiological/nuclear incident. This fundamental knowledge of ionizing radiation and its effects is vital to responder safety, allowing performance of their mission while keeping the risk as low as reasonably achievable.

Peer Support Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – Noon at hotel

Peer support is all about getting help from those who understand you best. The goal is to help facilitate a culture within the fire service that allows fire service members to make it safe to talk to one another and ask for help when it is needed – whether it is for mental, emotional or physical support. All Peer Support activities are completely voluntary and is meant to be used as a resource when needed.

EMS: Managing the “EEW”, “NEW” and the “YOU” Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – Noon at hotel

This four-hour session covers such trauma topics as “Bleeding and Tourniquets” and CNS Injury/Concussions”, diving into the most recent techniques and information that may be used to mitigate massive bleeding, save more viable brain cells, and decrease recovery times. Also included is the concept of Crew Resource Management and Self-Preservation 101 which takes a hard look into the price Emergency Responders pay for doing what they love. The class is led by Jamie Temple, Manager for EMS and Public Safety for Eastern Iowa Community Colleges.

Rescue Task Force Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – Noon at hotel

Rescue Task Force, a patient-centric approach to life-saving, is an aggressive response to an active shooter incident that provides rapid medical treatment at the point of injury. This class introduces and trains the Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, or EMS provider in the concepts and tactics needed during the joint response rescue phase of an Active Shooter Event. Students learn the tactics necessary to enter and operate in the “warm” zone with a Law Enforcement cover element, vital to responder safety, allowing performance of their mission while keeping the risk as low as reasonably achievable.

2017 IFA Conference - Hands On Classes

Down & Dirty Foundations of Firefighting *Limited to 50 students* Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – 5pm at IFSI

Are you ready to get in there and fight the fire? This class is designed for the new firefighter and covers extensive fundamental firefighting skills necessary to function on a fireground. Subjects include (among others): self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), ladders, fire stream management and basic fireground operations. Students will participate in the live-burn exercise as members of a firefighting crew

Down & Dirty Coordinated Fire Attack *Limited to 40 students* Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – 5pm at IFSI

This more advanced class is designed for firefighters with experience on ten actual or training fires and/or at least four years as a firefighter, plus be competent in core firefighting skills. Students participate in evolutions that combine engine, truck and rescue operations, using ladders, hose, forcible entry, search and rescue techniques, and SCBAs. Emphasis is placed on coordinating these skills during fireground operations.

Basic Responder Intervention Team *Limited to 40 students* Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – 5pm at IFSI

This RIT class combines time in the classroom with eight hours of hands-on training and covers operations and tactical and strategic operations related to downed firefighters. Preventive or proactive methods of avoiding situations where firefighters are trapped are highlighted. Practical reactive techniques or mitigation of a downed responder are demonstrated and practiced in the hands-on portion.

Down & Dirty Basic Pumps *Limited to 40 students* Friday 1pm – 5pm and Saturday 8am – 5pm at IFSI

This class teaches core competencies with pumps and their related controls. Instructors lead discussion on proper maintenance, inspection, and record keeping for fire apparatus. Descriptions and demonstrations of pumps and their related controls or devices include the operation of centrifugal pumps, priming devices, relief devices and multi-stage pumps. Hands-on pumping operations take the majority of class time.

Myths and Realities: *Fog nozzle vs. Smooth Bore Nozzle* Friday 7pm – 9pm at IFSI

This one-hour class focuses on one of the most historic debates in the fire service – the use of smooth bore nozzle or a fog nozzle during fire attack. Which is better and/or safer? The class will explore different hose stream selection for fire attack and the pros and cons of each. The class explains how fires grow and spread and how to recognize and anticipate what is happening in a burning building by observing the smoke and fire conditions. Understanding the difference in color, thickness, speed of movement, and location of smoke within the structure are important skills examined in this course.

New this year, you can register on the IFSI website.

Registration Form

IFA Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend

October 19 -22, 2017

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 2 \$ 50
Non-IFA members before October 2 \$ 75
Received after October 2 and at door \$100
Non-IFA members after October 2 \$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 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 Hands-On class, you must participate in all portions and have your gear with you. (Maximum number of students per class)

HANDS-ON FRIDAY/SATURDAY CLASSES IFSI

Friday 1pm-5pm and Saturday 8am-5pm

___ Foundations of Firefighting (50)
___ Coordinated Fire Attack (40)
___ Basic RIT (40)
___ Basic Pumps (40)

CLASSROOM FRIDAY/SATURDAY ~location~

___ Small Department Strategy & Tactics ~IFSI~
Friday 1pm-5pm and Saturday 8am-5pm (50)
___ Peer Support ~hotel~
Friday 1pm-5pm and Saturday 8am-noon
___ EMS Managing the EEW, NEW, YOU ~hotel~
Friday 1pm-5pm and Saturday 8am-noon
___ Rescue Task Force ~hotel~
Friday 1pm-5pm and Saturday 8am-noon

FRIDAY AFTERNOON 1pm – 5 pm (location)

___ Reading Smoke ~IFSI~ (30)
___ AWR-140 Intro to Radiological/Nuclear WMD Operations ~hotel~

SATURDAY at IFSI

___ Building Construction - 8am-noon (30)
___ Fire Behavior - 1pm-5pm (30)

FRIDAY EVENING at IFSI

___ Myths and Realities at IFSI - 7pm-9pm
___ Firefighter Rehab - 7pm-9pm

Note: these Friday evening classes can be in addition to Friday daytime classes

ALL HANDS-ON CLASSES HAVE LIMITED ENROLLMENT, PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE OCTOBER 2

Register online at www.illinoisfirefighters.org or 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

Fax 618/882-7287 | editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

Make checks payable to Illinois Firefighter's Association

Pay online or 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. 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.

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.

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



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

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

Registration Form – 2017 Annual Conference *Firefighter Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend*

October 19 – 22, 2017

Wyndham Garden

1001 Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801-1036

217-328-7900

Name _____

Department _____

Address _____

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County _____

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

Conference fees (if received before 5 pm October 2, 2017)

IFA Member \$ 50

Non-IFA Member \$ 75

Conference registration fees (if received after 5 pm September 29, 2016 and at the door)

IFA Member \$ 100

Non-IFA Member \$ 125

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Early registration must be received by 5 pm October 2, 2017

NOTE: GET A FREE REGISTRATION

FOR EVERY THREE REGISTRATIONS FROM THE SAME ORGANIZATION

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION FORM

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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 618-882-4783
Fax 618-882-7287
Email: editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

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: Wyndham Garden, 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 September 29, 2017.



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 77, Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034 (618) 882-4783

**OFFICIAL FIRE DEPARTMENT CREDENTIALS
2017**

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 2017 Annual Conference of said Association in Urbana, Illinois.

Dated this _____ day of _____ A.D. 2017

Secretary (signature)

Fire Chief (signature)

***127th Annual Conference
Firefighter Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend***

**October 19 – 22, 2017
Wyndham Garden
1001 Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801-1036
217-328-7900**

Mail, fax or email completed form to:

Illinois Firefighter's Association
Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77
Glen Carbon IL 62034
IFA Phone: 618-882-4783
IFA Fax: 618-882-7287
editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

IFA Honors IFSI Head Registrar Terri Hopper On Her Retirement

Vice President Terry Ford presented retiring IFSI Head Registrar Terri Hopper with a plaque with the following resolution. The IFA has worked for years with Terri on registration for the annual IFA training conference and appreciates the time and effort that she put forth in assisting the IFA with their training efforts.

Resolution honoring Terri Hopper

WHEREAS, 17 years ago, Terri Hopper became employed by the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute, and

WHEREAS, Terri serves as the Head Registrar and oversees and directs the Class Support Unit, and

WHEREAS, Terri has managed and maintained the IFA conference registrations since 2004, and

WHEREAS, she has provided leadership and direction by helping firefighters do their work through training, education, information and research,

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the members of the Illinois Firefighters Association Inc. appreciate her efforts and dedication to this organization.



RESOLVED this 12th day of April 2017.

John Swan, President
Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.



Enter the \$5,000 “Choose Your Tools” Sweepstakes

You work hard keeping our communities safe. That’s why California Casualty, provider of the IFA Auto and Home Insurance Program, is giving back with a chance to win \$5,000 of quality DeWALT®* tools.

If you like to head out to the shop and blow off steam by hammering out something useful or artistic after a long shift, this is the contest for you.

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The Work Hard/Play Hard “Choose Your Tools” drawing is open to peace officers, EMTs and firefighters; American heroes who work hard and risk their lives daily. Entries are being taken now through November 13, 2017 at www.policefiregiveaway.com.

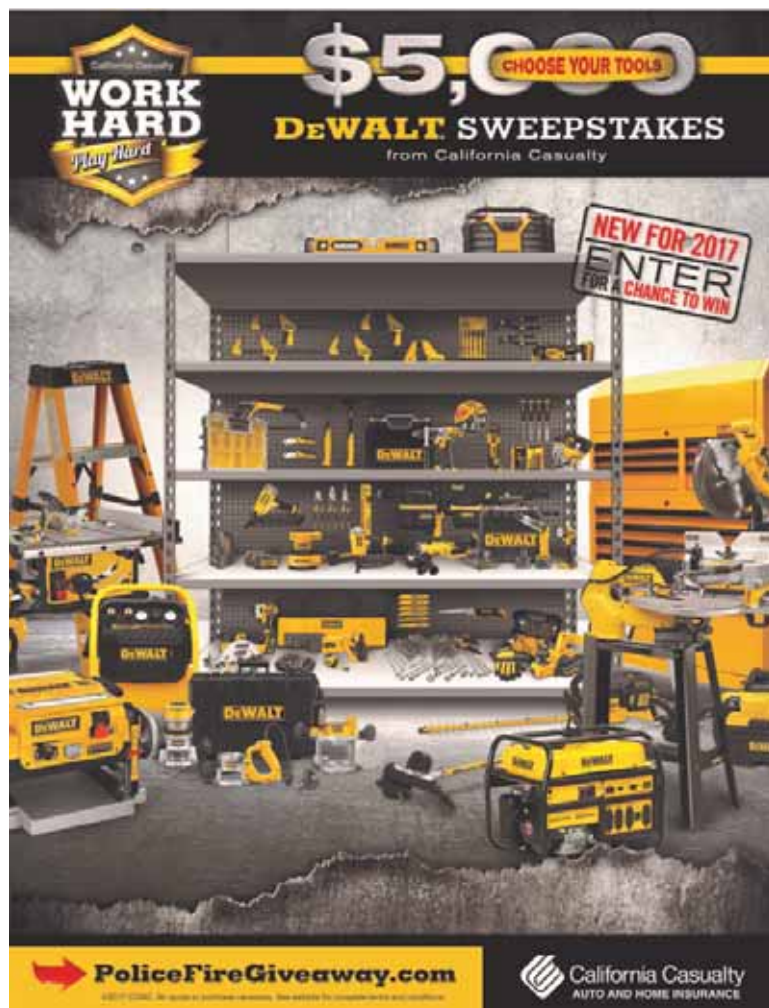
“We know the pressure and stress first responders face every day,” said California Casualty Sr. Vice President Mike McCormick. “This is our chance to show our appreciation and provide a useful and fun way to say thanks.”

Forget having to borrow tools again. You can join other first responders who have benefitted from California Casualty’s Work Hard/Play Hard contests by entering the “Choose Your Tools” Sweepstakes. The entry form and rules can be found at www.policefiregiveaway.com. The deadline is November 13, 2017, with a winner announced in December.

Illinois First responders can learn more about California Casualty and how it appreciates all they do at <https://mycalcas.com>.

Headquartered in San Mateo, California with Service Centers in Arizona, Colorado and Kansas, California Casualty has partnered with the IFA to provide auto and home insurance to firefighters in the state of Illinois. Founded in 1914, California Casualty has been led by four generations of the Brown family. To learn more about California Casualty, or to request an auto insurance quote, please visit www.calcas.com/IFA or call 1.800.800.9410.

*DeWALT® is a registered trademark of Stanley Black & Decker. All rights reserved. DeWALT® and its parent companies are not participating partners in or sponsors of this contest.



New CWG® Fire/EMS PAK Illinois State Director!

We are pleased to announce Tyler Devonshire of Weber Insurance & Realty Brokers Inc. in Robinson has been appointed CWG Fire/EMS PAK State Director in Illinois.

Tyler will conduct Fire/EMS PAK business through Weber Insurance Agency, Inc. and Crawford County Insurance Agency Inc. in Oblong, Illinois. Weber Insurance & Realty Brokers has been in business for over 100 years and is committed to helping you insure your local fire department.

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Plan Now For 2017 Illinois State Fair

Each year, the IFA sponsors a day in the Illinois Fire Services Association tent at the state fair. Help is needed staffing the tent on Saturday, August 19. It takes a lot of help for all of the people that go through the tent. If you or any other members of your department are available to work that day, please contact me at least 45 days prior to the day for the IFA day at the State Fair, August 19, at the phone numbers or email below, so that I can get enough parking passes and admission tickets mailed to you prior to the work date.

Robert Reason, Director
State Fair Committee Chair
Phone: 309-265-6472
E-mail:





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Do volunteer firefighters have a right to sue for wrongful termination?

by Robert J. Britz
Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd.

An Illinois federal court has determined that even “volunteer” firefighters may have the right to sue for wrongful termination in the case of *Frakes v. Elba-Salem Fire Protection District*, 200 F.Supp.3d 736 (N.D. Ill. 2016). In *Frakes*, the plaintiff worked as a volunteer firefighter for the Elba-Salem Fire Protection District. On July 29, 2014, the Board of Trustees unanimously voted in favor of terminating him. One of the trustees indicated that the volunteer firefighter was terminated because he was “regarded as a trouble-maker and there was controversy over the many petitions and letters he wrote during his tenure with the fire department.”

However, the volunteer firefighter/plaintiff complained that he was terminated in retaliation, for a multitude of reasons:

- The volunteer firefighter had complained that the trustees were unlawfully delegating some of their responsibilities to the firefighters themselves or to officers elected by the firefighters;
- The volunteer had filed complaints with the Illinois Attorney General's Office, alleging violations of the Open Meetings Act by the Board;
- The volunteer firefighter had complained about other District firefighters discussing District business in local bars away from the fire house;
- The volunteer firefighter had complained about the violation of rules regarding the District's cadet program;
- The volunteer firefighter had a dispute with the wife of the assistant fire chief over t-shirts for an annual fundraiser at a local bar that was owned and operated by the assistant chief's spouse;
- The volunteer firefighter complained about another firefighter coming to calls under the influence of alcohol;
- The volunteer firefighter had joined other firefighters in signing a petition to remove a firefighter for aggravation, intimidation, and insubordination, including the attendance by the firefighter at an annual recognition dinner during a period of his suspension;
- A neighboring fire protection district had complained to the District's assistant chief about an alleged e-mail that the volunteer firefighter had sent, disrespecting a retired firefighter.

In reviewing the matter, the federal court addressed three legal theories argued by the volunteer firefighter:

Theory No. 1: The termination of the plaintiff was a civil rights violation under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983.

The volunteer firefighter/plaintiff complained that his termination was retaliation for exercising his First Amendment rights of free speech. For the plaintiff to make out a case for First Amendment retaliation, he was required to present evidence that:

- His speech was constitutionally protected;
- He had suffered a deprivation likely to deter free speech; and
- His speech was at least a motivating factor in the employer's actions.

A “motivating factor” has been defined by the courts as sufficient, but not necessarily, a condition to prove liability. A government employer is entitled to restrict an employee's speech if it can prove the interest of the employee as a private citizen is outweighed by the interest of the government employer in promoting efficiency of the public services performed.

The court cited the case of *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968), in which the U.S. Supreme Court established a balancing test regarding First Amendment retaliation. The factors required to be analyzed are the following:

- Whether the speech would create problems and maintain discipline or harmony among co-workers;
- Whether the employment relationship is one in which personal loyalty and confidence are necessary;
- Whether the speech impeded the employee's ability to perform his responsibilities;
- The time, place, and manner of the speech;
- The context within which the underlined dispute arose;

The Bulletin

- Whether the matter was one in which debate was vital to informed decision making; and
- Whether the speaker should be regarded as a member of the general public.

The court found that when the volunteer firefighter/plaintiff spoke about another firefighter coming to work intoxicated, he was speaking as a private citizen on a matter of public concern, and therefore the speech was protected by the First Amendment. That the plaintiff's Open Meetings Act complaint about "a lack of transparency" in the operations of a local government entity was a matter of public concern, and therefore, protected by the First Amendment.

However, the volunteer firefighter/plaintiff's complaints regarding the internal assignment of duties by the assistant chief was a matter of internal operations and not protected by the First Amendment. The plaintiff's complaints about other firefighters discussing confidential District business outside of the fire house was also not a matter of public concern, and therefore, not protected by the First Amendment. Finally, the volunteer firefighter/plaintiff's complaints about the District cadets participating directly in the firefighting, driving fire equipment vehicles, and appearing on calls pertained to operations of the District, and therefore, not protected by the First Amendment.

The court found that because some of plaintiff's speech was entitled to constitutional First Amendment protection, there was a sufficient basis for his complaint for civil rights violation to proceed.

Theory No. 2: The volunteer firefighter was discharged in retaliation.

Plaintiff's second legal theory was common law retaliatory discharge. In Illinois, an at-will employee may be discharged by his or her employer for any reason at any time. An exception is for retaliatory discharge claims. In Illinois, retaliatory discharge claims have been allowed in two situations:

- If the employee files worker's compensation claims; or
- If an employee reports illegal activity or improper conduct otherwise known as whistleblowing.

In order to establish such a case, the employee must establish:

- The employer discharged the employee;
- The discharge was in retaliation for the employee's actions; and
- The discharge violated a clear mandate of public policy.

The court found that the volunteer firefighter/plaintiff's complaints about a firefighter reporting to duty while intoxicated and violations of the Open Meetings Act were entitled to First Amendment protection. Accordingly, the court concluded that the plaintiff had sufficiently demonstrated a case for retaliatory discharge.

Theory No. 3: The District violated the Illinois Whistleblower Act.

The third legal issue argued by the volunteer firefighter/plaintiff was whether or not there had been a violation of the Illinois Whistleblower Act. The Illinois Whistleblower Act states "...an employer may not retaliate against an employee for disclosing information to a government or law enforcement agency where the employee has reasonable cause to believe that the information disclosed is a violation of state or federal law, rule or regulation." (740 ILCS 174/15(b)) The court found that the plaintiff's complaints about the Illinois Open Meetings Act violation made to the Illinois Attorney General's Office created a possible cause of action under the Illinois Whistleblower Act.

Whether an employee is volunteer, part-time or full-time is not necessarily determinative as to whether the disciplined employee has or does not have a cause of action for First Amendment violations. Merely because an "employee" is a "volunteer" does not mean he/she has no First Amendment rights, or that his/her employer can terminate him/her for exercising his/her First Amendment rights. When taking action to terminate an at-will volunteer, fire protection districts should tread carefully and make sure to engage legal assistance in proceeding.

Robert J. Britz is a shareholder with the law firm of Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd. the firm's Elburn office. Mr. Britz engages in the general practice of law with an emphasis in municipal and local government law, as well as real estate, estate planning, probate, and business matters. You can contact Mr. Britz by e-mail at rbritz@ottosenbritz.com.

Longtime Hospitality Room Chairman Passes Away

Harold David Hanbaum, 69, of South Roxana, Illinois passed away at 9:03 a.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at his home. He was born June 1, 1947 in Alton, Illinois, the son of the late Harold Eugene and Lillian Mae (O'Neil) Hanbaum. He owned and operated Dave's Restoration and Remodeling for many years.

Dave had served as a dedicated member of the South Roxana Fire Department from December 1969 until September 2003 and had served as Fire Chief for many years. He had served as President and Vice-President on the board of the Madison County Fireman's Association.

He had served his country with the United States Navy and was a member of the South Roxana American Legion Post #1167. Dave loved his days of traveling and enjoyed his many trips to Texas and Florida. He was always ready to have a good time and was in charge of the Madison County Fireman's Hospitality Room for many years. He will be remembered for the love and special times shared with his family and many friends.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017.





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Music * Food * Raffles

Live Music



Our mission is to raise funds to be donated to Illinois Firefighter Peer Support, ForeverU, and War Dogs Making It Home.

These charities raise awareness for suicide prevention, PTSD, and reducing the occurrence of bullying, division, and student suffering.



For registration info email us : ARoadToHelp@yahoo.com

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